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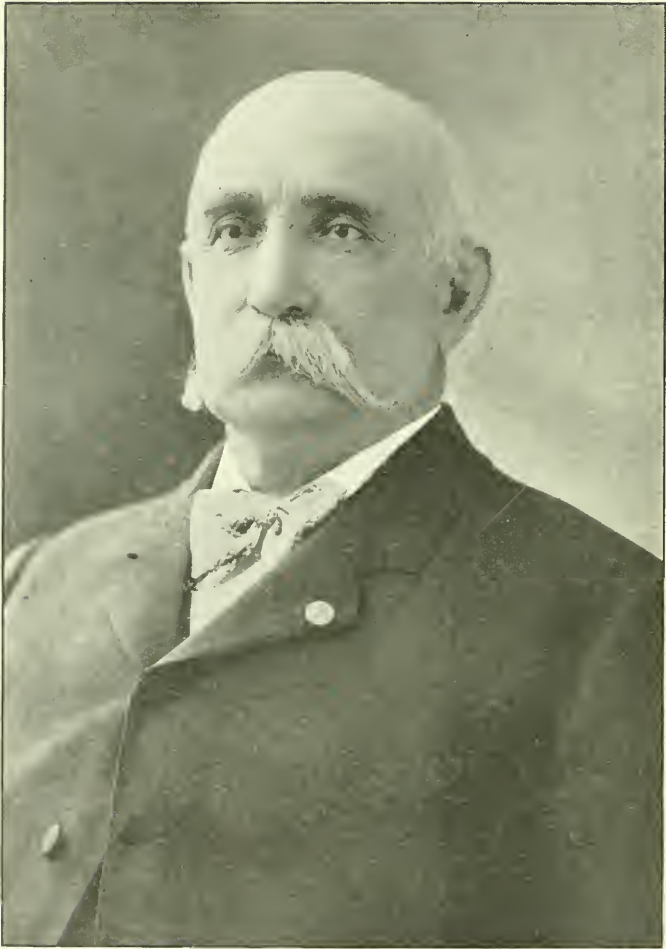
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CHARLES NEWHALL

THE  
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

OF THE

DANVERS  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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VOLUME 7

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On March 26, 1919, the Society received, at the Page House, the bequest of furniture, china, glass, shawls and pictures from the estate of Mrs. Carrie W., widow of Fred H. Woodbury. In this large and interesting collection, particular mention might be made of a silver lustre tea set, a liqueur set, with gilt ornamentation, a Jackfield teapot, a variety of Staffordshire printed ware, glass cup-plates, a swell-front mahogany bureau, mahogany sofa, nine mahogany chairs, secretary, tip table, light stand, game table, very old slat-back rush bottom chair, Windsor chairs, wing chair, old samplers, two large ottomans, with worked seats, and four large framed pictures worked in colors, in cross-stitch pattern, on canvas. The largest picture is a hunting scene, and measures 3x4½ feet; the others are "The Lord's Supper," "Knight on Horseback," and a Biblical scene. It is said that Miss Frances A. Woodbury spent fifteen years in producing these remarkable examples of needlework. The colors are brilliant, and the shadings in the figures of men and animals, as well as in the landscapes, produce a very realistic effect. The Woodbury collection will be a material help in furnishing the rooms of the Page House.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS  
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THE DANVERS POST OFFICE: ITS ESTABLISH-  
MENT AND HISTORY.

BY CHARLES NEWHALL.

READ AT A MEETING OF THIS SOCIETY, MAR. 18, 1918.

On the United States Post Office at Washington is the following inscription: "Messenger of Sympathy and Love; Servant of Parted Friends; Consoler of the Lonely; Bond of Scattered Family; Enlarger of the Common Life; Carrier of News and Knowledge; Instrument of Trade and Industry; Promoter of Mutual Acquaintance of Peace and Goodwill among Men and Nations." I am indebted very much to Daniel C. Roper's new book entitled "The United States Post Office" for many of the facts and statements which I shall give you.

When your Secretary wrote, asking me to make a sketch of the Post Offices of Danvers, and Postmasters, I thought it would be impossible to do justice to it, but later on decided to try. So, while I can give you many facts and statistics, it will be in no sense a literary production. It occurred to me, that with a history of our Post Office, a sketch of the first known Posts or Post Offices might not be amiss.

The communication between nations and individuals is older by centuries than the Christian Era. It ante-dates even the alphabet; for the first messages were rude hieroglyphics; and up to today the postal service is indicative of the civilization of the nation. The Post Office gets its name from the earliest known means of carrying messages. In every civilization there has been some organized way of communication by

runners or mounted carriers, and people as remote as the Persians and Peruvians seems to have been the earliest who used relays for securing greater speed.

The Persians under King Cyrus had a postal service in the sixth century before Christ. The Postmaster was an appointee of the Imperial Government. He maintained a place for horses and employed grooms to care for them. He supervised the work of the couriers and received packages of letters from other couriers, and forwarded them to the next post towards their destination. The manner of recording and accounting for the packets was highly developed. It may be said that parcel post was not unknown, even to the Persians, for to a limited extent they received and forwarded merchandise. Darius, the last Persian King, was Postmaster General before he ascended the throne. Reference to this early postal system is found in the Bible, in the book of Esther, Chapter 8, Verse 10, "And he wrote in the King's name, and sealed it with the King's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels and young dromedaries." The Romans called the place where relays were effected, "Posts." These Posts were the first Post Offices, as they marked the spot where different roads converged, and where the exchanges were made. The ancient highways were the first Post roads. The English Postal service is the forerunner of our own, and is an interesting study of the various forms and methods adopted to promote and maintain deliveries. In 1753, Benjamin Franklin was one of the two Postmaster Generals appointed for the Colonies, by the British Post Office Department. He was removed in 1774 by the British Government.

In 1775 the Congress established the Constitutional Post Office, with Benjamin Franklin as Postmaster General. In 1789 there were only seventy-five postmasters in the thirteen states, and the annual cost of carrying the mails was less than \$25,000. In 1900 there were 76,688 Post Offices in the United States. These were reduced to 55,000 by 1917, with an income of \$330,000,000. This reduction in the number of the Post Offices was caused by establishing Rural Free Delivery, and making branch offices and stations of offices near any large First Class office. Branches were established in the larger towns and stations in the smaller. These are governed by a superintendent instead of a Postmaster and receive all their supplies and employees from, and are accountable to the First Class office, and not to the Post Office Department



in Washington. This reduces the work in Washington and distributes it among the larger offices. For instance, there are 86 Branches and Stations connected with the Boston Post Office, consisting of all the cities and towns within a few miles, in what is called Greater Boston. Business is just the same in them as in all Post Offices except their headquarters are in Boston or the larger office they are attached to, and not Washington. As the Post Office Department has to keep a book account with every office this makes a very considerable reduction in their work.

The first Foreign Mail Treaty of the United States was made in 1847, with the Hanseatic Republic, or League of Bremen, which dated back of the 14th century, and comprised eighty-five of the great trading cities of Europe, and maintained a postal system for commercial purposes. Two years later a formal treaty was entered into with Great Britain.

#### THE FIRST POST OFFICE.

In 1828 at a Town Meeting a committee was appointed to "Devise or digest any scheme relative to the establishment of Post Offices in this town." The Committee was Dr. Nichols, Jonathan Shove, Nathaniel Putnam and Samuel and John Preston. When the committee reported, it was voted "To have one Post Office in this town," then to add one more Post Office, and then voted to reconsider all the votes, and after all to accept the report of the committee, in which it was recommended to petition for two Post Offices; one to be between "The Old Meeting House and Poole's Bridge, to be called Danvers, and one to be at New Mills, to be called the North Danvers Post Office," and the action was recommended to the Postmaster General. After considerable delay, an order was received, Nov. 30, 1831, establishing an office in the South Parish, to be called Danvers, and Joseph Osgood was appointed postmaster.

Some trouble must ensued, for the office was discontinued in only two weeks, on Dec. 13, 1831. But the difficulty was soon settled, for on Jan. 18, 1832, Joseph Osgood was appointed to the newly established office, and performed the duties apparently satisfactorily, as he continued in office until Sept. 23, 1845, when Sylvanus Dodge was placed in charge. Mr. Dodge handled the mails until Nov. 13, 1852, when Caleb Lowe was appointed. This was evidently a political appointment, as Mr. Lowe only held the office until May 23, 1853,

when Sylvanus Dodge was reappointed just after a change in the Administration.

On the 27th of June, 1855, the town having been divided, the name of the office was changed to South Danvers, and Mr. Dodge was recommissioned. He was the father of Maj. Gen. Grenville M. Dodge and when appointed was living in Tapleyville in the house just above the Square, on what is now the School house lot. He later moved to South Danvers. This dissolves the connection of the office with Danvers.

#### NEW MILLS OR DANVERSPORT.

The first petition from Danvers for a Post Office was in 1828, to be located at New Mills, which was then the real business center of the town. There was much shipping coming in, laden with corn, lumber, lime, cement, etc. In 1848 there were 178 arrivals; in 1860, 198. The founding of the Village Bank and locating it at the Plains in 1836 changed the center of business to where the bank was, so that the first Post Office at New Mills was not established until Dec. 31, 1844.

Mr. Henry Potter was appointed postmaster. He was born in Wenham and came here to look for work, which he found with Col. Jeremiah Page, at whose house he lived; while there it is said he was sick with typhoid fever and our friend and former owner of this house, Miss Anne Page, took care of him. He later opened a grocery store in the Citizens' Hall building, where he placed the Post Office. He lived on the corner of River and Water streets and was a popular man. He must have travelled considerably, for he was an entertaining talker, and a great reader. He was a good citizen and a good postmaster, and put the Post Office on a fine footing. He removed to Marblehead later where he became a director of the bank and during his leisure hours is said to have read every book in the public library. He was injured in a railroad accident at Lynn, and died in the hospital, aged 87 years, 6 months. His son, E. P. Potter, is now living on North street.

On Sept. 24, 1849, William Alley took the office. Mr. Alley was a tailor and had a shop in the opposite corner of the Citizens' Hall building and he kept the Post Office there. He built and lived in the house on the corner of Purchase and High streets, where Capt. Thomas Johnson lived later. On Jan. 10, 1852 the name of the Post Office was changed to Danversport, and Mr. James M. Trow was appointed postmas-

ter. The office was kept in his store, now owned by F. O. Staples. He lived in the house next to Mr. B. F. Sylvester on High Street. Later on he moved to Lynn where he died.

From him, on Feb. 19, 1853 the office went to David Mead, who placed it first in the shop next to William Morrill's building, but later on moved it to the store of Osgood Richards, where F. O. Staples' store now is. At one time he had a stitching shop in the Morrill building. He was a Justice of the Peace and a Trial Justice and held court in a room in the house where he lived, which stood on the lot where the school house now stands. Mr. Mead was quite a character and did many eccentric things, but withal was quite popular. On holidays he would take the letter mail to his house where he delivered to the owners who called. If you called and had a card, he was very likely to read it to you before delivery, and seemed to think it was his duty to keep posted on all news on the cards, and if he had not time to read them would lay them on a shelf to be read later. He was very sympathetic and called on the sick and injured, and would tell them he knew just how they felt as he had been through it all and could sympathize with them. After holding the office longer than any one in Danvers, 33 years, 5 months, he relinquished it to Henry Warren on March 25, 1886. He died in Everett, Mass., aged 97 years.

Mr. Warren moved the office to the Citizens' Hall building where he had a store and Miss Anna E. Manassa was clerk for him. He was a currier by trade, is living at 85 Liberty Street and works at the Cresse & Cook Co. He only held the office about 14 months, when he gave it up to Miss Anna E. Manassa on July 5, 1887.

There was no change of quarters and Miss Manassa performed very satisfactory duty until Mr. John P. Withey was appointed on May 21, 1889. Mr. Withey, on taking possession, removed the office to the new building, next to F. O. Staples' store, and later on to the small shop near the Morrill building and next to the house on the corner of Mill and Water Streets. Mr. Withey was a Civil War Veteran of Company D, First Mass. Heavy Artillery, a Sergeant, was wounded at the Battle of Spottsylvania Court House and carried the bullet till his death, of which in a large measure it was the cause. He had a father and two brothers in the service. He was a member of Ward Post 90, G. A. R. and a good comrade. He was engineer for Sanger, Hood & Co., and had a daughter Helen B. who married Dr. Varney Kelley, the

dentist, and who now lives in Seattle, Washington. He served until June 27, 1893, when Mr. Timothy J. Gullivan took the office and opened it in the shop next F. O. Staples' store.

Mr. Gullivan now lives at 59 Endicott street and is in the wood and brick business. His sister Anna assisted him in the office and store. He gave way to his successor, Mr. J. W. Mead, on June 27, 1897, who did not remove the office till later on when he went to the Dr. Batchelder building, just below the Morrill store. Mr. Mead surely believed in the soothing influence of tobacco in the worries of his office, for 'tis said he lighted his pipe when he rose in the morning and it did not go out until he retired for the night. On closing his office on Nov. 30, 1900, by orders from the Post Office Department, he delivered all stamps, stamped paper and government property to the Danvers Post Office, preparatory to establishing Free Delivery service in Danvers.

#### DANVERS CENTRE.

Danvers, being a town of several villages, it was natural when a Post Office was established at Danvers Plains, for each section to want one; so in the latter part of 1849, the people of Danvers Centre and Tapleyville petitioned the Post Office Department, and on Feb. 5, 1850, Mr. Geo. W. French was appointed Postmaster, and the office established in his store on the corner of Holten and Pine Streets. Mr. French kept a general store, and for four years handled the mails for Tapleyville and Danvers Centre very acceptably, until Feb. 7, 1854, when Henry Prentiss succeeded him. Mr. French, on the removal of the Post Office, formed a partnership with Geo. Tapley, for the manufacture of shoes. French & Tapley had their factory on the opposite corner of Holten Street. Mr. French sold his store to N. P. Merriam, a young man who came from Topsfield to work for him. After a few years the firm of French & Tapley dissolved, and Mr. French went into the flour business in Boston. He lived in the large white house on Holten Street, now numbered 150.

Henry Prentiss removed the Post Office to his store on Centre Street. He lived in the same building. On June 27, 1855, the date of the division of the town, the name of the Post Office was changed to Danvers Centre, and Mr. Prentiss, being recommissioned, removed the office to his new building opposite, where he did quite a large grocery business. Mr. Prentiss was well known and did quite a large business in hides, lands, tallow, etc. in the West. He held the office until



1865 when he was succeeded by Albert H. Mudge who removed it to a small store near the E. & A. Mudge shoe factory, and later on to a new store near by. Mr. Mudge was a son of Josiah Mudge and nephew of Edwin and Augustus Mudge of the firm of E. & A. Mudge & Co. He married Mary Russell and lived in his father's house next to the office. Many a good time I have had with the young people there, of whom he and his wife were part. On Oct. 21, 1869, Mr. F. A. Wilkins was appointed and removed the office to the building at or about 23 Centre Street, near Walnut Street. Mr. Wilkins lived close by and was much interested in politics. He had two brothers who differed from him, and many discussions took place in the "Senate Chamber," so called, a room in the rear of the Post Office. Each evening men would congregate to hear or to take part in the hot arguments on National, State, County and Town affairs; and presumably none were convinced against their will, for all seemed of the "same opinion still." Mr. Wilkins tendered his resignation during the summer but died before it was accepted, on Sept. 23, 1895, and Mr. W. S. Grey who lived at the corner of Centre and Prince Streets was appointed by the bondsmen to carry on the office until a successor was appointed. On Oct. 10, 1895, Miss G. C. Clancy received the office from Mr. Grey and continued it in the same place until Nov. 30, 1900. Then in accordance with an order from the Post Office Department all the mail and Government property were delivered at the Danvers Office, preparatory to Free Delivery.

Several weeks after this, I, then Postmaster at Danvers, received from Washington a letter containing a draft, drawn on Miss Clancy for (2 cents) two cents, in settlement of the accounts of the Danvers Centre Post Office, which I was ordered to collect and charge myself with, and incorporate in my next quarterly report. Right here, I may say that a similar instance occurred in settling the accounts of Mr. J. W. Mead at Danversport, as I received a draft drawn on myself for (3 cents) three cents, which I had to cash, pay to him, and charge on the quarterly report. The Government must have accounts exact, whether for one cent or a thousand dollars. One is as important as the other.

#### TAPLEYVILLE.

When Mr. Henry Prentiss removed the Post Office to Danvers Centre, the people of Tapleyville were about midway between his office and the Plains, so called, and it was decided,

since they could not have a Government Office, to try one of their own. Arrangements were made with Mr. Levi Merrill, then Postmaster at the North Danvers Office, to have the mail of their members delivered every day to a messenger for Tapleyville. Mr. N. P. Merriam, who had bought out the store of G. W. French, agreed to provide the room and look after it. This arrangement succeeded fairly well for a while. G. W. French, Jr., and T. P. Hawkes were two of the messengers. Business at Tapleyville increasing, a petition for a Post Office there was sent to the Postmaster General, and on June 28, 1872 an office was established, with N. P. Merriam as Postmaster. It was kept at the old stand a little over thirteen years. Mr. Merriam kept a real country store; hay and grain, groceries, boots and shoes, and dry goods; in fact, almost everything to be bought. On Sept. 17, 1885, the office was removed to the Red Men's building, on the opposite side of Holten Street, and Mr. Daniel Fuller was commissioned Postmaster. Mr. Fuller was a Civil War veteran of Company B. 23d Mass. Infantry. He was a very nervous man, and any disturbance excited him. The boys knowing this delighted to bother him, and he was frequently seen rushing from the office, bareheaded, to chase boys up or down the street. Mr. Fuller kept a little store in connection with the office, which he held until Feb. 23, 1887, when a turn of the wheel came and Norris S. Bean was appointed. Mr. Bean kept the office in the same place until Jan. 1, 1891, when his health failing, Mr. O. D. Robertson was assigned as Acting Postmaster, until the appointment of Archie W. Sillars on July 1, 1891 relieved him.

Archie was a brother of Malcolm Sillars, well known in town, and retained his position at the same place until he was succeeded by John A. Logan, June 5, 1894. No change in location was made, and Mr. Logan must have satisfied the people very well, for he continued to hold the office for a full four-year term, until June 30, 1898, when A. W. Sillars again assumed the reins. These he held till Nov. 30, 1900, when in accordance with an order from Washington, the office was discontinued, and all mail and government property was ordered to be delivered at the Danvers Post Office, preparatory to Free Delivery Service, Dec. 1, 1900.

#### HATHORNE.

The desirability of having a local Post Office near Swan's Crossing Station was apparent by the time the Insane Hos-

pital was completed; and application being made to the Post Office Department, on Sept. 10, 1878 a Post Office was established under the name of Asylum Station, the railroad name having then been changed.

Samuel S. Pratt was appointed Postmaster. Mr. Pratt was a Civil War Veteran, Sergeant of Company H, First Mass. Infantry, and afterwards Commander of Ward Post 90, G. A. R. He was a popular man, and would have made a good postmaster, but it seems as though it was not compatible in connection with his duties as manager of the Hospital farm, for nothing was done until Oct. 2, 1878, when George W. Dudley, who was engineer at the Hospital, was appointed. He at once established the office in the waiting room at the Railroad Station, and placed Mr. J. W. Pierce as clerk to attend to the business. On Jan. 29, 1880, Mr. Pierce was appointed Postmaster. He was the son-in-law of S. S. Pratt, and a new depot having been built, the Post Office was placed there. Mr. Pierce held the office until Mr. Pratt resigned his position as Farm Manager of the Hospital and removed with his family to Revere.

On March 9, 1891, Andrew Nichols, Jr., succeeded Mr. Pierce as Postmaster. He was the son of our well known townsman Andrew Nichols, who is a member of the Historical Society, and he continued the Post Office in the depot very successfully, until April, 1893, when ill health obliged him to try a change of climate and his brother J. W. Nichols discharged the duties for him, until a change of Administration brought the appointment of Mrs. Ellen Hines on June 20, 1895. Mrs. Hines removed the office to the Street Railway Station where she conducted a store and the business was attended to by her daughter, Mary E. Hines, until Oct. 26, 1899, when the name was changed to Hathorne and J. W. Nichols was appointed Postmaster.

The Railroad Station name was also changed to Hathorne. The name undoubtedly was suggested by Hathorne Hill on which the Insane Hospital was located. It derived its name from the first owner, Wm. Hathorne, who in 1636 received from the Crown a grant of 200 acres of land which included the hill and land towards Middleton.

Mr. Nichols erected a building across Maple Street, and removed the office there, in connection with his store. On Jan. 13, 1910, the building and contents were almost entirely destroyed by fire. The Post Office at Danvers was able to supply his immediate wants, however, and a new building

soon rose on the spot and business was resumed in it in March, 1910. During the interval the Post Office was kept in Mrs. Hines' store. The business increased much in volume under Mr. Nichols' administration, until his resignation and the appointment of Mr. C. F. Skillings, on Jan. 16, 1913. Mr. Skillings continued the office at the same place, and in October, 1916, it was raised to the third class. It is still in Mr. Nichols' building, with Mr. Skillings as Postmaster, and is progressing, as the location of the Essex County Agricultural School near there has of course enhanced the receipts of the office.

#### NORTH DANVERS.

The establishing of the Village Bank transferred the business center from New Mills to North Danvers and as the petition of 1828 to the Postmaster General for two Post Offices was not entirely complied with, I have no doubt, though I cannot find any authority, that a new petition was sent to Washington after the bank was opened, for on Jan. 28, 1837 an office was established under the name of North Danvers and Mr. William Wallis was appointed Postmaster. Mr. Wallis was a new comer, having recently moved here from Salem. The record also says that he had been appointed Notary Public by the Governor and Council. The office was near the Village Bank, possibly in the store in the other part of the bank building, though I have been informed that at some time in those early days there was a Post Office in the Hotel but cannot find out under whose administration. There seems to be no record in Danvers at all of Mr. Wallis being here as a citizen. Mr. Wallis held the office 23 months when on Dec. 29, 1838, Mr. Thomas Bowen took charge and moved the office to a small building which stood between Mr. Perley's store and what is now the Bank Building. Evidently the office was later moved to the other side of Maple Street, for at the great fire on June 10, 1845, a new building which held the Post Office and Mr. D. P. Clough's restorator was burned. The following is a sketch of Mr. Bowen by his daughter, Mrs. Mary F. Richards:

"Thomas M. Bowen was born in Marblehead on March 20, 1811. He first came to Danvers when a boy about twelve years of age. He took his father's horse and started for Danvers where relatives of his mother lived. He ran away from home because he disliked his stepmother, and upon arrival left his horse upon the street and disappeared. When his father



reached the Plains in pursuit, the horse recognized his owner and the father was obliged to take both horses back to Marblehead. A few days later the boy was apprenticed to a shoemaker of Wenham, named Ezra Shattuck. Mr. Bowen followed the sea for several years and was not quite twenty-one when he came to Danvers again and worked for Mr. Joshua Silvester, whose sister he married on December 25, 1838. Their home was in the Stimpson house, corner of Maple and School streets, but which is now located in the rear of the lot on School street. Mrs. Martin, who afterwards married Mr. Proctor Perley, lived in the other half of this house.

“Mr. Bowen was very much interested in politics, a very enthusiastic Abolitionist and was one of the promoters of the Underground railway. An event which impressed me very much as a young child was that one evening after we were all through supper, my mother told me I could stay up if I would be good and not ask any questions. She began setting the table for four people, and was cooking meat and other things. Soon we heard footsteps on the back stairs, and in walked a black man, woman and child. They did not talk much but as soon as they were through, went as stealthily as they came. We heard the wagon as it left the barn and they went away. Mr. Bowen and a Mr. Batchelder were partners in a dramatic club which held entertainments in the old factory at the foot of Conant Street on Poplar Street. Mr. Bowen served as constable for several years and was a member of the Universalist choir for a long time and in other ways identified himself with the town. Five children were born in Danvers to Thomas and Mary Ann (Silvester) Bowen, four of whom survived; Thomas Edmund, Mary F., Joshua Loring and Sarah Silvester. Mr. Bowen moved to East Danvers, then a part of Beverly in 1853, and to Salem in 1855, where another child Harriet was born. He died in Salem on Aug. 25, 1889. Two daughters are still living, Mrs. Mary F. Richards of Wenham and Miss Harriet Bowen, now a member of an Episcopal Sisterhood at Peekskill, N. Y.”

Levi Merrill was appointed Postmaster on July 16, 1846. He had a drug store in the building that stood next the Village Bank Building, which was evidently moved there after the great fire in 1845, for I have the testimony of Eben G. Berry, former owner of the hotel, that it was a part of the old hotel. As everything on that side was burned and the hotel was sold before the fire to be moved away, it would seem that it had stood somewhere away from the fire and moved on the

new street line when laid out. At any rate Mr. Merrill had the Post Office there five and one-half years, when on Jan. 6, 1852. Mr. Daniel Emerson received the appointment and moved the office to the store of Emerson & Gould at the corner of Locust and Maple Streets where they kept a large stock of everything in the country store line. When I first knew Mr. Emerson, he lived on the corner of Locust and Poplar Streets and Mr. C. H. Gould on the opposite corner. Later on he moved to the corner of Locust and Lindall, and a daughter who was well known married Lawyer Hadley and they located at Washington Court House, Ohio. Mr. Emerson's appointment was evidently political for it was during the last of President Fillmore's administration and the next year Franklin Pierce was president and Mr. Levi Merrill was reappointed on Sept. 16, 1853, giving Mr. Emerson less than a 20 months' term. Mr. Merrill moved the office back to his drug store. When the new bank building was erected Mr. Merrill moved in where the Savings Bank is now.

On June 27, 1855, the name of the Post Office was changed to Danvers in consequence of the division of the town and Mr. Merrill received a new commission which he held until claimed by Sylvanus D. Shattuck on April 22, 1861. Mr. Merrill was well known and well liked and made a very satisfactory Postmaster. Mr. Shattuck was one of the early appointed postmasters under the administration of the new Republican party. He was a very active and popular man and made a good Postmaster. He was an officer of the Union League, formed to help carry on the war of 1861 to 1865. The office was kept in the brick block, corner Maple and Elm Streets in the northern end. He was an applicant for reappointment in 1865 but had as an opponent Joseph E. Hood, a young man just home wounded from the war, having lost a leg before Petersburg, July 30, 1864, a member of Company F, 35th Mass. Infantry. Many people who would have been glad to have had Mr. Shattuck reappointed were induced to sign Mr. Hood's papers on account of his service, and crippled condition. Mr. Hood was commissioned July 18, 1865. The office was moved back to the old stand where Mr. Merrill was formerly located and kept there until the Fall of 1879, when it was moved to the new bank building, where the National Bank is now. In the same room was the Western Union Telegraph Company, and the telephone connecting with the Insane Hospital at Asylum Station. Mr. Hood kept his store in connection with the office. J. S. Lea-

royd was clerk there at one time and also Charles A. Spofford, who besides was agent for the Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Hood was very active in the town, built several houses, was also at one time Town Collector of Taxes, and held a financial office in the Lodge of Odd Fellows. Mr. Hood held his office 20 years and 10 months.

On May 21, 1886, Mr. C. N. Perley received his commission as Postmaster and continued the office in the same room a few months, until the building he was having erected just below the bank where the open sheds used to be, was completed, when he moved the office there. The office now had reached the third class where there was an allowance for clerk hire, but the clerk was not registered in Washington, being simply an employe of the postmaster. Mr. Perley is now living, and is one of our prominent business men, owner of the large grocery store on the old stand of Perley & Carrier. He has represented the town in the Legislature, been town selectman, and on numerous committees on Town affairs. On July 1, 1890, he was succeeded by Capt. G. W. Kenney, who was a Civil War Veteran, Captain of Company G, 17th Mass. Volunteers, and 29th Company of Unattached Heavy Artillery, and a past commander of Ward Post 90, G. A. R. Capt. Kenney was a travelling salesman for C. C. Farwell & Co., before taking the office. His health was not good and early in 1891 he was compelled to give the active charge of the office to W. J. Gorman, who was his clerk. He died March 9, 1891, and Mr. Gorman was placed in charge by the bondsmen until a new appointment was made. On May 1, 1891, Mrs. Gertrude Kenney was commissioned. There was considerable opposition to her appointment, mostly I think because there never had been a woman appointed in Danvers, but influential friends secured it for her. The office was well managed and was satisfactory to the people. She was assisted by her daughter, Miss Edith V. Kenney and served out her term to and including Jan. 31, 1896. On Feb. 1, 1896, Mr. C. N. Perley was recommissioned. The office now had reached second class and Mr. Perley was entitled to an allowance for one clerk and enough over for extra service needed. There was much talk about Free Delivery but the receipts were not large enough. Mr. Perley gave as satisfactory service as was possible in such an office, but still people wanted more. There was much complaint, because the window was closed during the sorting of the mails but that was unavoidable, as it was impossible to sort the mail with any help he had, and wait on the people

who were in the lobby claiming attention. Mr. Perley's time was up Jan. 20, 1900, when Charles Newhall was appointed but as there was some delay in receiving papers and commission, he did not assume the office until March 1, 1900. At that time postmasters' bonds were personal and he had to have three bondsmen sign the papers. They were then sent to the Postmaster General to be again referred to the Chief Inspector in Boston, who had to examine into the character and financial standing of the signers, and report before bonds could be accepted.

The question of Free Delivery service had been much discussed but no direct efforts had been made to secure it. After I assumed the office on March 1, 1900, the question was increasingly agitated and at a town meeting soon after, the matter was proposed and a Committee was appointed to see what could be done. They were Hon. S. L. Sawyer, C. N. Perley and M. C. Pettingell. After many conferences, we decided that the peculiar conditions here seemed to render it advisable to make a personal appeal to the Postmaster General, and find out exactly what we must do. Mr. Sawyer went to Washington, but all the satisfaction he received was "we will take it under consideration when you can show \$10,000 receipts or 10,000 population," neither of which could be done. Soon after a letter was received, suggesting the consolidation of all the offices for a year and see what the result would be, but we did not care to consider it. We had interested Mr. W. H. Moody, our Congressman, and he being in town one day, I requested him to come into the office that he might see the condition. He stood in the center of the room, looked it over, and said, "I had no idea the office was in such a condition. I will do all I can for you," and he did, for not very long after that a notice came from Washington that Free Delivery Service would be established, Dec. 1, 1900.

The owner of the building where the Post Office is located had to furnish the equipment, which would be leased for ten years at a rental which would secure him from loss if the office should be moved after the lease was out. Mr. Perley at once got in touch with the McLane Office Equipment Company and their salesman came down, made his measurements and in two days a blue print came for us to make such changes as we considered to be needed. Agreement was made for it to be in position Dec. 1, 1900. An Inspector was sent to examine the streets, and I drove him all over town. He said we could have four carriers. It seemed a small number to me.



but as it was all new work, we had to accept, and I procured the best map possible of the town, and we marked out the different routes and places where street letter boxes should be, and sent it to Washington. Next there were to be examinations for an eligible list for clerks and carriers to be selected from. So we tried to work up good material to go to Boston and take the examinations. After it was ascertained who had passed, the papers all had to be sent to the Civil Service Commission in Washington, for their examination and then I could make my selections.

Every Free Delivery Post Office is under Civil Service and must have an eligible list of candidates who have passed the Civil Service examinations. When appointments are to be made the Postmaster must select one from the three highest. He then adds one from the list and makes the selection from the three for his second employee, and so on to the third. If after selecting the third there are any of the first three names who have not been chosen they are dropped off the list and the next one taken up and so on so long as there are employees wanted. The eligible list lasts one year unless as is sometimes the case, when the examiners are pushed for time, the Civil Service Commission order it good for two years.

The new equipment came Tuesday, Nov. 27, and we were busy getting ready when in the afternoon I received a telegram to come at once to Washington as the Civil Service Commission had not reached the Danvers list, and they were afraid there would not be time to send them to me for selection. I had to leave all and start. I left at 5 P. M. and at 10 A. M. Wednesday was in Washington and met Mr. Moody at the Department Building, as I had wired him. The Commission had not reported. I had a good chance to talk over the business with Mr. Moody and the First Assistant, Mr. Madden. The Chief of the Free Delivery Division told me we were to have six carriers, which pleased me, as I felt sure four would not do, and they left it to me to rearrange the routes. After getting dinner we went back and found the Commission had adjourned until Friday, Thursday being Thanksgiving Day. From the names passed I selected four carriers and it was decided that I would better go home rather than wait until Friday, so I left the names I wanted, if they passed, and the First Assistant agreed to make the selection as soon as possible Friday and wire me.

I reached home at 9 A. M., Thanksgiving morning. At that time it seemed almost impossible to put the service on Dec.

1. We were doing as well as possible but the situation reminded me of the School Committee in a town where there was to be a new School house. The town voted to put the new School house on the spot where the old one now stands, then to use as much of the material of the old house as possible in the new one, and lastly not to tear down the old one until the new one was built. We could not take out the old outfit until after the mail was sorted and delivered Friday night and Saturday morning we were to need the new. However we managed. Friday afternoon we received a telegram from Washington, giving me the names of the carriers and a peremptory order to begin the service Saturday morning, Dec. 1, 1900. We had to summon the six carriers and instruct them; make over the four routes to six, giving minute instructions that no one should be missed and after closing Friday night slide the new outfit of boxes and windows as near into place as possible and then sort up all the matter of the three offices brought in and what was not delivered of the last mail into the carriers' delivery boxes and get ready for the morning mails. That took Mr. Lord and myself all night. Several of the carriers stayed late and helped, and on Dec. 1, 1900, we sent them out on the first Free Delivery. It was hardly believed in the Salem and Peabody offices that we could make more than one delivery if we did that, but we did give two full deliveries and one noon business delivery. I had then and continued to have until I gave up the office as loyal a force as could be found and one not to be bettered anywhere.

We began business on Dec. 1, 1900 with M. C. Lord, Assistant Postmaster, A. W. Sillars, Clerk, and myself. Mr. Sillars, as Postmaster of one of the offices consolidated, was by law entitled to a clerkship, if he desired. Our six carriers were J. W. Bates, F. C. Patterson, W. A. Sillars, Patrick H. Lyons, Sumner Perkins and E. A. Dodge. J. W. Kirby and H. W. Eaton were substitute carriers. All employees of the office are under bonds of some Surety Company, accepted by the Post Office Department, for the faithful performance of their duties. In 1907, we were so crowded that the Department made an agreement with Mr. Perley to add 20 feet to the office, fix it up suitably, and a new lease would be made for ten years, which was done on Aug. 1, 1907. I hold four commissions of four years each, one signed by William McKinley, two by Theodore Roosevelt, and one by William H. Taft. The last would expire Dec. 20, 1915, but I was expected to continue in office until my successor was commissioned and



ready, which I did, and on closing the office on Oct. 17, 1916, I handed the keys to R. T. Fennessey, my successor, having served Uncle Sam in the Post Office Department, 16 years, 7½ months. When I took the office the receipts were \$8,000; when I left \$20,650, for the last year. The force increased from one assistant Postmaster, 1½ clerks to 1 assistant Postmaster, 4 clerks, 1 substitute clerk, 3 clerks of stations, 8 carriers, 2 substitute carriers, 1 R. F. D. carrier, 1 substitute, 1 special messenger, 1 mail messenger, and myself, 24 in all.

On Aug. 1, 1917, the lease of the office room would be out so Mr. Casey, the Inspector, advertised for proposals for quarters, finally selecting two stores in James Fossa's building on Elm Street, to make one large room. The new outfit was ordered and on Sept. 1, 1917, the office was moved to the new room. It is large, light and convenient, and well located, and can take care of a large increase of business. There will undoubtedly be an increase in the office force soon, judging from appearances.

Of the eight carriers and substitutes, on Dec. 1, 1900, seven are at work now, six as carriers, and one as clerk, one carrier, Patrick Lyons, having resigned. Only one death has occurred since Dec. 1, 1900, that was A. W. Sillars who died in November, 1905. We needed additional help almost at once, and on Feb. 1, 1901, Miss F. N. Kimball was appointed clerk. She resigned later but is still in touch with the office, in a way, as the wife of Carrier No. 1, James W. Bates. R. P. Spofford was appointed July 1, 1902, E. H. Pierce, Jan. 1, 1906, Arthur K. Bates, Dec. 1, 1909, but later on he exchanged with F. C. Patterson and became Carrier No. 2, mounted, and today is Captain of the Parcel Post Auto, F. L. Morrison, Clerk, Mar. 1, 1913. J. W. Kirby was made Carrier No. 4, when Lyons resigned and H. W. Eaton Carrier No. 7 and E. R. Guppy, No. 8, C. V. Comer, Substitute Carrier, works regularly five hours per day and no doubt will soon be carrier No. 9.

The large extent of territory covered by our carriers necessitated at first two mounted Carriers so called, though they were not mounted on horses but rode in Mail delivery wagons. Later on this was reduced to one, and we received an allowance from the Department for car tickets to help out on the long routes. The Carrier owned his team, and was paid so much a year for the use of it. Later on the Carrier had an auto and finally after the Parcel Post law was in force the Department gave permission to lease an auto especially for

Carrier and Parcel Post work which is now done and insures prompt delivery of packages.

In addition to Free Delivery Service, the Department ordered a Rural Free Delivery route. With the help of an Inspector, we located a route which almost went round the town, touched Topsfield, Wenham, and ended in East Danvers at the Beverly line,  $24\frac{1}{2}$  miles, one trip a day. F. W. Fisher was the first carrier. He was a naval veteran. The work was too much for him and D. W. Lovejoy, another veteran of Civil War, Company H, 61st Mass. Infantry, was appointed. He is a member of Ward Post 90, G. A. R. and is in the service today. He began with handling 2,500 pieces a month, but now averages nearly 10,000. In the Rural Delivery the patrons must place regulation boxes where the carrier can drive to them for he is not obliged to leave his team unless he has a special or register to deliver. He has a stock of stamps, and stamped paper and can give money orders and register receipts, etc.

Two Post Office Stations were also ordered. One at Danversport with Miss Adelaide Fowler as clerk and the other at Tapleyville with T. P. Hawkes as clerk. These stations carried all postal supplies issued, money orders and registered letters, etc. Mr. Hawkes resigned after a year or two and the station went to F. S. Caird, who kept a store just above Pine on Holten Street. He only held it for a year, thinking the salary was not enough for the work and trouble and Mr. Hawkes concluded to accept it again and is in charge now. On May 1, 1907, an application was received for a station at Danvers Centre which was granted and R. L. Cleveland was appointed, but there was not enough business and after a year it was discontinued. After Free Delivery Service was extended to East Danvers an application was received for a Station there. No. 3 was accordingly located at A. J. Bradstreet's Store and he was appointed clerk. Miss Fowler of Station No. 1 resigned on May 31, 1916, and P. H. Gallivan, clerk for Morrill, was appointed and had the station in the store until the business was closed out, when on April 9, 1917, Mr. James Cahill took it on at his store on Liberty Street.

We had a special Delivery Messenger, whose duty it was to deliver the special letters immediately after they were recorded and stamped, anywhere in the Free Delivery Sections, and outside the district within a mile from the office. The last year there were 2,794 specials delivered.

In 1911, the Postal Savings System was introduced in the

office. Often we had parties buy money orders payable to themselves as a safe place to keep their money until they needed it. They did not have confidence in the banks but did in Uncle Sam's Government. The Postal Savings supplies that need to encourage children and small savers. There is a card issued for 10 cents marked for 9 stamps which they can buy for 10 cents each and when they get the card full they can open an account for \$1. On Jan. 1, 1913 the Parcel Post System went into service. Individual shipments were limited to 11 pounds and paid for according to a zone system of rates. The weight of packages has been gradually increased and the rates reduced and a new order has just been issued, permitting packages of 70 pounds to be received for places in the first three zones and 50 pounds throughout the rest of the country. Certain articles are prohibited in the mails and much care must be taken in packing to have the packages received. Articles can be insured and indemnity will be paid if they are lost or injured. Patent holders are sold under authority of the Government, in which eggs or fragile articles can be packed and delivered without injury. A C. O. D. system is also in force by which the postal officials deliver the goods and collect the bill and send you a money order for the amount. In fact the Post Office is handling a large part of the express matter of the country. War Savings Stamps and Certificates are being sold at the Post Office and Danvers stands way up in the amounts sold by the carriers and clerks. Danvers is as usual on the map.

The system of Government Postage Stamps came in 1847, after England introduced them in 1840 and some postmasters and private mail delivery companies had stamps printed and sold to their patrons to indicate that the postage and local delivery was paid. Envelopes were then becoming common and the prepayment of postage was the established practice. A few years later, official stamped envelopes were authorized. In 1855 prepayment of postage was made compulsory. In July, 1855, the Registry Service was established. The service at first was not considered as fixing the responsibility on the Government in case of loss, but merely as providing a means of tracing letters, etc., but later on an indemnity was arranged for. The first street letter box was put up in New York City in 1858, but the local collection and delivery of mail was left to private carriers. In 1863 the first free delivery was undertaken in 49 cities with 449 carriers at a cost of \$300,000 per year. Now there are over 34,000 carriers, costing over \$40,000,000.

In 1864 the Money Order System was established. Many complaints of loss of soldiers' letters containing money were received, and the money order was designed as a safe way of transmitting money. It proved very successful and profitable. In 1864 there were 138 offices issuing and paying money orders, and 74,000 orders valued at \$125,000 were issued. In 1915, 55,000,000 orders valued at over \$665,000,000 were issued. In 1867 by agreement with a number of nations the International Money Order System was established. Today practically every nation in the world is in the Union, over 60. The cheapness and safety does away in a large measure with the foolish practice of inclosing money in letters. In 1885 Special Delivery Service was inaugurated and one million letters were handled. In 1917 over 25,000,000 were delivered. On Jan. 3, 1911 the Postal Savings System went into effect.

Many business people considered this a doubtful experiment but today more than half a million depositors, aggregating deposits of over \$80,000,000, proves its value, for in many cases this is money that was kept hidden away in the house, and is now in circulation. In 1913, Jan. 1, the Parcel Post System went into effect, which I have explained. Over 70,000,000, Registered, Insured and C. O. D. pieces of mail were handled in 1916, the fees for which were over five and a quarter million dollars.

I doubt if the general public really realizes the amount of work done by the Post Office employees. Every carrier averages to handle from 500 to 600 pieces of mail per day, equal to one and a half to two million pieces per year and it must be handled two or three times each piece. They must keep in touch with all the patrons, keep their office record with all the removals and addresses checked up, report all changes to the Superintendent, also a record of all first class matter not delivered and travel for all over one hundred miles per day. They must work eight full hours per day and this must be made within ten hours as required by the law passed by Congress a few years ago. Thus if a carrier rings in at 7 A. M. he must be through his work at 5 P. M. which will show you why all the mail of the later afternoon arrivals cannot be delivered, for every one wants the early morning mail and it takes every carrier to deliver it, and so mail arriving about 4 P. M. cannot all be delivered by 5 P. M. Much time is saved the carrier by having proper receptacles or slots in the door for the mail, and also in the door nearest the street. Where this is not done the carrier is limited to one-



half a minute after ringing. The clerks handle double the mail of the carriers as they have both outgoing and incoming and handle it more times. There are over one hundred separations to be made in the sorting. In making up outgoing mail there is a facing slip on each package and if a letter is misplaced in any package the Postmaster receiving it makes the entry of the error on the back and sends it to the Superintendent of Railway Mail Service at Boston who sends it to the Postmaster in Danvers as a record against the clerk who made the error. In the examinations on outgoing mails there are 864 cards used, divided into 41 separations. The time used, the number per minute and the accuracy, is considered and they must make 95 per cent. correct to pass. Our record is from 97 to 100 per cent. correct. Carriers and clerks are not supposed to handle less than 16 per minute.

There are three ways to receive mail in a Free Delivery Office: through lock boxes in the office, by carrier delivery and by the general delivery. It is for the patron to choose which, as he can have only one. People who have the carrier delivery cannot claim the right to call at the office for mail in the evening or between deliveries. Of course in emergency the clerks will accommodate through courtesy, but emergencies do not come every day, in which case the clerk is perfectly right in declining to look over the Carrier's mail and taking up time he should give to his regular work.

Carriers, except the Rural delivery, do not issue or take money for money orders, but they may register packages. Carriers are not allowed to receive unstamped mail with the money to buy and put on stamps. Patrons should keep themselves supplied with stamps. They may put money in an envelope with a request to the Postmaster to send stamps which will be done. It seems to me there should be co-operation by the public with the Post Office for the general benefit. From the income of the office depend largely the privileges which can be given, and every dollar's worth of stamps or stamped paper bought outside of this Post Office reduces the income and at the same time cuts off your benefits. Visit your Post Office. The officials will always be glad to show you around and you surely will be interested.

NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO DANVERS.

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DANVERS, APRIL 19.—Last evening died here, Madam MARY PRESCOTT, in the 81st Year of her Age, the Amiable Consort of Benjamin Prescott, Esq.: She was eldest Daughter of the late Hon. William Pepperell, Bart.—it may be asserted without Flattery, that as Madam PRESCOTT passed through the various Stages, Stations and Relations of a protracted Life, she richly adorned them All, by a fair exhibition of those graces and qualities which compleat the character of the Christian and Gentlewoman. Her form was beauteous—But,

“The Second Temple of the Rising Just,  
“Shall far exceed the Glories of the First.”

*Boston Evening Post, Apr. 28, 1766.*

We hear that Mr. William Clark, Son of the Rev. Mr. Peter Clark, of Danvers, intends for England to obtain Episcopal Ordination, but for what Parish we do not learn.

*Boston Evening Post, April 18, 1768.*

Last Friday se'night died at Danvers, after a languishing Confinement, in the 76th year of his Age and 51st of his Ministry, the Rev. Mr. PETER CLARK, Pastor of the first Church in that Town.

*Boston Evening Post, June 20, 1768.*

TAKEN up in Danvers, an Ox Chain. The Owner, by inquiring of Benjamin Daland of Salem, may have it again. Said Daland wants to purchase 4 or 5 good Chaise and Saddle HORSES.

*Essex Gazette, June 7-14, 1774.*

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TO BE SOLD.

A Good Dwelling House, situate in Danvers, and a choice Lot of Land on which it stands, opposite the Bell-Tavern, about one mile from Salem Town-House. Any person inclining to purchase may know the Price and Condition of Sale, by applying to the Subscriber in Danvers.

*Danvers, June 10, 1774.*

AMOS PUTNAM.

*Essex Gazette, June 14-21, 1774.*

The Ship Lady Gage, Capt. Mesnard, is arrived at New York in 52 Days from London, in whom came Passenger the Hon. Mrs. Gage, Lady of his Excellency, our Governor.

*Essex Gazette, July 5-12, 1774.*



Last Thursday two Companies of the 64th Regiment arrived here from Castle William. The next Day they landed, and marched through the Town on their Way to his Excellency's Seat ["King" Hooper house], near which they are now encamped.

Taken up at the Door of the Bell Inn in Danvers, a Coat, a Waistcoat, and a Beaver Hat. The Owner may have them by applying to the Inn-Keeper and paying the Charge of advertising. Danvers, July, 1774. N. B. The above Garment, called a Waistcoat, it's like might be more properly called a Jacket as far as I know, for it is a thick Garment lined.

*Essex Gazette, July 19-26, 1774.*

Part of the 64th Regiment, encamped near the Governor's, we hear, were under Arms all last Friday Night.

*Essex Gazette, Aug. 23-30, 1774.*

It is supposed that the Place of the Governor's Residence, in future, will be in Boston. Some of his House Furniture was removed from Danvers last Week.

*Essex Gazette, Aug. 30-Sept. 6, 1774.*

At a meeting of the Delegates from every town in the county of Essex, held at Ipswich on Sept. 6 and 7, 1774, Danvers was represented by Dr. Samuel Holten and Capt. William Shillaber. Jeremiah Lee of Marblehead was Chairman.

"The delegates appointed by the several towns in this county to meet together at this alarming crisis to consider and determine on such measures as shall appear to be expedient for the county to adopt: deeply impressed with a sense of the importance of this delegation, of the abilities and qualifications necessary for conducting our public affairs with wisdom and prudence, but with the firmness and resolution becoming freemen: With the respect and deference due to the sentiments of our brethren in the other counties of the province, with submission to the future determinations of a provincial assembly, and the decisions of the grand American congress, do in the name of the county, make the following RESOLVES, viz.

"1. That the several acts of parliament which infringe the just rights of the colonies, and of this province in particular, being such objects of deliberation before the continental congress, renders it expedient for this county to suspend their determination respecting them; except so far as their immediate operation requires immediate opposition. That the

act of parliament entitled 'An Act for the better regulating the government of the province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England,' being a most dangerous infraction of our constitutional and charter rights, and tending to a total subversion of the government of the province, and destruction of our liberties; and having been with uncommon zeal, with arbitrary exertions and military violence attempted to be carried into execution; and this zeal, these exertions and this violence still continuing, from the sacred regard, the inviolable attachment we owe to those rights which are essential to and distinguish us as Englishmen and freemen; and from a tender concern for the peace of this county, we are bound to pursue all reasonable measures by which any attempts to enforce an immediate obedience to that act may be defeated.

"2. That the Judges, Justices and other civil officers in this county appointed agreeably to the charter and the laws of the province are the only civil officers in the county whom we may lawfully obey: That no authority whatever can remove these officers, except that which is constituted pursuant to the charter and those laws: That it is the duty of these officers to continue in the execution of their respective truths, as if the aforesaid act of parliament had never been made: And that while they thus continue, untainted by any official conduct in conformity to that act, we will vigorously support them therein to the utmost of our power, indemnify them in their persons and property, and to their lawful doings yield a ready obedience.

"3. That all civil officers in the province, as well as private persons, who shall dare to conduct in conformity to the aforementioned act for violating the charter and constitution of the province, are, and will be considered by this county as its unnatural and malignant enemies; and, in the opinion of this body, such men while they persist in such conduct, and so contribute to involve the colonies in all the horrors of a civil war, are unfit for civil society; their lands ought not to be tilled by the labor of an American, nor their families supplied with his clothing or food.

"4. [This 4th Resolve which respected Peter Frye, Esq. is omitted by the Direction of the Delegates of Salem, Marblehead and Danvers, they supposing his frank and generous declarations inserted in this paper would give full satisfaction to the county, and render a publication of this resolve superfluous and improper.]

"5. That a Committee be raised to wait on the Hon. Wil-

liam Brown, Esq. of Salem, and acquaint him that with grief the county has viewed his exertions for carrying into execution acts of parliament calculated to enslave and ruin his native land: that while the county would continue the respect for several years paid him it firmly resolves to detach from every future connection all such as shall persist in supporting or any ways countenancing the late arbitrary edicts of parliament; that the delegates in the name of the county request him to excuse them from the painful necessity of considering and treating him as an enemy to his country, and therefore that he would resign his office as counsellor on the late establishment, and decline as a Judge (and in every other capacity) to execute the late acts of parliament, and all others deemed by the province unconstitutional and oppressive.

“6. That is the opinion of this body, all town meetings in this county ought to be called agreeably to the laws of this province and the ancient usage of the county.

“7. That it is the opinion of this body of delegates, that a provincial congress is absolutely necessary in our present unhappy situation; and as writs are now issued for the election of representatives for a general assembly, to be held at SALEM on the 5th day of October next, the representatives so elected will properly form such provisional congress. And it is further our opinion, that those representatives should be instructed by their several towns to resolve themselves into a provincial congress accordingly; in order to consult and determine on such measures as they judge will tend to promote the true interest of his Majesty, and the peace, welfare and prosperity of the province.

“8. Deeply affected with a sense of the miseries and calamities now impending over the colonies, and this province in particular, we are compelled to form these resolutions; which (as we apprehend) being founded in justice and necessity, on the principals of our natural, essential and unalienable rights, we are determined to abide by. At the same time we frankly and with sincerity declare that we still hold ourselves subjects of his Majesty King GEORGE the third—as such will bear him true allegiance, and are ready with our lives and fortunes to support and defend his person, crown and dignity, and his constitutional authority over us. But by the horrors of slavery—by the dignity and happiness attending virtuous freedom, we are constrained to declare, that we hold our liberties too dear to be sported with, and are therefore most seriously determined to defend them. This, in the pres-

ent dispute, we conceive may be effected by peaceable measures: But, though above all things (slavery excepted) we deprecate the evils of a civil war, though we are deeply anxious to restore and preserve a harmony with our brethren in Great Britain; yet, if the depotism and violence of our enemies should finally reduce us to the sad necessity, we, undaunted, are ready to appeal to the last resort of states; and will in support of our rights encounter even death, 'sensible that he can never die too soon who lays down his life in support of the laws and liberties of his country.'

"Voted, That JEREMIAH LEE, Esq., DR. SAMUEL HOLTEN and MR. ELBRIDGE GERRY, be a Committee to wait on the Hon. William Brown, Esq., agreeable to the fifth Resolve."

Last Friday, Jeremiah Lee, Esq., Dr. Samuel Holten and Mr. Elbridge Gerry waited on the Hon. William Browne, Esq., at Boston, with the 5th Resolve of the Delegates of this County, and received the following answer:

"GENTLEMEN,

"I cannot consent to defeat his Majesty's Intentions and disappoint his Expectations by abandoning a Post to which he has been graciously pleased to appoint me,—An appointment made without my Solicitation or Privity, and accepted by me from a Sense of Duty to the King and the Hopes of serving my Country. I wish therefore to give him no Cause to suspect my Fidelity, and I assure you I will do nothing without a due Regard to their true Interest. 'As a Judge and in every other Capacity I Intend to act with Honour and Integrity and to exert my best Abilities; and be assured that neither Persuasions can allure me nor shall Menaces compel me to do any Thing derogatory to the Character of a Counsellor of his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

"Boston, Sept. 9, 1774.

WM. BROWNE."

*Essex Gazette, Sept. 6-13, 1774.*

We are just favoured with a New York Gazetteer of Sept. 8, by which we learn that the Inhabitants of that City were greatly alarmed on Monday Morning last, by an Express arriving there from COL. PUTNAM of POMFRET, with Dispatches to the Committee of Correspondence, informing them six Persons were killed, and Numbers wounded by the Soldiery in Boston, that the Artillery had been playing all night on the Town, etc., begging they would rally all their Forces and march immediately to the relief of the Inhabitants of Boston.



The 59th Regiment from this Town, and 2 Companies of the 64th from Danvers, marched to Boston last Saturday.

*Essex Gazette, Sept. 6-13, 1774.*

At a meeting of the following commissioned Officers of the first Regiment in Essex (under the Command of Wm. Browne, Esq.,) held at Danvers, 4th Day of October, 1774, William Putnam, William Pickman, Benj. Ward, tertius, Capt. Low, Joseph Gowen, Samuel Flagg, Jeremiah Page, Ephram Fuller, Samuel Gardner, Christopher Osgood, William Brown, Ezekiel Marsh, Nathaniel Sherman, Robert Foster, Enoch Putnam, Samuel Eppes, John Hathorne, Samuel King, John Dodge, James Bancroft, Amos Curtis, Ebenezer Proctor, Elias Endicott. *Voted unanimously.* That they resign their Commissions as Officers in said Regiment, and they do hereby declare their Resignation thereof.

N. B. The above Vote passed in Consequence of the said Col. Browne's refusing to resign his Seat at the Council Board.

*Essex Gazette, Oct. 18-25, 1774.*

At a Meeting of the People (both the Alarm and Training Band) of the third Company in Danvers, being part of the first Regiment in the County of Essex, held at Danvers, 27th October, 1774, for the Purpose of choosing Officers for said Company, in Consequence of their former Officers resigning their Post of office.

Capt. Jeremiah Page, Chairman.

Voted, Capt. Jeremiah Page, Captain.

Voted, Lieut. Enoch Putnam, First Lieut.

Voted, Mr. William Towne, Second Lieut.

Voted, Mr. Joseph Porter, Ensign.

Voted, That the said Officers be acknowledged by the said People as their Officers, until the said Company shall be otherwise settled in the old constitutional way.

Attest, ARCH. DALE, Clerk.

*Essex Gazette, Oct. 25, 1774.*

At a Meeting of the People (both of the Alarm and Training Band) of the first Company in Danvers, being Part of the first Regiment in the County of Essex, held at Danvers, 9th Day of November, 1774, for the purpose of choosing officers for said Company in Observance of the Recommendation of the Provincial Congress.

Dr. Samuel Holten, Chairman.

Voted, Mr. Samuel Flint, Captain.

Voted, Mr. Daniel Putnam, 1st Lieut.

Voted, Mr. Joseph Putnam, 2nd Lieut.

Voted, Mr. Asa Prince, Ensign.

Attest, ASA PUTNAM, Clerk.

Died at Danvers, Mr. THOMAS NELSON, in the 104th year of his Age. He was born at Norwich in England, June, 1671, in the Reign of Charles II. At the Revolution he was an Apprentice to a Weaver in that City, when he enlisted as a Soldier under King William to go over to Ireland to drive out James II. He served also in Queen Anne's Wars; was a Sailor in the Fleet under Sir Cloudesley Shovel at the Siege and Taking of Barcelona, and was in the expedition to Canada, 1711, at which Time he settled at Danvers, and, till within this year or two, was able to come to Salem on foot. He had but one Eye, and his Hair white like the driven snow, but retained his Reason and walked remarkably erect.

*Essex Gazette, Nov. 8, 1774.*

At a meeting of the Training Band of the second Foot Company in Danvers, on 28, Nov., 1774, agreeable to advice of the Provincial Congress, to choose officers for said Company. The Meeting was opened with Prayer by the Rev. Nathan Holt. Voted, Jonathan Tarbel, Chairman.

Voted, Samuel Eppes, Captain.

Voted, Benjamin Jacobs, 1st Lieut.

Voted, Gideon Foster, 2nd Lieut.

Voted, Francis Symonds, jr., Ensign.

Attest, SAMUEL EPPES, Clerk.

At a meeting of the Alarm List on Dec. 5, 1774. Voted, Deacon Malachi Felton, Chairman.

Voted, Caleb Low, Captain.

Voted, Ezekiel Marsh, jr., Lieut.

Voted, John Dodge, Ensign.

Attest, SYLVESTER PROCTOR, Clerk.

*Essex Gazette, Dec. 6, 1774.*



SOME THOUGHTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE OLD  
IPSWICH ROAD.

BY EZRA D. HINES.

Read at an Informal Meeting of this Society, July 7, 1890.

The Fourth of July has passed. John Adams, one of the men who signed that remarkable document, the Declaration of Independence, and thus forever immortalized himself, said concerning the 2d day of July, 1776, "It will be the most memorable epoch in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore."\*

The 2d day of July, 1776, was the day on which the resolution of Independence was passed, but it was not until the 4th day of the said July, that the form of the declaration itself was unanimously agreed to. Succeeding generations have observed the 4th instead of the 2d day, but ever with the spirit and enthusiasm which Adams predicted for the 2d day.

But what has this to do with the "Old Ipswich Road?" Wait, and you shall learn. But first let me tell you, what, of course, you all ought to know, that the said road or path, commences in our town at the Peabody line on Sylvan street, and is our present Sylvan street as far as Ash street—all of Ash street—Elm street, from the Eastern Division Railroad station to the Square, and Conant street to the Beverly line. This road is a very old road, one of the oldest, having been a road or path as early as 1630. Let us go back in imagination to that time. John Endicott is here. So is the Old Ipswich road, in fact, some of his land borders upon it. Governor

\*In Letter to Mrs. Adams, July 3d, 1776, from Philadelphia.

† In Letter dated Philadelphia, July 3, 1776, to Mrs. Adams, "Yesterday, the greatest question was decided which ever was debated in America, and a greater perhaps, never was nor will be decided among men."

Winthrop visits Endicott, the Ipswich course is in sight. Over it, perhaps, he walked or rode. We are a colony, and the old path is one of our colonial roads. We become a province, and this old way is one of the province highways. We are a District by the name of Danvers and this pleasant route is still here. We become a Town and this path or way remains. We are a State and between Boston, our capitol, and Ipswich, the beautiful and picturesque old town, the Ipswich road is the connecting link. We become a part of that great and grand whole, the United States of America, and still the pleasant course is traveled every day. Could the soil and the rocks break forth into intelligent speech what interesting facts would they reveal! How many distinguished people have passed over this old way—the Mathers, Justices Hawthorne and Curwen, the victims and accusers in the days of Witchcraft, notably the good and now sainted Rebecca Nourse, who had the courage like Daniel of old, not only to dare, but to do the right. Over this way comes Rev. James Allen, the minister of the First Church in Boston, with his bride. Here, too, comes the English General and Governor, Thomas Gage, and with him the English troops from their homes far away across the water. Along this old course Henry Dearborn, then a Captain, and afterwards Jefferson's Secretary of War, through both terms, and Rev. Samuel Spring, who afterwards became the great preacher, passed, and so, too, did Benedict Arnold with his troops on that wonderful march from Cambridge to Quebec, encamping for the night on Porter's plain. Also Daniel Morgan, the Captain of the celebrated rifle company, the hardy huntsmen of the Shenandoah, from the mountains of Virginia, Morgan, the bold, brave man, who said that "on the night of the storming of Quebec, in the deep darkness, he felt his heart sink, and going aside, knelt down by one of the cannon, and prayed that the Lord God Almighty would be his shield and defence." And many, so many more that I might speak of, could be mentioned, who have traveled this old way, did time allow.

Let me, however, relate concerning two men, who were at the time of which I write, distinguished, and who afterwards became more noted, who in the early part of the year 1774, on Monday, March 28th, drove together from Boston over this old road. They were none other than John Adams and Josiah Quincy, Junior. Adams and Quincy, names of which we are proud, and to which we love to refer. Now

you will observe why I quoted from the writings of one of these men in the beginning.

These two men are on their way to Ipswich to attend Court. On the evening of the day before referred to, they stop in Danvers. Adams, in his Diary, says: "Rode with Josiah Quincy to Ipswich Court. Arrived at Piemonts in Danvers, in good order and well conditioned. Spent the evening and lodged agreeably. Walked out in the morning to hear the birds sing. Piemont says, there is a report that the Sons of Liberty have received some advice from England which makes them look down; that they have received a letter from Mr. Bollam that they must submit, and other letters which they keep secret." After tarrying here for a night they proceed to Ipswich. Much as you all know might be said of Adams, let my quotations from him already given suffice, and let me now relate something to you in reference to Josiah Quincy, Junior. He is, like Adams, a sterling patriot. Adams and Quincy are lawyers. In less than a year, after their stop in Danvers, Quincy goes to England, hoping he may there be of service to his country. He embarks privately from Salem, Sept. 28th, 1774. Arriving in London, he dines with Dr. Franklin. Visits Lord North, talks over with him for two hours the condition of American affairs, especially of the Boston Port Bill.

He attends the Court of Chancery, King's Bench and Common Pleas. Visits Governor Pownal. Has a long conversation with Lord Dartmouth. Lord D. being called out for a few moments, said, "I would entertain you with a pamphlet. (Observations on the Port Bill),\* during my absence, but I fancy you have seen this. I think you know the author of it." Is received by Lord Chatham. Dines with Lady Huntington. Attends Parliament at its opening.

Lord Chatham is alluded to afterwards by Washington, in his instructions to Arnold, given on the eve of his departure on his march from Cambridge to Quebec. Washington writes:

"If Lord Chatham's son should be in Canada, and in any way should fall into your power you are enjoined to treat him with all possible deference and respect. You cannot err in paying too much honor to the son of so illustrious a character, and so true a friend to America."

Quincy is now in the House of Peers, at the foot of the throne, and listens to the King's delivery of his speech from the throne above.

\*Written by Josiah Quincy, Jr.

Now he sees Lord Camden who said, "Were I an American I would resist to the last drop of my blood."

He hears the great speech of Lord Chatham in the House of Lords, in January, 1775, in the course of which he said concerning America, "They say you have no right to tax them without their consent—they say truly. Representation and taxation must go together—they are inseparable."

On the same day, and in the same place, he also listens, and hears fall from the lips of Lord Camden:

"My Lords, you have no right to tax America." Lord Shelburne also spoke, favorable to America. Quincy himself, afterwards, said of this event:

"Last Friday was a day of great happiness to me. I heard a Chatham and a Camden speak for hours on the concerns of my country."

Quincy embarks for home March 16th, 1775, and on the homeward journey he is sick and weary. He grows worse, and April 26th, 1775, just before reaching the shores of his native land which he so much desired to reach, he expires. As death approached, he remarked, "that his one desire and prayer was, that he might live long enough to have an interview with Samuel Adams, or Joseph Warren, that granted, he would die content."

He died just before reaching Gloucester, and all that was mortal of Josiah Quincy was laid away in the cemetery at that place.

Let me leave this thought with you tonight. I want you to connect these men of whom I have related, and especially Adams and Quincy, with our Old Ipswich Road, over which they once passed. As we walk or ride over this road, surely, may the heroic lives of Adams and Quincy, of Dearborn, of Morgan, and of others, which they lived, and the brave deeds they performed, serve to brighten and strengthen us in our life work, and may we say of them, the founders of our republic, as is said of our country's latest defenders,

"For what they did, and what they dared, remember them today."

And of our old colonial path or way,

"Though men may come,

And men may go,"

May the Ipswich Road remain forever.







## CENTER OF SALEM VILLAGE IN 1700.

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BY SIDNEY PERLEY.

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THIS section of Salem Village is somewhat irregular in shape, and measures about a mile and a quarter in length north and south, and nearly a mile in width at the widest part east and west. It runs from a short distance southerly of Holten street to Beaver brook, and from Dayton street to the eastern slope of Whipple's hill.

Salem Village was called New Salem in 1685.

Whipple's hill was first known as Thorndick hill, because John Thorndick owned a part or the whole of it; and, later, after the Whipple family came to live on its eastern side, it became known as Whipple's hill. The latter name has clung to it ever since, although the Whipplés have been gone from the old homestead for a century.

Beaver brook was called Beaver dam brook in 1761, but has been and is more generally known as Beaver brook.

Holten street was laid out before 1674 by John Porter, sr., and Thomas Putnam, who deposed in the Salem quarterly court June 30, 1674, that they were appointed to lay out some highways at the Farms, and "they Com to Ingesels brook & began neare a marked tree that standes by nathanel Putnams fence on the north sid the brook & laid out a way as neare as they Could betwixt the farmes of Mr. Endecotes on the south: & hedloks & Joseph holtones on the north."\* It was called ye country highway in 1697; the highway leading to Salem in 1701; and Holten street in 1864. The easterly part of Holten street now runs as shown by the parallel dotted lines.

\*Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume V, page 323.

Center street, southerly from the meeting house, was a highway in 1692, and was so called in that year; the highway leading to Salem in 1701; the country road in 1703; the county road in 1819; Village street in 1847; and Center street as early as 1863. In 1868, a deed calls it Holten street. That part of Center street leading northwesterly from the meeting house was a highway many years before the witchcraft period (probably laid out in 1674); and was called the country road in 1708; ye country road from Salem to Andover in 1716; Andover road in 1731; Andover road to Salem in 1788; the road leading to Middleton in 1842; the Middleton road in 1847; and Center street as early as 1864.

Pine street is an ancient road. It was called ye country highway in 1674; highway leading to Salem in 1748; the highway leading from the north part of Middleton to Salem in 1788; and Pine street as early as 1872.

Hobart street was laid out in 1674, when the meeting house was built; and was called ye highway in 1700; ye country highway in 1709; ye old meeting house road in 1731; road to the meeting house in 1748; highway leading from the house of James Smith to the North meeting house in Danvers in 1788; and Hobart street as early as 1864.

Forest street was an old way to the meeting house, being laid out in 1675, "for ye Inhabitants ye farmers to Come to ye meeting howfe;"\* and was called ye highway in 1708; the way laid out into the common road to Salem in 1723; ye old meeting house way in 1731; the highway that leads up to Hathorne's hill in 1744; a way to go to the meeting way in 1750; ye way leading to Thomas Andrews' in 1751; the road leading from the North meeting house in 1849; and Forest street in 1864.

Ingersoll street was begun to be used as a way about the time of the Revolution. It was called the way laid out by the selectmen of Danvers to accommodate Captain Ingersoll in 1800; a road leading by the Peabody farm so called to the Newburyport turnpike in 1874; and Ingersoll street in 1882.

Ganson's lane was created as a way, four rods wide,

\*Town Records of Salem, volume II, pages 207 and 221.

from the highway to the house and land of Samuel Sibley in 1686.\* The Ganson family afterwards lived there, and it came to be called the lane to Ganson's land in 1787; and Ganson's lane in 1801.

Brown street was so called in 1864.

*Benjamin Hutchinson Lot.* This was the northwestern corner of the tract of land which was granted by the town of Salem to Francis Weston in 1636. Mr. Weston followed Roger Williams to Rhode Island, and this part of the grant became the property of John Pease, who conveyed it to Richard Ingersoll June 13, 1644.† Mr. Ingersoll died in the winter of 1644-5, having devised it to his son Nathaniel Ingersoll. Nathaniel Ingersoll of Salem, yeoman, conveyed it to "my adopted son" Benjamin Hutchinson, who had been given to him by Benjamin's parents, Mr. Ingersoll having no children that lived to maturity. Benjamin Hutchinson owned it in 1700.

*Nathaniel Putnam Lot.* This was perhaps a part of the fifty acres granted by the town of Salem to Nathaniel Putnam "lying beyond Elias Stilemans ffarme bounding upon mr Thorndicke & soc vpon Captaine Hathornes ffarmes" Nov. 26, 1649; and it belonged to Nathaniel Putnam in 1700.

*Joseph Hutchinson Lot.* The northerly part of this lot was probably part of the farm of John Thorndike in 1641; and the southerly part was a portion of the farm of Elias Stileman, the elder, which was granted to him by the town of Salem before 1641. Mr. Stileman conveyed it to Richard Hutchinson June 6, 1648.‡ Richard Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, for love, conveyed this tract of land to his son Joseph Hutchinson of Salem May 16, 1666;§ and Joseph Hutchinson owned it in 1700.

Upon the southerly end of this lot the first meeting house of Salem village was built in 1673. It is said to have been a plain two-story building, and it remained in use until 1701, when a new meeting house was erected

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 115.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 1.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 4.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 18.

upon the site of the present church. The old meeting house was taken down and reconstructed as a barn on the opposite side of the road, where it remained until about 1800, when it rotted and fell and its ruins allowed to decay.

*Estate of Jonathan Walcott House.* This lot belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his son Nathaniel Ingersoll. Nathaniel Ingersoll of Salem and his wife Hannah conveyed to Jonathan Wallcut of Salem that part of the lot lying northerly of the dashes July 1, 1669;\* and that part of the lot lying southerly of the dashes Nov. 24, 1685.\* Captain Walcott died Dec. 16, 1699, having devised "my now man-tion house," barn and land belonging thereunto to his wife Deliverance for her life and at her decease the absolute estate to his four youngest sons, Thomas, William, Ebenezer and Benjamin. The last three named sons agreed to support the widow, and with her consent they made a division of the estate among themselves Feb. 24, 1722, the house, barn and land adjoining them being assigned to Ebenezer Walcott.† Ebenezer Walcott of Reading, planter, for one hundred and seventy pounds, conveyed the house, barn and land to his brother Benjamin Walcot of Salem, blacksmith, April 29, 1723.‡ Benjamin Walcott removed to Boston, where he continued his business of a blacksmith, and, for two hundred and ten pounds, conveyed the land and buildings to Ebenezer Hutchinson of Salem, yeoman, June 6, 1726.§ For forty pounds, Mr. Hutchinson conveyed to Samuel Ingersoll of Marblehead, cooper, the dwelling house, barn and land under and adjoining the same May 29, 1728.|| Mary Cox and Ruth Fowles, widows, both of Salem, John Ingersoll of Lynn, husbandman, Elizabeth Knights, widow, John Ingersoll and Richard Ingersoll, mariners, and Daniel Cresey, cordwainer, and wife Sarah, Ruth Hibbert, widow, and Sarah Ropes, widow, all of Salem, descendants and heirs of John Ingersoll, formerly of Salem, yeo-

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 7, leaf 57.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 40, leaf 217.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 41, leaf 164.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 47, leaf 166.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 51, leaf 86.

man, deceased, Mathew Pettingal of Salisbury, husbandman, Nicholas Jackman, husbandman, and wife Abigail, Daniel Lunt, husbandman, and wife Mary, Hannah Pettingal, guardian of Benjamin Pettingal and Humphrey Pettingall, minors, and Samuel Pettingall, husbandman, all of Newbury, descendants and heirs of Richard Pettingall, formerly of Newbury, yeoman, deceased, Thomas Haines of Haverhill, husbandman, Moses Aborn of Salem, husbandman, and George Flint of Salem, husbandman, and wife Sarah, descendants and heirs of William Haines, formerly of Salem, yeoman, for one hundred and ninety pounds, conveyed to Samuel Ingersoll, sr., of Marblehead, cooper, their interest in the premises Feb. 3, 1728-9.\* Mr. Ingersoll removed to Salem, and pursued his trade of a cooper. He conveyed one-sixth of the estate to Thomas Haynes of Haverhill, husbandman, and his brothers and sisters, Jonathan Haynes and Joseph Haynes, now at Canada, William Corbet of Lebanon, Conn., and wife Sarah, John Heath of Norwich, Conn., and wife Hannah, Thomas Kingsbery of Windham, Conn., and wife Margaret, John Preston of Windham and wife Mary, John Corlis of Haverhill and wife Ruth, to the heirs of Jacob Warren and wife Abigail, since deceased, and to Isaac Spalden of Plainfield, Conn., and wife Elizabeth, Sept. 17, 1731.† Benjamin Haynes of Salem, Salem county, in West New Jersey, weaver, for himself and as attorney of Joseph Haynes, jr., and Thomas Haynes, plantation man, and Daniel Haynes, carpenter, all of Maning town, in said county, and Roger Hugings of Pilsgrrove and wife Sarah, descendants of John Ingersoll, Richard Pettengell and William Haynes, conveyed the estate to Samuel Ingersoll of Salem, cooper, Nov. 6, 1731.‡ George Flint of Salem, husbandman, and wife Sarah (daughter of Sarah Haines, who was daughter of William Haynes, who was son-in-law of Richard Ingersoll, formerly of Salem, deceased), conveyed to Samuel Ingersoll of Salem their interest in this lot and buildings thereon July 11, 1733.§ Mr. Ingersoll conveyed the buildings and land

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 63, leaf 197.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 59, leaf 59.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 59, leaf 269.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 63, leaf 187.



to Ebenezer Hawks of Marblehead and Samuel Pope of Salem, blacksmiths, Oct. 22, 1735;\* and these grantees conveyed the same estate to William Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, and wife Joanna March 23, 1735.† The house was probably gone soon afterward.

*Nathaniel Ingersoll House.* This lot of land was a part of the tract granted by the town of Salem to Francis Weston. John Pease conveyed this part of it, with a house thereon, to Richard Ingersoll, June 13, 1644.‡ Mr. Ingersoll had already moved into the house, which was still unfinished, and died there in that year, having in his will, devised the land, and "a little frame" thereon, to his son Nathaniel Ingersoll. Captain Ingersoll finished the house and lived in it. Nathaniel Ingersoll of Salem Village, husbandman, and his wife Hannah, "for love for the public worship of God, and encouragement of their pastor," Rev. Samuel Parris, "who hath lately taken that office amongst them," etc., conveyed to him and his wife Elizabeth for their joint lives that part of the lot lying between the dashes Jan. 2, 1689;§ and Mr. Parris, for eighteen pounds, reconveyed it to Mr. Ingersoll Aug. —, 1697.|| Deacon Ingersoll died Jan. 27, 1718-9, having devised the income of his estate to his wife Hannah during her life, and subject to her life estate he devised to "Benjamin Hutchinson (my adopted son) who was very dutyfull to me while he lived with me & helpful to me since he has gone from me" all his real estate, except two acres at the western end of this lot, "whh I give to the inhabitants of Salem Village for a training place for ever." Benjamin Hutchinson and Nathaniel Hutchinson, both of Salem, husbandmen, conveyed to Samuel Ingersoll of Salem, cooper, that part of the lot lying easterly of the dashes, with "an old dwelling house standing thereon," Sept. 17, 1731.¶ But as Nathaniel Ingersoll died leaving no issue releases from his heirs-at-law were secured. Samuel Ingersoll of Salem, cooper, released his

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 68, leaf 225.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 71, leaf 79.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 1.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 71.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 172.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 59, leaf 31.

one-fifth interest in the old house, barn and homestead land to Thomas Haynes of Haverhill, husbandman, Jonathan Haynes and Joseph Haynes, "now at Canada," William Corbet of Lebanon, Conn., and wife Sarah, John Heath of Norwich, Conn., and wife Hannah, Thomas Kingsberry of Windham, Conn., and wife Margaret, John Preston of Windham and wife Mary, John Corlis of Haverhill and wife Ruth, heirs of Jacob Warren and wife Abigail, now deceased, Isaac Spalden and wife Elizabeth of Plainfield, Conn., all brothers and sisters of said Thomas Haynes, Sept. 17, 1731.\* Benjamin Haynes of Salem, Salem county, in West New Jersey, weaver, for himself and as attorney of Joseph Haynes, jr., and Thomas Haynes, plantation men, and Daniel Haynes, carpenter, all of Maning town, in said county, and Roger Hugins of Pils Grove and wife Sarah release their interests in this homestead to Samuel Ingersoll, sr., of Salem, cooper, Nov. 6, 1731.† Sarah Ropes of Salem, widow, released her interest in the estate to Samuel Ingersoll June 8, 1732;‡ and George Flint of Salem, husbandman, and wife Sarah (daughter of Sarah Haines, who was daughter of William Haynes, who was son-in-law of Richard Ingersoll, formerly of Salem, deceased) released her interest July 11, 1733.§ Samuel Ingersoll conveyed the land and buildings to Ebenezer Hawks of Marblehead and Samuel Pope of Salem, blacksmiths, Oct. 22, 1735.|| Messrs. Hawks and Pope conveyed the same to Joseph Cross of Salem, mariner, Jan. 31, 1736;¶ and Mr. Cross removed the old house and erected a new one in its stead before 1762.

*Parsonage.* That part of this lot lying southerly of the dashes, upon which the parsonage was built in or before 1681, was probably donated by Nathaniel Ingersoll for that purpose at that time.

That part of the lot lying northeasterly of the dashes was conveyed, for six pounds and ten shillings, by Joseph

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 59, leaf 59.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 59, leaf 269.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 59, leaf 270.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 63, leaf 187.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 68, leaf 225.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 71, leaf 277.

Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, to the "inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> farmes of Salem Village" April 13, 1681.\*

That part of the lot lying southwesterly of the dashes was conveyed by Joseph Holton, sr., of Salem, husbandman, to "the inhabitants of the farmes of Salem Village" April 15, 1681.† This was a part of the tract of land conveyed by John Pease to Richard Ingersoll June 13, 1644.‡

Upon the severance of the relation of Rev. Samuel Parris to the church and parish, the question of title to the parsonage property and ministry land arose, and it was submitted to arbitration by Mr. Parris and Nathaniel Putnam, Daniel Andrew, Joseph Herrick, Thomas Putnam and Joseph Putnam, all of Salem, on behalf of the inhabitants of Salem Village, and, Aug. 30, 1697, an award was made, by which Mr. Parris should release his interest in the messuage known as the ministry house and land and in the copper in the leanto of the house, and, also, in all land bought by the Village of Joseph Holton, and he accordingly released the same Sept. 24, 1697.§

The parsonage house, which was built for the minister, was forty-two feet long, twenty feet wide, and of eleven feet post. It had four chimneys, and no gables. In 1734, it was repaired for the occupancy of Rev. Peter Clark, and an addition to it was made twenty-three feet long, eighteen feet wide, and fifteen feet post. This old parsonage house was demolished by Rev. Benjamin Wadsworth in 1784.

The parish disposed of the land in 1864 and 1866.

*Samuel Sibley House.* This lot of land early belonged to Benjamin Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, and he conveyed it to his son Joseph Hutchinson of Salem, yeoman, May 16, 1666.¶ Joseph Hutchinson conveyed it, with the road (four rods wide) to the street, to Samuel Sibley of Salem, cooper, Sept. 2, 1686;¶¶ and Mr. Sibley built a house and barn and planted an orchard upon the

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 7, leaf 40.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 7, leaf 40; book 11, leaf 139.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 1.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 245.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 18.

¶¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 115.

lot. For twenty-five pounds, he conveyed the estate to Samuel Lane of Salem, blacksmith, June 6, 1696;\* and, for thirty-three pounds, Mr. Lane conveyed to John Ganson of Salem, weaver, "my now dwelling house," barns, orchards and land, April 2, 1707.† He died in January, 1723-4, and his widow Abigail married, secondly, Capt. Thomas Flint of Salem, and disposed of this estate to her children, under the power and direction in his will, Feb. 19, 1734-5.‡ Lois Ganson of Salem, singlewoman, released one-ninth of the "mansion house," barn and land to her brother Benjamin Ganson of Salem, weaver, Feb. 21, 1734-5.§ John Ganson of Salem, housewright, released one-fifth of it to his brother Benjamin Ganson, who was then living in the house, Oct. 7, 1740;|| and on the same day Jonathan Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, and wife Elizabeth released her interest in it to her brother Benjamin Ganson.¶ Nathan Ganson of Salem, housewright, released his one-fifth interest in the house, barn and land to his brother Benjamin Ganson April 4, 1744.\*\* Benjamin Ganson died in the spring of 1749, when his twelve acres of land and the buildings were appraised at one hundred and fifty pounds. The house was gone before 1788, when the lane was described as "a lane leading from the highway leading to the meeting house to the cellar where Ganson's house formerly stood."††

*James Bayley House.* That part of this lot lying westerly of the dashes next the highway early belonged to Richard Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, and he conveyed it to his son Joseph Hutchinson of Salem May 16, 1666.‡‡ Joseph Hutchinson conveyed it to Rev. James Bayley of Salem March 25, 1681.§§ Mr. Bayley had preached here from 1672 to 1680.

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 19, leaf 86.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 19, leaf 160.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 81, leaf 91.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 81, leaf 83.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 81, leaf 84.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 81, leaf 104.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 86, leaf 44.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 147, leaf 95.

‡‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 18.

§§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 7, leaf 79.

That part of the lot lying northerly of the northernmost dashes was a part of the estate of Richard Hutchinson and conveyed by him to his son Joseph as above stated. Joseph Hutchinson of Salem Village, for thirteen pounds and six shillings, conveyed it to James Bayley of Roxbury, physician, May 2, 1693.\*

That part of this lot lying between the dashes was also a part of the estate of Richard Hutchinson, and conveyed by him to his son Joseph as above stated. Joseph Hutchinson, sr., of Salem, yeoman, conveyed it to Rev. James Bayley of Salem Village, who "hath bene in y<sup>e</sup> exercise of his gifts by preaching amongst us several years, having had a call thereunto by y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants of y<sup>t</sup> place, and att y<sup>e</sup> sd Mr. Baylee's first coming amongst us, . . . for his more comfortable subsistence amongst us; but the Providence of God having so ordered it, y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> sd Mr. Bayley doth not continue amongst us in y<sup>e</sup> worke of y<sup>e</sup> ministry, yet considering y<sup>e</sup> premisses, & as a testimonie of our good affection to y<sup>e</sup> sd Mr. Bayley," May 6, 1680.†

The rest of the lot probably early belonged to Richard Hutchinson, and later to his son-in-law Nathaniel Putnam of Salem, husband of his daughter Elizabeth. Nathaniel Putnam conveyed to Mr. Bayley the lot, "whereon y<sup>e</sup> said Mr. Bayley's now dwelling house now standeth," May 6, 1680,† Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Putnam joining in one deed.

Thus the whole lot became the property of Mr. Bayley in 1700. He removed to Roxbury, where he continued the practice of a physician, and, for one hundred pounds, conveyed the dwelling house, orchard and land to Nicholas Hayward of Salem May 23, 1700.‡ Mr. Hayward died in the spring of 1748; and in the division of his estate his homestead land and buildings were assigned to his son Paul Hayward. Paul Hayward of Salem, cordwainer, for forty-two pounds, six shillings and eight pence, conveyed to James Smith, jr., this house, barn and land

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 279.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 7, leaf 79.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 21, leaf 24.



around them Feb. 27, 1750.\* In 1788 it was called "the house where Israel Smith lives." The house was probably gone a few years later.

*John Shepard House.* This lot of land was a part of the great lot of Richard Hutchinson; and it came into the ownership of Nathaniel Putnam very early. Mr. Putnam sold or gave it to his father before 1680; but no deed of it was given until Feb. 19, 1682-3, when it legally passed to his father John Putnam, sr., of Salem.† Capt. John Putnam gave it to John Shepard to be disposed of to his children before 1680, and before he had acquired a deed of it. Mr. Shepard built a house thereon immediately; and, when of Rowley, tailor, for love, he conveyed the "mansion house" and land to his children, John Shepard and Hannah (Shepard) Clark, both of Haverhill, William Shepard of Hampton, N. H., and Eleazer Shepard of Salem (who was then at sea) Feb. 23, 1710-1.‡ Mr. Shepard died July 8, 1726, and his heirs sold it to James Ross of Salem, shoemaker. Mr. Ross conveyed the buildings and land to Samuel Hayward, jr., of Salem, weaver, June 14, 1742.§ It next belonged to Nicholas Hayward of Salem, who died in 174-. The next owner was his son Paul Hayward of Salem, yeoman, who conveyed this homestead to Nathaniel Browne of Salem, gentleman, March 10, 1748.|| For one hundred pounds, Mr. Browne conveyed the dwelling house, barn and land to James Smith, jr., of Salem, cooper, April 10, 1749;¶ and the buildings were apparently gone before 1788, when the land was still owned by Mr. Smith.

*Samuel Parris Lot.* This lot early belonged to James Hadlock of Salem Village, and he sold it to John Shepard of Salem Village, tailor, Oct. 30, 1688. Mr. Shepard had his orchard here. He removed to Rowley, and, for ten pounds, conveyed the lot and some buildings thereon to Samuel Parris of Salem Village Feb. 15, 1691.\*\* Rev.

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 96, leaf 118.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 77.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 24, leaf 2.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 84, leaf 197.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 93, leaf 155.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 93, leaf 149.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 70.

Mr. Parris removed to Newton, and owned the lot in 1700.

*Joseph Hutchinson House.* This was part of the farm of Elias Stileman, the elder, which was granted to him by the town of Salem before 1641. Mr. Stileman conveyed it to Richard Hutchinson June 6, 1648.\* Mr. Hutchinson was of Salem, husbandman, and, for love, conveyed to his son Joseph Hutchinson of Salem this tract of land, with the house and barn thereon, May 16, 1666.† Richard Hutchinson apparently continued to live in this house with Joseph until his death in 1682, and his widow also until her marriage with Thomas Roots of Manchester a few months after his death. Joseph Hutchinson conveyed to his son Robert "my mansion house," barn and land, June 3, 1708.‡ The house was apparently gone before 1729, when the land was sold.

*Nathaniel Ingersoll Lot.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, possessed of it, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in the summer of 1670. It came into the hands of her son Nathaniel Ingersoll, who owned it in 1700.

The watchhouse of King Philip's war time stood on the western end of this lot; and, in 1701, the second meeting house of Salem Village was built upon the same site, and there it and its successors have since stood.

*Thomas Haines House.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in 1670. It came into the possession of her daughter Sarah, who married, first, William Haines, and, second, Joseph Houlton. Joseph Houlton was a husbandman, and lived just below on the same side of the street. He released this lot to his step-son Thomas Haines of Salem Aug. 9, 1681.§ Mr. Haines built a house upon this lot and became an innholder. He removed to Salem, in New West Jersey, and conveyed the house and land

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 4.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 18.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 30, leaf 179.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 13.



THOMAS HAINES HOUSE



JOHN HOULTON HOUSE



to John Allen of Salem, gunsmith, March 23, 1703-4.\* Mr. Allen removed to Marblehead, and conveyed the land and house, "in which I formerly dwelt," to Ebenezer Buxton of Salem, cooper, June 12, 1731.† Mr. Buxton conveyed the land and buildings to John Putnam, jr., of Salem, husbandman, June 13, 1736;‡ and Mr. Putnam conveyed the dwelling house and land to Benjamin Chase of Danvers, weaver, Sept. 20, 1754.§ Mr. Chase died, in old age, in the winter of 1813-4, having devised his estate to his friend and housekeeper widow Elizabeth Flint of Danvers. She conveyed the land and buildings to Salmon Phinney of Danvers, yeoman, Feb. 1, 1816;|| and Mr. Phinney conveyed the same to Daniel King of Danvers, gentleman, April 1, 1817.¶ For eight hundred dollars, Mr. King conveyed the house and land around it to Elijah Pope, jr., of Danvers, cordwainer, March 9, 1833;\*\* and Mr. Pope mortgaged the estate to widow Elizabeth Wyman of Salem April 23, 1840.†† Mrs. Wyman removed to Marblehead, and died in August, 1856; having devised her estate (except a few small bequests) to her son Isaac C. Wyman of Salem, attorney-at-law, who as her executor foreclosed this mortgage by taking possession of the premises June 2, 1868.‡‡ Mr. Wyman conveyed the estate to Alvira T. Martin, wife of George B. Martin of Danvers, manufacturer, May 1, 1868.§§ Mrs. Martin died Aug. 14, 1878, intestate, and their children, Walter T. Martin, Caroline M. Martin and Alice B. Martin, all of Danvers, released their interest in the "Pope place" to their father George B. Martin of Danvers March 20, 1886.|||| Mr. Martin died April 26, 1889, intestate; and Gilbert A. Tapley and another, administrators of his estate, conveyed this property to Wil-

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 95, leaf 268.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 62, leaf 12.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 74, leaf 120.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 101, leaf 88.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 210, leaf 2.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 215, leaf 125.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 270, leaf 45.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 318, leaf 133.

‡‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 750, leaf 240.

§§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 752, leaf 244.

||||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1180, leaf 132.



liam H. Hood of Danvers Sept. —, 1891.\* For nine hundred and fifty dollars, Mr. Hood conveyed it to Elizabeth R. Roberts, wife of Daniel C. Roberts of Danvers, Jan. 1, 1892; † and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts conveyed the land and buildings to Everett L. Wentworth of Danvers March 10, 1908. ‡ Mr. Wentworth conveyed the same estate to Bertha L. Durkee, wife of Wendell U. Durkee of Danvers, Aug. 5, 1912; § and Mrs. Durkee now owns the place.

*Henry Houlton Lot.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in 1670. It came into the possession of her daughter Sarah, who married, secondly, Joseph Houlton. Joseph Houlton lived in Salem, and was a husbandman. He and his wife Sarah conveyed to their son Henry Houlton this lot, which contained one acre and was planted to an orchard, Sept. 22, 1694; || and Henry Houlton owned it in 1700.

*John Houlton House.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in 1670. It came into the possession of her daughter Sarah, who married, secondly, Joseph Houlton. Joseph lived in Salem, and was a husbandman. He conveyed to their son John Houlton this lot "on which the dwelling house of the grantee stands" Jan. 21, 1692. ¶ John Holton lived here, and was a cooper. He died in the winter of 1721, having devised the use of his housing, barn and land to his wife Mary for her life, and then absolutely to Joseph Buxton, son of his sister Elizabeth Buxton. Joseph Buxton died in the summer of 1750, having devised this house and land to his wife Abigail for her life, and then absolutely to his son Joseph Buxton. The son Joseph Buxton of Danvers, cooper, for one hundred pounds, conveyed the house, barn and land to his

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1411, page 136.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1339, page 342.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1908, page 540.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2164, page 522.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 24, leaf 187.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 206.

son Anthony Buxton of Danvers April 22, 1754;\* and Anthony Buxton, then a cooper, conveyed the same estate to widow Miriam Giffards of Marblehead Aug. 18, 1777.† John Cross of Danvers, housewright, owned the house, barn and land as early as 1801; and, Feb. 26, 1805, when it was conveyed to Elijah Hutchinson of Middleton, housewright, by Daniel Dutch of Ipswich, a deputy sheriff, on an execution issued on a judgment recovered by Mr. Hutchinson in a suit against Mr. Cross.‡ Mr. Cross released the title to the estate to Mr. Hutchinson two days later.§ Mr. Hutchinson removed to this place, and continued his trade of a housewright. He died Sept. 9, 1818; and, as administrator of his estate, Joseph Hutchinson conveyed the land and buildings to David Wilkins of Danvers, blacksmith, May 7, 1819.|| Mr. Wilkins' shop stood southerly from his house on land of Samuel Small. Mr. Wilkins conveyed the house, barn, shop and land to Solomon Wilkins of Middleton, esquire, Dec. 30, 1823;¶ and Solomon Wilkins conveyed the same estate to David S. Wilkins of Danvers, laborer, April 22, 1833.\*\* David S. Wilkins, who had become a yeoman, for seven hundred dollars, conveyed the same property to Frederick A. Wilkins and Reuben Wilkins of Danvers, shoemakers, July 14, 1842.†† Reuben Wilkins released his interest in the estate to Frederick A. Wilkins May 18, 1863.‡‡ Frederick A. Wilkins died Sept. 23, 1895, having devised this house and lot to his son George A. Wilkins of Danvers. George A. Wilkins conveyed the estate to William A. Donnell of Danvers Jan. 13, 1911;§§ and on the same day Mr. Donnell conveyed it to Laura A. Wilkins, wife of George A. Wilkins.||| Mrs. Wilkins still owns and resides upon the old homestead.

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 123, leaf 255.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 136, leaf 80.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 174, leaf 298.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 174, leaf 299.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 223, leaf 10.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 234, leaf 86.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 271, leaf 44.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 344, leaf 286.

‡‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 652, leaf 18.

§§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2065, page 9.

|||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2065, page 10.

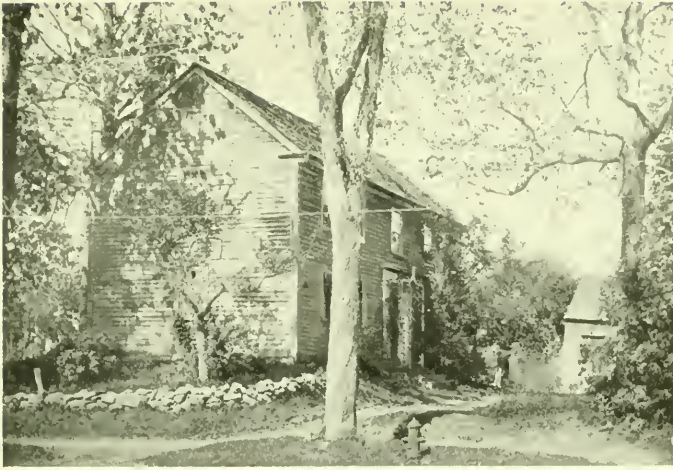
*Joseph Houlton House.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in 1670. It came into the possession of her daughter Sarah, who married, secondly, Joseph Houlton of Salem. Mr. Houlton built a house on this lot and lived in it. He conveyed "my dwelling house" and this lot of land to his son James Houlton Aug. 19, 1701.\* James Houlton lived in Salem, and died in the autumn of 1722, having devised to his wife Mary the income of his real estate for her life, and then to their son Joseph "all my land and housing in Salem Village that I had of my father," etc. Joseph Holton was only eleven years old at the time of his father's decease. His mother married, secondly, William Stacey of Marblehead Aug. 22, 1723, and they removed to Boston about five years later. He was a cordwainer, and married Rebecca Felton in 1731. He conveyed the estate to Bartholomew Rea of Salem, tailor, April 4, 1732;† and removed to Hopkinton. Mr. Rea became a yeoman, and lived here. He died in the spring of 1784, having devised to his wife the use of the lower room in the west end of the house for ten years, and to his son John Rea of Danvers, yeoman, his homestead land, with the buildings thereon, subject to the interest of the wife as above stated. John Rea died April 20, 1797. Daniel Rea of Andover, yeoman, a distant relative, owned the dwelling house, barn and land Nov. 29, 1805, when he conveyed the estate to Ebenezer Goodale of Danvers, esquire;‡ and Mr. Goodale conveyed the same estate on the same day to Samuel Small of Middleton, housewright.§ Mr. Small lived here, becoming a yeoman; and conveyed the house, shop, barn and land to Moses Gould of Danvers, victualer, May 5, 1826.§ Mr. Gould was sued by Ebenezer Goodale of Danvers, esquire, and on the execution which issued upon the judgment recovered in the action Daniel Dutch of Salem, a deputy

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 222.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 60, leaf 151.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 178, leaf 36.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 240, leaf 213.



JOSEPH HOULTON HOUSE



BENJAMIN HOULTON HOUSE





sheriff, sold the same to Mr. Goodale Feb. 19, 1828.\* Mr. Goodale conveyed the land and buildings to Gilbert Tapley of Danvers, esquire, April 1, 1828;\* and Mr. Tapley conveyed the estate to Isaac Dempsey, jr., of Danvers, cordwainer, Feb. 24, 1832.† Mr. Demsey died Jan. 10, 1862; and the real estate was divided among the heirs Oct. 17, 1892, the old house and land around it being assigned to Mary L. Demsey, Alden A. Demsey and Althea L. Demsey. Mary L. Demsey had bought the interest of Sally H. Morrison, wife of Joseph Morrison of Peabody, a daughter of the deceased, Oct. 23, 1889.‡ Alden A. Demsey of Danvers, son of the deceased, had conveyed his interest to Herbert A. Denison of Danvers Sept. 13, 1887;§ and Herbert A. Demsey conveyed it to Alathea L. Demsey, wife of Alden A. Demsey, on the same day.|| Alden A. Demsey of Danvers conveyed his one-third interest to Mrs. Mary T. Hawkes Dec. 11, 1890.¶ Mary L. Demsey mortgaged two-thirds of the house and lot Dec. 23, 1893;\*\* and the mortgage was foreclosed by Mrs. Mary T. Hawkes, wife of Thorndike P. Hawkes, the then holder, by sale to Herbert A. Demsey Dec. 11, 1911.†† Mr. Demsey reconveyed it to Mrs. Hawkes on the same day; and Mrs. Hawkes conveyed the estate to James H. Perry of Danvers Sept. 26, 1914.‡‡ Allie Gertrude Killam (daughter of Alden A. Demsey and Alathea L. Demsey) of Reading released her interest in the estate as the heir of her parents to Mr. Perry March 20, 1915.§§ Mr. Perry conveyed it to Lillian G. Kennison, wife of Joseph L. Kennison of Salem, March 22, 1915;||| and Mr. and Mrs. Kennison conveyed the house and land to Edwin Dutcher of Danvers Oct. 21, 1916.¶¶ Mr. Dutcher now owns the property.

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 248, leaf 192.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 267, leaf 30.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1264, page 196.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1205, page 340.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1205, page 341.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2116, page 556.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1399, page 293.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2116, page 552.

‡‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2277, page 492.

§§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2291, page 144.

|||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2291, page 145.

¶¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2346, page 367.

*Benjamin Houlton House.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in 1670. The land came into the possession of his daughter Sarah, who married, secondly, Joseph Houlton of Salem Village, yeoman. For love, he gave this lot to his son Benjamin Houlton, who lived thereon, probably in a house built by him or his father. He died Sept. 17, 1689; and in his will he devised the house and land to his wife Sarah for her lifetime, with the power of disposal by will to his brothers or sisters or their children. His will was made the day before he died, and he assumed that he would die childless. A posthumous child, Benjamin, was born, however, Jan. 14, 1689-90 (about four months after his death). Joseph Houlton had made no legal conveyance of the estate apparently, and, after the death of his son Benjamin, he gave a deed of the estate to the latter's widow for her life and then to her son Benjamin Houlton in 1701 (the deed being acknowledged Dec. 23, 1701).\* The latter lived here, and was a yeoman. Captain Houlton died in the autumn of 1744, having devised his real estate to his son John, who was then eighteen years of age, but providing that if John should decease before he became twenty-one the estate should go to John's brothers Israel and James. The executor was Samuel Houlton of Salem, gentleman, the "trusty friend" and cousin of the testator, and the estate next belonged to Samuel Holton. He died Jan. 18, 1777. The title to this place descended to Hon. Samuel Holton of Danvers, son of the deceased, who lived here and died Jan. 2, 1816, possessed of the house and land. In his will he devised one-third of his estate to his daughter Mary Putnam, wife of Jethro Putnam, and one-third to his granddaughter Mary Ann Putnam, daughter of his son-in-law Ezekiel Putnam, esquire. The estate was divided among the devisees May 2, 1823; and the eastern half of the house and land was assigned to Mary Putnam, and the western half to Mary Ann Putnam. Mary Ann Putnam apparently released her interest in the estate to Mrs. Mary Putnam; and Mrs. Putnam died April 29,

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 18, leaf 218.

1840. Her sons, Hiram Putnam of Syracuse, N. Y., and Philemon Putnam of Franconia, N. H., gentlemen, conveyed their interest in the property to their sister Harriet's husband, Israel Adams of Danvers, gentleman, Jan. 1, 1842.\* Mr. Adams lived here, and died Feb. 28, 1857. Philemon Putnam of Danvers, executor of his will, sold the estate at auction, for fifteen hundred and thirty-five dollars, to Thomas Palmer of Danvers, April 30, 1864.† Mr. Palmer still owns the old house and land. The house is now a tenement house.

*Joseph Houlton Lot.* This lot of land belonged to Richard Ingersoll, who died in 1644, having devised it to his wife Ann. She married, secondly, John Knight, sr., and died in 1670. It came into the possession of her daughter Sarah, who married, secondly, Joseph Holton of Salem, husbandman; and they owned the lot in 1700.

*John Giles House.* Richard Hutchinson early owned this lot of land, which was a part of the Stileman grant; and allowed his daughter Rebecca and her husband James Hadlock of Salem Village, yeoman, to live upon it from the time of their marriage, in May, 1658. Mr. Hutchinson conveyed it to them and their children March 11, 1680.‡ John Hadlock of Salem Village, husbandman, for forty shillings, conveyed that part of this lot lying easterly of the dashes to Henry Coombs of Lynn, tailor, March 9, 1692-3.§ On it, at that time, was "y<sup>e</sup> house that was Caled John Coombs house." Henry Coombs apparently never came here to live, and the house was occupied in 1694 by Samuel Rea. For ten pounds, Mr. Coombs conveyed the dwelling house and land to John Gyles, jr., of Beverly, cordwainer, April 26, 1695;|| and Mr. Giles built a barn upon the northwestern corner of this part of the lot in or before 1697.

That part of the lot lying westerly of the dashes was conveyed by John Hadlock of Salem, yeoman, and his

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 329, leaf 34.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 668, leaf 123.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 15, leaf 101.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 97.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 10, leaf 162.

wife Sarah, to Mr. Giles, who had come here to live, June 24, 1697.\*

Mr. Giles conveyed "my now dwelling house" and the land to Solomon Putnam of Salem, blacksmith, March 31, 1746.† Mr. Putnam's blacksmith shop was situated diagonally across the ways, northeasterly from his house. Mr. Putnam died in 17—; and in the division of his real estate in 1757 this house and land was assigned to his brother Gideon Putnam. Elizabeth Putnam of Danvers, widow of Tarrant Putnam of Salem (probably father of Solomon Putnam), deceased, and their children, Tarrant Putnam of Sutton, gentleman, Gideon Putnam, housewright, Samuel Putnam, yeoman, and his wife Elizabeth, both of Danvers, and Joseph Flint of Salem, housewright, and his wife Sarah, conveyed to Israel Putnam of Danvers, blacksmith, son of said Tarrant and Elizabeth, five-sevenths of this house and land around it, the grantee then living in the house, May 9, 1754.‡ Samuel Endecott, jr., of Danvers, husbandman, and wife Mary, released her one-seventh interest in the buildings and land to Israel Putnam, who owned the other six-sevenths, July 13, 1756.§ The house was apparently gone a few years later.

*John Hadlock House.* Richard Hutchinson early owned this lot of land, which was a part of the Stileman grant; and allowed his daughter Rebecca and her husband James Hadlock of Salem Village, yeoman, to live upon it from the time of their marriage, in May, 1658. Mr. Hutchinson conveyed it ¶to them and their children March 11, 1680. || Their son(?) John Hadlock of Salem, husbandman, for seventy-eight pounds, conveyed to David Judd of Salem, cordwainer, the dwelling house, barn and land, "being ye homestead where I now dwell," Oct. 20, 1709, ¶ and Mr. Judd, still of Salem, cordwainer, for love, conveyed the house, barn and lot, after his wife's decease, to

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 12, leaf 9.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 88, leaf 99.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 104, leaf 60.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 103, leaf 178.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 15, leaf 101.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 35, leaf 223.

his daughters Rebecca and Mary Judd June 12, 1745.\* The estate belonged to James Smith of Danvers, cooper, March 8, 1765, when he conveyed it, including the dwelling house, which was then called the David Judd house, to his son Nathaniel Smith of Danvers, cooper.† Nathaniel Smith built a new house just south of the old one soon afterward, and probably removed the old house at that time.

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 87, leaf 193.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 135, leaf 5.



## HENRY PUTNAM'S JOURNEY.

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The following story of the marriage of an early resident of Salem Village is copied from a paper sent to Danvers in 1877 by a descendant, who states that it was furnished him by the lady herself, when about ninety years of age. It was printed in the Salem Village Gazette in October, 1877.

“When Mr. Henry Putnam was about twenty-two years of age he went from Medford, Mass., into the State of Connecticut, about one hundred miles, at that day a very long journey. Night coming on, he stopped at a farm house of inviting appearance in the town of Bolton, and asked for entertainment for himself and horse, as he travelled on horseback. His request was cordially received, and the hospitalities of the house were freely given him. In the family circle was Miss Hannah Boardman, the oldest daughter of his host. Mr. Putnam became interested at once in the young lady, of whom he dreamed much during the night. In the morning he told the story of his love, and in return Miss Hannah gave her consent to become his wife. Acting on the principle that ‘a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush,’ and the fact that a long ride was between him and his home, he decided to live only in the company of his lady-love. So he arranged to make her father’s house his home until the slow laws of Connecticut would allow the twain to become one; but in due time they were married. The next morning after the wedding, Mrs. Putnam was presented by her father and friends with a horse, a lady’s saddle, and other travelling equipment, also two cows and twelve sheep. Now came the tug of love—separation from home and all its endearments—fond caresses and hearty farewells were exchanged, and the youthful bride of sixteen, with the husband, each mounted on the saddle, took up the march for her new home in the old Bay State, driving the cows and sheep before them.”

The Gazette goes on to say, “Not many years later we find Mr. Putnam Captain of a Company among the 3,000 Massachusetts troops, who, under the command of General Shirley, were at the siege of Louisburg. A valuable sword was there surrendered to him by a French officer, which now is in the possession of a great grandson living in central

New York. There is also a memorandum in his handwriting well preserved, which reads thus: 'An invoice of ye goods that I have carried with me on the present expedition to Louisburg—viz., a small feather-bed, coverlid, a woolen blanket, two checked shirts, fine shirt, two linen and tow shirts, three pair of woolen stockings, two pair of shoes, blue broadcloth coat, old Camlet coat, all-wool coat, double-breasted jacket, cotton jacket, sword, pistol, gun, horn and belt, Beaver hat, castor hat, pair mittens, white gloves, one Bible, wig, razor, pair leather breeches, cotton and fustian breeches, two glass bottles, portmanteau, hone, ink bottle, vol. of the Spectator, Cromwell's Life of Vincent, Exposition on the Catechism, Come and welcome to Jesus, four caps, pair kersy buskins, knee buckles, one barrel. Signed, Henry Putnam. According to my estimation all are worth fifty-seven pounds, eleven shillings, old tenor.'

"Later at the battle of Lexington, although by age exempt from military duty, and having five sons in the army, he followed them, and was killed by the British on their retreat in the town of West Cambridge. He was the youngest son of Deacon Eleazer Putnam, and sold what was his father's homestead about 1745 to Phineas Putnam, the great-grandfather of the present occupant, Charles P. Preston, Esq."

## PHYSICIANS OF DANVERS.

BY HARRIET S. TAPLEY.

(Continued from Vol. 6, p. 83.)

### DR. EDWARD P. HALE.

Dr. Edward Preston Hale, son of Moses H. and Clarissa A. (Preston) Hale, was born in Newburyport, Aug. 26, 1860. He graduated from the Holten High School in the class of 1877, and studied medicine with Dr. H. B. Fowler in Bristol, N. H. He attended Bellevue Hospital Medical School, from which he was graduated in 1881. He settled in Pittsfield for a while, and later removed to Lenox, where he has a large practice. He married, on December 9, 1903, Miss Annie P. Walker of Lenox.

### DR. JOHN J. MCGUIGAN.

Dr. McGuigan was born in Danvers, Feb. 24, 1864, the son of James and Margaret McGuigan. He was educated in the public schools, graduating from the Holten High School in the class of 1881. He then attended Boston College, from which he was graduated in 1887, and from the Harvard Medical School in 1890. Dr. McGuigan was a bright, energetic young man, and settled in Lynn, where he built up a good practice. He married, in 1893, Miss Margaret Barry of this town. He died in Lynn, in June, 1907, where his widow and several children now reside.

### DR. SAMUEL P. FOWLER.

Samuel Page Fowler was the son of Samuel P. and Harriet (Putnam) Fowler, and was born in Danvers, Dec. 6, 1838. He graduated from the High School in the class of 1856. He was a graduate of Amherst College and the Harvard Medical School, where he received his degree of M. D. He never practiced to any extent, and later studied for the ministry. He died at the Peabody Hospital on Dec. 25, 1915.

## DR. JOHN H. NICHOLS.

Dr. Nichols was born in Danvers, Apr. 9, 1866, the son of Andrew and Elizabeth P. (Stanley) Nichols. He graduated from the Holten High School in the class of 1883, and three years later from the Harvard Medical school. After practicing for a while at the Cary hospital, he settled in Chelmsford. His private practice was brief, however, for in 1903, he was called to the superintendency of the State Hospital at Tewksbury, which position he still occupies. Dr. Nichols, as head of this institution, has put tremendous energy into the work, and through his wonderful executive ability has brought the hospital from a small state charitable institution to one of the most highly efficient in the country, with many buildings devoted to special departments. Last year he tendered his resignation, having purchased the Morse estate on Nichols street in this town, which, by the way, was an old Nichols farm, but the hospital trustees refused to accept it, granting him a leave of absence. It is the intention of Dr. Nichols to return to Danvers and open a private hospital on this fine old estate. Dr. Nichols married, on Oct. 2, 1902, Miss Oda Howe of Danvers.

## DR. OTIS P. MUDGE.

Dr. Mudge was born in Danvers on July 10, 1879, the son of Albert and Mary E. (Russell) Mudge. He graduated from the Holten High school in 1899, Dartmouth College in 1903 and Harvard Medical school in 1907. He served as an intern in the Boston City Hospital for some time after graduation. He married Miss Florence Rundlett of this town in January, 1909, and settled that year in Amesbury, where he has a successful practice.

## DR. ANNA (PEABODY) MARSH.

Dr. Anna (Peabody) Marsh was born in Danvers on Oct. 31, 1876, the daughter of George H. and Augusta (Mudge) Peabody. After graduating from the Holten High school in 1895, she attended Mount Holyoke College, graduating in 1899. She then entered Tufts Medical school, graduating with the degree of M. D., in 1902. In 1902 and 1903, she took a medical course in University of Vienna, and was at the Worcester Memorial Hospital in 1903 and 1904. In 1905

she was appointed assistant physician at the Danvers State Hospital, and continued there until her marriage in 1913 to Jasper Marsh of Danvers.

DR. HARRY D. ABBOTT.

Dr. Abbott was born in Danvers on March 21, 1879, the son of Roxbury and Mary L. (White) Abbott. He attended the public schools of the town, also the Holten High school, and learned the drug business. He became a registered pharmacist and was engaged in Danvers and Lynn in that capacity for a few years. Having a desire to study medicine, he attended Tufts Medical school, from which he was graduated in 1906. Dr. Abbott immediately settled in Danvers, where in the seven remaining years of his life he built up a large practice, his genial personality winning many friends. He married on Sept. 7, 1910, in Worcester, Miss Adella G. Hallows, daughter of Joseph and Lillie (Holmes) Hallows. Dr. Abbott died in Danvers, July 16, 1913, after a brief illness, leaving a widow and one son.

DR. HARRY C. BOUTELLE.

Dr. Harry C. Boutelle, son of Henry P. and Mary D. (Pierce) Boutelle, was born in Fitchburg. He came to Danvers in 1903 and bought the practice of Dr. E. A. Kemp and the latter's house on Putnam street. He was of a retiring nature and was considered skilful in his profession. On Sept. 16, 1912, he married Miss Katherine Y. Kearney, daughter of Aaron T. and Edith K. (Yardie) Kearney, a native of Roxbury. Dr. Boutelle died on Jan. 24, 1915, after a short illness with pneumonia, at the age of forty years. A widow and one son survive him.

DR. ANDREW NICHOLS, 3D.

Dr. Nichols was born in Danvers, July 13, 1890, the son of Andrew and Mary (Bill) Nichols. He graduated from the Holten High school in the class of 1908, Harvard University in 1912, and Harvard Medical school in 1916. Dr. Nichols was serving as intern at the Boston City Hospital, when he was called in the first draft and was stationed at Camp Devens. He is now in France, as surgeon in the 116th Base Hospital of the American Expeditionary Forces.

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The present resident physicians are Frederick W. Baldwin, Edward H. Magee, Edward H. Niles, Susan H. Gibbs, Charles F. Deering, Herbert L. Mains, John J. Moriarty and Clifton L. Buck.



JOURNAL OF DOCTOR SAMUEL HOLTEN.

WHILE IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, FROM MAY, 1778—  
AUGUST, 1780.

From the Original Now in the Possession of This Society.

Minutes. I am desired to attend to the regulations of the Gen<sup>l</sup>. Hospital. It is said the Stuard of the Hospital had better be accountable for the Fire arms of Sick Soldiers than the Captains and that the Surgeons of the Hospital ought not to make use of so much of the wine etc. conveyed in to said Hospital for the sick.

I am desired to attend to the Loan office, there being no allowance made to pay the person that attends said office for paying the Int<sup>r</sup> Annually and the Commissions are said to be small.

July 14, 1778. I let the Hon. Samuel Adams, Esq<sup>r</sup> have £4, of which he is to pay unto James Otis (a min<sup>r</sup>) being my part of what the Delegates of our State have agreed to advance to s<sup>d</sup> min<sup>r</sup>, and M<sup>r</sup> Adams is to write to his friends and procure the money, & acc<sup>t</sup> with me for the same.

July 27, 1778. The Hon. John Hancock, Esq<sup>r</sup>—D<sup>r</sup> to cash paid for two Bottles of Moradant's Anti-Scorbutic drops, £3, sent forward to Thaddeus Burr, Esq.,\* of Connecticut.

Minutes. When I shall arrive at Congress to procure Blank Commissions for Commanders of Armed Vessels to be sent to M<sup>r</sup> Avery, D. Sec<sup>y</sup> of the State of Massachusetts Bay.

I am desired to attend to M<sup>r</sup> Otis & Andrews affairs & to M<sup>r</sup> Williams' affair, who lost part of his estate on Noddles Island, by our Troops in the year 1775.

N. B. The following Gentlemen have asked me to Correspond with them from York Town, viz.:—The Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Gordon of Roxbury (7), The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Wadsworth, Danvers (9), Hon. Tho. Cushing, Boston (9), Moses Gill, Boston (4), Joseph Palmer,† Braintree (13), Josiah Batchelder, Jun<sup>r</sup>, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Beverly (11), Col. Israel Hutchinson, Danvers (12), Capt. George Williams, Salem, Capt. W<sup>m</sup> Shillaber,

\*Rev. Thaddeus Burr of Fairfield, a kinsman of Hancock, at whose home the latter had married Dorothy Quincy two years before. He was an uncle of Aaron Burr.

†Gen. Joseph Palmer, commanding the Massachusetts troops in the defense of Rhode Island.

Danvers (?), Amos Putnam, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Danvers (?), Joseph Hall of Boston (6), Nath<sup>l</sup> Appleton of Boston.\*

May 1, 1778. I borrowed of Broth<sup>r</sup> Elias E. Warner, a pair of Pistols (small) and eleven bullets, Flask & some gun powder & mould to run bullets, which I am to return to him when I shall return from York Town or otherwise make them good to him. Aug. 23<sup>d</sup>, 1780. I returned the Pistols.

May 7. I Bargained with Jer. Shelden to go with me to York Town, as my waiter & if I like him I am to pay him handsomly for his trouble, & if I dont like him I am at liberty to Discharge him when I please, paying him well for his Services. N. B. Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1779, I p<sup>d</sup> Jere. Sheldon in full to this day and agreed with him for five months further at £12 p<sup>r</sup> month.

May 25. I set out from Danvers for York Town in the State of Pennsylvania to take my seat in Congress. I was accompanied to the Town of Lynn by about 20 of the principal Gentlemen of Danvers, where we dined together & drank 13 toasts, & after receiving great Honor and respect from s<sup>d</sup> Gentlemen, took my leave of them & got safe to Boston this evening.

26. M<sup>r</sup> Hancock not being ready to set out with me, I attended my duty at the Council Board.

27. Gen. Election, Boston. I was in my place at the Council Board & dined in public with them.

28. I took formal leave of the Hon. Board in order to proceed to Congress.

29. I dined at my lodgings & drank Tea at M<sup>r</sup> Warner's.

30. Three Acts of the British Parliament came to hand from Gov<sup>r</sup> Trumbel. I wrote a long letter to my wife this day & sent it by Col. Hutchinson.

June 1. It being rainy prevented my setting out. Wrote to Capt. Prince of Danvers.

3. I set out from Boston with the Hon. M<sup>r</sup> Hancock at 1 o'Clock & a large number of Gentlemen with their servants & Carriages accompanied us to Watertown, where an elegant dinner was provided. I rode in M<sup>r</sup> Hancock's Carriage with

\*The figures following each name denote the number of letters Dr. Holten wrote to the several gentlemen during the two years.

M<sup>r</sup> Hancock, D<sup>r</sup> Cooper\* & Gen<sup>l</sup> Heath†. After we had dined, a large number of toasts were drank & a salute of Cannon and upon our setting out, three cheers was given from a very large number of people assembled on y<sup>e</sup> occasion. We proceeded to West Town where we Lodged.

4. We traveled from Westtown to Worcester, very heavy traveling, rained and uncomfortable.

5. We traveled from Worcester to Brookfield & lodged at one M<sup>r</sup> Rice's. The ways very bad.

6. We traveled from Brookfield to Springfield where we propose to Lodge & Gen<sup>l</sup> Hancock is much indisposed with the Gout. Upon our arrival here there was a discharge of Cannon by order of the commanding officer.

7. Sabbath day. Being somewhat indisposed did not attend public worship, but read three of D<sup>r</sup> Elliot's sermons. N. B. M<sup>r</sup> Brick, the minister of this place is said to be a Tory.

8. Traveled from Springfield to Hartford. Roads very good. Spent some time with Gen<sup>l</sup> Putnam,‡ This Town is very pleasant. Wrote to my wife by M<sup>r</sup> Bart.

9. We traveled from Hartford to Lichfield, 30 miles, the roads very Bad. At Farmington there was the finest parcel of Cannon I ever saw & the Town very pleasant.

10. Traveled from Lichfield in to the State of New York & lodged at one Colo. Morehouse's. The road the worst I ever saw. The People very kind.

11. Traveled to the house of one Griffis, five miles short of Fish Kills & 9 miles of the North River.

12. Crossed the North River & dined at a good Duch house, and proceeded 18 miles to the House of one Townsend, and was handsomely entertained without charge.

13. Traveled 9 miles before Breakfast & Breakfasted at M<sup>r</sup> Bierds, & to Sussex Court house, there lodged, but we dine by the way at M<sup>r</sup> Waller's. Poor accommodations.

14. Sabbath day, traveled to the Block jail Town & dined and then 16 miles & lodged in an old log House in the Jersies, but the people are kind. N. B. This day I traveled with the greatest difficulty as to my health.

\*Rev. Samuel Cooper (1725-1783), pastor of the Brattle Street Church, who has been credited with the authorship of Hancock's political papers.

†Gen. William Heath (1737-1814), a distinguished officer, member of the Provincial Congress, Constitutional Convention and State Senator.

‡Gen. Israel Putnam, a native of Danvers, who had settled in Brooklyn, Conn.

15. Crossed the River Delaware, dined at Eastown, traveled 12 miles to Bethlehem, took a view of the town & went thro' most of the departments & see the Ladies at their particular work.\* The Inn was the best I ever put up at.

16. To Reading 40 miles. This is one of the Capitol Towns in this State. The General is in health & high spirits.

17. To Lancaster 31 miles, very hot. This is the 2d Town in this State & the Largest inland Town I have ever seen, the buildings chiefly Brick & stone.

18. To York Town, 23 miles, besides crossing the Susquehanna which is about 1 1-2 miles by water. Lodged at one Wid<sup>o</sup> More's and the woman & her Daughters were not obliging. I do not intend to tarry at this House any Longer than I can procure a place that suits better.

19. Being somewhat indisposed & not having proper lodgings, I did not take my seat in Congress. We are informed by Gen. Washington that the Enemy have left the City of Philadelphia & our people have taken possession. The people here are not at all obliging. I want to git from this house.

20. I have not taken my seat in Congress for the reasons mentioned yesterday.

21. Sabbath day, being somewhat indisposed did not attend public worship.

22. I took my seat in Congress, and it is a very august assembly.

23. Attended in Congress and the chief of the day was taken up in Disputing on the Articles of Confederation.

24. Attended in Congress, dined with the President.†

25. Attended in Congress. Toward night, I walked out with a number of gentlemen of Congress about a mile to a farmhouse. The people was kind, we eat Cheries & drank whiskey.

26. Attended in Congress, and it is the hottest day I ever knew. Went & drank with y<sup>e</sup> President & drank tea with y<sup>e</sup> Secretary.

27. Congress adjourned to the City of Philadelphia to meet on Thursday next, 10 o'Clock.

28. Sabbath day. Traveled from York Town, Cros<sup>d</sup> the Susquehanna 20 miles lower then where I did before. Dined at a good Inn but have a small room to lodge in. N. B. The bugs drove us out.

29. Traveled 12 miles before breakfast, breakfasted on

\*Probably the silk and knitting mills.

†Hon. Henry Laurens of South Carolina.

Whortelbery Hill out doors, then Trav<sup>d</sup> 7 miles, dined at a good Inn, then Trav<sup>d</sup> 15 miles to Newart in one of the lower Counties in Delaware State.

30. To Wilmanton 11 miles, had Breakfast & dined, we passed thro' part of the State of Maryland & Wilmanton is a principal Town in the State of Delaware. The buildings are chiefly Brick & very commodious. We then Trav<sup>d</sup> to Chester where we are likely to be well accommodated.

July 1. To y<sup>e</sup> City of Philadelphia, 15 miles, before breakfast. Dined at a pubic house, then took Lodging at the Wid<sup>o</sup> Robbinson's on Chestnut Street.

4. It being the anniversary of the Independence of America, the Congress dined together at the city Tavern & a number of y<sup>e</sup> Council of this State, several Gen. officers & other Gentlemen of Distinction & while we were dining there was an Agreeable band of Musick & we had a very elegant dinner.

5 Sabbath day. Attended Church in the forenoon with the Congress, and in the afternoon went to a Congregational meeting. The Church minister Preached a political discourse. The other Gentleman I could not understand.

6. Attended in Congress.

7. Left letters at the post office to be forwarded to Boston.

8. Congress received a packet from France giving an account of a French Fleet coming here. I dined with General Arnold.\*

9. The Articles of Confederation was signed by all the States that had received instructions for that purpose, being 8 States.

10. A man came to this city this day & informs that a French Fleet is off Maryland.

11. This day was the first time that I took any part in the debates in Congress. We have certain accounts of the arrival of a French Fleet off the Delaware, 12 Ships of the line & 4 Frigots

12. Sabbath day. Attended at Church.

13. Yesterday Monsieur Gerard, the Ambassador, arrived here, and I waited on him this day & welcomed him to the United States of America.

15. Am some better as to my health. I sent a Packet of Letters by M<sup>r</sup> Hancock to M<sup>rs</sup> Holten.†

\*Benedict Arnold.

†During the more than two years of his absence from home he wrote 145 letters to his wife, each numbered in order of posting.



16. I was invited to dine at the city Tavern with Mons<sup>r</sup> Gerard, but declined on account of my health.

17. M<sup>r</sup> Lovell\* dined with us & M<sup>r</sup> Hazard† drank Tea.

18. Congress received a letter from y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>rs</sup> of the King of Great Britain, but it was couched in such terms, no answer is to be given.

19. Sabbath Day. Went to Church in the forenoon & in the afternoon I went to the meeting house but could not find any minister.

20. Received an account that y<sup>e</sup> French Admiral is sending a number of Prisoners here.

21. Col. Partridge‡ from our Court paid me a visit & informed me he was charged with several Public matters from said Court to Congress.

22. I removed from y<sup>e</sup> Wid<sup>o</sup> Robbinson's to board at the house of Miss Dolley & Clark in 2<sup>d</sup> street. I dined & drank tea at Doct<sup>r</sup> Shippin's,§ director Gen<sup>l</sup> of the continental Hospital.

23. I dined with the President, & went & viewed the Hospital, workhouse & City goal, they are very elegant & great Buildings.

24. Two months this day since I left home. Col. Partridge spent the afternoon with us.

25. Sabbath day. I went to S<sup>t</sup> Peter's Church in the forenoon & in the afternoon to y<sup>e</sup> College|| where I heard the best sermon since I left Boston. D<sup>r</sup> Weatherspoon¶ & Colo. Partridge Dined with us.

26. Rec<sup>d</sup> by the Post a letter from M<sup>r</sup> Hancock & the Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Gordon.

27. Walked out toward evening with M<sup>r</sup> Gerry.\*\*

\*James Lovell, delegate from Massachusetts.

†Probably Ebenezer Hazard of Philadelphia (1745-1817), the last Postmaster General under the Continental Congress.

‡Col. George Partridge, a former delegate from Massachusetts.

§Dr. William Shippen was foremost in establishing the Medical School of Philadelphia. Graduated at Princeton, 1754, and studied at Edinburgh. He belonged to a wealthy and distinguished Philadelphia family. It was his kinswoman, Margaret Shippen, who married Benedict Arnold.

||College of Philadelphia.

¶John Witherspoon (1722-1794), a Scotch minister, once president of Princeton College, and distinguished as an orator. He was a delegate from New Jersey, and a signer of the Declaration.

\*\*Elbridge Gerry of Marblehead.

29. Took a walk toward evening with M<sup>r</sup> Gerry to Gen. Robado's.\*

30. Capt. Andrew of Salem called me out of Congress. The Baron Steuben & his aids, Capt. White of Marblehead, M<sup>r</sup> Williams of Boston and M<sup>r</sup> Smith, Commis<sup>r</sup> of Loans dined with us.

31. Capt. Andrew of Salem dined with me & I walked out with M<sup>r</sup> Gerry toward evening.

Aug. 1. Dined at M<sup>r</sup> Smith's, Commissioner of Loans.

2. Sabbath day, attended public worship at the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Sprouts & heard 2 good sermons. The Hon. Col. Lee† of Virginia spent the evening with us.

3. Rec'd a letter from y<sup>e</sup> Hon. M<sup>r</sup> Gill of Boston by which I have the agreeable news of my Family's being well the 20 Ultimo.

5. Congress sat from 9 till almost 3 & from 5 till almost 10 o'Clock. I am much indisposed.

6. Monseieur Gerard, Minister Plenipotentiary from his most Christian Majesty, had a public audience with Congress & dined with them; the proceedings were conducted with great decorum. The entertainment was grand & elegant, the band of musick was very agreeable.

7. Monsieur Gerard made a visit, in the edge of the evening (about an hour) to the Delegates of the Mass. Bay agreeable to the public ceremonies agreed on by Congress for a Minister Plenipotentiary, my Colleagues being absent upon his first coming in, I had the Honor of his company alone.

8. At 5 o'Clock P. M. met a joint Com<sup>t</sup> of Congress & y<sup>e</sup> Executive Council of this State in search after British property in this City.

9. Sabbath day. Attended public worship. M<sup>r</sup> Davisson delivered a good sermon & M<sup>r</sup> Sprout in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon.

11. Wrote to Miss<sup>t</sup> Holten & M<sup>r</sup> Kittell by the Hon. M<sup>r</sup> Dana. ‡

12. Went & paid a visit to Mons<sup>r</sup> Gerard but he was not at home, left my name on a Card.

13. The following Gentlemen dined with the Delegates of Mass<sup>a</sup> Bay at their invitation, viz<sup>t</sup> Mons<sup>r</sup> Gerard, his

\*Daniel Roberdeau, a delegate from Pennsylvania.

†Henry Lee (1756-1818), of Virginia, "Light Horse Harry," as he was known, served throughout the Revolution with distinction. He was the father of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

‡Francis Dana (1743-1811), a former delegate from Massachusetts, afterward Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth and minister to France.

Nephew and Secretary, The President of Congress, Hon. Silas Deane, Esq<sup>r</sup>\*, Hon. R. H. Lee, † Esq<sup>r</sup>, Hon. Gen<sup>l</sup> Read, § Gen<sup>l</sup> Putnam, || Gen<sup>l</sup> Arnold, Baron Steuben & his aid. We dined at 4 o'clock and had a grand elegant dinner & I think it was conducted with good decorum. We drank coffee before we rose from Table.

14. Congress sit late, we dined at four. I walked out with M<sup>r</sup> Gerry & visited the Gentlemen from Connecticut & the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Duffel, our Chaplain.

15. An express arrived in five days from New Port & informed that our army was on the Island & that 29 sail of vessels was off the harbour & Count d'Estaing's fleet had sailed in quest of them.

16. Sabbath day. Attended public worship in the forenoon at the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Duffield's meeting & heard a very good sermon & in the afternoon attended at the College, heard D<sup>r</sup> Hewen.

17. I received a letter by the post from Joseph Hall, Jun<sup>r</sup> of Boston, a minor. Congress sit late, hearing M<sup>r</sup> Dean. ¶

19. Dined at M<sup>r</sup> R. Morris's\*\* about 2 1-2 miles out of the city. I hear there is a Ball at the City Tavern this evening. I am sorry for it.

20. I walked out with M<sup>r</sup> Gerry. A number of the members of Congress spent the evening with us.

21. By a letter from Gen. Sullivan †† dat<sup>d</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> Inst. we understand that he was almost ready to attack the enemy at Rhode Island.

\*Silas Deane (1737-1789) of Connecticut, Ambassador to France with Franklin and Lee. Through him the services of Lafayette were secured.

†Richard Henry Lee (1732-1794), delegate from Virginia, signer of the Declaration and later President of Congress.

§Gen. Joseph Reed (1741-1785), of New Jersey, served with distinction under Washington, and at this time was President of Pennsylvania.

||Probably Gen. Israel Putnam.

¶Hon. Silas Deane was recalled from France, called before Congress, and an audit appointed to look over his accounts. He returned to France, lived in the Netherlands with little money for support, and died in England. He was a man of eminent ability and misrepresented.

\*\*Robert Morris (1735-1806), one of the wealthiest merchants of Philadelphia, who gave such substantial aid in loans of money during the war. His house was called the most sumptuous in the city and he entertained lavishly.

††Gen. John Sullivan of Massachusetts.

22. Colo. Robedo, Colo. Bartlet\* & Colo. Ross† dined with us & Colo. Lee drank Coffee with us.

23. Sabbath day. I attended public worship at the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Duffield's meeting & heard two good sermons, A Presbyterian meeting.

24. Congress sit late. Dined at four. A hot evening & I am much worried with writing.

\*Josiah Bartlett (1727-1795), delegate from New Hampshire, signer of the Declaration, and afterwards Governor of the State.

†Probably George Ross (1730-1779), delegate from Delaware, one of the "Signers" and at this time Judge of the Court of Admiralty for Pennsylvania.

*(To be continued)*

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#### WIFE OF ONE OF THE "SIGNERS."

Roger Sherman was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence from Connecticut, and married for his second wife, Miss Rebecca Prescott, daughter of the Rev. Benjamin Prescott, minister in the South Parish of the old town of Danvers for forty years. Mrs. Sherman being an intelligent lady, it is fair to presume that upon so important a question as the severance of the Colonies from Great Britain, her husband would, like a sensible man that he was, have had a consultation with his wife upon the subject of the separation. Mrs. Sherman having been born and brought up in our patriotic old town and imbibed its love of liberty must have imparted to her husband much of the spirit of freedom of this town. This we have no doubt was the case and so we claim that an influence though latent was present in the mind of Mr. Sherman in the discussion of the separation of the Colonies, derived from the patriotism of a lady of the old town of Danvers. Some of the descendants of Rev. Benjamin are now living in Danvers.

*Danvers Mirror, Jan. 12, 1878.*

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#### BUILDINGS ERECTED IN DANVERS IN 1918.

LORING B. GOODALE, Corner Pope's Lane and Centre Street;  
J. BUSH, Hillcrest Avenue.

## DANVERS PEOPLE AND THEIR HOMES.

BY REV. ALFRED P. PUTNAM, D.D.

*(Continued from Vol. 5, p. 83.)*

From the old journal and account book of Daniel Rea, Zerubbabel Rea and Benjamin Porter, concerning which I wrote in my last letter, I copied as one of my entries, the following: "Jan. 24, 1729, then Jonathan Rayment and Hepzibah Leach was married together." I am interested in Hepzibah and for reason which will be evident as I proceed. It would appear from this and from other parts of the record which I made use of that a sister of Zerubbabel Rea, also named Hepzibah, as was her mother, too, had married a Leach and that the first named Hepzibah was their daughter. The latter, her mother and perhaps her father having died, came to live with the Reas and afterward went to live with her brother, John Leach. The Leaches were a Beverly family and so were the Raymonds. In looking over the History of Lexington, I found this: "Jonathan Raymond married Hepzibah—. They were admitted to the church in Lexington, May 9, 1756, by a letter from Beverly. He died Aug. 9, 1760, and she married Dec. 29, 1763, Thomas Munroe of Concord." Then follows a list of her nine children by Jonathan, her first husband, the first being Hepzibah, who was born Sept. 19, 1729, married here Dr. Joseph Fiske, named one of her daughters Hepzibah and lived till she was 91; and the second being a son John, who was born Sept. 5, 1731, and of whom I must make more particular mention, as he was one of the victims of the murderous violence of the British soldiers as they came to Lexington on the memorable 19th of April, 1775.

One of the most interesting old houses in Concord is the Munroe tavern. A dark-colored, weather-stained, ancient looking building, it is yet in a good state of preservation. It stands on rising ground and is still in the possession of the Munroe family, though now occupied as a residence by a family of Livermores. The William Munroe who kept it as a tavern in the Revolutionary times was distinguished in military service. He was Orderly Sergeant of Capt. Parker's company. . . . When the British were making their retreat



from Concord and were greatly harassed by the pursuing Americans, they met at this point Lord Percy and his Marines whom Gen. Gage had sent out from Boston to reinforce them. The rest of the story is in the historian's words: "The conduct of the King's troops, after they were met by Percy was marked by a vandalism totally unworthy the character of a soldier. In addition to a wanton destruction of property, they practiced a system of personal insult, treachery and murder, which reflects disgrace and infamy upon the commanders and the men. A party entered the Munroe tavern, and helping themselves or rather compelling the inmates of the house to help them to anything they wanted, they treacherously and ruthlessly shot down John Raymond, an infirm man residing with the family, only because he, becoming alarmed at their roughness and brutal conduct, was about leaving the house to seek a place of greater safety. The brutality here commenced was continued throughout the remainder of their retreat." It appears that John Raymond was the son of that young damsel who lived more than a century and a half ago at the old Zerubbabel Rea (later Zerubbabel Porter's) house in Danvers.

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Another of the entries which I copied from the little old book was this, "Feb. 26, 1745. Then Bartholomew Brown and Sarah Rea was married together. And here also is a brief record that interests me not a little. Bartholomew probably came to the Zerubbabel Rea house from Brown's pond, in what is now Peabody. At all events, that is the place where his immediate ancestors lived, and thence it was, doubtless, that the pond received its name. Two sons of Bartholomew and Sarah were Bartholomew and John, each of whom had a son I must write about in this connection. That of Bartholomew Brown, Jr., was Edward Brown, who was born in Salem, his father having removed to that town and fixed his residence in Beekman street. Edward's name appears in the list of those who organized the Universalist society in Danvers in 1815. He had come up, about ten years before at the age of sixteen to live at his father's birthplace to learn the tanner's and currier's trade of Zerubbabel Porter. During the winter of 1811-12, he, Warren Porter, Samuel Cummings and Elias Putnam were students at Bradford Academy, then, if I mistake not, under the charge of Mr. Richard Kimball, as Preceptor. The institution seems to have been a favorite resort of the young men of Danvers from that time as suffi-

ciently appears in its semi-centennial catalog published in 1853. The above party were the first that hailed from our town, with the exception of Cummings who belonged to Topsfield. Elias Putnam gave much offense to the officers and instructors of the Academy by a composition which he wrote as one of the required and regular exercises, and in which he boldly and vigorously arraigned the prevalent Orthodoxy of the times as contrary to the teachings of Scripture and the dictates of reason. The faith of his father and grandfather had thus early found a sure lodgment in his own mind and heart, and from then until his death in 1847, he continued to be a firm believer in the doctrine of the ultimate and universal salvation. Finding Bradford too uncongenial a religious atmosphere, he withdrew and came down to Topsfield where he pursued his studies during the rest of the winter under the private tuition of Mr. Israel Balch; and Brown, Porter and Cummings also left the school and accompanied him, and so were his classmates still. I am under the impression that Nathaniel Boardman joined them after their removal. All five of them were subsequently contributors to the funds necessary to the maintenance of Universalist preaching in District No. 3. Brown was cousin to Warren Porter, their fathers being children of Sarah Rea by her two husbands, Bartholomew Brown, Sr., and Benjamin Porter, Sr. He also married his cousin Eunice Porter, who was a daughter of Aaron, son of Benjamin and brother of Zerubabel. Edward lived in his master's house in Danvers until he was about thirty years of age when he moved with his wife and two children, Harriet and Edward, to Plaistow, N. H. Here he engaged on quite a large scale in the business to which he had been trained, having a shop, tanyard, barkmill, etc. While there he preached occasionally in the town hall, and also in Atkinson, in the interest of Universalism. It is said that one reason why he entered on this service was that he was afflicted with the rheumatism and could not therefore work at his trade. It has often been complained that men when they are unfit for anything else take to the ministry, but this is the only instance I remember ever to have heard of where the pulpit was the coveted refuge of the disability referred to, or where the disease in question was in any way regarded as a qualification for the clerical profession, or where there was any supposed fitness of things of whatever kind between such bodily pain and infirmity and the propagation of Christian truth. If I may be allowed to indulge in

what old Dr. Osgood used to call a "remiscence;" I can only say for one that having a very distinct recollection of certain aches and twinges which I endured many years ago, if ever I seriously thought of quitting the sacred desk and going back into the leather business, it must have been just about that time. Doubtless I was wrong. I ought to have seen how efficacious a little inflammation in one or more of the joints could be made in building up the Kingdom, or how an occasional sharp catch in the back or side would promote one's usefulness in the work of the Lord, or how much more eloquent or impressive for the conversion of sinners a dismal groan or frightful yell, now and then, would render one's private or public administration of religion.

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As to Edward Brown, I doubt not that he was impelled to the service by his deep and earnest faith in the views he had come to embrace at the old brick schoolhouse. While he was at Plaistow, six more children were born to him, the last of them being named for John Murray, the founder of Universalism in America. His wife having died in 1836, he soon settled as a minister at Waitsfield, Vt., and removed his family thither in the following year. In 1838, he went to live in Roxbury, Vt., on a farm which was given him by Benjamin Porter, Jr., an uncle, who, as I remarked in some previous letter, had finally fixed his home in Randolph of the same State, after having taught school in various places. Here, also, as well as in other neighboring places, Brown continued to preach for two or three years, speaking to one or another of his small audiences not oftener perhaps than every other Sunday, and occupying the remainder of his time chiefly in working on his land and in writing for a Montpelier paper and two monthly journals. From Roxbury, he finally went to Rochester, Vt., and resided there until 1854, when he died at the age of sixty-five. In his later years he had married a second time. His death was very sudden, being caused by the croup. His children have been widely scattered over the country from the East to the farthest West; but wherever they have gone, they have carried with them the liberal views of their father. Three of the daughters married and still live in the Green Mountain state. Another is in California and a fifth is dead. A son, Edward Warren, died at Cincinnati in 1867; John Murray was killed by an explosion in California a year or two ago; and Willard Hathorne resides in Salem and attends the old First Church of that

city. I have seen in Willard's stately house which looks out upon the common, a fine picture of his father taken from an old daguerreotype. It represents the preacher with his gray hair and white cravat as a solid substantial man, having just such an open, honest face as all the accounts given of him would lead us to expect. He had no great pulpit power or extensive culture, but he had fair ability, was truthful, independent and courageous, and loved the faith he set himself to advocate and defend.

But now we must go back a little way to Bartholomew and John Brown, the two sons of Bartholomew Brown, Sr. John also had a son Bartholomew, who was born, says Dr. Osgood, on Danvers Plains, "in a house that formerly stood near where Mr. W. Legroo's house now stands," and who came to be quite a distinguished man. In a search for materials for a brief sketch of his life, I found that Ebenezer Alden, M. D., of Randolph, Mass., had read a very interesting memoir of him before the New England Historic Genealogical Society of Boston, Feb. 5, 1862. Portions of the sketch follow:

Bartholomew Brown, Esq., son of John, was born at the place above designated, Sept. 8, 1772. His mother was Ginger Hutchinson, daughter of Col. Israel Hutchinson of Danvers, well known to all as an able and efficient officer in the Revolutionary war. John and Ginger after their marriage removed to Sterling where they had a numerous family of children. Bartholomew graduated at Harvard in 1799. He was a good classical scholar and the Greek oration was assigned him at Commencement. He was both Poet and Orator of the famous Hasty Pudding Club and was also an active member of the Harvard Singing Club and the Handel Sodality. He had great taste and skill in music as well as unusual talent for literary composition. He was a popular teacher of both vocal and instrumental music in the counties of Middlesex, Worcester and Plymouth, and thus acquired largely the means for his collegiate and professional education. He studied law under the direction of Judge Thomas of Plymouth and was admitted afterward to practice at the Plymouth county bar. He married, Nov. 26, 1801, Betsey, daughter of Gen. Sylvanus and Abigail (Robinson) Lazell of Bridgewater, and subsequently settled at Sterling where he lived seven years. He was representative to the General Court and served as Captain of the Sterling Light Infantry. In 1809 he removed to Boston where with a partner he engaged for a few years in the wholesale commission business. We next find him prac-



tising his profession at Bridgewater, serving again in the Legislature and once more chosen to many local offices. He was almost invariably elected to preside at town meetings, his promptness and energy in facilitating public business often eliciting from the farmers the remark, "If you want to get home in season to take care of your cattle, choose Brown Moderator." In 1825 he was appointed Superintendent of the South Boston Reform School, then just established, but soon relinquished the position and once more took up his residence in Bridgewater. He was a prolific writer for the press, and for several years assisted his son George H. Brown in editing the *Amaranth*, a literary publication. He was one of the founders of the Handel and Haydn Society and its president in 1835. In 1838, he was editor of the Boston Musical Gazette. When Daniel Webster pronounced his great Plymouth oration in 1820, Mr. Brown sang to the music of his own composition, the famous song, "Two Hundred Years Ago," which drew from the illustrious statesman the remark that "it exceeded all the song singing he had ever heard." He was the author of many anthems, glees, choruses and hymn tunes, among the latter being "Summer," "Tilden," "Mount Zion," "Evelyn," and "Messenger." The very last that he composed at the age of four score, he named for himself, "Bartholomew." Many a one among the older residents of Danvers will not forget the famous "Bridgewater Collection" of sacred music. Mr. Brown was one of the compilers and with others prepared its successive editions for about twenty years. "It was its music," once said the editor of Dwight's Musical Review, "that first came down to us from the high gallery of a New England church on Sunday, and beguiled us on week days from our experiments in miniature navigation to join the social circle around the old hearthstone. We were then blissfully ignorant of Philharmonic and Julian symphonies and oratorios. The village band was the most extensive musical organization of which we had any conception; the Bridgewater Collection was a miracle of elaborateness and artistic beauty. We have heard much music of a high order since, but none that gave us half so much pleasure, none so gilded by the halcyon light of childhood." I dare say that many of the friends of the *Mirror* have in days long gone, sung thus with joy from that old collection without knowing at the time that it was a son of Danvers to whom they were indebted for all the good old tunes they liked so well. And I venture to say that there was another service which he rendered them



for long, long years, with as little knowledge on their part as to who and whence was their wise and witty annual visitor and constant benefactor. Who does not recall "Thomas' Old Farmer's Almanac?" As Dr. Alden well says, "This ancient almanac, established in 1793, as all know, was a favorite in every household and formerly constituted no inconsiderable part of the literature of many families. It was widely circulated and more generally read than the newspapers. Suspended by a loop at the side of the old fireplace, it was always at hand for consultation; and how much it was used its well thumbed pages showed; often supplying not only the place of a calendar but also of a diary and family record." Well, the author of the Farmer's Calendar in this almanac for fifty-two years, from 1804-1856, was no other than Bartholomew Brown, he having sent previous to his death, April 14, 1854, two years' matter in advance! Hon. Robert B. Hall, formerly member of Congress from the Plymouth district, in a glowing tribute to the memory of Mr. Brown, compared his labors in Thomas' almanac to Dr. Franklin's in Poor Richard's.

Although the subject of this sketch was interested in so many different pursuits, he maintained a high rank as a lawyer. He was not an office-seeker, but was ready to serve his fellow-citizens in whatever capacity when summoned by their voice or vote. He was a devoted friend of temperance and religion. He was for many years a member of the Unitarian church, adorning his profession by ready cooperation in every good work. Virtuous, kind, unostentatious and full of generous and helpful deeds, he was loving to all and was loved by all in return. "Gifted by nature," says Dr. Alden, "with a commanding presence, a voice remarkable for its sweetness as well as power, an eye that looked on every man as a neighbor, a winning address, a mind well trained and an extensive knowledge of men and things, always seeming to do the right thing at the right time, no wonder he was a universal favorite." He spent his last years in Boston and it was here that he died, at the age of eighty-one. The children of Bartholomew and Betsey Brown were: Lucy Ann Lazell, who married Dr. A. K. Borden of North Bridgewater; James Tilden, who died in Boston in 1809; George Henry, who married Hannah Porter of Sterling; Harriet Mitchell, who married Michael Everett Francis of Dighton.—*Danvers Mirror*, Aug. 3, 1878.

## THE ELM-TREE'S STORY.

BY MISS E. JOSEPHINE ROACHE.

Written for Danvers' 150th Anniversary Celebration.

If we could understand the language old  
That hides from us in voices of the pine,  
Could guess the secret of June's murmuring leaves,  
What stories of the past could we divine!  
What revelation of a distant day  
When this, our well-beloved town, was young,  
If we could learn the meaning of that speech  
In which the trees have since creation sung.

As thus I mused beneath an aged tree,  
An old inhabitant of Danvers town,  
The great elm swayed from trunk to topmost branch,  
And thrice it bowed its verdant leafy crown;  
Then spake in slow and stately harmonies.  
I listened while the tree its story told,  
And on my vision under that green shade  
The changing pageant of the past unrolled.

A picturesque procession wound along;  
Quaint Puritanic ruff and doublet came  
In friendly march with Quakers' quiet garb;  
In coif and kerchief followed maid and dame;

A sachem's feathers proudly waved beside  
The martial Continental bluff and blue;  
Now farthingale swept by; now towered calash;  
Now girls in college gowns were full in view.

The elm-tree said: "My kinsfolk saw the barge  
Of Endicott float on the river's tide;  
I watched the Indian's forest camp-fire blaze  
Where now his children's children bide.  
In my green branches brown Tituba saw  
The gleam of witches' weird and baleful glance;  
Once in their piteous delusion came  
The children from the dreary haunted manse.

"One early April morn, a little group  
 Of Danvers townsmen gathered here;  
 The volunteers for Lexington marched by  
 To sound of drum and bell and ringing cheer.  
 Here, too, one April night, were sadly borne  
 The Danvers minute-men who bravely died,  
 Swept onward by that glorious impulse strong  
 When rose, full flood, the patriotic tide.

"When cannon sounded through the waiting air,  
 From far-off fighting on old Bunker Hill,  
 The elm-tree listened with its townfolk dear,  
 And felt with them the breath of freedom thrill.  
 'Twas mine to see how in that rising grand,  
 Which kept the Union sacred and secure,  
 The old town held to ancient lineage true.  
 Ah, long that golden record shall endure!

"How many midnights closest shade I drew  
 Around the fugitive from slavery's shame!  
 How often whispered courage to his soul,  
 How with him hailed that morn when freedom came!  
 Here sometimes strolled a poet, honored guest;  
 He sang the slave and freeman's brotherhood,  
 For Whittier was Mother Nature's child  
 And all her signs and voices understood.

"I saw long since the earliest schoolhouse built,  
 And now I mark the happy morning throng  
 Of hurrying children, whom to greet I bend,  
 And whom my orioles welcome with a song.

What names the beadroll of my memory bears!  
 Holten and Bowditch sported 'neath my shade;  
 How many Porters, Putnams, have I known!  
 'Twas yesterday that Moody round me played.

"How many times on each town meeting day  
 Have citizens returning here discussed,  
 Under the stars, the elms all listening round,  
 With trenchant jest and controversial thrust,  
 The plans propounded for the common weal!  
 For liberty must keep her watch and ward.  
 At last from seeming discords of debate  
 The people's voice is heard in wise accord.

"The town and I grew up together, strong  
 And sturdy growths, from youth to this, her prime;  
 And in our riper years we wait to hail  
 The coming of that better, gentler time  
 When fame shall write the highest on her scroll,  
 As here in Danvers, so in all the world,  
 The men who victories of Peace have won,  
 Who bear her stainless standard wide unfurled."

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 AN OLD TREE.
 

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Just in the corner of the fence as it turns in from the road at the entrance to Joel Putnam's yard, on Locust street, is a large and beautiful elm tree, two feet or more in diameter at the base and fifty or sixty feet high, which was located there by an incident that calls attention to it at this time. The tree was planted there forty-eight years ago, and thus it came about: Daniel Richards owned Mr. Putnam's place in 1840, and that being the year Gen. William Henry Harrison was a candidate for President, and Mr. Richards being a Harrison man, made a bet of ten dollars with a man from Middleton, that Harrison would win. Mr. Richards won the bet, and as his Van Buren opponent complained of being poor, Mr. Richards told him if he would bring a good elm tree and set it in his yard, that should discharge the debt. The offer was accepted, and the Harrison tree was planted, which has grown and flourished, and awaits the election of Gen. Benjamin Harrison as President in the year 1888.

*Danvers Mirror, Aug. 18, 1888.*

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 BILL FOR TEACHING AT DANVERSPORT.
 

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"The Town of Danvers to Jos. H. JACKSON, Dr.	
"To teaching the Grammar School in District No. 2, in said Town from Oct. 27, 1807 to March 7th, 1808, 4 mos. and 9 days at \$33 per month, . . . . .	
\$141	90
"By three days lost, . . . . .	
3	30
\$138 60	

"March 9, 1808.

"Received payment by the hand of CAPT. SAMUEL PAGE.  
 "JOS. H. JACKSON."

## GOVERNOR ENDECOTT AN HORTICULTURALIST.

BY SAMUEL P. FOWLER.

Written for the *New England Farmer*, September, 1852.

Perhaps it is not generally known that Gov. John Endecott was probably one of the first persons who cultivated fruit, and planted nurseries in Massachusetts. In proof of the assertion that he had a love for the cultivation of fruits and for agriculture in general, we find in the first letters he sent home, he requested his friends in England to send over to him fruit stones and kernels, grains for seeds, wheat, barley and rye and domestic animals. In answer to this request, a letter was received the 19th of April, 1629, wherein the Company of England inform him that they are disappointed in not sending the things ordered, but (God willing) they propose to send them by the next vessel. Rev. Mr. Higginson, the first minister of Salem, who arrived there June 30, 1629, says they found abundance of corn planted, and our Governor hath a store of green peas grown in his garden as good as he ever ate in England. He adds that he had already planted a vineyard, also in his garden were mulberries, plum raspberries, currants, chestnuts, filberts, walnuts, small nuts, hurtleberries and haws of white thorn. By this we learn that Mr. Endecott had thus early made considerable progress in gardening. And it would seem from the observation of Mr. Higginson that green peas were about as early in 1629 as with us at the present day. It was here in this garden in Salem that he probably planted his famous pear tree, together with other fruits, and upon receiving the grant of the Orchard farm, they were removed there probably after the land was broken up by the plow, which was in 1633. This venerable tree, now more than 220 years old, we visited today [Aug. 9, 1852], and found on some of its branches it had made a growth of three or four inches this season, although it bears the mark of extreme decrepit old age. I should think it would produce this autumn a peck of pears, very fair in their appearance. The tree has thorny wood and was undoubtedly never grafted.

In 1648, Governor Endecott appears to have devoted much attention to the cultivation of fruit trees. We find at this



period that he exchanged five hundred apple trees of three years' growth with William Trask, for two hundred acres of land! Only think of those sales of the olden time, ye nurserymen of the present day, two apple trees for one acre of land. In a letter to Governor Winthrop in 1643, Governor Endecott says, "The maid is now going along with us to the Orchard, where your sonne shall be heartily welcome." That he was in the habit of inviting his friends to visit his grounds and partake of his fruits we may also infer from this letter. From a letter to Governor Winthrop, dated Apr. 12, 1631, we find that Mr. Endecott attached more importance to agriculture than to legislation. He says, "I thought good further to write what my judgment is for the dismissing of the Court 'till the corne be sett. It will hinder us that are afarre off exceedingly, and not further you there. Men's labor is precious here in corne setting time, the plantation being as yet so weak." The value of the crop of Indian corn has never appeared before to us so great as it did upon reading this extract. What would the farmers in our Legislature think when sitting in the State House late in spring to have the General Court dismissed by the Governor and they sent home to plant their corn or perform other necessary business on their farms? We are not certain however but this method of closing our long sessions would be an improvement in our Legislature. The Indians likewise attached great value to the corn crop, and it was considered in our early wars with them a great stroke of policy to destroy their corn in the field, or prevent its being planted by them in the spring. In either case starvation or severe suffering to the poor Indian was sure to follow. The Indian corn was about the first thing discovered by the Pilgrims upon their landing at Plymouth, and their knowledge of it and mode of culture by planting it on the intervale land by the rivers, and in hills, by raising the soil around the crown of the roots was obtained from the aborigines of the country.

Many are the traditions related by the Indians in relation to the maize or Indian corn. Mr. Neal, one of the early historians of New England, says, "The Indians have a Tradition that a crow brought the first Bean and a Blackbird the first grain of Indian Corn into New England; for which reason those Birds are accounted sacred by them, tho' they are so mischievous that the English contrive all ways they can think of to destroy them." There is likewise a tradition with the Indians that a beautiful squaw sent by the Great

Spirit once visited them and with her right hand presented to them the Maize or Corn; with her left hand she gave them the beans and seeds of the squash and from the warm earth on which she sat, after she had left them, up sprung the tobacco.

There is a tradition that Governor Endecott cultivated in his garden at his Orchard farm the white weed as a flower or for medicinal purposes, and that a long time since it spread into the adjoining fields, and probably may now be found on most of the farms in New England. For this supposed act he has received the maledictions of many farmers. Our own opinion is that the white weed was brought over from England with the grass seed first used upon the Orchard Farm—when the mowing lands there were first laid down to grass. The land on this farm was first broken up by the plow in the spring of 1633. On this occasion we may suppose that Governor Endecott left his residence in Salem to witness the operation of this new plow probably brought over in the ship *William*, which arrived at Plymouth on Feb. 22 of the same year. His usual manner of visiting his farm in those days was by embarking in his shallop and passing up Bass and Waters river and landing at a small cove near his mansions, Upon leaving his house in Salem, which stood at the corner of Washington and Church streets, he met his beloved ministerial friend and pastor, Mr. Skelton, and after passing the usual salutations, invited him to take a seat in his boat and visit the "Necke of land," the worthy minister's lately acquired grant of two hundred acres, and adjoining the Orchard farm. Mr. Skelton excused himself from complying by informing him that he had been called to visit Roger Conant, jr., "the first born child in Salem," who lay sick of a fever. After a pleasant sail up the river he landed at the cove near the spring, where he found all things in readiness to commence plowing.

There were upon the grounds waiting William Poole and Edward Grover. Goodman Grover held the plow. What an interesting event are we about to record, which took place upon a fine day in May in 1633? Probably nothing less than the turning up of the first soil to the sun in the county of Essex, with the plowshare by one of the early Governors of Massachusetts.

Here was substituted the venerated plow for the rude implements of the Indian. The aborigines were accustomed in the preparing of their grounds for the cultivation of corn,

when covered with wood, to destroy the tree by beating off with stones the bark around their trunks near the roots, thus girdling them. They would then open the ground around the dead trees with sharp sticks and plant their corn in hills. In 1637 there were but thirty-seven plows in Massachusetts. The town of Salem in the same year passed a vote granting Richard Hutchinson twenty acres of land "if he would set up plowing." And as John Blackleach, in 1638, had not "sufficient ground to mayntaine on his farm of 300 acres, the town for the furthering of his endeavors in plowing and for his in-couragement therein," allow him more land! It is interesting to notice the high encomiums given by the early planters to the value of the Indian corn. But its value has never as yet been overrated. The celebrated English cultivator, Arthur Young, once said, "that a country capable of growing Indian corn was singularly blessed above all others." The Rev. Mr. Higginson, the teacher in the Salem church, and the particular friend of Mr. Endecott, sent home to England on the return of the ship *Four Sisters* a glowing account of the cultivation of the maize. He says: "The abundant increase of corn proves this country to be a wonderment. It is almost incredible what great gain some of our English planters have had by our Indian corn. Credible persons have assured me and the party himself avouches the truth of it to me that of the setting of thirteen gallons of corn, he hath had increase of it fifty-two hogsheads, every hogshead holding seven bushels of London measure, and every bushel was by him sold and trusted to the Indians for so much a beaver as was worth eighteen shillings, and so of this thirteen gallons of corn which was worth six shillings eight pence, he made about £327 of it the year following, when you may see how God blesseth husbandry in this land." Aye, Master Higginson, God has continued up to the present day to bless the labors of husbandry in this country and we have the promise that he always will.

It will be seen from this extract of one of the early planters what was the quantity of corn raised upon an acre of ground, and the profits to be derived from it. And here it would be well before we enter upon our calculations to notice the appliances made in 1629 to stimulate the growth of corn. Master Thomas Graves, sent over by the company as a man of science and required to visit Naumkeag and exercise his scientific qualifications, when speaking of its soil, says, "it hath not at any time been manured or husbanded." The principal or only

manure used in the cultivation of corn in those days was the fish caught in the bays and rivers and these applied but once in three years. Wood says, when speaking of the soil of Salem more than two centuries since, "For seven years together, it has brought forth exceeding good corn by being *fished* but every third year." Then corn was planted in hills, where was placed one or more of the fish called alewives, hardheads or bluebacks, and required to be watched until they were decayed, which was usually in fourteen days, to prevent the corn being disturbed by the wolves in their desire to obtain the fish. The mossbunker or hardhead is still used as manure in some of the towns on Cape Cod.

Weirs for the taking of fish were placed across Waters river and fish was used probably in the planting of the first corn in 1633. Corn standing in the fields was subject to many more depredations than are to be found at the present day, which would probably serve to diminish their crops. In a diary kept by the Rev. Joseph Green of Salem Village, 1711, we find the following: "Killed grey squirrels that devour my corn exceedingly. They have eaten one-quarter of my corn. It is said there are millions of them in this village." Swine being permitted to run at large became very troublesome in fields of corn and after much legislation upon the subject of their restraint, a law was finally passed whereby an owner of a cornfield was permitted to kill any swine found in them. This summary manner of dealing with strays in the olden times no doubt had a good effect. Mr. Higginson in 1629 wrote a pamphlet entitled, "New England's Plantation. Or a Short and True Description of the Commodities and Dis-commodities of that Country." In describing the natural productions of the soil around Naumkeag, he says, "Excellent vines are here, up and down in the woods. Our Governor hath already planted a vineyard with great hope of increase." Tradition says that Governor Endecott entered largely into the cultivation of the native grape for the purpose of making wine, but with what success we are unable to say. These vines were planted at his Orchard farm and extended from his mansion house in two lines to the banks of the river. It is a singular fact that the early discoverers and settlers of this country entertained sanguine hopes of being able successfully to cultivate our native grapes and furnish wine for exportation. We find in the records of the Massachusetts company a memorandum of articles to be sent over from England for the use of the Plantation at Naunkeag. Amongst those were



“Ministers, Men skillful in making of pitch and of salt and Vine Planters.” In the London Company’s first general letter of instructions to Endecott and his council, under date of 17th of April, 1629, we find the following: “We take notice that you desire to have Frenchmen sent you, that you might be experienced in making of salt and planting of vines. We have inquired diligently for such but cannot meet with any of that nation. Nevertheless God has not left us altogether unprovided of man, able to undertake that work; for that we have entertained Mr. Thomas Graves, a man commended to us as well for his honesty as skill in many things very useful.” In a letter sent home from “New England by Master Graves, engincer, now the resident,” we find in a glowing account of the fruitfulness of the country, there were some of the “biggest grapes that I ever saw; some I have seen four inches about. So that I am bold to say of this country, as it is commonly said in Germany, of Hungaria, that for cattle, corn and wine it excelleth.” These grapes were exceedingly large, nearly the size of the imperial gage plum. Our largest native plums are about three inches in circumference.

Rev. Mr. Hubbard, in his “History of New England,” written about the year 1680, when describing the fertility of the soil and its vegetable productions, says, “That great hopes of fruitful vineyards was entertained in after time; but as yet either skill is wanting to cultivate the fruits of those wild vines and reduce them to a pleasant sweetness or time is not yet to be spared to looke after the culture of such fruits as rather tend to the *bene* or *melius esse* of a place than to the bare *esse* and substance thereof.” Alas, the climate of New England forbids these fond anticipations of the Puritans from ever being realized by us. The subject in regard to the propriety of cultivating the tobacco early engaged the attention of the planters at Naumkeag, as well as the company in England. In their first and second general letters of instruction to Endecott and his council, they say, “The planting of tobacco is by this whole company generally disavowed and utterly disclaimed by some of the greatest adventurers, who absolutely declared themselves unwilling to have any hand in this plantation if we cherish or permit the planting thereof. And we especially desire that no tobacco be planted by any of the new planters under your government unless it be some small quantity for mere necessity and for physic and for the preservation of their healths; and that the same be taken pri-



vately by ancient men, and none other." In this manner and with very great caution was tobacco first introduced into Massachusetts.

There was likewise a law in Massachusetts in 1634, "That no person should be permitted publici to use tobacco on fine of 2s. 6d., or privately in his own dwelling or dwelling of another, before strangers; and they also forbid two or more to use it in any place together." In Winslow's Relation, we find that the Indians were accustomed to take much tobacco; but for their boys so to do, they account it odious. The idea that tobacco, like rum, should be used only by persons of suitable age and taken moderately was not confined to the Puritans. We well remember when a lad being present when rum was used or tobacco taken, being told that we were not old enough to use it, and must wait until we became men. And it was not uncommon in those days for very polite men who chewed tobacco to turn their backs or put one hand to their mouths to conceal the act of taking a quid. But we have noticed that such modest and polite men at the present day are exceedingly rare; indeed we do not recollect having seen one for many years. They must, we think, much to our regret have all passed away. The quiet, sober and secret way tobacco was taken by the Pilgrims is in strange contrast with its use at the present day. Many amusing anecdotes are connected with its early use and history. The Rev. Mr. Ersking, the author of the Gospel Sonnets, wrote a religious doggerel, wherein he supposed the smoking of tobacco a proper subject for religious meditation. It was addressed to smokers, and called upon them to spiritualize smoking. It was written in 1770. The first stanzas are as follows:

The Indian weed, now withered quite,  
 Though green at noon, cut down at night,  
     Shows thy decay;  
     All flesh is hay,  
 Thus think, and smoke tobacco.

Doth juice medicinal proceed,  
 From such a naughty, foreign weed;  
     Then what's the power,  
     Of Jesse's flower,  
 Thus think, and smoke tobacco.

The superior benefits Capt. John Underhill supposed himself to have derived from what he is pleased to call "the good

creature tobacco," is amusing. Mistress Wilbore was dealt with for coming to a lecture in Boston where Master expounded, and wearing a pair of gloves slit at the thumbs and fingers for the purpose of taking snuff, as was supposed. Master Cotton observed for what purpose should those vain openings be but for the intent of taking snuff! And he began to quote Gregory Naziazan upon good works.

The culture of tobacco by the planters early engaged their attention, and notwithstanding its prohibition by the London company many were anxious to cultivate it at Naumkeag. Governor Endecott and some of his company opposed its cultivation on the ground of its being highly injurious to the health and morals of the planters. This decision is the more remarkable when we consider the great and marvelous properties it was supposed at that time to possess. Joselyn in his "Account of Two Voyages to New England," when speaking of the tobacco, says, "It's virtues are these, it helps digestion, the Gout, the Toothache, prevents infection by scents, it heats the cold, and cools them that sweats, feedeth the hungry, spent spirits restoreth, purgeth the stomach, killeth nits and lice, healeth green wounds; the Syrup is good for many diseases, the Sinoake for Phiths and all diseases of a cold and moist cause, good for all bodies cold and moist, taken upon an emptie stomach."

In taking leave of Governor Endecott as a cultivator of the soil, we will quote the language of Dr. Bentley, who says, "Posterity has fully approved the choiee of Governor Endecott, and more circumstances distinguish the grounds on which he planted than are recollected respecting any of the leaders of the Pilgrims."

## SOME ACCOUNT OF REVEREND BENJAMIN BALCH.

BY G. W. BALCH, Esq.

READ AT A MEETING OF THIS SOCIETY, MARCH 13, 1894.

Inasmuch as the Reverend Benjamin Balch was a resident of the town of Danvers during the period of the Revolutionary War, in which he performed almost constant service either in the military or naval establishment, it would seem as if some account of him, his public services and of his family would be of value.\*

He was born at Dedham in 1743, his father being Reverend Thomas Balch and his mother Mary Sumner Balch, the latter a daughter of Edward Sumner of Roxbury, and aunt of Governor Increase Sumner. His father was intensely patriotic and served in the French and Indian war.

On both sides, Rev. Benjamin Balch came from distinguished New Englanders. He was graduated at Harvard in 1763, and having been tutored by his father with especial reference to the ministry, seems to have commenced religious work soon afterwards, probably as a mere licenciate, for he was scarcely more than twenty-one years of age, when he was said to have been engaged in preaching at Machias. It was there he first met his future wife, a pretty Protestant Irish girl, one of his congregation, the daughter of Morris O'Brien. This marriage, which occurred in 1764, was undoubtedly quite romantic, and is said to have been a pure love-match of a pronounced kind and as fanciful in inception as it proved afterwards happy in results. The O'Briens were prominent people, and very patriotic, as the subsequent career of several members of that family, brothers of Mrs. Balch, proved them to be. Cooper's Naval History gives considerable space to the ex-

\*Benjamin Balch was in Danvers from 1774-1784. On Mar. 29, 1774, he bought of Walter Perkins, two acres of land and a dwelling house at New Mills, bounded on the east by the highway from New Mills to Topsfield, on the north by land of Tarrant Putnam, Jr., on the west by Patrick Carrell and on the south by Aaron Cheever. This house stood about where the brick house of the late Dr. W. G. Frost now stands. He was licensed as an innholder here in 1783-4.

plots of Colonel Jeremiah O'Brien, who, it is claimed, won at Machias the first naval victory of the Revolution. The following letter is interesting in this connection, also the allusion to the young Irish beauty, with her pretty brogue. It is an extract from a letter written by Major Jervis Cutler to the late Judge Ephraim Cutler, son of Rev. Manasseh Cutler, and an illustrious citizen of Ohio.

“Evansville, Ind., Dec. 30th, 1841.

“Dear Brother,

“I have forwarded one of our Papers in which you will see an article from Cooper’s Naval History. The Hero in that article is nearly connected with our family. You, most likely, remember all about it, but lest you do not, I will tell you now what I can remember of the matter. Our uncle Rev. Benjamin Balch was preaching at Machias and fell in love with Miss O’Brien (sister to Jeremiah O’Brien) whom he married. She was a beautiful little Irish woman, spoke broad Irish, but in such a pleasant way as to delight those who heard her speak. I recollect her vividly, and more so than any of those old ancient people. They were settled at Danvers New Mills, and many is the time I ran away there to play with my cousins.”

The young couple took up their residence at Scarborough for a while, and there, in 1765, their first child, Thomas, was born. In 1768, Rev. Benjamin became first pastor of the Congregational Church at Mendon, South Precinct, Mass., having, however, in 1767 temporarily supplied that pulpit, under a regularly drawn up contract. This agreement seems to have been productive of no end of woes for all concerned. Trouble first arose from a misunderstanding about the firewood for the parsonage. The Pastor claimed that it should be delivered by his parishioners at his door, while the contract did not mention the family firewood at all. Contentions followed, eventuating in a quarrel and the abrupt departure of the Pastor from Mendon. But insult seems, in the minds of the Mendonites, to have been added to injury, when the preacher sold his farm and most of his belongings to a Quaker, an offence quite unbearable in days marked in a manner almost inexplicable to us, by narrowness and bigotry.

Leaving Mendon, the young preacher tarried for a while at his paternal home in Dedham, where he presumably gave a critical account of his stewardship at Mendon, and then accepted ministerial employment elsewhere. He was thus tem-

porarily employed at the beginning of 1775, at or about which time he took up his family residence in the town of Danvers, probably in the vicinity of New Mills. At this period political troubles had increased to the culminating point. The British officers were imperious and the soldiery insolent. Outrages to citizens were of frequent occurrence, and cautious people kept well to their homes. Danvers and points near Boston were scarcely so safe as Boston itself, and all were kept in constant ferment and alarm. All classes were stirred and none more so than the clergy; and here it may well be remarked that from thenceforward, during the entire Revolutionary period, the latter were leaders and the most potent factors in resistance to British oppression. Faith in spiritual things begat a like sentiment with regard to mundane attributes, and "building better than they knew," for at that time liberty had no prototype on the face of the earth, there was evidently an obscure but inherent prescience of something yet attainable, looking to the political happiness of a people, akin to their spiritual aspirations. In the absence of a numerous newspaper press, the political education of the people then as now in sparsely settled regions was conducted largely from the pulpit—or the stump. This manifestation evidently found easy place in Danvers, for there, in forming one of the first so-called Alarm Companies, March 6th, 1775, the place of Captain was accorded to Deacon Edmund Putnam, that of Lieutenant to Rev. Benjamin Balch, while another Deacon was made Ensign. The official muster-roll of this Company shows that it was present at the Battle of Lexington on the 19th of the following month, Lieut. Balch being credited therein with forty miles traveled. From this time forward to the establishment of peace, the activity of the preacher, either in military or naval employment, seems to have been nearly constant and unabated, the course of which was, according to his own account, interrupted only at intervals by the necessities of a young and increasing family for sustenance, compelling him at times to occupy temporarily various pulpits in Massachusetts.

After the Battle of Lexington he became attached to Col. Ephraim Doolittle's Regiment as Chaplain but as his general history from the commencement of hostilities up to the mid-summer of 1778, when he was in temporary occupancy of Rev. Mr. Hitchcock's pulpit at Beverly, is best told by himself in a petition, the original of which is on file in the State department at Boston, the latter is here given in full. At this time his children numbered seven, and the eldest, Thomas, was



scarcely more than twelve years of age. Two of the children born in 1777 were twins, and were patriotically given the names respectively of George Washington and Horatio Gates.

“To the Honorable Council and House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay:—

“The Petition of Benjamin Balch humbly sheweth that your petitioner has from the Commencement of the War been employed as Chaplain either in the Army or Navy, excepting some intervals of short duration and is still ready and willing to serve his country in the same capacity should a door open for it, and which for several months past he has been wishing for, which time he has improved in preaching to vacant congregations which yields him a very scanty pittance for the support of himself and wife and seven small children; notwithstanding which the militia officers of the town of Danvers have draughted your petitioner to go as a common soldier into the Army, or to pay a heavy fine, which will greatly distress his family. Therefore your petitioner humbly prays that the Honorable Court will be pleased to give such orders for relief as they in their wisdom and goodness shall see fit. And your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

“Benj. Balch.

“Boston, June, 8th, 1778.”

While this petition seems to have been acted on adversely as to the impending fine, probably from reasons creative of exceptions in any case, the desire for better employment than that of a common soldier, whereon to support a large family, was soon gratified, for in October of that year his name is found enrolled amongst the staff-officers as Chaplain of the frigate *Boston*. It was while thus employed, or else a year or two later, while occupying the post of Chaplain in the new frigate *Alliance*, that, according to family tradition, his two sons, Thomas and Benjamin, were also with him, the two boys being “entered and drawing pay as one man.” The name of Thomas Balch appears as of the same date, entered as landsman, hence the inference that the two sons were thus employed on the frigate *Boston*. His eldest son Thomas, was, however, nearly always the companion of his father in sea-service, the only exception known being when the former served for a time (1780) in the private armed ship *Hannibal*, with his uncle Capt. O’Brien, which ship was captured by a British cruiser, the officers and crew being sent to the famous Jersey

prison-ship at New York. Capt. O'Brien was too formidable an opponent for lenient treatment, and exchange in his case was refused, and he was sent to England and kept there until peace was restored. His nephew, young Thomas, was duly exchanged and returned to Boston, where he immediately joined the Continental frigate *Alliance*, Capt. Barry, of which his father, the Rev. Benjamin, was Chaplain, having been transferred from the *Boston*.

The story of this famous ship is one of great interest to Americans. The *Alliance* was said to have been the first frigate built for the Continental Congress. The builder was John Hackett of Salisbury, an educated and skilful designer, and whose patriotism induced the undertaking, alone and unaided, even when every other ship-builder had declined the risk on account of the uncertainty of political affairs and a depreciated governmental currency; nor could any be induced to even join in the construction. The *Alliance* was a great success in every way. She was fast, strong and easily handled. The vessel was known to have made an average of fifteen knots for many consecutive hours, and when General Lafayette returned to France in her in 1781, the *Alliance* made the voyage in twenty-three days. After the war, she, with many other Government vessels, was sold. The *Alliance* made several East Indian voyages in the merchant service. Some remains of this famous ship were lying on an island in the Delaware up to some fifty years ago, and, until finally all traces disappeared, piecemeal, as souvenirs of the Revolution and as mementoes of her honorable career.

Richard Hackett, son of John Hackett of Salisbury, the patriotic and skilful builder of the *Alliance* and other ships, became in 1806, the husband of Martha, daughter of Rev. Benj. Balch. Their son, Horatio Balch Hackett, born in 1808, became illustrious as an erudite Biblical scholar and author, whose multitudinous writings on Biblical subjects and researches have world-wide repute. Rev. William Balch, born in 1775, son of Rev. Benjamin, married in 1805, Mary, daughter of Rev. Dr. Benjamin Wadsworth, who for fifty-three years occupied a Danvers pulpit, and who is said to have constantly aided his parishioners with respect to worldly as well as guiding them in spiritual things. A daughter, born of the latter marriage, Mary Wadsworth Balch, became the wife of Rev. Horatio Balch Hackett mentioned above, the latter thus marrying his cousin. Three children of the last named marriage are now honored and respected residents of Newton-

ville. Rev. William Balch died at Dedham, Mass., in 1842. He was Chaplain of the frigate *Congress* in 1799. At Harvard, he was a classmate of Judge Story and also of Dr. Channing.

Beyond his service as Chaplain of the *Alliance* in 1781, the career of Rev. Benjamin Balch is not easily traceable, by reason of misplaced personal papers, but his services in that year were marked by interesting events, consequent upon the activity of that vessel under her gallant commander, and the leadership of John Paul Jones. An exploit, located by family tradition, as occurring on one of the cruises of the *Alliance* in May, 1781, in which the Reverend gentleman earned the designation of the "fighting parson" is worth mentioning. The *Alliance* having fallen in with a British armed ship and a brig, the three vessels became engaged, but on account of a prevailing dead calm, the *Alliance* was at one time placed in great peril from the enemy's superior position, and the ability of the two vessels to deliver "raking" shots. The peril the ship was in brought out the desperate courage of every man on board the *Alliance*, the "cloth" being no exception. Reverend Benjamin, armed cap-a-pie, was seen in the midst of the fray, and thereafter is said to have become known on that ship as the "fighting parson." His son Thomas was also in the fight, and when father and son met afterwards, it was with an embrace and with the words, "Thank God, my son." A favoring breeze having sprung up, the fleet *Alliance* came to her own, and captured both vessels.

In 1820, five years after his father's death, the son Thomas herein mentioned, then of Newburyport, became an applicant for a pension from the Federal government, in support of which several affidavits were presented, and the pension was duly granted, one of which dated Sept. 18, 1820, follows: "I, Phoebe White, wife of Henry White of Beverly, on oath do testify that I was intimately acquainted with the Rev. Benj. Balch and his wife Joanna from 1775 to 1784 and that in the year 1781, I frequently conversed with her respecting the absence of her husband and her son Thomas Balch then on a cruise in the Ship *Alliance*, James Barry Commander. The said Benjamin was at that time Chaplain to said ship and on the return of the ship I saw the said Benjamin and his wife and he the said Benjamin Balch stated that he and his son Thomas Balch had been very much exposed, had had a severe engagement and the conduct of his son was becoming a mariner."

After the close of the war, Rev. Benjamin Balch was settled

as pastor of the Congregational Church, East Barrington, New Hampshire (1784) and there he remained to the year of his death in 1815, thus completing his thirty-first year in that charge. His health became much broken near the end, and his memory was so impaired that, in forgetfulness, it was said that he would often read the hymn the second time. It was deemed best by family friends and parishioners alike to terminate the pastorate, and the latter made liberal provision for the future support of the minister, but death intervened a few days after his farewell discourse.

The treatment accorded to this worthy man by the parishioners of Barrington when bodily infirmities occurred was in pleasant contrast to the beginning of his ministerial career at Mendon; but the lapse of fifty years had then, as ever since, softened hearts, removed bigotry and carried popular sentiment along a little further towards the ultimate goal, the brotherhood of man. Never rich in worldly goods, but always a stipendiary on the bounty of his parishioners, the domestic life of a New England clergyman of an hundred years ago retained many of the traditional features of earlier times. If the flour sack ran low or the pork barrel gave out, the bounty of the parish was expected to supply the deficiency in one way or another, and so with the wood-pile. If the minister possessed a few acres of land, as was commonly the case, the parishioners, by turns, performed most of the labor of cultivating the soil.

Rev. Benjamin Balch's family of twelve children was reared under conditions akin to the means of subsistence described, and yet each of them received fair and many of them excellent educational advantages. The sons, each and all, became worthy citizens, nearly all making their mark in business and professional life. None failed to acquit themselves honorably. The daughters of the family made exceptionally good marriage alliances, and all, sons and daughters alike, with a single exception, lived to a ripe old age. Without attempting to trace more intimately the career of Rev. Benjamin Balch, a task rendered most difficult by the disorganized condition of public records relating to Revolutionary service, nor to deal with innumerable family traditions of misty and consequently unreliable authenticity, enough has already been gathered to enable us to state reliably, that in his career both as a minister of the Gospel and a patriot, he marked the true standard of excellence. As a follower of Christ, his life was a constant contribution to religious and moral advancement;



and his military and naval services were marked by earnestness comporting with his calling as a minister of the Gospel. His associates, in whatever relation found, were of the best and most patriotic, and comprise names illustrious then, or whose descendants since have made their mark in the history of this country. Of these may be mentioned the Everetts, the Deans, Cutlers, Tappans and Parsons.

His parental home at Dedham, presided over by the courtly Reverend Thomas and his cultured and accomplished wife, Mary Sumner Balch, and their gifted daughters, seems to have been the rendezvous for many years of those of moral worth and social standing; marking, according to good authority, the best of Massachusetts people. And Reverend Benjamin seems to have always maintained in his social surroundings and affiliations, and to have inculcated in his numerous progeny, the standard of excellence entirely in keeping with his education and parentage. The painstaking care with which he and his accomplished wife, with resources bounded by the limited income of a modest New England pastor, brought up and successfully educated a large family, is further evidence of worth, and is quite in keeping with the New England character of the period.

Children of Rev. Benjamin & Joanna O'Brien Balch: Thomas, born 1765, a revolutionary soldier and sailor, as stated; Benjamin, born 1768, a revolutionary soldier and sailor, was drowned at sea; Mary, born 1770, married Benjamin Garland; John, born 1772, ship-owner of Newburyport, Boston and New York, became wealthy, but lost largely with the substitution of larger vessels; Rev. William, born in Danvers, 1775, Chaplain of frigate *Congress* and minister at Salisbury and many other places; Dr. Horatio Gates, born in Danvers, in 1777, and baptized at the Middle precinct, on Oct. 26, physician, member of Legislature of Maine, politician, collector of Customs, etc.; George Washington, born in Danvers, in 1777, and baptized at the Middle precinct on Oct. 26, removed to North Carolina and was engaged in War of 1812; Joanna, born in Danvers 1780, married Deacon Webster, who was a near relative of the great Daniel; Martha, born 1783, married Richard Hackett of Salisbury, mother of Professor Horatio Balch Hackett; Jeremiah O'Brien, born 1785, died at Chicago 1875, editor and publisher, finely educated, accomplished Latin scholar; Hannah, born 1791, married Mr. Church; Joseph, born 1794, youngest, died in infancy.



FROM REV. DR. WILLIAM BENTLEY'S DIARY.

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May 15, 1785, Sunday. Changed with Revd: Wadsworth.

June 14. Association meeting at my house. Present: Revd. Diman, Barnard, Prince, Holt, Wadsworth, Swain & Parsons.

Decr. 19. Set out with Miss Allen for Tewkesbury, dined at Widow Upton in Danvers, drank Tea at Esqr. Ford's in Wilmington, and arrived at Madam Boardman's in Tewkesbury at 6 in the evening. The day was of clear sunshine, but the roads very bad as far as Reading.

Nov. 10, 1789. Association at Wadsworth's, Danvers.

Feb. 18, 1790. On Tuesday last the Officers from Danvers, Beverly, & Middleton chose the field Officers of their Militia, & hereby compleat the Brigade—Chosen in this Town.

Feb. 20. The Officers chosen in the Militia last Tuesday were Col. Foster of Danvers, Lieu. Col. Francis of Beverly, Major Peabody of Middleton.

Feb. 25. Last Evening before 7 o'clock a fire broke out in the Barn belonging to the Estate of Richard Derby Esq<sup>r</sup> deceased in the North Parish of Beverley. The Estate is known by the name of *Brown's folly* from the House formerly standing on the top of the Hill, & now moved near the road. It was afterwards the property of one Willard & Fairweather, who disposed of it in divisions on the South Side of the Road to R. Derby including the Mansion House, & on the North side to Col. Thorndike of Beverley. All the Cattle, Hay & contents of the Barn were consumed, damage exceeding £300. About 2½ miles geog: north of Salem, 4 measured miles.

May 23. Was buried at Marblehead, Robert Hooper, Esq<sup>r</sup>, æt. 80. He had long been the most eminent Merchant in the place, but by the events of war, became a bankrupt. He was entrusted by his creditors with the improvement of his real estate, during his natural life, & was called King Hooper by the people. The highest affection was shewn to him at his death & his memory honored by his numerous former dependants. The Vessels were all dressed in mourning, the Procession exceeded anything before known in honor of a merchant, in that place.

June 22. I went to ride with Capt. S. Chever into Danvers.

Saw the Garden of Mr. E. H. Derby. The Dutch Gardener was very attentive. The Principal Garden is in three parts divided by an open slat fence painted white, & the fence white washed. It includes  $7/8$  of an Acre. We ascend from the house two steps in each division. The passages have no gates, only a naked arch with a key stone frame, of wood painted white above 10 feet high. Going into the Garden they look better than in returning, in the latter view they appear from the unequal surface to incline towards the Hill. The Strawberry beds are in the upper garden, & the whole division are not according to the plants they contain. The unnatural opening of the Branches of the trees is attempted with very bad effect. Beyond the Garden is a Spot as large as the Garden which would form an admirable orchard now improved as a Kitchen garden, & has not an ill effect in its present state. The Gardener has only come this year, & is not accountable for the arrangement. It was extremely neat, & in comparison had by no means an ill effect. The House is with a superb fence, but is itself a mere country House, one story higher than common with a rich owner.

July 27. A very large party at a Turtle at Putnam's.

Aug. 18. I attended the funeral of Mary Whittemore from Deacon Seccombe's in Danvers, as it was her last request to lay in the old ground with her relations.

Aug. 20. Set out for Tewksbury, returned as far as Upton's & lodged on account of the indisposition of one of the company.

Aug. 21. Expense at Upton's  $2/10$ .

Sept. 16. The Review at Danvers near Putnam's, I was not present. This was part of the Regiment conjointly with Beverley and they have now a petition at Court for a Separation.

Oct. 11. In the agitation of my mind, I went to Danvers and spent an hour with M<sup>r</sup> Holt.

Oct. 25. Mr. Read, formerly a Tutor of the College has married a young woman\* of fortune in this place, & this day offered a public collation.

Nov. 9. Census of Danvers: 372 houses, 460 families, 626 free white males over 16 years of age, including heads of families, 486 free white males under 16 years, 1279 free white females, including heads of families, 34 other free persons, total, 2425.†

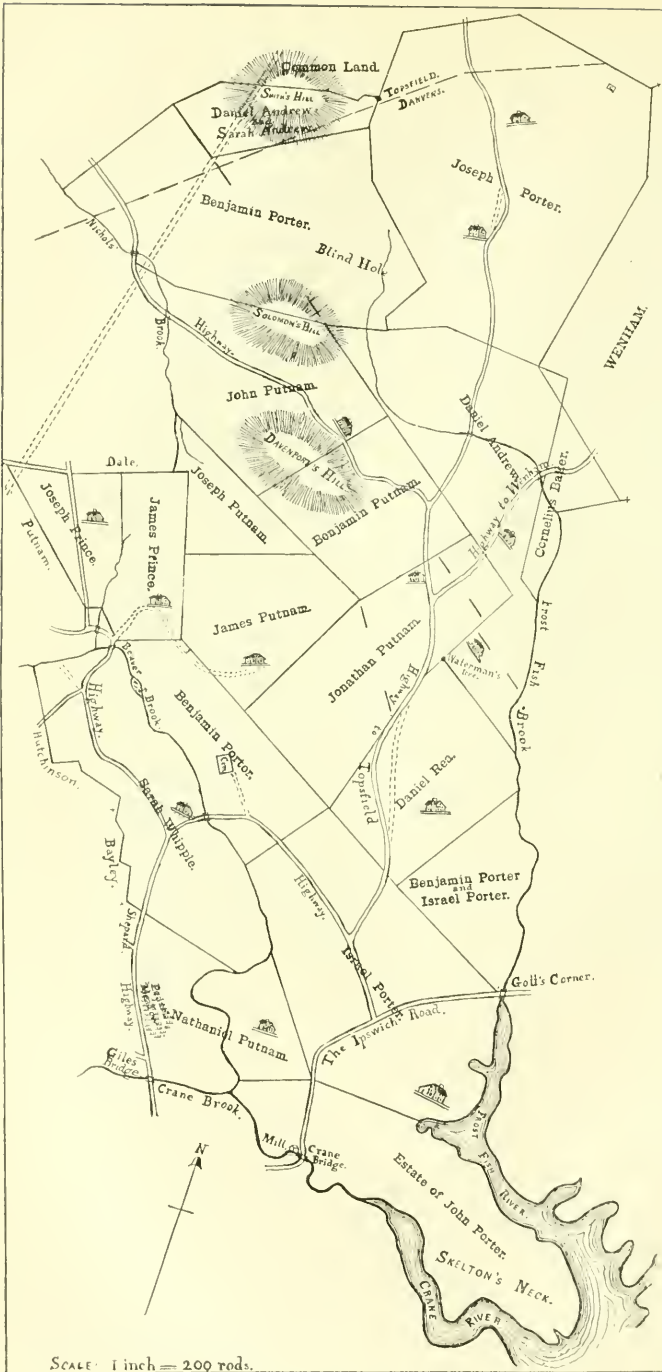
\*Nathan Read married Elizabeth, daughter of William Jeffry.

†At this time Danvers, which then included Peabody, had a population greater than Lynn.

Nov. 17. This afternoon came on the case of Moriarty, an Irishman, before the Supreme Court. This man has lived sometime in Salem, & Danvers, & after suffering imprisonment was taken in by his daughter in law, clothed & fed for three years. Since the death of her husband she has boarded him, without any returns. Upon some present proposals of marriage Moriarty objected, & took some steps at Law to recover some property out of her hands upon which she brings an action of debt [314] for boarding, lodging, washing & loans of money since July, 1787, amounting to 106£. Moriarty against her brought an account of 209£ charging 69£ for the use of a Cow, beside the keeping, 32£ p<sup>r</sup> annum for doing the business of a woman keeping shop of a stock of 50 dollars, & other things in like proportion. Being admitted to his oath of original entries in his petite debt book, the Court gave it as their opinion that the whole was drawn out but three months before, from the dates of the charges, uniformity of ink, same elegant leisurely writing, the agreement of the paper with paper given at this time by Esq<sup>r</sup> Osgood, by testimony of Auctioneer & Wharfinger that he came & took from their Books accounts for the time specified. There were other circumstances in the book such as the insertion of only a few trifling accounts in the whole time, with different ink in void spaces left in writing, to be judged from the want of agreement of the inserted dates with the subsequent ones. Judge Paine delivered the Case to the Jury with a just degree of spirit, & pertinent observations. This Moriarty has imposed upon the vulgar, being a good accountant, with a pretended knowledge of law, is an intemperate man, & litigious, & a just object of the highest public punishment.

[315] 18. The jury's verdict ag: Moriarty was 75£ to the daughter, & he is to pay cost of suit.





THE PLAINS: PART OF SALEM IN 1700



## THE PLAINS: PART OF SALEM IN 1700.

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BY SIDNEY PERLEY.

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THIS section of Salem in 1700 is now the central part of Danvers. It extends from Waters' river on the south to the Topsfield line on the north, a distance of about four miles, and from Whipple's hill on the west to the Frost Fish stream on the east, a distance of about two miles, and comprises an area of about seven square miles.

This is the eastern end or side of the district of Danvers as it was bounded in 1752.

The Ipswich road was the southern boundary of the Salem Village parish.

Smith's hill, over which runs the line between Danvers and Topsfield, was so called very early, because it was included within the grant of Thomas Smith in 1639.

Solomon's hill, near Blind hole, was so called as early as 1716. Blind hole is mentioned by that name in 1660.

Davenport's hill was so called very early because it was included within the grant to Capt. Richard Davenport, afterwards Putnam's hill when it belonged to the Putnams.

Porter's river was so called because John Porter owned all the land on its western side from 1646. Above Conant street, the stream was known from a very early date as Frost Fish brook or river, from the fact, it is said, that

frost fish were very abundant in its waters. It was so called as early as 1637.

Crane river was called Duck river in 1632, and Crane river as early as 1650. Beaver brook, which is one of the sources of Crane river, was so called very early in the settlement of Salem Village, and was called the great brook in 1800.

The most ancient highway through this region was the old Ipswich road so called, running from Boston to Ipswich, having been laid out in 1643. It is now known, in its several parts, as Ash, Elm and Conant streets. The Ash street section was called the country road in 1741; Ipswich road in 1759; the country road on Porter's plains in 1783; the highway leading from Putnam's tavern to Leech's tavern in 1806; the old road leading from Danvers to Salem in 1850; and Ash street in 1854. Elm street was called ye country road in 1741; Ipswich road in 1782; and Elm street in 1872. Conant street was called Ipswich road in 1715; Willow street in 1872; and Conant street in 1882. The bridge over Crane river at Ash street was probably constructed about 1685. In the county court, under date of Feb. 25, 1650-1, is the record: "Town of Salem, presented for want of a foot bridge at Crane river, ordered to make it, on penalty of £5."\* Nothing was done about its construction immediately, so far as the records of the town show. The bridge is mentioned in 1692.

High street was laid out before 1780; and was called the road leading to the new mills in 1783; the county road in 1784; the highway leading to Salem in 1794; the road from Gideon Putnam's tavern to Salem by the neck so called in 1794; the road leading from Putnam's tavern to the neck so called in 1796; the road leading from Salem to Topsfield in 1810; the Salem road in 1815; the road leading from New mills to Topsfield in 1849; and High street in 1850.

Water street was called the highway running by the new mills in 1780; and Water street in 1872.

Purchase street was so called in 1854.

\*Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume I, page 208.

Park street was so called in 1850.

Sylvan street was so called in 1854.

That part of Maple street between the Square and Locust street and Locust street comprised the highway to Topsfield laid out by the county court Oct. 22, 1657, as follows:—

the 22. 8. 57

We hose names ar under written being appointed by the too Townes to lay out a cuntrie way betwine the too Townes Salem & Topsfeld we began vpon John Porters farme accordinge as the trees ar marked and so alonge vpon Daniell Rayes farme too pole brod and so thoroh the woods to a farme of John Porters wich was formerly mr Kenistones and so thoroh the woods to a farme of John Porters wich was formerly mr Downings and so thoroh the woods to the Rever against Gudman Townes house and this we have done accordinge to our best descretion

JOHN PORTER  
WILLIAM DODGE  
THOMAS BORMAN  
FRANCOES PABODY

This was allowed of by the court (as it is layd out) held at Salem 29th of June 1658

ROBERT LORD *cleric*\*

Its course was practically the same as now, except at two places. At Porter's hill it went around a part of the hill to the west, and just northerly of the point where the new Valley road, so called, connects with it it made a slight detour to the right. In each of these two places the road has been straightened,—the former place before 1810, and the other before 1869. It was called the Topsfield road in 1720; the country highway in 1722; the highway leading from Salem to Topsfield in 1774; the country road leading from Haverhill to Salem in 1807; the main road in 1841; the road leading from Danvers Plains so called to Topsfield in 1850; and that part now Locust street was so called in 1857.

Wenham street was in existence as early as 1646, when it was called a way from John Porter's farm to Wenham, being called the Wenham road in 1815; and Wenham street in 1882.

North street was in existence in 1683. It was called the highway leading to Topsfield in 1772; the county road

\*Original on file in the office of the clerk of courts, at Salem, and printed in the Quarterly Court Records and Files of Essex County, volume II, page 105.

leading from Salem to Topsfield in 1813 ; the road leading from the Newburyport turnpike to the brick schoolhouse in 1862 ; and North street in 1865.

Summer street is an ancient way. It was called the highway in 1714 ; the way called Blind Hole road in 1780 ; the country road leading to Topsfield in 1829 ; and Summer street in 1866.

The Newburyport and Boston turnpike, indicated upon the map by parallel lines of dashes, was laid out in 1803. It was called the county road in 1867 ; and Newbury street in 1875.

Nichols and Pine streets and that part of Maple street which connects them probably constituted the highway that was laid out under the order of the selectmen of Salem, dated July 10, 1650, viz.:—

william Dodg Jacob Barney and Nathanell Putnam are apoynted to lay out the hie way ffrom the ffather syde of that ffarme that was mr Bishops now in the hands of John Porter vnto Crane Riuer.\*

The selectmen of Salem, June 8, 1657,

Ordered that John Porter and Thomas Putnam shall forthwith make such repayre of a highway leading from mr John Endicots his farme to goodman huchissons house as in their discessions they shall Judg meete & to be paid by the towne.†

The selectmen of Salem, June 10, 1668,

Ordered that a highway shalbe layd out beginginge at Rich Huch-enfons feild and foe to run to the beauer dame neare to Serg Porters meadow & so to the extend of the boundes and w<sup>m</sup> flint & ferg Rich Leech ar Impowrd to lay it out, and to make a return to the select men.‡

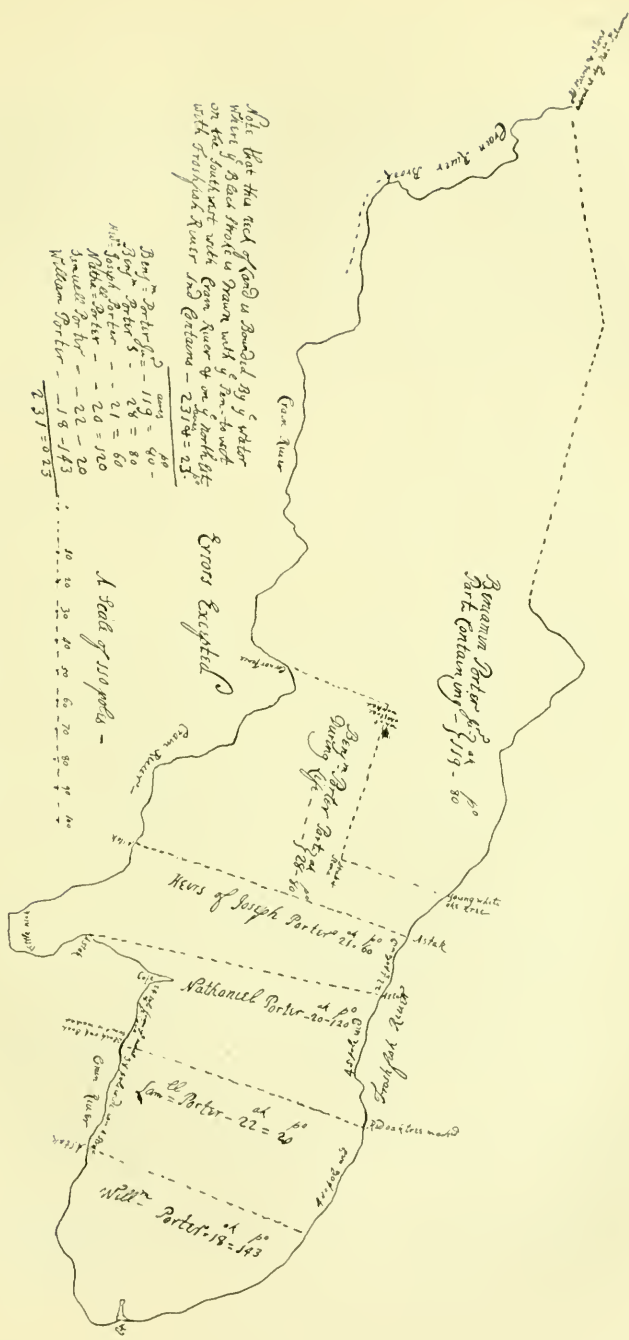
Oct. 22, 1668, Messrs. Flint and Leech made the following return of the laying out of this new way :—

By an order of the selectmen dated the 10 4 mo 68 Sergant lech & Willum flint were to laye out a hiewaye from Richard Hutchsones feeld to the extent of the boundes the way is layed out as folet h : from a great whit oak stump be twixt the said hutchsons feild where the way turnes to beuer dam we apoynt the waye to Rune where it is to the top of the hill neare where free mens hous was & so by

\*Salem Town Records, volume I, page 165 (printed).

†Salem Town Records, volume I, page 200 (printed).

‡Salem Town Records, volume II, page 103.







the side of the fil to two trees at beuer dam: the trees be one on one sid the bronk & the other on the other sid neare the bound tree betwixt Tho Putnam & Robert Prince & from there to the uper end of Thomas Putnams feld two pole with out the fenc to a bound tree that be longes to Tho Putnam Robert Princ Jo Putnam & henry keney the stump to be in the midel of the hieway & the way to Run straight from thenc betwixt two walenut trees marked entring in to a ualea on the East sid of Tho Putnams bound tree: & from the north end of the ualea to a rock neare mr Rukes boundes that is in the way with a litel tre marked on the south East sid the way neare the Rock from thenc Cros mr Ruckes land as the way Runes to a Red oake marked neare to a great whit oake burned at the bottom that stands neare about the line be twixt nath Putnam & mr. Ruck & this hiway to be tow pole wid from one end to the other witnes our handes 22th Smo 68

WILLIAM FLINT  
the mak of RICHARD LEACH.\*

Dec. 1, 1670, John Porter, sr., agreed with John and Joseph Hutchinson that the latter two have liberty to set up a saw mill on the dam, "pvided that they dam not upp the water untill the first of Novemb<sup>r</sup> and that they lett it out on the tenth of the second m<sup>o</sup> followinge that by longer stoppage the water the sd Porters meadow doe not suffer damage unless the sd Porter shall consent to any longer time. That soe longe as the sd Hutchinsons doe continue a mill on that dam they doe consent and agree to maintaine and preserue the sd dam and sluice at their owne charge," etc.† Lt. Thomas Putnam complained that the Hutchinsons allowed the highway at Beaver dam to be unsafe and impassable for travelers by reason of the mill and dam; and, after hearing, March 26, 1672, the Ipswich court ordered that the dam be pulled down, so as to make the way passable, or else sufficiently repair it. In his complaint, Lieutenant Putnam declared that as he was riding over the causeway and bridge here at Beaver dam the water had so washed away the gravel on the causeway that his horse fell in with his hind legs; that "Allso I haue no cart way ouer: the bridg is part of it Careyed out the Place: there is no fout way ouer but by wadding: the Cunstebel nath Ingrson Com to my house & said he was faint to put ofe his shoues & stockinges to

\*Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume V, page 26.

†Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume V, page 27.

Com ouer : I was greatly deprived of my neborhod ; I am also deprived of the benefit of my on land where I formerly liued hauing Eight or tenn akers fenced in that hath much English gras for sheep & lames & nether sheep nor lames Can pase in the hieway with safty at beuer dam : I was faint to Carey my goodes to toune on horse bake that went with mr grafton wich is a great damag to me to go so often : & if I should be shut up wich I shall if they Can for ther Counant with John Porter senor is from a bout the first of nouember to the tenth of apriel : to be this long kept Prisnor will be the way to Ruene me & mine for euer, hauing no other way laid out to my farme but that : & they that spoyle the way Is Joseph huchinson & John huchinson by stoping the water with there dam at there saw mill from time to time before the mill went & sinc," etc.\*

William Nichols and John Nichols, both of Topsfield, and Zachery Curtis of Rowley (Boxford) also complained of "want of the hiewaye at beuer dam wich is there waye to salam to the in Joyeing godes ordenences to the mill & to the market : the bridg being part of it Careyed out of the Place the water being Rased neare a foote about the timber that is left: the water being Rased in the hiewaye neare twelue fete together except upone on banke wich is a verey great damag unto them in there busines & might be a great damag to there Cattel & there one perones if they should venter ouer wich they dare not do: there fore they humbly sue for relefe it being both a toune & Cuntry hiewaye."†

William Nichols deposed that "he was Riding to Mr. Endecottes & henry keney told him he Could not get ouer at beuer dam : but I Road to se & when I Came there the water was Rased so hie with the dam stoping of it at the sae mill : . . . I durst not Rid ouer the bridg but went about by John Putnams : & sinc I was Riding to mill with a grist & durst not Rid ouer but went with my grist by John Putnams : I haue Corne to Carey to Salem with

\*Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume V, page 25.

†Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume V, page 26.

my Cart the bridge at beuer dam is so spoyled that I Can not go ouer with my cart : & haue no other way but that exept I go a great way about where is woers way for me & my oxen than that was: the time that I have bin put by at this bridg hath bine this mo. of March 71-72.”\*

This mill was probably removed down stream about thirty rods at this time or soon after.

Nichols street was called a county road in 1854; and Nichols street in 1882.

Pine street was called the highway in 1718; ye path in 1734; ye country road in 1758; a road leading to Salem in 1785; road leading to Middleton in 1842; and Pine street in 1855. Giles bridge on Pine street was so called in 1718.

Maple street was called the highway (near Forest street) in 1709; the Topsfield road (near the Square) in 1754; a road leading to Beverly in 1785; the county road leading to Middleton in 1853; the Middleton road in 1866; and Maple street in the same year. The bridge over the brook near Vineyard street was built before 1763. Vineyard street was there as early as 1734; and was so called in 1879.

Forest street was laid out in 1675 as a way to the Village meeting house. It was called ye highway laid out from Beaver dam to ye meeting house in 1705; and Forest street in 1882.

Hobart street was so called in 1858.

Holten street was called the road leading from the Holten place to the Plains in 1836; Village street in 1844; and Holten street in 1872.

Cherry street was so called in 1844.

Essex street was called Ropes street in 1845.

Putnam street was called a new street in 1859; and Putnam street in 1882.

*The Burial Place.* This is probably the oldest burial place in Danvers. Probably the earlier Porters and Putnams were buried here. The oldest stones now standing in it are of the family of Jonathan Putnam, and bear dates of 1682.

\*Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume V, page 29.

*Estate of John Porter Lot.* This tract of land was the grant made to Rev. Samuel Skelton, pastor of the church in Salem, by the general court, July 3, 1632, being described in the record of the grant as a "necke of land, lyeing aboute 3 myles fro Salem, cont aboute 200 ac., . . called by the Indeans Wabquack, bounded on the south vpon a little ryv<sup>r</sup> called by the Indeans Conamabsqnooncant; vpon the north abutting on another ryver, called by the Indeans Pouomeneuhcant; & on the east, on the same ryv<sup>r</sup>."\*

A caveat of the sale of one neck of land in Salem, lying between Crane river and Woolastons river, by Samuel Skelton, for forty-one pounds, to John Porter of Salem, reserving to said Samuel Skelton sixty acres of said neck lying further west, is recorded, dated March 8, 1649.†

John Porter died Sept. 6, 1676, possessed of the tract, which was then appraised at four hundred pounds. He gave in his will sixty acres, that had been received of Mr. Skelton's daughter, to his son Israel Porter; and the remaining one hundred and fifty acres to his sons Joseph, Benjamin and Israel. This neck remained undivided until 1716, when a division occurred according to a plan on file in the office of the probate court at Salem, which plan is herewith reproduced.

Upon Crane river, at the old Ipswich road, was erected a saw mill by John Porter and Mr. Endecott before 1673. In John Porter's will, proved in 1676, his interest in it was devised to his son Israel Porter, who probably owned it in 1700.

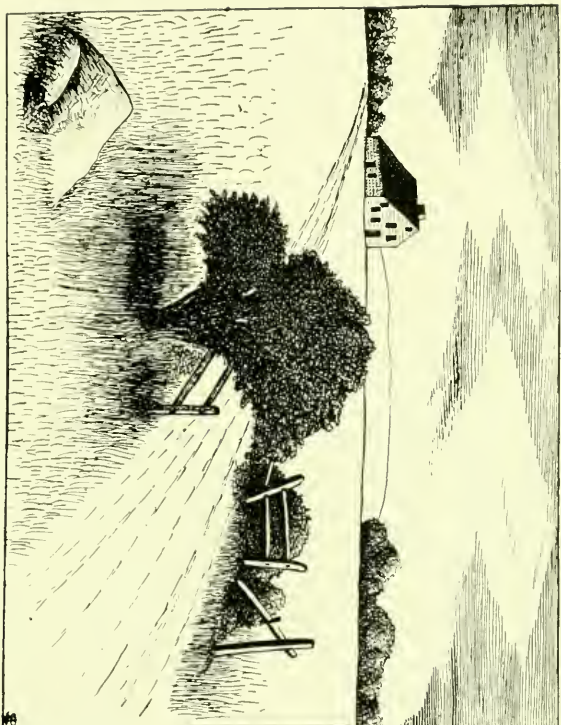
*Israel Porter House.* This tract of land was the three hundred acres granted by the town of Salem to Elder Samuel Sharp Jan. 23, 1636-7; and was conveyed by him to John Porter of Salem, yeoman, for one hundred and ten pounds, Sept. 12, 1646.‡ Mr. Porter built a house thereon, and died Sept. 6, 1676, having in his will devised the land and buildings to his son Israel Porter. The dwelling house, barn and land were then appraised at six

\*Records of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay, volume I, page 97.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 8.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 3.





ISRAEL PORTER HOUSE  
(From a memory drawing)



hundred pounds. Israel Porter lived here, and died Nov. —, 1706, having devised his housing and lands to his son Benjamin, subject to the life estate of his wife in one-half of the same. Benjamin Porter died Dec. —, 1726, having in his will devised this real estate to his sons John and Benjamin Porter, both of Salem, yeomen. John Porter released the buildings and land to his brother Benjamin Porter April 8, 1741.\* Benjamin Porter lived here, and died June 10, 1794, possessed of the house and land. The real estate was divided April 2, 1796; and the western half of the house and land around it was assigned to his daughter Huldah Kimball, wife of Thomas Kimball of Wenham, and the other half of the house to her brother James Porter. Mrs. Kimball and her husband conveyed her part of the house and land to Caleb Oakes of Danvers, cordwainer, Feb. 29, 1796.† Mr. Oakes fell from his barn window Sept. 19, 1831, and died in an hour or two, leaving children, William, Nancy and Mehitable. His widow Mehitable died in 1837. William Oakes of Ipswich, esquire, conveyed his one-third interest in the house and land to his sister Nancy Oakes of Danvers, singlewoman, Feb. 8, 1838.‡ Nancy Oakes became insane, and her guardian, John G. King, conveyed her two-thirds interest in the estate to Alfred Trask of Danvers, drover, July 6, 1849;§ and on the same day her sister, Mehitable O. Williams of Salem, widow of John S. Williams, released her interest to Mr. Trask.|| Mr. Trask owned the house when it was destroyed by fire Sept. 19, 1865, the anniversary of Mr. Oakes' fatality. The following account of the fire was given in the *South Danvers Wizard*, in its issue of Sept. 27, 1865:—

**FIRE IN DANVERS.** About eleven o'clock on Tuesday night, of last week, there was an alarm of fire, caused by the burning of the old Jacobs' house, long unoccupied, near the Universalist church, Danvers.

The house faced toward the south, and was two stories in height, with a leanto. The front door was midway of the

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 81, leaf 154.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 160, leaf 189.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 310, leaf 242.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 413, leaf 289.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 413, leaf 290.

house, with large rooms on either side in both stories, and each of these rooms had two windows in front. There was a window over the front door, in the upper hall. The chimney was of immense size, and furnished large fireplaces in each of the chambers and the front rooms down stairs. The kitchen fireplace was also great. There were doors in each end of the house, and on the eastern end a small entry. Each gable contained a small window, and each room in the main part of the house had one window in either end. The kitchen also had a window at each end of the leanto. The walls of the front and ends of the house were lined with brick its full height.

The well was located near the northeastern corner of the house.

*Nathaniel Putnam House.* The southwestern portion of this lot of land was conveyed by Richard Hutchinson to Nathaniel Putnam in 1651.\* The remainder of the lot is the hundred acres of land which was granted by the town of Salem to John Putnam of Salem, yeoman, Jan. 20, 1640-1, it being described as "one hundred acres of land at the head of Mr. Skelton's ffarme betweene it & Elias Stileman the elder his ffarme, if there be an hundred acres of it." Mr. Putnam conveyed one-half of the lot to his son Nathaniel Putnam of Salem March 2, 1653-4,† and the other half was conveyed to Nathaniel by his brothers Thomas and John Putnam of Salem, farmers, with their father's consent, April 17, 1662.‡ Nathaniel Putnam built a dwelling house upon the lot, in which he lived. He died July 23, 1700, having devised "the farm where I now dwell" to his son Benjamin Putnam. Capt. Benjamin Putnam died in 1715(?), having devised to his sons Nathaniel and Tarrant Putnam "the ffarm I now dwell upon." Tarrant Putnam had the buildings and land, and he died in 1732. The buildings and seventy acres of land were then appraised at eight hundred and seventy-five pounds. The northern part of the house, which was two stories in height and large, was assigned to his widow Elizabeth as a part of her dower July 18,

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 17.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 57.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 56.

1757; and the southern part to his son Gideon Putnam. Gideon Putnam became the sole owner of the house and land around it; and he died May 17, 1811. The estate then descended to his son Judge Samuel Putnam, who removed the old house in 1818.

The lot marked "Pease's meadow" was conveyed by John Pease to Richard Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, who conveyed it to his son Joseph Hutchinson of Salem, yeoman, in 1666.\* Joseph Hutchinson owned it in 1700.

*Sarah Whipple House.* Richard Hutchinson of Salem, husbandman, for love, conveyed to his son John Hutchinson of Salem "my now dwelling house," barn and land, May 16, 1666.† John Hutchinson was dead in the summer of 1676, at the age of thirty-three, and the estate descended to his only child Sarah, who was then only three years of age. She married Joseph Whipple in 1691; and lived in this house. She and her husband, for love, conveyed to their son Joseph Whipple of Salem, yeoman, the western half of the house and land on its western side Dec. 31, 1726;‡ and the rest of the house, barn and land "where I now live" Dec. 2, 1734.§ Dea. Joseph Whipple died in the summer of 1740. The house faced the south, was two-storied, and then called a small house. His wife survived him, and married, secondly, Solomon Martain of Andover. The real estate was assigned to their eldest son Matthew Whipple April 20, 1752. The house was then described as "an Old House Eftemeed Uninhabitable." Matthew Whipple lived here, and died June 26, 1756. His widow Sarah married, secondly, Samuel Herrick of Reading Oct. 13, 1761. In the appraisal of Mr. Whipple's estate, the dwelling is called "an old house." The title descended to his son Matthew Whipple, who died in 1783. His widow and administratrix, Mercy Whipple, conveyed four-sixths of the house and land assigned as dower to her husband's mother to James Smith of Danvers, yeoman, Nov. 29, 1785.|| The house

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 18.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 120.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 67, leaf 231.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 67, leaf 232.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 147, leaf 234.



was standing in 1798,\* and is said to have been removed about 1808, when the highway was straightened. It stood in the course of the new road, as it now runs, about two hundred feet westerly of the present railroad bridge on Maple street.

*Benjamin Porter Lot.* This lot was probably the one hundred acres granted by the town of Salem to John Stratton of Salem March 31, 1638.† But he went away, and the grant was made over to Daniel Denison of Ipswich, esquire, and afterwards conveyed to Simon Bradstreet of Boston, esquire. Nov. 27, 1656, the selectmen of Salem laid it out "as conveniently as may be for Serg. Jn<sup>o</sup> Porter."‡ Serjeant Porter had already bought this land of Mr. Bradstreet, but no deed was passed until Feb. 11, 1679.§

The one and a half acres of meadow land on the westerly side of the brook was conveyed by John Hutchinson of Salem to John Porter, sr., of Salem, farmer, Nov. 30, 1670.|| It had been a part of the grantor's "father Richard Huchessons fence, that was given to him by the Towne of Salem."

Sergeant Porter died Sept. 6, 1676, having devised the entire lot to his son Benjamin Porter, who owned it in 1700.

*James Prince House.* This was the eastern part of the one hundred and fifty acres granted to William Pester by the town of Salem July 16, 1638. It belonged to William Trask of Salem Dec. 20, 1655, when he conveyed it to Robert Prince of Salem.¶ Mr. Prince built a house upon the lot and lived in it. He died June 4, 1674, having devised to his sons James and Joseph Prince "all my houses and fences and land." They were both under age, and the land was to be divided when they became of age. His widow Sarah was to "have the hous and land untill my sons Come unto age," etc. Mrs. Prince mar-

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 164, leaf 87.

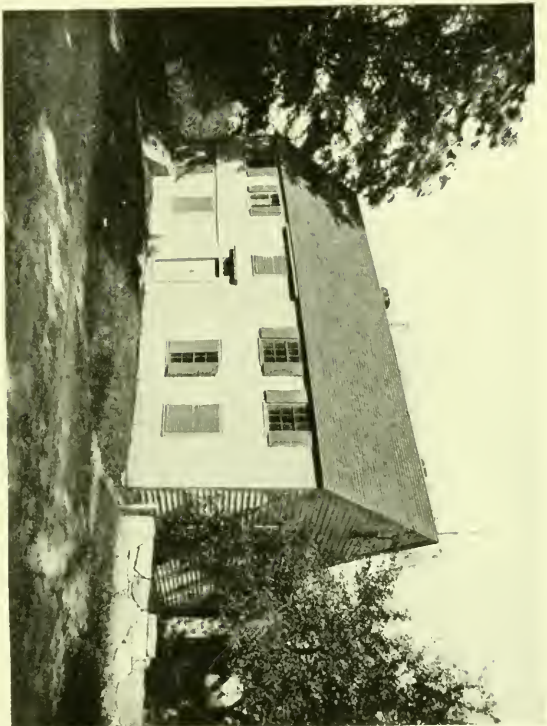
†Salem Town Records, volume I, page 68 (printed).

‡Salem Town Records, volume I, page 194 (printed).

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 7, leaf 16.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 78.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 51.



JAMES PRINCE HOUSE



ried, secondly, Alexander Osborne, an Irishman, who vainly attempted to hold the property after the boys were of age. She was bedridden, and convicted as a witch. She died in Boston jail May 10, 1692. The sons divided the estate May 21, 1696, this part, with the house thereon, being assigned to James Prince.\* James Prince lived here, being a yeoman, and died in 1724, having devised the estate to his sons James and David, both of Salem, yeomen. These brothers made a division of the estate April 5, 1727, and the buildings and land around them were released to James Prince.† James Prince lived here, and died in 1775. In his will he devised the estate to his sons David and John. The buildings and one hundred and ten acres of land were then appraised at eleven hundred pounds. David Prince of Danvers, cordwainer, died Jan. 28, 1797, having in his will devised his interest in the place to his brother John Prince of Danvers. John Prince of Danvers, yeoman, conveyed the farm and buildings to Nathan Peirce of Salem Jan. 6, 1800;‡ and thus the old homestead went out of the possession of the family. Mr. Peirce never lived here probably, and died possessed of the place in 1812. He left a will which had but two witnesses, and was therefore not allowed by the court; but as the heirs-at-law requested in writing that it be allowed it was recorded. In it, this farm was devised to his son George Peirce of Salem, merchant. June 1, 1812, Rebecca Peirce, widow of the deceased, and Sarah Needham, widow, Nathan Peirce, merchant, Stephen Phillips, merchant, and wife Elizabeth, and Samuel Upton, merchant, and wife Rebecca, in a division of the estate, released this farm to George Prince, in compliance with the terms of the will.§ George Peirce died in 1822, probably never having lived here. In his will, he devised all his estate to his wife Elizabeth. She died in March, 1826, intestate, and the property descended to her children, George, William Putnam, Elizabeth Phillips, Sarah Rebecca and Susan Clark, all minors. Their guardian,

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 38, leaf 54.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 51, leaf 213.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 166, leaf 133.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 197, leaf 32.

Michael Shepard of Salem, merchant, conveyed the farm, with the dwelling house thereon, to Stephen Phillips of Salem, merchant, July 7, 1826.\* Mr. Phillips never lived here probably, and conveyed it to Charles Lawrence and George W. Endicott, both of Salem, merchants, July 7, 1838.† These grantees conveyed three-fourths of their interest in the estate to Abby P. Lawrence, Eliza C. Lawrence and Mary N. Lawrence, all of Salem, singlewomen, Sept. 17, 1838;‡ and the remaining quarter to Abigail Lawrence of Salem, widow, Sept. 7, 1838.§ Charles Lawrence, Eliza C. Lawrence and Mary N. Lawrence, all of Danvers, Abel Lawrence, Abel L. Peirson and wife Harriet, Mary W. Lawrence, Caroline W. Lawrence, Elizabeth C. Lawrence, Edward B. Lawrence, Abel L. Pierson, jr., Abby L. Peirson and Harriet L. Peirson, all of Salem, Benjamin Perkins and wife Jane L., Charles L. Perkins, Benjamin Perkins, jr., Mary L. Perkins, Jane L. Perkins, jr., Francis B. Perkins and George E. Perkins, all of Roxbury, conveyed the estate to George Nichols, jr., of Salem, tanner, April 5, 1853.|| Mr. Nichols removed to this farm and became a farmer; and, for eighty-five hundred dollars, conveyed the land and buildings to Stephen Driver of Salem, shoe manufacturer, Nov. 18, 1854.¶ To this date, the second story of the house projected over the first story the customary distance, and Mr. Driver built out the first story to make it even with the second, except for a slight distance a few inches were left overhanging at the western end. The rooms were not enlarged, however, the inside of the wall not being changed. Mr. Driver died Sept. 16, 1868, intestate, leaving widow Susan P. Driver and children Helen E. Brooks, wife of David Brainard Brooks, and Stephen P. Driver, all of Salem, Susan S. Driver of Danvers, George H. S. Driver and Samuel Driver, both of Lynn, and William P. Fuller and Helen E. Fuller, children of a deceased daughter M. B. Fuller. The farm

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 242, leaf 36.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 307, leaf 64.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 308, leaf 155.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 308, leaf 156.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 476, leaf 95.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 503, leaf 169.



then consisted of the house, etc., and one hundred and twelve acres of land, and was appraised at twelve thousand dollars. Susan P. Driver, widow, Stephen P. Driver, David Brainard Brooks and wife Helen E. Brooks, Susan S. Driver, singlewoman, and William P. Fuller, the younger, all of Salem, and George H. S. Driver and Samuel Driver, both of Lynn, for twelve thousand and five hundred dollars, conveyed the estate to George M. Underwood of Pawtucket, R. I., April 28, 1869.\* Mr. Underwood removed to Danvers, and conveyed the estate to Jacob E. Spring of Brownfield, Me., Feb. 7, 1872.† Mr. Spring removed to Danvers, and mortgaged the property to the Chelsea Savings Bank Feb. 26, 1887.‡ The mortgage was foreclosed by auction sale to Eben Hutchinson of Chelsea June 14, 1890;§ and Mr. Hutchinson reconveyed the estate to the bank June 21, 1890.¶ The bank conveyed it to John B. Van der Wee and John B. Ridder, both of Baltimore, Md., and John Griffin of Lowell Aug. 3, 1891;|| and John B. Van der Wee of Boston, John G. Ridder of Baltimore, Md., and John Griffin of Richmond, Va., conveyed it to the St. John's Normal College of Danvers (a Massachusetts corporation) Oct. 9, 1891.\*\* The corporation continued to own the house until about 1915, when it was sold to Daniel Cahill, who removed it to Maple street, where it is still used for its original purpose.

John Putnam, sr., and Nathaniel Ingersoll deposed that Lt. Thomas Putnam, sr., deceased, possessed and planted two or three acres of land at the northeast corner of this lot from 1652 to 1662, and afterwards as long as he lived, and that now Joseph Putnam is in possession of it, and Thomas Putnam often said that he had bought it of Capt. William Trask and that Captain Trask said that he had sold it to Thomas Putnam. Sworn to June 25, 1700.††

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 771, leaf 184.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 847, leaf 91.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1191, leaf 265.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1284, page 208.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1284, page 216.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1319, page 541.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1324, page 409.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 301.

*Joseph Prince House.* This was the western portion of the one hundred and sixty-five acres granted by the town of Salem to William Pester July 16, 1638. It belonged to William Trask of Salem Dec. 20, 1655, when he conveyed it to Robert Prince of Salem.\* Mr. Prince died June 4, 1674, having devised the estate to his sons James and Joseph. These brothers made a division of the estate May 21, 1696, and this part was assigned to Joseph Prince, who built a house thereon.† Mr. Prince was a yeoman, and lived here. He died in 1744, and the estate descended to his son Timothy Prince of Danvers, husbandman. Timothy Prince conveyed the land and buildings to John Nichols of Danvers, yeoman, March 23, 1761.‡ Mr. Nichols died in the winter of 1792-3, having in his will devised the land and buildings "where I now live" to his daughter Eunice, wife of Andrew Nichols. The one hundred and two acres of land and the buildings were then appraised at six hundred and sixty-one pounds and ten shillings. Eunice Nichols of Danvers, widow, for one thousand dollars, conveyed the house and land around it to her son Abel Nichols of Danvers, yeoman, May 27, 1836.§ Abel Nichols died April 23, 1846, intestate, leaving widow Sally and children Abel Nichols and Sarah P. Page, wife of Charles Page. Sally Nichols of Danvers, widow, and Charles Page of Lawrence, yeoman, and wife Sarah P. Page, for twenty-five hundred dollars, released the estate to Abel Nichols of Danvers, artist, Jan. 1, 1850;|| and Abel Nichols of Danvers, now cormorant in Italy, artist, for fifty-five hundred dollars, conveyed the house, barn and land to Susan S. Kimball, wife of Edward D. Kimball of Salem, Sept. 25, 1855.¶ The house was removed in 1857 by Mrs. Kimball.

*Benjamin Porter and Israel Porter Lot.* This was the seventy-five acres early granted by the town of Salem to Charles Gott of Salem ; and he conveyed it to John Por-

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 51.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 33, leaf 54.

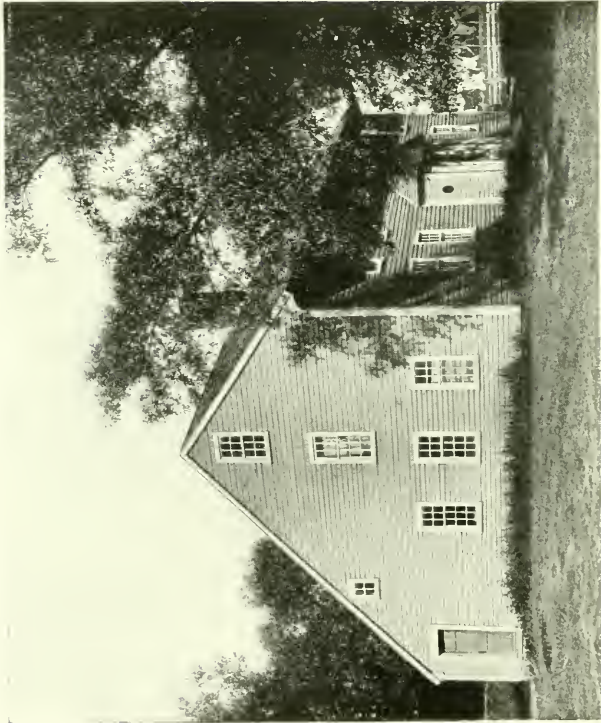
‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 156, leaf 66.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 289, leaf 131.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 421, leaf 290.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 521, leaf 21.





DANIEL REA HOUSE

ter of Salem, yeoman, March 4, 1653-4.\* Mr. Porter died Sept. 6, 1676, having devised it to his son Benjamin Porter of Salem, husbandman, who conveyed one-half of it to his brother Israel Porter Jan. 29, 1676-7.† The lot belonged to Benjamin Porter and Israel Porter in 1700.

*Daniel Rea House.* The town of Salem granted this tract of land to Daniel Rea about 1637. He died in 1662; and he stated orally just before his death that he wished his son Joshua Rea to have the improvement of the whole farm "where he lives" until the latter's son Daniel shall become of age, when Daniel shall have the farm, subject to a life estate of Joshua in one-half of it. Joshua Rea died in the autumn of 1710; and his son Daniel Rea died in the winter of 1714-5. In his will he gave to his son Daniel land he had "given him by deed of gift," and the rest of this farm to his son Zerubabel Rea; but "Some Small time before his Death did Declare that his mind was altered relating to this farme and had Declared his mind to severall of his friends, but had not an oppertunity to make an alteration of his will in writing . . . being that farm he did Dwell upon." Therefore they amicably divided the farm, as their father wished, March 8, 1714-5.‡ In this division, Zerubabel Rea received the buildings and land around them. Zerubabel Rea died in the winter of 1739-40, intestate. In the division of his real estate, made among his children Nov. 3, 1752, the buildings and land around them were assigned to his daughter Sarah Brown. The title is not clear for some years after this time. Later in the century the owner was Edmund Putnam. Edmund Putnam of Danvers, gentleman, and his wife Anna conveyed to Israel Putnam, 3d, of Danvers, yeoman, these buildings and land Jan. 10, 1800.§ This was called "the south farm." Israel Putnam died in 1820; and his son Elias Putnam, yeoman, and wife Eunice, and Nathaniel Boardman, cordwainer, and wife Nancy, daughter of the deceased, conveyed their interest in the buildings and land to their sister Polly Put-

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 22; book 16, leaf 106.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 178.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 27, leaf 112.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 166, leaf 136.



nam, minor, Jan. 24, 1823.\* Polly Putnam married Israel Endicott, jr., mariner; and she and her husband conveyed the house, barn and land to Elias Putnam of Danvers, yeoman, Dec. 25, 1827.† Hon. Elias Putnam died July 8, 1847. The "old house" and land were then appraised at sixteen hundred dollars. His real estate was divided Jan. 10, 1850; and this part of the land, with the dwelling house and barn thereon, was released to Rev. Clarence Fowler and Albert A. Fowler, both of Danvers, children of Emily Fowler, deceased, who was daughter of the deceased.‡ These brothers released the property to their father Augustus Fowler of Danvers, farmer, May 10, 1866.§ Mr. Fowler died Feb. 12, 1894; and under a compromise of his will this estate was transferred to his grandchildren, the children of his son Clarence, namely, Mary Bigelow, wife of P. Challis Bartlett, Emily Fowler and Albert Brown Fowler, all of Danvers. They still own "the old mansion house" and land.

*Daniel Andrew Houses.* The principal part of that part of this lot lying easterly of the dashes was the two hundred acres granted by the town of Salem to Allen Keniston of Salem Feb. 4, 1638-9.|| He died late in the autumn of 1648, having devised his estate to his wife Dorothy. She married, secondly, Philip Cromwell of Salem, butcher, and they conveyed the farm to John Porter of Salem, yeoman, Oct. 22, 1653.¶ Mr. Porter died Sept. 6, 1676, having devised this tract to his daughters Mary, wife of Thomas Gardner, and Sarah, wife of Daniel Andrew of Salem, mason. Mr. Gardner conveyed his wife's half of it to Mr. Andrew Dec. 17, 1677.\*\* Mr. Andrew erected a house upon the premises, and died of small pox Dec. 3, 1702. In his will he had devised the estate to his sons Daniel and Thomas Andrew. Thomas Andrew, cooper, John Andrew, tailor, and Samuel Andrew, tanner, all of

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 242, leaf 30.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 247, leaf 240.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 422, leaf 252.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 731, leaf 31.

||Salem Town Records, volume I, page 81 (printed).

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 20.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 8, leaf 119.

Salem, released their interest in the dwelling house, barn and land to their brother Daniel Andrew of Salem, husbandman, May 3, 1737.\* The next owner appears to be Samuel Andrew. Samuel Andrew of Danvers, tailor† for eight hundred and twenty-five pounds, conveyed the land and buildings to John Lee of Marblehead March 23, 1778; ‡ and, for two hundred and twenty-five pounds, Mr. Lee conveyed the same to John Shelden of Danvers, husbandman, April 13, 1784.‡ Mr. Shelden, for three hundred and nine pounds, conveyed the land and buildings to Zadoc Wilkins of Danvers, husbandman, May 28, 1788.§ Mr. Wilkins died March 22, 1832; and his son Joel Wilkins came into the possession of the estate, and lived here. He conveyed to his sister Betsey Sears for her life and to her daughter Mary Ann Sears, while she remained unmarried, the east lower room and west chamber "in my house occupied by me," etc., March 12, 1838; || and Mrs. Sears released the above interests to Mr. Wilkins, the house being "the late house of my father Zadoc Wilkins," May 23, 1851.¶ Mr. Wilkins removed the old house, and erected a new one in its place soon after.

That part of this lot lying westerly of the dashes was conveyed by Daniel Andrew to Peter Cloyce of Salem Village, yeoman, before 1682. Mr. Cloyce probably built a house thereon in which he lived, and from which his wife Sarah was taken to prison as a witch in 1692. She was a sister of Rebecca Nurse. Mrs. Cloyce was convicted, but escaped execution. For eighty pounds, Mr. Cloyce conveyed this house and land to Mr. Andrew Oct. 23, 1693.\*\* Mr. Andrew died possessed of the same Dec. 3, 1702, having devised the estate to his daughter Sarah Andrew. She married Francis Dodge, yeoman. The house was gone before 1737, apparently.

*Jonathan Putnam House.* That part of this lot lying easterly of the northeasterly dashes was probably the

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 75, leaf 79.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 137, leaf 31.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 137, leaf 208.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 151, leaf 133.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 305, leaf 38.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 445, leaf 121.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 200.

thirty acres of land granted by the town of Salem to the widow Scarlett about 1636. It came into the hands of Thomas Rix of Salem, barber, who conveyed it to John Putnam, jr., of Salem Jan. 14, 1660.\*

That part of the lot lying between the dashes was probably the eighty acres of land which was granted by the town of Salem to Richard Waterman in 1637. He "deserted it," and the town granted it to Lieutenant Davenport and Thomas Lathrop Nov. 29, 1642.† Nathaniel Putnam of Salem, yeoman, conveyed to John Putnam, sr., of Salem, yeoman, his interest in the Waterman grant Feb. 19, 1682-3.‡

That part of the lot lying westerly of the westerly dashes was granted by the town of Salem to Ralph Fogg of Salem very early; and he conveyed it to John Putnam April 14, 1652.§

For love, John Putnam conveyed the entire lot to his son Jonathan Putnam Jan. 23, 1690;|| and Jonathan Putnam probably built a house thereon. He conveyed to James Bound of Salem, tailor, three-quarters of an acre of his lot on the highway Feb. 15, 1715-6;¶ and to his son Jonathan Putnam, jr., of Salem, husbandman, the dwelling house "the grantee now dwells in" and one-third of the farm the grantor then lived upon June 10, 1718.\*\* Apparently the son Jonathan sold his house to Mr. Bound, who removed it to his lot, and Mr. Putnam erected a new house on his own lot. Mr. Bound reconveyed to Mr. Putnam his land with the dwelling house thereon, for seventy pounds, Jan. 29, 1725-6;†† and Mr. Putnam died Jan. 17, 1732, possessed of the two houses and farm. In the division of his real estate, Oct. 12, 1741, there was assigned to his son David Putnam a piece of land with "an old dwelling house standing thereon called Bound's house," the house and barn being valued

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 9.

†Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 114 (printed).

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 77.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 22; book 6, leaf 77.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 42.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 33, leaf 232.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 43, leaf 200.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 45, leaf 190.

at twenty-five pounds and the fifty-five acres of land at seven pounds. The old house probably existed only a short time longer.

*James Putnam House.* That part of this lot of land lying northerly of the dashes was a part of the grant made by the town of Salem to Lt. Richard Davenport Nov. 26, 1638;\* and Captain Davenport conveyed the entire grant to John Putnam, sr., Richard Huchinson and Daniel Ray of Salem and Mr. John Hathorne of Lynn Oct. 31, 1661.† Apparently, the house upon the Davenport farm was situated on this portion of it, and was occupied for two years about 1647 by Thomas Hobbs, who hired a part of the farm. The house was probably the home of the original John Putnam from that time until his death.

That part of the lot lying southerly of the dashes was granted to Ralph Fogg of Salem very early; and he conveyed it to John Putnam April 14, 1652.‡ In this deed, the land is located as "betweene old father Putnam's farm & Daniel Raies."

John Putnam died Dec. 30, 1662, possessed of the entire lot. The estate descended to his son Capt. John Putnam of Salem, who, for love, conveyed the house and land to his son Lt. James Putnam of Salem, husbandman, Jan. 25, 1690.§ Lieutenant Putnam conveyed the estate to his son Jethro Putnam of Salem, yeoman, Jan. 5, 1721-2.|| Jethro Putnam probably removed the old house.

The road from this house out to Beaver dam (a part of which is now Spring street) was a private way and so called ever since as late as 1869.

*Benjamin Putnam Lot.* This lot of land was a portion of the grant of the town of Salem to Lt. Richard Davenport Nov. 26, 1638;\* and Captain Davenport conveyed the whole of his grant to John Putnam, sr., Richard Huchesson and Daniel Ray of Salem and Mr. John

\*Salem Town Records, volume I, page 75 (printed).

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 55.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 22; book 6, leaf 77.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 30.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 38, leaf 234.

Hathorne of Lynn Oct. 31, 1661.\* Mr. Putnam, the elder, of Salem, yeoman, conveyed this part of the farm to his son Nathaniel Putnam of Salem March 2, 1653-4;† and Richard Huchenson of Salem, yeoman, in consideration of the marriage of his daughter Elizabeth to Nathaniel Putnam of Salem, yeoman, conveyed to Elizabeth and her husband the grantor's fourth part of the Davenport farm Aug. 10, 1656.‡ Nathaniel Putnam, for love, conveyed it to his son Benjamin Putnam of Salem Dec. 8, 1695.§ Benjamin Putnam owned the lot in 1700.

*Joseph Putnam Lot.* This lot was a part of the Davenport farm, and it belonged to Jonathan Putnam in 1632 and to Joseph Putnam in 1693 and 1700.

The northerly end of it was meadow land, and known as Peter's meadow. The northern lot belonged to Ralph Fogg; and John Putnam, sr., of Salem, conveyed the northerly half of it to his son Jonathan Putnam Jan. 23, 1690-1.|| John Bullock of Salem, innkeeper, conveyed ten acres on the northerly part of Peter's meadow to Mr. Samuel Parris, minister, Jonathan Putnam, husbandman, and John Putnam, 3d, husbandman, all of Salem, "bounded on the Est & on the north w<sup>th</sup> the upland & on the west w<sup>th</sup> the meadow of Joseph Putnam & on the South w<sup>th</sup> the meadow of Henry Browne & the meadow of Joseph Putnam," Aug. 13, 1693.¶ John Putnam, sr., of Salem and wife Elizabeth, for love, conveyed to his son John Putnam, jr., ten acres in this meadow next to the meadow of James Prince Dec. 26, 1696.\*\*

*John Putnam House.* This lot of land was a portion of the grant of the town of Salem to Lt. Richard Davenport Nov. 26, 1638;†† and it became the estate of Capt. Thomas Lathrop of Salem. Captain Lathrop removed to Beverly, and was ambushed and massacred by the Indians, with his military company, "The Flower of Essex," at South

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 55.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 57.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 158.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 133.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 42.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 127.

\*\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 123.

††Salem Town Records, volume I, page 75 (printed).



Deerfield, Sept. 18, 1675. He died, childless, and his only heir was his sister Ellen, wife of Ezekiel Cheever of Boston, schoolmaster. By the general court, the real estate of the deceased was assigned to Captain Lathrop's widow Bethiah for her life, and at her death to his sister, Mrs. Cheever, May 19, 1680. Mr. and Mrs. Cheever, by their attorney Thomas Cheever of Malden, gentleman, conveyed this lot, being one-third of Davenport's farm, except the meadows on the western side, to Lt. John Putnam of Salem Nov. 29, 1682.\* Mr. Putnam built upon the lot a house for his son John Putnam before 1694, when the son was living there; and conveyed to him the house, barn and land, for love, Dec. 26, 1695.† The house was destroyed by fire April 1, 1709.

On the western side of this lot along the brook were grants of meadow land. That one furthest south was a grant of ten acres to Gov. John Endecott made by the town of Salem July 18, 1637.‡

*Benjamin Porter Lot.* That portion of this lot lying westerly of the dashes was the southern part of the tract of land which was granted by the town of Salem to Mr. Townsend Bishop of Salem, gentleman, Feb. 26, 1638-9.§ It was the property of William Haynes and Richard Haynes of Salem, husbandmen, in 1648. They sold one-third of it to Abraham Page of Boston, tailor. Mr. Page sold it to Simon Bradstreet of Andover, gentleman; and, for fifteen pounds, Mr. Bradstreet conveyed it, with the house thereon, to John Porter, sr., of Salem, yeoman, June 29, 1648.|| On the same day, for thirty pounds, Mr. Porter bought the remaining two-thirds of William Haynes and Richard Haynes.¶

That part of the lot lying easterly of the dashes was the two hundred acres of "feeding ground" known as Blind hole since 1660 at least, granted by the town of Salem to Serg. John Porter, for "pasture for his Cattell," Sept. 30, 1647.\*\*

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 292.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 123.

‡Salem Town Records, volume I, page 53 (printed).

§Salem Town Records, volume I, page 85 (printed).

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 253.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 15, leaf 52.

\*\*Salem Town Records, volume I, page 150 (printed).

Mr. Porter died possessed of both tracts Sept. 6, 1676, having devised them in his will to his son Benjamin Porter, who owned them in 1700.

At the northwesterly part of this tract of land is five acres of upland and three acres of meadow which was originally included in this grant of Mr. Bishop. These eight acres came into the hands of William Nichols of Topsfield before Feb. 4, 1667, when he conveyed the same to John Porter, sr., of Salem, yeoman, who then owned the Bishop farm.\*

At the southeasterly corner of this lot (easterly of the dashes) were the Putnam, Rea and Cromwell meadows, in Blind Hole meadow. At the southern end, running from the Bishop farm to the Downing grant, was the meadow of Thomas Putnam of Salem, from 1685 to 1702. Next northerly was that of Jonathan Putnam, from 1685 to 1702.

*Daniel Andrew and Sarah Andrew Lot.* This tract of eighty acres of land was early called Smith's farm, and was probably the eighty acres granted to Thomas Smith by the town of Salem May 15, 1639. It belonged to John Porter in 1673, and he died possessed of it Sept. 6, 1676, having devised it to his daughter Mary, wife of Thomas Gardner, and Sarah, wife of Daniel Andrew. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew conveyed their interest in it to their brother-in-law Daniel Andrew Dec. 17, 1677.†

*Joseph Porter House.* This tract of land was the five hundred acres of land granted to Emanuel Downing of Salem by the town of Salem July 16, 1638. Mr. Downing conveyed it to John Porter of Salem, yeoman, April 15, 1650;‡ and Sergeant Porter conveyed it, Jan. 2, 1664, to his son Joseph Porter, as a part of his portion upon the latter's marriage with Anna, daughter of Maj. William Hathorne.§ Joseph Porter erected a house thereon, in which he lived (the northern house shown on the map). Porter died in 1714, having in his will devised the northern part of his homestead to his son Joseph Porter, who

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 36.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 8, leaf 119.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 161.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 139.



JOSEPH PORTER HOUSE



had died in 1713, leaving widow Mary and children, Joseph, Priscilla and Mary, who died soon after her father. The widow married George Bixby Aug. 6, 1718; and they continued to live upon the farm. The son Joseph died Feb. —, 1747, owning the place, and leaving widow Mary, who married, secondly, Joseph Perkins of Malden, and the only child that survived him was Joseph Porter. This Joseph Porter died Feb. 12, 1805, having devised the estate in his will to his sons Joseph and Jonathan. The one hundred and eighty-five acres of land and buildings were then appraised at seven thousand dollars. Maj. Jonathan Porter died soon after his father, and his brother and sister were his heirs. The other children of their father were Polly, wife of Capt. Dudley Bradstreet of Topsfield, Sarah, wife of Daniel Putnam, Elizabeth, Phebe, wife of Cornelius Gould, Lydia, wife of Nathaniel Gould, and Ruth, wife of Joseph Gould. Joseph Porter of Danvers, yeoman, conveyed his interest in the place to his brother-in-law Captain Bradstreet of Topsfield, yeoman, April 13, 1810;\* and Cornelius Gould of Boxford, gentleman, and wife Phebe, and Joseph Gould of Topsfield, yeoman, and wife Ruth released their interest in the place on the same day to Captain Bradstreet.† Sarah Putnam of Newbury, Vt., widow, released her interest to him April 26, 1810;‡ and Nathaniel Gould of Middleton, yeoman, as guardian of Betsey Porter Gould and Henry Lawrence Gould, minor children of his wife Lydia, released their interest to Captain Bradstreet Jan. 30, 1811.‡ Captain Bradstreet removed to this farm, and lived here until his death April 23, 1833. In his will he devised the estate to his son John Bradstreet of Danvers, yeoman. John Bradstreet lived here, and died Feb. 22, 1869, having devised the estate to his son Harrison P. Bradstreet of Danvers, yeoman. Mr. Bradstreet conveyed the property, for eleven thousand and nine hundred dollars, to Elizabeth Lawton Ellis, wife of George Ellis of Bridgewater, Oct. 21, 1869.§ Mrs. Ellis mortgaged the place to William

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 191, leaf 24.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 191, leaf 23.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 194, leaf 282.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 786, leaf 216.



B. Morgan of Wenham and Calvin Putnam of Danvers March 25, 1871;\* and the mortgage was foreclosed by public sale to Calvin Putnam of Danvers, for nine thousand and three hundred dollars, April 5, 1872.† Mr. Putnam died Nov. 14, 1904; and Charles P. Searle of Boston, the executor of Mr. Putnam's will, for eight thousand dollars, conveyed the farm and buildings to Daniel J. Connors of Danvers Dec. 26, 1906.‡ Mr. Connors now owns and resides upon the place.

The original house is still standing in excellent condition, and apparently able to weather the storms of several centuries more. It is fifty feet in length and twenty-odd feet in width, two stories in height and faces the south. The chimney is large, and the rooms on both floors are twenty feet square. The original barn is now adjoining the house, and its frame is like that of the house. The posts and beams are hewn of white oak and are a foot square.

About fifty rods northeasterly from the house is the family burial place, near a swamp. Some half a dozen graves are there, marked with as many field rocks. Some of them lie in the ground and the others lie upon the surface. They are surrounded or overgrown with briars and bushes, and during the past winter apparently wood has been sledded from the swamp by or over the graves. Two of the stones, lying loosely upon the ground, are each about two feet in length and a foot and a half in breadth, and thin at the edges. Probably they were originally set upright in the ground. They seem to be of trap rock, and cleft from a large round boulder or ledge. One side is even and flat and the other side is convex. On one of them are inscribed the letters "A. P." and above them is at least a figure "2". The only early member of the family that lived on the farm whose initials these would be is the wife of Joseph Porter, the original occupant of the farm. She was Anna, daughter of Maj. William Hathorne. It is not known when she died, but she was not alive when Mr. Porter made his will in 1713, and it

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 826, leaf 214.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 850, leaf 193.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1853, page 353.

may be that the figure "2" on this stone is a part of the date "1712". Passing over or near these stones no one would ever suspect that this was a sacred place, and that here have reposed for more than two centuries the remains of a daughter of Major Hathorne. Standing at the spot, these lines of Whittier are bound to be remembered:—

The dreariest spot in all the land  
To death they set apart;  
With scanty grace from nature's hand,  
And none from that of art.

Upon the marriage of his son Samuel Porter, in 1696, apparently Joseph Porter built for him the house on the southern part of the homestead as shown on the plan, and also gave into his possession a large tract of land around it. Joseph Porter died Dec. 12, 1714, having devised in his will to his son Samuel "ye land which he now lives upon and hath improved, together with the dwelling house or housing standing on said land where he how dwells, together with an hundred acres of land adjoining to ye land he now lives upon, it being ye southerly part of my farm." Samuel Porter, sr., of Salem, yeoman, for love, conveyed to his sons Eleazer Porter and Samuel Porter, both of Salem, one-half of the house and land "that I now dwell upon," Nov. 10, 1722;\* and Samuel Porter, jr., released his interest in the same property to his brother Eleazer Porter Aug. 20, 1737.† (Their father apparently built a new house about fifty rods southerly of the old one, and lived in it, Sept. 8, 1737, when he conveyed it and that part of the lot to his son Samuel Porter, jr., husbandman.‡ Samuel Porter, jr., released his interest in that house and barn and land "which I now live upon," to his brother Eleazer Porter of Salem, husbandman, May 8, 1738§). Samuel Porter, the father, of Salem, yeoman, for love, conveyed to his son Eleazer Porter of Salem, husbandman, the old house and that part of the lot grantee "now dwells upon," June 8, 1738.¶ Eleazer Porter died

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 48, leaf 90.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 77, leaf 20.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 75, leaf 227.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 77, leaf 21.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 75, leaf 268.

in the autumn of 1756; and in the division of the real estate, May 12, 1760, the old house was assigned to his son Samuel Porter. Samuel Porter graduated at Harvard College and became a lawyer in Ipswich. This house was burned before April 28, 1769, when Mr. Porter conveyed its site, "it being the land where his late dwelling house stood that was burnt down with fire," to his brother-in-law Tarrant Putnam of Danvers, yeoman.\*

*Cornelius Baker Lot.* This lot of land belonged to Cornelius Baker in 1700.

\*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 150, leaf 61.

## RECOLLECTIONS BY SAMUEL PRESTON.

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WRITTEN FOR THE SALEM VILLAGE GAZETTE, DEC. 8, 1869.

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I was born late in 1792, the year of the reign of terror in France, and I clearly remember much which transpired before 1800. While I was very young, the stories of our Revolution and the then present deeds and aggressions of Napoleon Bonaparte in Europe were matters of daily conversation amongst the reading people, and my ears were never closed when either of these topics was under discussion. Another thing in those days made a very deep impression on my mind. It was the closing of the eighteenth and the opening of the nineteenth century. The thought that 1700, of which I had seen so little, was never more to be written as a date of passing time, and that 1800, which appeared as an immense void, was to be entered upon and filled with what scenes of joy or sorrow none could tell, completely absorbed my mind. It is difficult sometimes to put thoughts into words—it is well nigh impossible to do the same with feelings, and I shall not attempt it, but the impression then made upon my mind has lasted until now, and the words “never more” have ever been solemn words to me.

In those days Dr. Wadsworth was in his prime, and being a man of a good deal of dignity, he impressed the children with special awe and reverence, and his parochial visits and his yearly catechisings at the different schoolhouses were looked forward to as epochs in the history of the years. He never lost sight of the children. He was what is called a gentleman of the old school, very benign and polite in speech and deportment, courteous and kind to everyone. I can see him now precisely at the minute appointed, with a dignified step passing up the broad aisle, dressed in surplice and band, cocked hat in hand, the curls of his auburn wig gracefully waving over his shoulders, slightly recognizing the powdered dignitaries, such as Judge Holten, Judge Collins and others, as he passed, ascending with agile step the stairs of his high pulpit, and taking his seat under the high canopy or sounding board, which hung suspended over his head. The sound-

ing board was formed something like an open umbrella, and was supposed to aid in sending the voice of the speaker with more or less ease to the distant part of the audience—an idea entirely discarded now. The pulpit Bible and two massive silver communion cups now in use in our church and society, were a present from Judge Benajah Collins. Judge Collins was not a member of this church, but he was a respecer of religion and a constant attendant on divine worship. May his gifts long remain in their place in our service, as pleasant memorials of the honored giver.

The house of worship which was standing at that time, and which I distinctly remember, was not the original meeting house of the parish. Of the primitive church edifice existing when that terrible delusion, the ancient spiritualism, known to the world as the Salem Witchcraft, was passing over the minds of this good people, I cannot be expected to speak, for that event took place just one hundred years before I was born. Nor need I dwell on that tragedy, since our friend Mr. Upham, with such wonderful tact and perseverance, has collated so great a body of facts relating thereto and placed them on the pages of enduring history, for the use of all time, for which he deserves the thanks and gratitude of the present and all coming generations. The first meeting house that I remember occupied in part the same ground as the present. It was nearly square, and the steeple, which was a decently tall one, was on the side or end toward the parsonage, which was not a parsonage then, but was owned by Mr. Pope, grandfather of Messrs. Nathaniel, Jasper, and the late Mr. Elijah Pope, and likewise of Mr. Zephaniah Pope. The first time I ever saw Nathaniel Pope was there. He was something of a stout boy, and wore dark clothes with some white in them. I think his mother was with him. I went there with some other boys one Sabbath noon to get some water to drink—but this is a digression. The steeple end of the meeting house, as I have said, was toward the present parsonage. It was always called the steeple end. There was a large front door on the side toward the street, entering directly into the broad aisle. The pews were all of the square form, and the seats were hung with hinges, so that by turning up the better to convene the standing posture. By this plan a large portion of the audience would sit facing the aisle or the entrance door. It would not be so convenient to do the polite thing in passing up the broad aisle now, as all the audience would be sitting back to



the person approaching. I have said that all the seats were hung with hinges—this plan was continued a long time in the brick house even after Dr. Braman was settled. The seats made a great noise when they were all being let down together; sometimes it was like a volley of musketry. At one time a Southern merchant, a Philadelphian, and a customer of mine, was passing the Sabbath with me, and I invited him to go to church. It was in Mr. Braman's time, and as we were returning he said, "Well, you have reason to be proud of your minister, but what was that clapping for after the prayer?" I told him it was merely letting down the seats, and had no particular meaning. "Ah! that's it," said he, "I thought it was meant for applause."

The surroundings of the old house of which I have been speaking were very different from those of the one which followed it, or from the present. A chaise or a covered carriage of any kind was a rarity in those days. There were but two chaise stables in the whole parish then. They were owned by Captains Moses and John Endicott of the Port, descendants of the old Governor Endicott. These stables stood a little north of where our sexton's house now stands. There were several clusters of horse stables from two or three to perhaps five or six in a place. There were some I think where the chapel stands and others near Mr. Rice's garden, or where his garden should be, and in one or more other places. They all had the appearance of an earlier date than the meeting house itself, but were not quite so ragged as our stables are now. They would accommodate one or two horses, where Dobbin, with saddle and pillion, could be comfortable while his master was attending service in the church, or perchance passing the intermission at the nooning house (which was sometimes a tavern), eating his grub, and at the same time discussing the merits of the sermon, or possibly glancing at other topics or news of the day. A very important appendage to the meeting house yard was the large horseblock. This was a massive stone, with a capacious, well-faced top, and steps to ascend, whence the lady easily took her seat on the elegant pillion behind her lord, one arm embracing him, her neat, well-clad foot in the shining stirrup, ready for an airing, or a ride to or from church. There were two horseblocks at the old church—the one at the steeple end was very spacious, being ten or twelve feet long, three or four feet broad, and some three or more feet high, with steps at each end. The pillion was fast fading from use at my

earliest recollection. The most distinct image of it in my mind is a vision of the appearance at this great horseblock of old Mr. Dwinell, and his wife, father and mother of the present Mr. Dwinell, now eighty-five years old. They rode on a black horse, with white face and legs. Dobbin would place himself snugly against the horseblock to receive his precious burden, as a drilled soldier would perform his evolutions.

You have heard of the Deaconing of the hymn for singing : this was done when books were scarce. There was a choir of singers in the gallery at my earliest recollection, and the whole hymn was read before singing, but I have been several times present as a spectator in the gallery, while the communion service was being administered, when the feat of deaconing was performed. The senior deacon rising and naming a tune, read the first two lines of the hymn, then those who could sing or thought they could, tried to sing as far as he had read. Two more lines were then read and sung in the same manner, and so on to the end. It was anything but edifying to the spectator, and is well outgrown. There was a boy in our neighborhood who was taken from the Marblehead poor house, perhaps a dozen or more years old, and extremely ignorant, and one of whom the older boys made all manner of fun. He was fixed up by his master and sent to church with the other boys, and with them took his seat in the gallery during communion service. The next day the boys began to question him as to what he saw and heard, and he said, "One man get up and say,

"Buck a massa, buck a boo,  
Buck a massa, buck a boo!"

imitating the rhyme of the hymn, and then he imitated the music, which it is impossible for me to describe. You will excuse me for telling this ridiculous story ; it was a part of the times, and this was about as much as any spectator could make of it.

I was twelve years old when the meeting house was burned, and consequently thirteen when the brick meeting house was dedicated. I have spoken of the previous condition of music. There was an effort at this time to improve it. There was an educated lawyer in Topsfield, who, after he had, as he said, plead one thief clear, left his profession and took up that of writing and teaching music. His name was Jacob Kimball. He was a tall, portly man, not quite faultless in his habits, and was employed to teach six

months, which the brick house was building, with a view to having a well-drilled class ready to sing at the dedication. There were about half a dozen boys of nearly the same age, of whom Nathaniel Pope and myself alone now remain, who sang counter. Music has taken many new names since then. Fa, sol, la, and mi, were all the names to notes that we knew in those days. Master Kimball had taken considerable pains to drill us for the dedication, as we had an important part to perform there. We were to sing on that day the old Selby anthem, "Behold God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid," in which there is a counter solo of some importance to the tune, and as it was to be the first time we ever sang in public. Mr. Kimball felt rather solicitous about our pluck, and I can see him now, partly turned around, for he had placed us near him, in his rear, his trembling hand beating time for us, while we performed the feat. I believe we did it to his entire satisfaction, as he called us "brave boys," when it was over. There was a good old lady present, one of the best-natured women in the world, the same who rode on the pillion. She did not perhaps understand music very well, and in relating to her companions the incidents of the dedication she said: "the singing was beautiful, but in singing one tune, they all got stopped but the boys;" and she thought they deserved a great deal of credit for carrying them through. Master Kimball wrote a piece of music expressly for the dedication. It was made applicable to the words of Dr. Watts' 48th psalm, 2d part, short metre. The words were perhaps better adapted to Solomon's Temple than to our new house, though that, for the place, was quite a noble structure, and was much praised at the time.

I have alluded to a time when books were scarce. To the great credit of our fathers (I do not mean your fathers, my young friends, I mean my father, who died nearly twenty years ago in the ninety-fourth year of his age and to his compeers, with Dr. Wadsworth at their head). To their great credit, I say, they established in this place a very important library for their day. It was called the Danvers Social Library. The label on the books, which was a very handsome one, was dated late in the last century. I do not recollect the exact year but at any rate at my earliest reading recollection there was a good, well-kept library here, and I have been many times sent to exchange books. It was not very expensive, and the books were nearly all either historical, biographical or religious, and principally standard works. There were very

few other books. I recollect one small volume, entitled "Foolish Frights." There were in those days more than now, old crones, who took special delight in telling children frightful stories to make them good. This book was written as an antidote to that abominable practice. The frightful story was told, and then it was explained, showing that through the imagination or even some innocent reality, the fright had happened—that it was fiction, and no cause of fear. There were no novels in those days, and the sciences had made small progress. Natural history was to us confined to birds, beasts and a few fishes. The geography of our own country, even, was but partially known, astronomy had a few devotees, philosophy was on the wing, and has not yet found a resting place. Perhaps Richardson's novels, *Clarissa*, *Pamela* and *Sir Charles Grandison* might have commenced their career, but one of Richardson's novels in that Library would have been looked upon as a hyena amongst the lambs. The books were all well bound, and in addition, were neatly covered with sheepskin leather to give them endurance. They were well read and exchanged at appointed periods.

A word more about the fire. The day after the burning of the church was a sad day in the North parish of Danvers. The fire was discovered too late to allow of getting at the bell rope, and no alarm could be given. Thus a large portion of the people knew nothing of it until the news was spread in the morning, and when told of the occurrence, "it seemed to them," as Dr. Wadsworth said in his sermon on the following Sabbath, which was preached in the district school house, "as one telling a dream, they could not believe it." The text for that sermon was from *Isaiah*, lviv. II. "Our holy and beautiful house where our fathers praised thee is burnt up with fire, and all our pleasant things are laid waste;" and few were the dry eyes in that crowded congregation, while that sermon was being delivered. I suppose there are many, at present as there have been in the past, who would be glad to know how that fire originated, by whose vandal hands it was kindled. It has always remained too much a mystery to convict and punish anyone for the crime. Strong suspicions were indulged and expressed, but the guilty party, whoever it might be, never at the hands of man suffered justice. The reason for the commission of the crime was more apparent. There was a valuable silver communion service in the closet under the pulpit, which when searched for among the ashes was not to be found. How small a temptation for so foul a deed!

## NECROLOGY.

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ALFRED HUTCHINSON died at his home, 101 Centre Street, Danvers, Saturday, June 29, 1918, aged eighty-two years, eight months and twenty-six days. He was born at the Hutchinson homestead, which was known in olden times as the Upton Tavern, and this overlooked the historical Ingersoll green. He was the son of Deacon Elijah & Ruthy (Nourse) Hutchinson, and was one of a family of eight children. Mr. Hutchinson was a resident of Danvers all his life, with the exception of two years spent in Salem. He came in 1872 to the home where he died. He was associated with the wholesale shoe business from 1867, until becoming connected with the Consolidated Electric Lamp Company about twenty years ago. On May 3, 1874, he united with the First Church and filled the office of Deacon from January, 1886, until his death. Mr. Hutchinson was greatly beloved by all who knew him and his death leaves a large place vacant in Church and community.

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JASPER R. POPE, of the firm of J. F. Pope & Son, lumber dealers of Beverly, died quite suddenly Aug. 22, 1918, at Portland, Me., where he had gone on a short visit to his camp in that state. Mr. Pope was born in Danvers on Aug. 29, 1863, and when a young man went to Beverly. He was educated in the public schools of Danvers and then entered the lumber business with his father in 1891, his father having removed to Beverly in 1876. After his father's death some years ago, he continued the business. Mr. Pope was a member of Liberty Lodge of Masons, Unity club, Beverly Business Men's Association, Beverly Board of Trade, Beverly Building Association, director of the Beverly Hospital Corporation, vice-president and director of the Beverly National Bank. He attended the First Parish church. Besides a wife, formerly Miss Hitty Couch of Danvers, he leaves two sons, Ruel P. Pope and Chester C. Pope, who were associated in business with him.



FRANK O. STAPLES, who conducted a large grocery and provision business at Danversport, died at his home, 8 Mill street, on Aug. 23, 1918. Although he had been in poor health for several years, he had been able to attend to business to the last, and he passed away as he was entering the house. He was born in Danvers on September 6, 1859, the son of James and Julia A. (Stone) Staples. After graduating from the Holten High School in the class of 1876, he attended the Bryant & Stratton School in Boston. He had served on the Danvers school board and had been otherwise active in town affairs. He was prominent in Masonic circles, having been past master of Mosaic Lodge of Danvers, past high priest of Holten Royal Arch Chapter, and past commander of St. George's Commandery, Knights Templar of Beverly. He was also a trustee of the First Universalist Church. He is survived by a sister and a half sister.

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MISS LYDIA WEBB passed away at her home, 26 Central avenue, Danvers, on Oct. 3, 1918, after a comparatively short illness from pneumonia. The death of Miss Webb was particularly sad, inasmuch as her brother died just a week before. The death of her only brother, of whom she was very fond, was a great shock to her, and not being well at the time weakened her condition so that she was not able to stand the severe illness which followed. Miss Webb was a native of Danvers, a graduate of the Holten High school, class of 1907, and had for several years been a clerk in the dry goods store of Lewis B. Alley. She was thirty years of age, and was universally respected and esteemed. Her mother has the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community in her double affliction.

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GEORGE A. BATES, son of Albert A. and Maria (Webster) Bates, was born at Danversport, and died on Oct. 3, 1918, at his home on Central Avenue, from pneumonia. He worked in the leather business and made his home with his sister. He was unmarried.

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D. WEBSTER KING died at Annisquam Oct. 21, 1918. He was born in that part of Danvers which is now Peabody, March 1, 1833, the son of David Putnam King (member of Congress from 1843 until his death, in 1850) and Sarah Page King. He began his mercantile life in Boston in 1862. He

was president and treasurer of the D. Webster King Glue Company for many years, and in 1894 he organized the American Glue Company, and was president and treasurer until 1902, when he retired. He was also vice-president of the National Security Bank and a director from its incorporation, in 1867, until 1910; vice-president and trustee of the Boston Five Cents Savings Bank and director of the Massachusetts Loan & Trust Company. Mr. King was a member of the Sons of the Revolution, the Boston Chamber of Commerce, Commercial Club of Boston, Home Market, Boston Art and Unitarian clubs. He belonged to the following societies and organizations: Bostonian, Essex Agricultural, Boston Horticultural, Military Historical, corporation of the Washingtonian Home, Peabody Historical, Essex Institute, Danvers Historical, South Congregational Church, and a life member of the American Unitarian Association and of the Boston Y. M. C. A. He served at one time on the state board of lunacy and charity, and was actively interested in the Citizens' Law and Order League. In 1862, through his efforts in raising a public subscription, the greater part of the land now included in Copley square was bought and given to the city with the understanding that the square should be laid out as a public park. His first wife was Mary Robinson Harwood of Salem, who died in 1859, and in 1866 he married Jennie W. Purinton, who died in 1912. He is survived by one son, Tarrant Putnam King, and four daughters, Mrs. Edward Henry Newbegin of Cambridge, Caroline W., Anne P. and Grace W. King.

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GRANVILLE W. CLAPP, one of the best known and respected business men of Danvers, died at his home on Holten street, November 8, 1918, aged 69 years. Granville W. Clapp was born in Boston, June 3, 1849. When a young boy he moved to Topsfield with his parents, after a residence of several years in Malden. He received his education in the schools of Boston and Malden, and the Putnam free school at Newburyport. When eighteen years of age he came to Danvers and worked cutting shoes for the late Charles H. Gould, afterward buying out the business with his brother Fred. After the death of his brother he entered into partnership with other Danvers men under the firm name of Martin, Clapp & French, which firm in time gave way to the firm of Clapp & Tapley. Mr. Clapp was connected with this firm for over

thirty years, retiring from active business about two years ago, although he was the president of the Clapp & Tapley corporation at the time of his death. Mr. Clapp was a successful business man, honorable in his business relations and popular with all who knew him. His death is a distinct loss to the community. Besides a widow, Adaline M. Clapp, he leaves two children, William E. Clapp of this town, and Mrs. Helen C. Barnes of Seattle, Wash.

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WILLIAM L. HYDE, a well known and highly respected citizen of Salem, died at his home, 274 Lafayette street, on December 8, 1918. Mr. Hyde was born in Danvers, Nov. 20, 1835, in the house on the corner of Sylvan and Collins streets, built by Robert Hooper of Marblehead, but later owned by Judge Collins, and afterwards known for several years as the Collins house. Mr. Hyde's father resided there from 1833 to 1836, going from there to the Asa Tapley farm, which he subsequently purchased. William L. Hyde left the farm in 1852 and entered the employ of J. S. Black & Co., Putnamville, shoe manufacturers, continuing seven years. In 1859 he went west to the city of Fort Smith, Arkansas, travelling by railroad to Memphis, by boat down the Mississippi river and up the Arkansas river 600 miles. He kept a retail shoe store in Fort Smith, his trade being mostly with the Indians across the river in the Indian territory. He was there when the Civil war broke out and he was obliged to give up his business and come north or be drafted into the Confederate army. As there were no railroads there at that time, he came by the overland stage and rode four days and three nights to the terminus of the Union Pacific railroad, Sedalia, Mo. Arriving home, he obtained a position as clerk in a wholesale boot and shoe store, in Boston, and in 1866 formed a partnership with Alfred Hutchinson, in the wholesale boot and shoe trade, the firm name being Hyde, Hutchinson & Co. He retired from that in 1888 and engaged in the insurance business. He was a director of the Mercantile National Bank twenty-eight years, its president fifteen years, and when the bank was merged with the Naumkeag Trust Company, he became a director of the latter. He was a member of the Salem common council in 1885 and 1886, and two years afterwards was an alderman. He joined Jordan lodge, A. F. & A. M., of South Danvers, in 1858, was a charter member of Amity lodge,

A. F. & A. M., Danvers, in 1862. In 1866, he came to Salem and became a member of Essex lodge, and its master in the 70's. He was a member of Washington Royal Arch chapter, Sutton Lodge of Perfection, the Essex Institute, the Danvers Historical Society and a trustee of the Salem Five Cents Savings bank. Mr. Hyde was a gentleman of the old school, and it was always a perfect delight to meet him. He was a great lover of nature and out-of-door life. He was a man of fine appearance, which he maintained to the end of his long and useful life. He was versed in local history, a splendid conversationalist, and articles from his pen in recent publications of the Danvers Historical Society have been read with a great deal of interest. His latest years reflected those of his young manhood and he has passed away, surrounded by all "that which should accompany old age, as honor, love, obedience, troops of friends." He leaves a son, George L. Hyde of Swampscott, and two daughters, Mrs. Annie C. Johnson and Miss Jennie P. Hyde of Salem.

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MRS. CAROLINE F. WOOD, widow of George H. Wood, was born on Conant street, Beverly, now Danvers, on July 6, 1849, and died in Danvers, on Jan. 3, 1919, after a long illness. She was daughter of Edward T. and Mary A. Proctor and attended the Danvers schools, graduating from the Holten High School in the class of 1866. She was a teacher in the Maple Street School under Benjamin F. Boyden and upon her marriage to Mr. Wood went to live in the so-called Braman house on Pine street. After her husband's death she resided for a while in Providence, R. I., but later returned to Danvers. She was a woman of beautiful character and was greatly beloved by all who were privileged to know her. She leaves one daughter, Miss Margaret Wood, of the High school faculty.

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MRS. ABBY J. PIERCE, widow of Charles F. Pierce, was born in Danvers, Dec. 2, 1849, the daughter of Gilman and Abigail (Welch) Parker, and died in Danvers, Jan. 27, 1919, at the home of Mrs. Millie Putnam on Pickering street. She had been in failing health for some time and her death was the result of pneumonia. She was an attendant at the Universalist Church and was a member of Ward Relief Corps. She leaves no immediate family.

MISS CORNELIA H. REED, for fourteen years a resident of Beverly, died on February 15, 1919, at the age of eighty-seven years. She was born at Danvers, daughter of Briggs Rogers Reed. Her grandfather was Col. Israel Hutchinson of revolutionary war fame. Much of her life was spent in Boston, where she was active in religious and patriotic work. She was one of the founders of the mission which later developed into the Ruggles Street Baptist Church, and was long a teacher in the Sunday school there. During the Civil war she was a leader in the sanitary commission, as well as in every kind of work by which she could promote the Union cause. She was a member of Gen. Israel Putnam Chapter, D. A. R. She is survived by several nephews and nieces.











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