

# BOSTONIAN SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS.





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ST. BOTOLPH'S TOWER, AND THE RIVER WITHAM.

[From a recent photograph by Mr. Louis A. Holman, in the collection of the Bostonian Society.]

THE  
BOSTONIAN  
SOCIETY  
PUBLICATIONS.

VOL. 5



BOSTON  
OLD STATE HOUSE

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A VISIT TO  
BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

BY

JAMES FROTHINGHAM HUNNEWELL.







## A VISIT TO BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

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A PAPER READ TO THE BOSTONIAN SOCIETY, COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD  
STATE HOUSE, NOVEMBER 9, 1886, REVISED 1907, BY

JAMES FROTHINGHAM HUNNEWELL

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IN the eastern part of midland England, extending for a great distance along the shores of the German Ocean, and far inland, is a tract of very flat, low country. Many miles into it reaches a broad inroad of the sea called The Wash, at the upper end of which is the mouth of a small river, the Witham. Near the junction, it is thought that the Romans built a fortified camp, an outlying defence of their important city, Lindum, since called Lincoln, placed where the ground rises high above the great level. For ages, however, most of these lowlands were a swampy wilderness, forbidding to natives and to foreign invaders; but

in the seventh century, when Christian missionaries, or monks, were spreading their faith, settlements in it were here and there made. Monastic establishments arose in time at Peterborough, Croyland, Ely, and other places; and on the banks of the Witham, a few miles from the sea, a pious Saxon, Botolph, is said to have founded one of these institutions about 654, on a "desert piece of ground" supposed to be the spot now occupied by Boston.

It seems to be more certain that a town grew here in very early times; that it had its share of the tribulations of the darker Middle Ages, and surely, at a later date attained no slight eminence and prosperity. Subsequently, with waning and then increasing fortune, it has become the existing town, the one from which our own took its name, and from which came some of our early ancestors and their famous minister, a worthy successor of the Saxon saint in carrying light to once dark places.

Name, history, and old-world attractiveness turn our thoughts to the ancient place; and when we can, we like to have our bodies and eyes go with them, so that we can better realize what this home, or tarrying-place of fathers of New England is, with its long-familiar name.

We ride miles by rail over land flat as a floor, no longer a wild marsh, but drained, cultivated, and green and fair as a meadow, dotted with trees and seamed

with hedges. Little is seen of the town on approach for the houses are low, and shrubbery hides them; but high in the air, at first dim, then distinct, rises a noble gray tower. Close up to it we seem to go, when abruptly end the green fields and hedges, the town begins, and we are at once in the station. This is perhaps as wide and as long as our [old] "Eastern" without its tower. Outside the platforms are rooms and offices for the service differently arranged from our own, and built of clay-gray bricks very unlike our dark reds; and in further contrast the centre of the station is open to the sky. At the door two or three omnibuses wait for travellers, and as they seemed to take a good deal of time for this part of their service, the speaker walked by a short cut the little distance to the commended hotel, the "White Hart." This direct way, suggesting our Boston of old days by its turns and narrowness, is a mere lane between very plain, dull red-brick houses of one or two stories. After passing the last of these turns, the hotel is found at the left of a sort of short court, on the other side of which is a low wall and the river.

Old Boston, we can find later, has a good many public houses, and small, curious places they are. There is the "White Horse," with a huge image of the animal over the front door; up a lane three or four feet wide is the "Ship Tavern," and opposite the end of the lane is the "Loggerheads Inn." There is a "Red Lion," and,

facing the Market-place, the "Peacock and Royal," so large that it has a row of five windows, and, as the speaker found years ago, with more comfort than size. But the "White Hart" seems to be rated the "leading house." Like such an one of the old-fashioned sort as may be found in the older and smaller towns, it has a broad front doorway through which a cab could drive into a court yard, here of tiny dimensions. At the right of the entrance is a small door bearing the words "Smoke-room," and at the left another, designated "Public Bar." At the inner side of the court is a family parlor, and beside it, the little office where the landlady assigns "numbers," as they say, to travellers. Upstairs there are as many and as crooked passages as could well be put in a limited area; a Coffee-room, a neat room with a single window from which there is a circumscribed but a full view of a back yard; a Commercial-room with carpet, stuffed chairs, a view of the river, and snugness and comfort such as is found in such rooms only in England, and beyond this a large, plain apartment with a bare floor, evidently the scene of big dinners or lunches. Farther up are the private quarters for guests.

Still more in contrast with the chief hotels here is the table. When the usual dinner-time of the country had come, there was not a thing hot, ready cooked. Inquiries elicited a suggestion of a nice cold joint that was ready, and the resources of the establishment produced,

for a warm dish, a beefsteak. Next morning the cold joint was enticingly shown on a table that stood in the passage, and on calling for breakfast another suggestion was made about its merits, and chops were the alternative, and a good one they were. If the plain fare of old Boston was strikingly different from the varied luxury of our Republican city, the bill when it came did not quite suggest conceptions of values in some quarters elsewhere—supper and breakfast, 2 shillings—50 cents—each, lodging 36 cents, and a ride with luggage to the station, 12 cents.

But the best of all remains to be added, the home-like courtesy of every one in the house; something, it should be said, that is becoming characteristic of a great many English now met by a traveller.

Our thoughts and our steps are, however, soon turned from the hotel, from matters almost entirely of to-day, to the shrine of the old town that shows how its life runs back through the centuries into the far-away Middle Ages, and how that life was mature in what seem to us the remote times when the founders of our England this side the sea made ready, and left the old shores.

At the beginning of the fourteenth century, Boston, says Thompson, was the principal shipping port of the Kingdom. It had a great general trade, and a specially large one in wool; it dealt, on what was then a grand scale, with the Hanse Towns and the Low Countries. Their merchants sojourned in Boston, and its business

men often knew them by sight. Farming lands were growing in value, and helping increase local wealth. It was an age of church building, when riches, culture, enterprise and devotion expressed themselves in shaping God's house. England had a national architectural style, full of beauty and used for the noblest of works. In places well-known in Boston were structures that told of the wealth, strength, and freedom of a commercial people, and that may have helped give a hint for a great memorial structure somewhat Belgian as well as English in form, though not in detail and use. Whatever the hint, a grand church\* was designed, to take the place of an old one, to be the spiritual home of all the townspeople.

So in 1309† (3d of Edward II), Dame Margery Tilney laid the first stone of the lofty tower that to-day still stands strong, while it seems still to watch over the town. To its height of nearly 300 feet it grew slowly, but, like the oaks, it grew solid and lasting. Mr. Drake (in his *History of Boston*, [Mass.], p. 103) says that this tower "was built after the model of that of the great church at Antwerp," and Dr. Young says (Mass., 49), "it resembles that of the cathedral" there. But the Belgian work, according to Fergusson (*Hist. Arch.*, II, 725), was not begun until 1422, and finished only in 1518, and its style corroborates his statement. It is about a century later, and designed for its spire, while

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\* See Note A.

† See Note B.

St. Botolph's tower is designed for a lantern, and, as will be found by observation, or by looking at adequate illustrations, the forms and details are far different. Whatever, if any, hints were found by Boston people, their grand tower, almost unique in their country, is, like its builders, thoroughly English.

Attracted by it, we go over the short bridge spanning the river, along a side of the Market-place, through a neat, quaint sort of alley, and then St. Botolph's stands in full view before us, in the midst of its large, grassy church-yard. Of great size, built of smoothed stones now deep, hoary gray—a sort of intense mouse color—not very elaborate yet very impressive, the edifice shows in its details the genuine English styles prevalent through the many years during which it grew into the form we now see. A long nave in shape, with aisles and a clerestory, and low roofs on all, and made much longer by an aisleless and steep-roofed chancel, its age and character are shown best in its ornamentation, chiefly confined to parapets on the upper parts of the walls, on the gables and top of the tower, to an elaborate pinnacle at each corner, and to the traceries in the numerous windows. Most of this work is Decorated—the Edwardian style, but at the east ends of both aisles and chancel, and in the tower, the traceries are Perpendicular, and in the latter very massive.

The church is entered through one of those beautiful and spacious porches, so peculiarly English, placed at

the side, and near the west end, by the tower. Both styles, Decorated and Perpendicular, are combined in it. When inside, and before looking further, a New-Englander will be apt to turn short to the left and look at what is now called the Cotton Chapel. It is oblong and built by the side of the aisle into which it opens through two large archways draped by heavy curtains. Its light stone walls are pierced, on the opposite side, by three traceried windows filled with stained glass, and one end by a larger window with plain glass. At the upper end is a blank arch and beneath that an inscription telling the story of the restoration of the Chapel in 1855, by some of our own honored citizens, helped by George Peabody, Joshua Bates, and Russell Sturgis of London, who have there also given honor to the American name. The total sum thus contributed was £673: 2s.: 4d. A printed notice of their services, and a copy of the Latin inscription, written by the Hon. Edward Everett, is, to this day (1886), given to visitors by the church officers.\* His words inform us that this shrine was restored by them "In perpetual remembrance of John Cotton, who, during the reigns of James and Charles, was for many years a grave, skilful, learned, and laborious Vicar of this Church," and who became "a pastor and teacher of the greatest reputation and of the greatest authority in the First Church of Boston

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\* In 1907 they offered for sale a guide-book containing an incorrect and unjust account of the Rev. John Cotton.



in New England," and was "the love and honor of both worlds." We shall think again of him before we finally leave St. Botolph's.

Turning to the body of the edifice\* we find the interior thoroughly well kept, and showing the good condition in which it was left after extensive restoration, between 1851 and 1853, under the direction of Mr. G. G. Place, architect, finished at a cost of about £5,000. It is light in tone, broad, very long, and very open, for although it has, from end to end, the usual two rows of pillars and arches bearing the clerestory, the pillars are widely spaced and not heavy. Four tiers of pews well cover the floor and afford a large number of sittings. Of decoration and mural monuments there is not a great show in the nave, and there is not much colored glass. The vaulting, drab-colored and wooden, and well-made as to workmanship, has arches badly depressed and in style as bad as well can be, was made years ago after a fire caused by plumbers, they say, and replaces an excellent old English timber roof that gave a far better effect.

The great chancel, while defaced by a similar vaulting, is noble. On each side are five lofty windows, and at the end is a very large window of seven days with a Decorated geometrical heading, all filled with stained glass. At the sides there are rows of seats and old misericords† oddly carved, and of oak become blackened by

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\* See Note C.

† See Note D.

age. Over the back rows next the walls are raised lofty canopies, also of oak, but new and light, twenty on each side, that cost £23 apiece and were paid for by subscription. Under many of them are small memorial brasses, those on one side bearing the names of townspeople, and on the other the names of neighboring nobility and gentry. More of them, we are told, are yet to be made. In many places in our own country memorial windows can now be seen, and their beauty as well as their monumental value is generally recognized. In these less costly yet durable, useful, and effective, canopied stalls, with their tablets, there are models for work in our churches which are at once commemorative and give an architectural completeness often much needed.

Perhaps the old monkish misereres would not prove a popular model for modern church furniture. Ages ago, when the talk about ministers putting people to sleep may have had a trifle more freshness, these pivoted seats were contrived. At best they never were much as seats, and, as is very well known, they were poised to tumble an unwary dozer a damaged but wiser and wide-awake man into the midst of a congregation. In our more sensitive age, however useful and efficient they might be, they might scandalize society by unexpected developments, and be frowned on as inventions and snares of a certain lady to whom, in times past, some opprobrious adjectives have been applied.

From the chancel we turn to the tower, the noblest feature not only of all the church, but of all old Boston, a grand work of true mediaeval piety and its pure art, and a work of art such as her people have never surpassed, or rivalled. A very high archway opens into it from the end of the nave, and aloft, inside, it is open, with grand effect, to a vaulting 150 feet from the floor. When we have duly admired this, we find at one side a small door, and beyond that a stone turnpike stair twisting up to the parapet outside at the top of the tower. At first of good size, this stair grows narrower until it is hardly a place for a corpulent person; indeed, one needs a sort of eel-like structure to wind up its ascent.

When once on the summit there is an ample reward in the view gained over Lincolnshire for many a mile in every direction. It is a very flat country; nothing like it near us except the flats that we see from the Eastern railroad on the way to Lynn, but these are only suggestive, for this English low, level tract stretches far more widely, is carefully cultivated, divided by hedges, and dotted with trees, and there is scarcely a trace of a hill in sight. Close below the tower, especially to the south and northeast is the town with its houses, chiefly two or three stories high, built of dingy reddish-brown bricks, and covered with bright-red or dulled-red tiles, or here and there by dark slates on the newer roofs.\* Almost

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\* See Note E.

at our feet is the Market-place, in shape a real Boston square, that is, of no particular shape and without a right angle, — not unlike our Scollay's Square, rather narrow and long. Fronting it are buildings light in color, irregular in style and form, some of them as many as four stories high, but most of them small and simple. In nearly all there are shops, and on the pavement stand booths displaying a variety of small wares. On a Wednesday is the weekly market, and then the farmers come from far and near, making the Market-place crowded and lively. In old times they looked more picturesque than they now do, for then they came in small-clothes, top boots, blue coats, or white smock frocks.

On other days the place is quiet, as might be expected; and when the speaker looked down into it on a Saturday afternoon, he counted there precisely four cabs, four carts, one gig, and a donkey cart. In the evening, however, the sidewalks were really crowded; the shops were brightly lighted, and you could buy almost any common article, as well as luxuries like sugary bullets labelled "Bull's Eyes" and "Stolen Kisses."

Coming from the north, and looking like a large canal, is the river, that passes close to the front of the church, then winds a good deal in its course southward through the town, whence there is a straight reach southeastward to the large inlet of the sea. Through

most of this course the tide rises and falls, and when it falls leaves exposed a dark, muddy bottom.

When we descend for a walk through the town, we find rather scanty remains of its earlier ages. A few buildings are old, by the English measure; more are of recent date; and the majority seem to have risen during the times of the four Georges. The two really antique civil objects of note are Shodfriar's Hall and the Town Hall. The former, a restoration of a much injured edifice, stands close to the Market-place, its front on a street, each side on a lane. Its walls are of timber and plaster, showing a dingy-black frame on a dingy-white ground, somewhat in the style still not uncommon in the west of England, and once often seen in old towns in the north and west of France. The Town Hall, with a gabled end rising from the sidewalk, is low and small, and is built of bricks once red but now blackened, and has quoins and Perpendicular window tracery of gray stone much worn. Very dingy red tiles cover the roof, while in the side are incongruous square windows. Years ago, the speaker found the interior much as it may have been during the reign of James I. In the second story was the hall, long and rather narrow, with a plastered and timber roof showing its slope and three or four frames built from side to side. In the basement was the kitchen, low, and also long and narrow, where cooking could be done for five hundred at great dinners in the past. Quite possibly this is one of the few edi-

fices spared to our day that are associated with the early, or earliest attempts to colonize New England resulting in permanent success.

When that little company of poor, sorely beset Separatists from Scrooby, Bawtry, and thereabouts, who became world-renowned, were making their first efforts to escape into Holland and freedom, they tried, as is well known, to go by a ship from Boston. There betrayed and dismally dealt with, some of them, Brewster and others, it is thought, were examined in this old building. Time and neglect have dealt almost as hardly with *it*; time and millions of people have, meanwhile, glorified *them*. Cells built of bricks at the side of a lower inner room are said to have been the places where they were confined. As cells were made generations ago, they are not very bad; still, if you enter them, as I did, you will be glad to leave them.

Near the Town Hall of old days we find the Custom House of to-day, a plain building of dingy-red bricks with lightish stone trimmings, only two stories high and perhaps twenty-five feet wide.

A walk of some length through the town and its more open borders, takes us down the river to what was recently, as we say, unimproved land, but that is now occupied by the great modern work of Boston, the new dock. Since the period of deep depression that followed the old one of prosperity, the town has been recovering some of its early enterprise and prosperity. It has

evidently been, like our Boston, looking up and extending its western connections by rail, and eastern by water. The dock is a very creditable good result. A large area for shipping is enclosed, in the usual substantial English fashion, by thick banks faced with strong walls, here built of peculiar, purplish, large, rough bricks capped by great blocks of buff sandstone. Close at hand there is storage room, and tracks supply communication with the railway systems of the country.

Farther down the river stretches the flat open land to the sea. Walk there when a gloomy night is coming on, when the wind blows harshly. Imagine the rich green pastures and fields of crops transformed to their old morasses, and then think of similar lands on the north border of Lincolnshire along the shores of the sea, like lower Humber, in the earlier part of the seventeenth century, and feel the forlorn plight of poor, hunted, men and women trying to board a Dutch vessel to get away from sharp persecution. Feel, if possible, how they were thwarted, separated, driven about by law-officers, plundered and harried, until tired out, even shamed, their pursuers at length let them go. Make a note of your sentiments then about persons who malign your Pilgrim forefathers and mothers, who in that plight were only in their earlier struggles to found your New England.

There is something better to think of as matters were when the corporation of the "Governor and Company

of the Massachusetts Bay in New England"\* had been created, and when men could openly embark for our shores. Governor Hutchinson wrote (*Hist.*, I, 18, note): "Lincolnshire contributed greatly [to the new plantation], and more of our principal families derive their origin from thence than from any part of England, unless the city of London be an exception. Mr. W. H. Bartlett says (*Pilgrim Fathers of N. E.*, p. 56): "Probably there is no town in England that has sent forth so many of its best and worthiest citizens to the great work of colonizing America as this of Boston."

The charter, as is well known, dates from March 4, 1629. Of men connected with old Boston who early came hither under it, three became Governors:— Thomas Dudley, John Leverett and Richard Bellingham, who had been Recorder from 1628 to 1633. Atherton Hough, who was Mayor in 1628, and Thomas Leverett, father of John, an Alderman, long the steward of the Earl of Lincoln, also came, as did Isaac Johnson, who lived in Boston after he married the Lady Arbella, daughter of the Earl of Lincoln. In 1633, Rev. John Cotton, although pursued for arrest, joined them; and some three years later, Rev. Samuel Whiting, minister of Skirbeck close to Boston. Foremost in the old town, and among its people who came here, it may fairly be said, was the devoted Vicar of St. Botolph's. "Puritanism," says Mr. Bartlett, "appears to have been kept

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\* Palfrey, *N. E.*, I, 290.



alive in the place, chiefly through [his] agency." Like many of our early ministers, a graduate of Emmanuel at Cambridge says Bartlett, "educated first in Trinity" says Brook (III, 151), a fellow of Magdalen says Thompson, he became Vicar in 1612, and continued until his resignation, made May 7, 1633, and accepted in the following July. On the 15th of the next October he was ordained Teacher of the First Church in Boston, N. E. His valued services here ended with his death Dec. 23, 1652, at the age of 68; his great influence, prolonged through more than forty years, did not then cease. So great was it, that it is said to have led the first settlers here to make the name of their capital that of the scene of his chief and long English labors; and if this was so, our Society to-day bears in its name continued evidence of the regard in which he was held by those who knew him.

Rev. Thomas Prince says, in his *Annals* (p. 249) under date of 1630, that "this remarkable PENINSULA . . . . who's *Indian Name* was *Shawmut*; . . . . by the *English* called at first *Trimountain*, . . . . now receives the Name of BOSTON. Which Deputy Governor *Dudley* says, they had before intended to call the Place they first resolv'd on\* [this is all he says]: and Mr. *Hubbard*, that they gave this Name on the account of Mr. *Corton* [the then famous Puritan Minister of *Boston* in *England*; for whom they had the highest Reverence,

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\* Young, *Chronicles Mass.*, 313.

and of whose coming over they were doubtless in some hopeful Prospect]." This statement, shortened and more positive, is repeated by later writers. Morse and Parish's History of New England, 1804, says that "from respect to Mr. Cotton . . . this peninsula was named Boston"; Brook's Memoir of Cotton, 1813, says the same, as also do Winterbotham, and Thompson (1856). The terse official statement (Mass. Records, I, 75) is, that at the Court held at *Charlton*, [sic] Sept. 7, 1630, it was "ordered that Trimountaine shalbe called Boston." Hubbard (General History of N. E., finished about 1682, chap. xxv), simply says that it was "on the account of Mr. Cotton, called Boston," and this seems to be the basis of what was afterwards said on the subject.

Notwithstanding all of this, we may think that the name would hardly be given on account of the possible coming even of one so much honored, three years before what was then uncertain became a fact. Mr. Cotton may have suggested the naming. It seems more likely that it was brought about because, as Hon. R. C. Winthrop writes in the Memorial History (I, 116), "the name of Boston was specially dear to the Massachusetts colonists from its associations with the old St. Botolph's town," from which so many of them had come. The ties of affection and kinship, widely felt then, as in our way now, were expressed in an ever dear old word. If the name of this good town is not

on account of its associations with John Cotton alone, we can cordially respond to the sentiment of his memorialist, Rev. Samuel Whiting of the elder Boston — “It is well for both the Bostons that they had such a light, and they walk in the . . . light of grace and truth that he held out to them.” (*Young, Chronicles Mass.*, 430.)

The Lincolnshire town appears to special advantage on a fine Sunday morning, when the bells of St. Botolph are ringing, and call the people to the ample seats and admirable services that the great church offers. Going in through the fine old porch at the side, as many a generation of their ancestors has done, the interior, reaching far and wide, welcomes them. Joining them and taking the seat kindly given him in the stalls of the Corporation, the writer had a good point of view of a scene such as the newer England cannot show. Some 250 feet in length, about 100 feet apart, and of good height rise the pale-tinted walls, bright with their tall, traceried windows, the slender pillars of the great arcade bearing the clerestory above the centre. Everywhere through the wide space of the floor are the people making just what a congregation should be—a great gathering, as their Prayer-book has it, of all sorts and conditions, all the town it seemed, in a great spiritual family. In the two tiers down through the nave the pews are free; along the sides they are let. Near the centre and head of the nave are the stalls of the Corporation, and if personal remarks are in order, it may be

added, some solid, good-looking officers in them. At the left, across the end of the nave, are the seats of some, at least, of the fashion of old Boston, and more dress than an ignorant stranger might look for in a quiet town of its size. At the right, near by, is the pulpit, and beneath it a group of very old men, in contrast with whom, and close to them, are girls in quaint blue gowns and white aprons, the very images of those who come from old English schools. The organ rolls out its notes, and up the middle aisle come the choristers, men and boys, thirty in number, all in white robes, and then comes the rector, duly ushered. The old, familiar service is heard, little changed since John Cotton's day there, but with better music, we can hardly help thinking.

While enjoying the present, our minds will recall the long train of the past, as it has moved through that same ancient church. Splendid ritual, incense, robes and gorgeous embroidery on priests, Latin hymns and prayers of the Roman communion were there. King Henry's rough changes followed, and his live decrees were heard there also. Puritans came in their turn to power, and yet when there, honor to someone, this church was kept in repair. The Restoration in 1660, the great Revolution of 1688, and the growth of Imperial England, all have been celebrated here. But in this thinking we tarry at a time 256 years ago. Change the dress of the congregation, expell the bad vaulting and put the higher, far better, good English wooden roof

in sight, over all, and, if the rector who now preaches so well, will excuse us, imagine John Cotton before us preaching "God's Promise to His Plantation." True, we may not have proof that he did deliver it in St. Botolph's, but it is such an important and early discourse relating to the founding of Massachusetts, that we can hardly help associating it with this scene of its author's labors. Scottowe (1694) says it was delivered before the Massachusetts Company, at Southampton. John Rous (1630) says it was preached to the Company under Mr. Winthrop at "theire departure about Gravefend," and that Cotton was prohibited "for preaching any more in England then untill" the next June. The sermon and its preface, as published, do not help on this point; both, indeed, are very guarded in language, and even do not, I think, name New England, although both very evidently refer to that as the "Plantation." It is a sort of sermon that could be repeated to any group of settlers about to depart for that place, and also to create a good feeling for them among others. A printed copy is now so rare that every leaf of one is worth a bank bill, and the words of John Cotton on it are a great deal more precious.

We like at least to imagine him here, in his old pulpit, charging those about to engage in the great work of founding or establishing our Commonwealth, exhorting them what course to take, hearing him say: "Goe forth, every man that goeth, with a publicke spirit, looking not

on your owne things onely, but also on the things of others." — "Have a tender care . . . to your children, that they doe not degenerate." — "Your Ancestors were of a noble divine spirit; . . . be not unmindfull of our Jerufalem at home." — "Offend not the poore Natives, but as you partake in their land, so make them partakers of your precious faith." — "Neglect not walls, and bulwarkes, and fortifications for your owne defence, but ever let the Name of the Lord be your strong Tower."

These are the words to men coming here, spoken by him who left stately and dear old St. Botolph's to minister in the log and mud house that stood on the ground close under our windows. This was the Puritan guide and founder—sour old bigot, some one may say—pious, manly, old hero, who left home, comfort, and grandeur, to meet pain and toil in planting our State—as some of us like it better.

Few indeed—where?—are the buildings we have in which the founders of our Boston lived, preached, and counselled. Honor and cordial congratulation to the people of St. Botolph's town, who preserve this grand church for us as well as for their own nearer kin. The feet, and the labors, and heart-throbs of the fathers have made it holy ground to two nations, and leaving the service there, or while we are here, we can heartily join in the benediction said there for them, and our last wish in parting is echoed in the sweet harmonies of organ and choir in the final Amen.

# NOTES.

## A.

THERE are printed statements, both English and American, all incorrect, that St. Botolph's is the largest, and, architecturally, the grandest parish church in England. The size, design, and effect of others of the most notable churches (not cathedrals) of England will occur to one. Other comparisons, if desired, are best made in visits to the edifices.

	LENGTH.	BREADTH.	HEIGHT.
St. Botolph's	282½ ft. (Britton <sup>1</sup> )	98 ft. (Gough <sup>2</sup> )	282 ft. (Britton <sup>3</sup> ), tower
St. Michael's, Coventry	} 293¾ ft. (Poole <sup>4</sup> )	} 127 ft. (Poole)	} 303 ft. (Poole), spire
St. Mary's, Red- cliffe, Bristol			
	230 ft. (Nightingale <sup>5</sup> )	117 ft. transept (Nightingale)	
	247½ ft. (Britton <sup>6</sup> )	117 ft. transept	266 ft. (Britton <sup>6</sup> ), spire
St. Nicholas's, Yarmouth	} 236 ft.	} 112 ft.	
Holy Trinity, Saffron Walden, Essex, also claimed to be largest, a very fine church. <sup>7</sup> (Brayley and Britton, Essex, V, 387.)			

## B.

In regard to the date and dimensions of ST. BOTOLPH'S conflicting statements are made, as the writer has found is apt to be the case with the more ancient prominent English edifices, about a large number of which he examined the figures when preparing his "Imperial Island" (Boston, 8vo, 1886), and has given examples (pp. 108, 109, in his tables of dimensions of the cathedrals). Dr.

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1. Arch. Antiq., iv: 119. 2. Allen's Lincolnshire, 253. 3. Lincolnshire, 730  
4. Hist. Coventry, 70. 5. Somersetshire, 671. 6. Restoration, 1842, plans.

Young (Chronicles Mass. Bay, 1846, p. 49) says, "The parish church in which Cotton preached, built in 1309, is 382 feet in length by 99 in breadth, and the tower is 262 feet in height; and resembles that of the cathedral at Antwerp." 1309 is, however, only the stated date of the foundation of the tower. The Perpendicular style, very evident in the building, did not arise until the latter part of the century. As Allen (Hist., Co. of Lincoln, 1833, i: 252) says (in quotation), the architecture of the "tower is certainly at least fifty years later than the above date of the foundation; probably the work went on slowly, as was often the case in such expensive buildings."

Britton (Arch. Antiquities [1814], iv: 114), says that the traceries "shew the building to have been erected about the middle of the 14th century," and (p. 117), "The lantern is not much older than the middle of the 15th century, if so old." He also (*Ibid.*, 119), gives the measurements — Church, *width* 99 feet, — *length* of the whole 282 feet 6 inches: viz., Steeple, 40 feet 3 inches; Nave or body, 155 feet 5 inches; Chancel, 86 feet 10 inches: *height* of the *Nave* from the pavement to the ceiling, 61 feet. — *Steeple*, 262 feet 9 inches." In his "Beauties of England" (1807, ix: 730) is the statement, "It is a received opinion that the TOWER was built after the model of that belonging to the great church of Antwerp; and comparing it with the print of that structure, drawn and engraved by Hollar, there is evidently a great similarity. It is peculiarly handsome, and measures 282 feet in height." The only correct course is to compare the originals, and then the nature of Hollar's plates, and the facts are evident. For details Hollar's plates are almost worthless. In style, St. Botolph's tower differs from that at Antwerp about as much as the English language differs from Flemish. Mr. Drake (Hist. Boston, Mass., 103, quoting from Magna Britannia), records that the tower "is 280 foot high, or better." Lewis (Topographical Dic. of Eng.,



5th ed., London, 1842, i: 308), says the tower "was erected in 1309," and "is 300 feet high." Allen (p. 253) says "Mr. Gough gives the following dimensions," and quotes, "The height of the tower is 300 feet, and it is ascended by 365 steps. The length of the church, as measured by Mr. Essex and myself, July 14, 1783, is 245 feet in the clear, and is 98 feet broad."

## C.

## CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH.

Britton (Arch. Ant., 1814, iv: 114) says: "Almost all the original decorations have given way to the ravages of time, or the ruthless progress of repair. Not the slightest fragment of painted glass is left. . . . The floor is full of marble grave-stones, most of which have been stripped of their brasses. . . . The choir has been highly magnificent, but modern alterations have sadly disfigured it. The rood loft is totally destroyed. . . . The ancient stalls have had their canopies cut away; and their desks and *subsillia*, beautifully carved, are daubed over with coarse paint, of a very wretched color." Some of these mutilations have been remedied.

Throughout the interior great changes were undoubtedly made after the Reformation, and these, as already stated, had become serious in the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth century. Repairs were of course made at various times, and in 1740 much work was done according to the taste then prevalent, followed, in 1845, by something better. The present aspect is, however, much more due to the restoration directed by Mr. Place, architect in 1851-53. On May 12th of the latter year the church was re-opened with impressive ceremonies. About £4,900 had been spent to great advantage. Of the work and ceremonies a long account is given in the Lincolnshire *Herald*, May 17, 1853 (re-printed in 8vo). Baedeker's Great Britain, 1901, states, p. 470,

that the church was "much injured by fire in 1900," but in my visit in 1907, I could find no trace of such a fire, or hear of any since about 1784. The only marked recent change was a renewal of the chancel roof, the old one having become impaired by dry rot. In 1908, it is reported, the tower was struck by lightning, and some of the upper stones thrown down or disarranged.

THE COTTON CHAPEL, so called through half a century, had been used as a vestry. Close to the Latin inscription of 1855, mentioned by the writer in 1886, there is now a fresh brass plate on which it is stated that "this Chapel was restored to its original use A. D. 1906—in memory of—Frances Annie Lawrence," who died in 1905. It is now used for church services.

The chapel had, in 1907, a dingy wooden floor, a low double-pitch roof of dark wood, a simple oak altar at the east end, and a glazed screen of two bays towards the nave. Along the other side were three windows with colored glass.

This church of St. Botolph, it has been suggested, might be copied, or duplicated, for the proposed Episcopal cathedral in Boston, N. E. The tower is a noble work very well worth reproduction, for design, associations, and predominance, but the body of the church is not, and never has been, a cathedral in fact, or in form. A reproduction of the debased vaulting would be almost a calamity, and the pillars that support it are at once seen to be incapable of supporting a real vault. There are other parish churches, less known to Americans, to be considered, if a parish church is to be the model. But the many cathedrals of England are first to be considered for their suggestions, and even the grand monastic churches not cathedrals, but still entire and used for services, like Romsey, Selby, Hexham, and Tewkesbury.

## D.

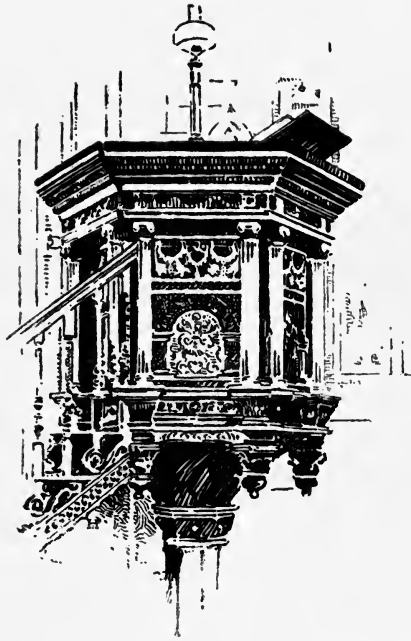
Thompson (*Hist. Boston*, 185) says there are 77 stalls in 2 rows on each side, and (when they formed full seats as they could be made to do) that they were probably for "the use of the masters and brethren of the religious Guilds formerly existing in Boston," and 1558, and later, for the aldermen and common council, "none of the House to talk in the church to the ill example of others." In 1756 the seats of the "alderesses" — the aldermen's wives, — were relined.

## E.

## EARLY BUILDINGS, BOSTON.

Several buildings that must have added much to the interest and picturesqueness of old Boston at the time when the founders of New England were there, have been destroyed. Between the elder and younger towns there has, indeed, been an unfortunate similarity in disregard of the minor time-honored edifices. According to Thompson, Gysor's Hall (p. 237) of the thirteenth century "was taken down in 1810"; the Old Vicarage (p. 214), a brick and timber house, where the Rev. John Cotton lived, was demolished in 1850; the Market Cross (p. 223) disappeared in 1730; the Three Tuns (p. 225), a house where Oliver Cromwell slept, fell in 1820, as in 1750 did a curious turreted building at Gully-mouth (p. 228); little or nothing marks Hussey Hall (p. 244) and Irby Hall, old residences of titled families. The writer is not aware that there are any dwelling-houses now in old Boston distinctly associated with founders of New England.





JOHN COTTON'S PULPIT IN ST. BOTOLPH'S.

# THE SCOLLAYS

BY

ALEXANDER S. PORTER.





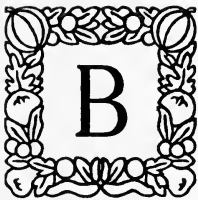
## THE SCOLLAYS

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A PAPER READ TO THE BOSTONIAN SOCIETY, COUNCIL CHAMBER, OLD  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, APRIL 10, 1906, BY

ALEXANDER S. PORTER

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BY the recent deaths of William Scollay Whitwell and W. Scollay Whitwell, Jr., the famous Scollay family—so prominent a hundred years and more ago, but which has gradually passed away—has become practically extinct. A few descendants are still with us, however, and although the name itself has ceased to exist, yet Scollay square is the token that is left of the memory of the founder of the family. Very little has been written about the Scollays, but I have gathered together some interesting facts from newspaper clippings and various other sources, which may be acceptable to the lovers of traditions of old Bostonians.

Before sketching the history of Scollay's building, I would like to mark out, as clearly as possible, the condition of the surrounding land about the latter half of the eighteenth century. South of the building, including the entire street known as Tremont row, the opening to Pemberton square and the west side of Tremont street to Beacon street, stood a row of fine residences, with gardens between and behind them. For its whole length it was known as Tremont street, but that part now called Tremont row was also sometimes laid down on the maps as Pemberton hill.

The residence of William Powell was on the corner where the Hemenway building now stands. The upper end of what is now known as Cornhill was then covered with buildings, and the street itself formed part of numerous back yards. A narrow lane, then called Hillier's lane, was all that marked the after-course of Brattle street.

In the centre of the space bounded by Court and Tremont streets stood a long row of buildings, of which Scollay's building was the largest. At the eastern end of that structure stood a wooden building, two stories high, of irregular form, being wider at its point of contact with the brick building than at the end nearest to the present office of the United States Trust Company. It was owned by Colonel Scollay, and was regarded as a part of the block which formerly bore that name. It was occupied by one Turell for a



SCOLLAY'S BUILDING

1898  
FRANK S. STREIB  
BY T. C. BATHOLOMEW  
ABOUT 1840.





museum. It was in a central location, was light and airy, and filled with curiosities.

Scollay's building proper was a two-storied structure of brick. It was then occupied above for offices, and on the basement floor by merchants. Here was, for a long time, the greatest tea store in Boston. Beyond, to the westward, were several buildings in a row, known as the Bridge estate, and one or two others, the whole being terminated by a wedge-shaped structure, one story in height, and stretching out to a sharp point at the head of Hanover street, directly opposite Concert hall. On the Tremont row side it was simply a dead wall, but on the Court street side were the entrances to little toy shops and other small trading stands. The intermediate buildings were occupied at various times for dwellings and for stores.

The title to the property was, in 1774, in Joseph Russell, and was deeded by him in that year to William Vassall. I have not been able to discover with any degree of certainty who Joseph Russell was, but he is supposed by some to have been a near relative of Benjamin Russell, printer of the *Columbian Centinel*, an early Boston newspaper.\* The deed, still in the posses-

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\*This conjecture seems to be somewhat confirmed by the fact that the Boston Town Records mention "Joseph Russell, Printer," in 1784, who served on various important committees and was Town Treasurer, 1790-95, dying in office on Nov. 29, of the latter year. A Joseph Russell, Jr., perhaps his son or nephew, is also frequently mentioned, who

sion of a descendant of Colonel Scollay, with other subsequent deeds, mentions a building as standing on the lot, and the price paid for the whole property was £300. Mr. William Vassall, to whom it was sold, was at the time a resident of Cambridge and a rich landowner. The house of Professor Longfellow stands upon a part of his Cambridge estate.

But Vassall was an adherent of the King, and, during the Revolutionary war, fled to England. The property stood in his name, nevertheless, until 1795, when he sold it to Patrick Jeffry for £160. This second deed does not mention any house as standing on the lot conveyed, and it is not improbable that the building mentioned in Russell's deed was of wood, and had been destroyed by fire some time during the twenty-one years it had been the property of Mr. Vassall.

Mr. Jeffry sold the estate to Colonel William Scollay before the beginning of the nineteenth century, and the building afterwards known by his name, but undoubtedly put up by Mr. Jeffry, and as he originally constructed it, was then upon it. The title remained with Colonel Scollay and his heirs until Jan. 7, 1868, when it was transferred to Mr. Arioeh Wentworth for \$100,000. Several years later he sold to the city of Boston for \$200,000, and the building was torn down.

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often served as Fire-ward and on committees, especially the annual Auditing Committee, from 1784 to 1810. It is uncertain which of these owned the property, but probably the former.

The Scollays were an old Scotch family, and came from the Orkney Islands, but it is not easy to ascertain when the first of the name emigrated to this country. John Scollay is mentioned in Drake's *History of Boston* as having leased the Winnisimmet Ferry for one year, as early as 1692, and in 1695 it was again leased to him for seven years. John Scollay, the father of William Scollay, was the first of the name who attained much prominence in Boston. His portrait, painted by Copley, and that of his wife, a crayon by the same artist, are now in possession of Miss Mary Bigelow, a great grand-daughter. He is represented as a portly and florid man in a plain, brown dress, and with a powdered wig, seated, and his hand resting on a book, near which is an inkstand and pen.

He is mentioned by Drake as having signed a petition to the King in 1761, with about fifty others of the principal merchants of the town of Boston, to complain of the illegal action of the revenue officers of the Crown. In 1764 he was chosen the third of seven Selectmen, a board in which he was afterwards brought into prominence. The records do not show, however, that he was re-elected the following year. In 1747 he was elected one of the Fire-wards of the town, which shows him to have been a man of public spirit and coolness, in the opinion of his townsmen. In March, 1784, the town voted "Thanks unto John Scollay, Esqr. for his good and faithful Services as a

Fire Ward for thirty-five years Past." At a subsequent period in his life, in 1788, he was chosen President of the Scots Charitable Society.

Among the prominent men mentioned by Frothingham in his *Siege of Boston*, John Scollay is spoken of as a man "of much public spirit, energetic and firm." He was again elected to the board of Selectmen in 1773, and the following year became chairman, which position he held during the whole of the Revolution and until 1790, or for a period of sixteen years, and up to the time of his death.\* At the beginning of the siege he, with others, sent a note to General Washington, then in Cambridge, to request some favor in the name of Colonel Howe, the British commander, but the note was returned with an unfavorable answer.

At the evacuation, he was among the prominent men of the town in the rejoicings of the people at the deliverance of Boston, and his official correspondence with General Washington on that occasion is still preserved in the family.†

Colonel William Scollay, son of John, derived his title from his commission as Colonel of the famous Boston Regiment, which included most of the military companies of the town, to which position he was elected Aug. 20, 1792. His name and address are contained in the first Directory of Boston, published in 1789. His

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\* See Note A.

† See Note B.

occupation was that of an apothecary and druggist, and his place of business was at No. 6 Cornhill, now Washington street.

He was chosen one of the Clerks of the Market in 1788, Selectman 1792-95, and Fire-ward annually from 1792 to 1806 inclusive. In 1796 he received a vote of thanks from the town "for his good services as a Selectman a number of years past," and in 1807, a similar vote was passed recognizing his service as Fire-ward.

Quite early in life, however, he abandoned trade and gradually became an extensive operator in real estate. His home was at first on or near the spot where the Boston Museum formerly stood, north of King's Chapel Burying-ground, and his garden extended back to near the line of Court square. He afterwards removed to the Bussey house, in Summer street, and while there was associated with Charles Bulfinch and other prominent men of the town in the improvement of Franklin place, now merged in Franklin street. That enterprise was originally started on the Tontine plan, which would give to the last survivor of the owners a title to the whole property; but owing to some difficulties, the temporarily popular plan was abandoned.

On the crescent of Franklin place was erected the first block of buildings in Boston. Colonel Scollay built for himself a dwelling-house on this new street, and lived there up to the time of his death, which

occurred in 1809. He had been interested in the development of South Boston; was one of the strenuous advocates of a Federal-street bridge—which was at the time successfully opposed—and owned a large tract of land in South Boston, upon and near Dorchester Heights. He at one time intended to build a dwelling-house for himself on that eminence, and had already excavated the cellar, but he afterwards abandoned the project. Some time after his death, however, about the year 1815, the family moved to South Boston. Colonel Scollay was the youngest but one of eight sons of John Scollay, who also left several daughters; one of these daughters married Colonel Thomas Melville, who was known as “the last of the cocked hats.”

Colonel Melville was one of the Boston Tea Party, and Mrs. Melville suspected that her husband had some important business on hand, and as he lay sleeping the morning after the Party, she discovered tea in the shoes he had worn. This she carefully kept without asking questions, as she was wise enough to know that secrecy was imperative, and when she heard of what had happened, she naturally realized that her husband had been one of the “Mohawks.” These tea-leaves were preserved in a bottle, which was for a long time in the possession of the family, but later on, it is said, found its way to the cabinet of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester. Colonel Scollay and Thomas



Melville were both members of The Massachusetts Lodge ; the former was its presiding officer, 1788-91, and also held prominent offices in the Grand Lodge.\*

William Scollay was the only one of the eight brothers who left sons to arrive at manhood, and both of the two who survived him died without leaving children. It therefore happens that there is no one of his family now living who bears the name of Scollay. One of Colonel Scollay's daughters was the wife of the late Dr. Jacob Bigelow. Sir Robert Strange, the celebrated engraver, and Malcolm Laing, who made himself famous in Scottish literary circles in the eighteenth century, were connections of the Scollay family in the old country.

The corner-stone of the State House was laid with Masonic rites on the 4th of July, 1795, and among the names inscribed on the silver plate was :

Right Worshipful WM. SCOLLAY,  
Deputy Grand Master.

Colonel William Scollay had a sister named Mercy Scollay, who lived in Medfield. She was a close friend of Benedict Arnold. Arnold was very much interested in the three younger children of General Warren, and

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\* See Biographical Sketches of Members of The Massachusetts Lodge, to which I am indebted for valuable material. Melville's autograph and that of John Scollay are in the Colburn Collection in the archives of the Bostonian Society.

they were placed in the care of Mercy Scollay. On July 15, 1778, he wrote a letter from Philadelphia, informing her that he was trying to have an order passed by the Government providing that the three children should be cared for and educated at public expense, and when of age the sum of £1,000 should be given as a portion to each. Furthermore, he said in his letter\* that if the order was not passed he desired that the children should remain in her care, and that he alone would bear the whole expense of their support and education.

The first of the row of buildings between Tremont row and Court street to yield to the demand for more room was Turell's Museum, which was sold to the town and pulled down about the year 1814. This was probably done in consequence of the proposition to cut through the street now known as Cornhill. That thoroughfare was laid out about the year 1816 or 1817, and was at first called Market street. In 1828, when North and South Market streets had been laid out, the name of Market street was changed to Cornhill.

Tremont street originally reached only to Winter street; the continuation as far as Boylston street, then Frog lane, was Common street, and beyond Frog lane it was Nassau street. Common street is now nowhere near the Common, and Nassau street is the name

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\* See Note C.

applied to a small street off Harrison avenue. Marlboro' and Newbury streets, on the Back Bay, are names recalling those once given to parts of what now constitute Washington street. Brattle street was opened a few years after Cornhill, the old line of Hillier's lane being adhered to. The opening of this street was the original cause of the removal of the long line of buildings from the Bridge estate to Hanover street.

There was, about the year 1841, an agitation in favor of the demolition of the whole row, and an earnest effort was made to secure an appropriation of \$10,000 for that purpose. The scheme was, however, strenuously opposed. The pretext for the removal was that the heavy omnibuses and stage coaches, sometimes four and six-horse teams, entering and coming out of Brattle street, then a nest of hotels and boarding-houses, did not have room to turn, and the city was asked to afford relief in the interests of the travelling public. The movement failed, and the buildings stood for a long time thereafter.

The wall at the pointed end of the row was low, and a person standing on the sidewalk, just east of where Copeland's store was—the upper side of the street was higher than—could look over the wall and see the people on the opposite sidewalk, near the Oriental Tea Store. When the colored population of the city used to celebrate West Indies Emancipa-

tion, by a procession on "Bobolition Day," as it was called, the line, led by Peter Gus, always passed through Court street at a fixed hour. The boys regularly collected on the Tremont row sidewalk in swarms, and testified their gratification at the abolition of slavery by souvenirs in the shape of potatoes, rotten lemons, eggs and other missiles of the kind. All this abusive treatment ceased with the demolition of the buildings, about the year 1848. At the same time, the Bridge estate was purchased by the city.

Scollay's building was originally only two stories high on the upper or south side. Some time after it was erected the idea was conceived of digging a cellar, the building having been at first without one. This was dug smaller than the building, and walls were built up to protect the foundations from caving. When the grade of Tremont row was changed, at the time of the Pemberton square improvement, the land about the south side of the building was dug away, and thus for the first time the basement floor became available and desirable for business purposes.

Among the occupants of the building about this time, and before, were the Hon. James Savage, who had his law office there; Mr. John H. Rogers, who removed to the opposite corner\* after the improvement of Pemberton

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\* This corner has now passed into the ownership of the Suffolk Savings Bank, and, with the new building recently built for it, is valued at \$1,000,000.

square, and in the basement was the famous barber shop of Bob New. New's sign was an immense painted caricature of the hair-dresser's profession, and New, himself, was the Boston Joe Miller of the period. In the same building, or in one of those in the row, was the largest thread store in the town. Mr. Joseph Bridge kept a grocery store in which he also sold plants and seeds. For some time before the portion opposite Concert hall was demolished, one of the engines of the Boston Fire Department was stationed there.

Still later the whole of Scollay's building was leased to a Mr. Dimmock for a term of years. The lessee proposed to add two stories to the building. The heirs of Colonel Scollay employed two practical mechanics, one of them Mr. William Washburn, to examine the structure to see whether it would be safe to add any more weight to the foundations. They reported that it was "fully able to carry two more stories," and pronounced the foundations entirely safe, notwithstanding the excavation of the cellar. Mr. Dimmock then proceeded with the work.

In spite of its central location and its light and airy situation, Scollay's building was never a favorite with tenants of any kind. The rooms were small and uncomfortable, and owing to the isolated position of the building, access to it was difficult across the crowded streets that surrounded it. It does not appear, from examination of the records, that any men very famous

in the history of Boston or in national affairs, excepting Mr. Savage and Mr. Rogers, have ever occupied offices in it. The historical associations were altogether with the building itself.

William Scollay was born Nov. 24, 1756, and married Catherine Whitwell Oct. 5, 1780. She was born in 1760. They had: Catherine, born July, 1781; died August, 1781. Catherine, born Feb. 27, 1783; died 1863. William, born February, 1885; died September, 1813. Lucy Cushing, born 1788; died September, 1883. (She married Benjamin Whitwell in 1808, and was the mother of William S. Whitwell, Sr.) John, born 1789; died 1790. John, born 1791; died 1819. Mary, born January, 1793; died 1882. (She married Dr. Jacob Bigelow in 1817, whose daughter, Miss Mary Bigelow, is now living in Boston\* and is in perfect health at the age of 82, and whose grandson, William Sturgis Bigelow, is living in Boston.) Anne Wroe, born November, 1794; died 1845. (She married Charles P. Curtis.) Elizabeth Hamilton, died aged 11 years. James, died aged 4 years.

William S. Whitwell, Sr., was born May 23, 1809, and died Oct. 31, 1899. He had a sister, now Mrs. William Parker, who is still living and is enjoying perfect health and activity at the ripe age of 95 years. She lives in Brookline and seems to be in the fullness of life.

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\* This was written in 1905.

William Scollay Whitwell died a few months ago, leaving a widow (Blanche Bonestelle) and three sons, William Scollay Whitwell, Jr., Cutler Bonestelle Whitwell and Sturgis Bigelow Whitwell. His sisters, Miss Mary H. Whitwell and Mrs. William Tudor, are living and reside in Boston.

For much of this information I am indebted to Mrs. William Parker, Miss Mary Bigelow, Mrs. William Tudor, and Mr. Charles P. Greenough.

It is to be regretted that so little has been written about the Scollays, and that the information which can be obtained, treating directly of this fine old family, is so meagre. But, if the students of history will trace out its different collateral branches, their work will be one of absorbing interest, and it will be found that John Scollay's descendants have been true to their ancestry. By their loyalty and conservatism they have always been honored citizens, and have taken the first place in every movement that would promote the welfare of the community in which they have been so beloved.

#### REAL ESTATE VALUATIONS.

In 1886 I had the honor of reading a paper before this Society on Changes of Values of Real Estate in the city of Boston since the Revolution,\* and I have been asked to bring the valuations, there recited, down to the present time. I herewith submit them as of 1905.

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\* See *Bostonian Society Publications*, i: 57, *et seq.*

Corner of Court and Hanover streets (Concert Hall estate), 1880, \$108,000 ; 1905, \$200,000.

23 Court street, 1880, land alone \$118,000 ; 1905, \$282,000.

South corner of Court and Washington streets (Sears Building), land alone, 11,000 feet, 1880, \$490,000 ; 1905, \$1,216,000.

209 Washington street (formerly Joy's Building, now Rogers' Building), 1880, 5200 feet \$262,000 ; 1905, \$660,000.

North corner of Washington and School streets (Old Corner Book Store), 1880, 3800 feet, \$140,000 ; 1905, \$685,500.

South corner of Washington and School streets (long occupied by Richard Briggs), 1880, \$190,000 ; 1905, \$390,000.

North corner of Washington and Winter streets (formerly Tuttle's Shoe store and adjoining estate, 7500 feet), 1885, land alone \$350,000 ; 1905, \$959,400.

Corner of Washington street and Temple place (Chas. Blake estate), 1885, \$425,600 ; 1905, \$1,236,000.

North corner of Washington and Hollis streets (Child estate), 1880, \$45,600 ; 1905, \$116,600.

Northeast corner of Washington and Dover streets (Nathaniel Curtis estate), 1880, 24000 feet \$124,000 ; 1905, \$156,100.

Old State House, 1880, 4571 feet, \$235,000 ; 1905, \$736,000.



Corner of Washington and Summer streets (formerly Shreve, Crump & Low, now Shuman's Corner), 1880, land alone \$268,000; 1905, \$1,177,000.

South corner of Washington and Bedford street (Joseph T. Brown estate), 1880, land alone \$53,000; 1905, \$185,600.

Temple place, No. 11, formerly No. 1 (James Savage estate) 1880, \$54,000; 1905, \$246,000.

Corner of Beacon and Joy streets (The Tudor), 1885, land alone \$102,000; 1905, 112,000.

58 Beacon street, 1880, \$44,000; 1905, \$46,000.

2 Park street (Warren estate), 1880, 3120 feet \$65,000; 1905, \$173,500.

8 Park street (Union Club), 1880, land alone \$70,000; 1905, \$186,000.

Corner of Mt. Vernon and Joy streets (formerly Puritan Club), 1880, \$37,000; 1905, \$52,000.

South corner of Tremont and Beacon streets (Tremont Building), 1880, \$400,000; 1905 (with 1733 feet added which cost \$140,000), land alone \$1,575,000.

Tremont street, corner of Temple place (R. H. Stearns's store), 1880, land alone \$180,000; in 1885, sold for \$255,000; 1905, land alone, \$775,000.

North corner Tremont and West streets (now Shreve, Crump & Low), 1880, \$107,000; 1905, \$395,000.

Faneuil Hall, 1880, \$250,000; 1905, \$692,000.

40 State street (Union Building), 1880, 11000 feet, land alone \$330,000; 1905, \$1,155,000.

27 State street (Brazer's Building), 1880, 2600 feet, land alone \$175,000; 1905, \$414,000.

27 School street (Niles Building), 1880, 15220 feet, \$350,000; 1905, \$983,000.

13 Louisburg square, 1880, \$14,500; 1905, \$14,800.

99 Sudbury street, corner of Court street, 1880, land alone \$45,000; 1905, \$130,000.

133 Summer street, corner of South street, 1880, land alone \$58,000; 1905, \$126,900.

Corner of Merrimac and Friend streets, land alone, 3000 feet, sold February, 1886, \$40,000; value 1905, \$72,000.

This story of the rise in value of real estate in the city of Boston is most interesting, and it is no doubt a fact that many of our wealthiest families owe their fortunes to this great increase. Those of the old families that have persistently held on to their property, especially that in the central part of the city, have reaped a rich reward.

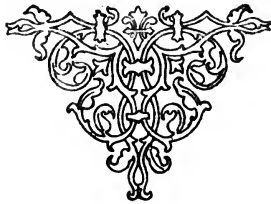
And here, I cannot help referring to a remark once made to me by Mr. Robert Codman, who undoubtedly was one of the best judges in this city of the value of real estate. Mr. Codman's family has long been conspicuous as one of the largest holders of down-town properties. They have always refused to sell any of it, and there seems to be no limit to the increase in its value, particularly in the retail districts. Mr. Codman

was a most judicious trustee, and as such had many millions of dollars under his control. He always believed in Boston, and repeatedly said that Boston was good enough for him.

From 1880 to 1887 there was a great boom in the west, and many of our prominent capitalists made large investments there. Some of Mr. Codman's friends tried to persuade him that he was losing a golden opportunity; but no, he stuck to it that 'Boston was good enough for him.' They used to laugh and joke with him about it, and he was willing that they should. By and bye, however, Mr. Codman felt that after all it was his duty as trustee really to look into the matter, and see for himself whether he had been right in refusing such very promising western investments. So, without saying anything about it, he went out there, and visited several of the most prominent cities. After a few weeks, he came home and told us all that he was amazed at what he saw, confessed that he had not rightly judged the situation, and declared that he would be willing to enter the western field, and he did.

He took several mortgages there, which he had every reason to believe were safe beyond peradventure. But the boom collapsed later on, and he was put to a great deal of trouble and worry, and had hard work to get his money back. In fact, he said that he was sick and tired of it all; that he was more than ever convinced that Boston was the best place.

Just at this time, I went into his office one day and asked Mr. Codman if he had any funds to loan on mortgage. "How large an amount?" he asked. "\$100,000," I replied. "Oh, yes," he said, "I think I can manage that. Where is the property?" "Omaha," said I. Whereupon he said, "No, sir. No Omaha for me. Young man, I want you to understand that hereafter, my sun rises in Boston harbor, and sets in the Back Bay."



## NOTES.

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### A.

IN a foot-note in Frothingham's Life of Warren, I find the following:—

“John Scollay died on the 15th of December, 1790, aged 79. In an obituary it is said that from early life he was distinguished as a firm supporter of the civil and religious rights of this country, and as such was respected and honored by his fellow men. He was chosen a Fire-ward in 1747, and he discharged his duties until within a few years of his death. In 1754 he was chosen as a Selectman and rendered the town service in this office nearly to the end of his life. In his domestic relations he was all that could make a husband, a parent or a friend desirable.”

He took a deep interest in ecclesiastical affairs, was a devout worshiper and “met his death not only with the calmness and fortitude of the man but with the humble submission and animated hopes of the Christian.”

### B.

Following is the letter from General Washington, mentioned in the text:—

*To the Select men & citizens of Boston.*

GENTLEMEN:

Your congratulations on the success of the American Arms give me the greatest pleasure.

I most sincerely rejoice with you on your being once more in the quiet possession of your former habitations, and what

greatly adds to my happiness, that this desirable event has been effected with so little effusion of the human blood.

I am exceedingly obliged by the good opinion you are pleased to entertain of my Conduct. Your virtuous efforts in the cause of Freedom and the unparalleled Fortitude with which you have sustained the greatest of all human Calamities justly entitle you to the grateful remembrance of your American Bretheren, and I heartily pray that the hand of Tyranny may never more disturb your repose, and that every blessing of a kind Providence may give happiness and prosperity to the Town of Boston.

G<sup>o</sup> WASHINGTON.

John Scollay

Chairman of the Select Men.

C.

The letter from Arnold relative to Gen. Warren's children was as follows:—

PHILADELPHIA, July 15th, 1778.

DEAR MADAM:

About three months since I was informed by Dr. Townshend that my late worthy friend Gen'l Warren left his affairs unsettled, and that after paying his debts, a very small matter, if anything, would be left for the education of his children, who to my great surprise, I find have been entirely neglected by the State. I wrote Dr. Townshend (if the friends of the children would consent) to take care of the education of the second son and youngest daughter who I am informed by Mrs. Hancock is at present in your charge.

As I find that Dr. Townshend had joined the Army, permit me to beg the favour of your continuing your care of the daughter and that you will at present take charge of the education of the

son. I make no doubt that his relations will consent that he should be under your care.

My intention is to use my interest with Congress to provide for the family. If they decline it, I make no doubt of a handsome collection by private subscription. At all events I will provide for them in a manner suitable to their birth, and the grateful sentiments I shall ever feel for the memory of my friend. I have sent you by Mr. Hancock five hundred dollars for the present. I wish you to have Richard clothed handsomely and sent to the best school in Boston. Any expense you are at, please to draw on me for, which shall be paid with thanks.

I am D'r Madam

Y'r most Hble Ser't

B. ARNOLD

Miss Mercy Scollay,  
Boston.



SINCE the previous pages were printed, the publication of Volume 38, of the Boston Record Commissioners' Reports, gives a few additional particulars concerning the estate, which may be interesting. It appears from the Selectmen's Minutes (p. 192 of the volume cited), that the wooden structure on the easterly end of Scollay's Building was advertised to be sold and removed, July 18, 1816. On page 183 it appears that this building had produced an income of \$800 during the War of 1812-15, and there was a difference of opinion as to its value. The matter was finally settled by arbitration, and an account of the various steps in the negotiations between the Town authorities, the widow and heirs of Colonel Scollay and the "New Cornhill Corporation," are fully detailed.

The illustration is from a pencil sketch made by T. C. Bartholomew about 1840, and preserved in the Society's archives. The building at the left, which with some changes still remains, is on the corner of Pemberton Square and Tremont Row. The ground floor was occupied by Josiah Daniell, as a dry-goods store; and the chambers above by Paul & Co., upholsters and furniture dealers, who for many years supplied the wants of the most exacting trade in the city. Portions of the old buildings once standing on the corners of Howard, Court and Sudbury Streets are seen in the distance. On the right of the picture is Scollay's Building, and adjoining it, beyond, are the structures which were removed before the demolition of the latter.



# HISTORIC PROCESSIONS

IN BOSTON

FROM 1789 TO 1824.





## HISTORIC PROCESSIONS IN BOSTON.

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**T**HE history of Boston for fifty years after the Revolution records numerous important local celebrations which make interesting pictures when reviewed at the beginning of the twentieth century. They give a glimpse of the characteristics of the period, of the display of popular feeling, and of the "ways of the hour" which can be obtained from no other point of view. An impressive feature of many such occasions, whether festive or funereal, was a procession; and as the community was still almost an homogeneous one, all classes united in expressing their sorrow or their joy.

Some of the funeral processions from 1770 to 1800, in which large numbers of the citizens took part, have been described in a previous volume.\* There were

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\* See Volume IV: pp. 125-149.

others of equal interest but of a different character, during that period and somewhat later, in which the people joined with pleasure and often with enthusiasm.

The marching hosts that moved through the narrow and crooked streets of the old town, included military organizations in which the flower of its citizens were enrolled, societies displaying their banners and attractive insignia, sedate magistrates and prominent dignitaries, with mechanics and tradesmen, who gathered to welcome some popular hero, or to commemorate some important event in the annals of the town or the State.

Fortunate was the Bostonian who could tell his children that he had witnessed the processions described in the following pages, for he had beheld in the flesh the immortal Washington and the brave Lafayette, as they received the felicitations of the people, who could not forget that the guests they welcomed had been comrades in arms in the Revolution.

Perhaps he had taken part in the dedication of the imposing capitol on Beacon Hill, the product of the genius of Charles Bulfinch; or witnessed the completion of the great undertaking of its day, the building of the Charles River Bridge, which linked together the historic towns of Boston and Charlestown and abolished for all time the Charlestown ferry at Hudson's Point. He had joined in the expressions of sympathy for France, until in the days of her fearful Revolution her

land was drenched with fratricidal blood. And he had also seen the great demonstration in recognition of the valor of Capt. Isaac Hull, who taught the British rulers by force of arms, in the War of 1812, that the American Navy and the people which sent it forth were no longer to be disregarded by the nations of the world.

#### OPENING OF CHARLESTOWN BRIDGE.

In 1720 the first attempt was made to build a bridge across the Charles River, connecting Charlestown with Boston. At a town meeting held in Boston, April 27th of that year, it was voted "that it be given as an Instruction the Representatives of this Town now chosen to promote the building a Bridge over Charles River at the place where the Ferry hath been usually kept, viz<sup>t</sup> between M<sup>r</sup> Gees & Hudson's point and at no other place."

Nothing however came of this action and it was not until 1739 that the project was heard of again. In that year John Staniford endeavored to get the approval of the town to allow him "to petition the Great and General Court for a license to take Subscriptions for the Building a Bridge Over Charles River from the West-erly part of the Town of Boston to the Honourable Colonel Phips' Farm."

This second attempt was likewise a failure, and the project lay quiescent again for many years. The third effort to build a bridge was successful, and the town

gave its sanction at a meeting of the free-holders held February 10, 1785.

The article in the warrant referring to the bridge read as follows: "To consider & determine (on the request of a Number of the Inhabitants) 'Whether the Town will prefer a Petition to the Honourable the General Court, that the Petition of Thomas Russel Esq. & Others, who pray for liberty to build a *Bridge* over Charles River where the Ferry between Charlestown & Boston is now kept' — may be granted." The question was put "Whether such a Petition shall be preferred to the General Court." It was passed in the affirmative with but two dissenting votes; there were thirteen hundred votes cast.

The Charles River Bridge Company was incorporated March 9, 1785, Hon. John Hancock, Thomas Russell, Nathaniel Gorham, James Swan, Eben Parsons, with others, being the incorporators. These gentlemen were given power to build a bridge, and to collect tolls on the same for forty years, and these tolls were to be doubled on the Lord's day. Harvard College was to be paid £200 annually, in lieu of the income which the College would have continued to receive from the Boston and Charlestown ferry, had not the bridge been built. These terms were later extended for thirty years under similar conditions, excepting that the double toll on Sundays was abolished, as a charter had been granted in 1792 for the West Boston bridge.

The bridge was 1470 feet long, 42 feet wide, and rested on 75 piers of oak timber; the draw was 30 feet wide, and there was also a passage 6 feet wide on either side of the bridge for the accommodation of foot passengers. Forty lamps illuminated the bridge at night.

Major Samuel Sewall was the architect, and the bridge was constructed by Lemuel Cox, a master-workman. The first pier was laid June 14, 1785; the last one was placed in position May 31, 1786.

At the time of the opening of the bridge a Boston writer of verse invoked his muse of poetry in an effort of some forty stanzas, of which we quote four:—

The smiling morn now peeps in view,  
Bright with peculiar charms,  
See *Boston* Nymphs and Charlestown too,  
Each linked in arm in arm.

I sing the day in which the BRIDGE  
Is finishèd and done,  
Boston and Charlestown lads rejoice  
And fire your cannon gun.

The BRIDGE is finished now, I see  
Each other bridge outvies.  
The *London Bridge* compar'd with ours  
Appears in dim disguise.

Now Boston, Charlestown nobly join  
And roast a fatted Ox.  
On noted Bunker Hill combine  
To toast our patriot COX.

The following account of the great celebration at the opening of the bridge is copied from the *Boston Independent Chronicle and Universal Advertiser*, June 22, 1786:

BOSTON, June 22, 1786.

Saturday last was observed as a day of rejoicing occasioned by the proprietors opening the new bridge over Charles-River. The commodious and handsome structure is 1470 feet in length, and 42 feet wide within the paling. The bridge has been completed in thirteen months; and whilst it exhibits the greatest effect of private enterprise within the United States, is a most pleasing proof how certainly objects of magnitude may be attained by spirited exertions. The design of opening the Bridge, on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, it was natural to suppose, would combine the most agreeable sensations; and it is certain, that but few were disappointed. As the directors made every exertion to secure uninterrupted festivity on the day, and it fortunately happened that the weather was peculiarly agreeable, all orders were accordingly gratified, and every face exhibited the genuine marks of unfeigned hilarity. Those who were rather struck by the convenience of the thing, were abundantly pleased in exchanging the precarious conveyance of a ferry for the more expeditious and agreeable passage of a firm and respectable Bridge, which affords all the benefits without any of the inconveniences to which the other is exposed. Those who know no other pleasure but the contemplation of their interest, were many of them anticipating the golden harvest which the immense numbers would afford, that either business or amusement will lead to improve this



commodious inlet — while those who were warmed by sentiment, or inspired by patriotism, almost wept at the recollection of the different scenes that the immortal epoch, of which this was the anniversary, had exhibited. It was impossible, indeed, to have been present, and not to have been affected by the striking contrast of the two periods.

The company invited moved in procession from the State-House precisely at one o'clock in the following order :

The Charlestown Company of Artillery,  
under Capt. Calder,  
One hundred and twenty Artificers, who had  
been employed on the Bridge,  
carrying their different tools.  
The Directors and Proprietors of the Bridge,  
The Vice-President and Treasurer.  
A Band of Music,  
accompanied with drums and fifes.  
The President of the Proprietary.  
Sheriffs of the Counties of Suffolk and Middlesex  
and the flanks guarded by the Under Sheriffs  
of the two Counties, and Constables.  
His Excellency Governour Bowdoin,  
and His Honour Lieut. Governour Cushing.  
The Council of the Commonwealth.  
The President and Senate.  
The Speaker and Members of the House of  
Representatives,  
Treasurer and Secretary of the State.  
Consuls of France and Holland.  
Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court,  
and Attorney General.

Naval and Excise Officers,  
 President and Corporation of the University.

Clergy.

Professors and Tutors of the University.

Chairman and Selectmen of Boston.

Selectmen of Charlestown,

Overseers of each town.

Commander of Castle William, and

Officers of the late Continental Army.

President and Directors of the Massachusetts  
 Bank.

A great number of private Gentlemen,

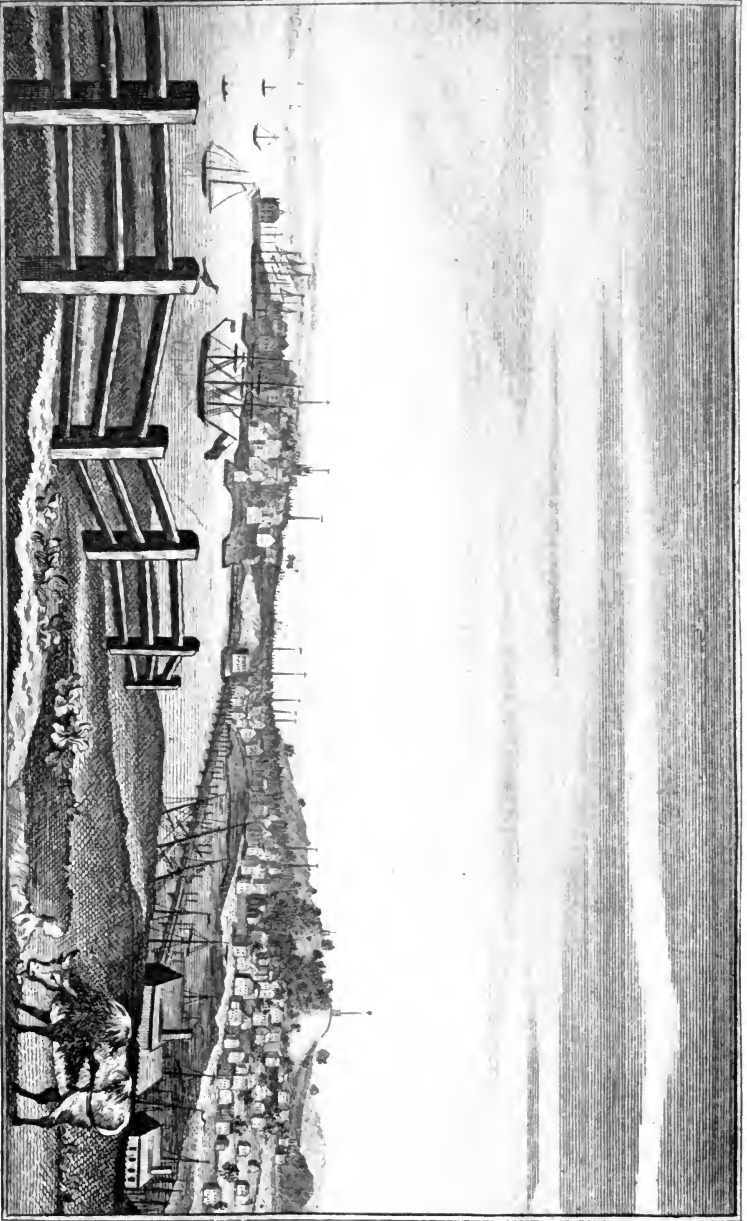
Foreigners and Citizens.

A body of Civil Officers closed the Procession.

Thirteen cannon were discharged from Copp's Hill, while they were passing the Bridge.

It is computed that at least six thousand people, besides horses and carriages, were upon it the same moment.

No one that remembered the confusion and horror with which the battle of Bunker Hill was attended — the town of Charlestown in flames — and all assistance precluded by the astonishing fire of artillery — the movements of the hostile armies, with their dreadful apparatus — the fatal crackling of the musketry — the wounded and dying carrying off by their friends — and the apprehensions feated on every brow, least the final period of American Liberty had approached, could be an uninterested spectator of the joyous scenes which were now everywhere presented. The streets, windows and eminences in the neighbourhood of the Bridge,



CHARLESTOWN BRIDGE AS SEEN FROM BREED'S HILL.

[From a print in the Massachusetts Magazine.]



swarmed with spectators, to the amount at least of twenty thousand, and the ladies were peculiarly attractive.

An elegant dinner, for 800 persons, was provided, at the expence of the proprietors, under a spacious canopy, and near the place where one of the first labations\* of patriot blood had been made at the shrine of freedom.

After dinner the following toasts were drank, and after the 4th toast was given, an ode was sung by Mr. REA, and several other gentlemen, accompanied with the Band, in a manner that might equal, though it could not exceed the merit of the composition.†

1. The United States.
2. The Governour and Commonwealth.
3. The Allies of America.
4. May this Anniversary be forever marked with Joy, as its Birth was with Glory.
5. May the Junction of the two Towns, this Day completed, brighten and perpetuate the Friendship of their inhabitants.
6. May the Arts and Sciences continue to illuminate, and forever distinguish, the American Republicke.
7. Perpetuity to the Bridge—as it was the Product of Enterprize, may it never want the Support of Commerce.
8. The Immortal Memory of General Warren, and his Compatriots, who here fought, bled and died for Freedom.
9. The Mechanick Arts—May Labour never want Encouragement, nor Industry, Reward.
10. May Boston and Charlestown be future Rivals only in Amity.

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\* The spelling, etc., throughout these extracts follows the original.

† This Ode is printed in full in the *Chronicle*. Its omission here has required the transposition of a few lines.

11. Success to Enterprize which shall unite publick Advantage, with private Emolument.

12. May the Publick Faith of America be as distinguished in Peace, as her Patriotick Energies were glorious in War.

13. All Mankind — May Peace, Harmony and Happiness pervade and unite all the Branches of the mighty Family.

Joy crowned the day, and in the evening the lamps were lighted on the bridge, and produced not only a happy effect on the eye, but were very useful in directing the steps of some of the votaries of the rosy deity who returned to town between 10 and 11, with a band of music before them, inspired by the collective pleasure of the scene, but above all by the generous draughts they had taken, to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

Lemuel Cox, the builder of this bridge, as mentioned above, was a Boston mechanic and a skillful inventor. He planned or constructed several other bridges near Boston, which gave him a high reputation and led to his employment for similar work in Ireland. He died in Charlestown February 18, 1806. An obituary calls him "Captain," but what service he rendered has not been ascertained.

#### BOSTON'S GREETING TO WASHINGTON.

On October 15, 1789, George Washington, who had been inaugurated the first President of the United States of America in the previous month of April, started from the city of New York, then the seat of the national

government, to make a tour of the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

The President travelled in his private carriage, which was drawn by four horses, and he was accompanied by his two secretaries, Major William Jackson and Mr. Tobias Lear, both of whom rode on horseback. Six servants also attended the party.

The President and his retinue were escorted for some distance out of the city limits by the Chief Justice, John Jay, the Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, and the Secretary of War, General Henry Knox.

The presidential party journeyed through Connecticut, visiting New Haven, Hartford and several smaller towns, in all of which Washington, as the central figure, was greeted with delight and even veneration by the entire population. Cavalcades of prominent citizens escorted him and his party into many of the towns, and everywhere there was a succession of dinners, addresses and receptions.

From Hartford the journey was continued through Springfield, and then east to Worcester. Here he was given a great ovation ; cannon boomed a welcome as he entered the precincts of the town, and it was a great gratification to the people that he rode into Worcester on horseback, his carriage following him.

From Worcester the party proceeded to Weston, where the coming night was passed ; and on the fol-

lowing morning, October 24th, Cambridge was reached at about ten o'clock.

It must have been a special pleasure to Washington to visit once more, while in Cambridge, the famous Vassall House, which had been his military headquarters in the early days of the Revolutionary War. He remained here however but a brief hour, during which he prepared himself for his entry into Boston by donning a Continental uniform.

The mansion just mentioned was afterwards called the Vassall-Craigie house. In 1843 it became the home of the poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who had resided there since 1837. He died in the house in 1882, since which time it has remained in the possession of his family.

President Washington entered Boston by way of the "Neck," which connected the peninsula, on which the town was then built, with the main land, and he was the honored guest of the municipality from Saturday, October 24th, to the following Thursday morning.

After leaving Boston, Washington continued on his journey northward, visiting Lynn, Salem, Newburyport, Mass., and Exeter and Portsmouth, N. H. In the latter town he attended the wedding of his faithful secretary, Tobias Lear, who had accompanied him thus far on his journey.

The return to New York was made by a different route from that travelled a few days before, and on



November 13th he arrived at his home, after an absence of a month, just in time to attend one of Mrs. Washington's receptions.

Wherever he had visited in New England in this first presidential tour, he had been received with the affection of the people, yet with all the consideration due his high office. He saw evidence on every side that the new nation, of which he was the chief magistrate, was indeed a land of promise. Did a vision come to him as he travelled, of its position in the affairs of the world in this our own time?

The description of this visit, which follows, is copied from the *Massachusetts Magazine* for October, 1789.

As soon as a confirmation of The President's intention [to visit Boston] was received, a Committee was immediately appointed to draft an Address to be presented to him, in behalf of the town, by the Selectmen. The necessary arrangements having been planned and executed by a Committee appointed for that purpose, and information having been received, that The President would enter the town on Saturday, at noon at ten o'clock the inhabitants assembled and formed their PROCESSION in the Mall—from whence, preceded by the Band of his Most Christian Majesty's Squadron — they proceeded to the Fortification — where his Excellency the Governour had previously ordered the several military corps of this metropolis to parade.—

On the arrival of the head of the Procession at the entrance of the town—the whole were ordered to halt—

to open ranks, and face inwards — which being done, an avenue was formed, which reached from the neck to the Statehouse, for The President, &c. to pass through. At one o'clock, The President's approach was announced by federal discharges from Capt. WARNER'S artillery at *Roxbury* — from the *Dorchester* artillery posted on the celebrated heights of that town — from Capt. JOHNSON'S artillery at the entrance of the town — and from Castle William; by a royal salute from the ships of his Most Christian Majesty's squadron, and by the ringing of all the bells.

After the Selectmen had waited on The President — expressed to him the pleasure the citizens enjoyed on his arrival — and gave a hearty welcome,

## THE PROCESSION

Into town, was in the following order.

### *MILITARY.*

Commanded by Col. BRADFORD —

Independent Light Infantry — under Major OTIS.

Independent Fusiliers — under Capt. Lieut.

LAUGHTON.

Capt. JOHNSON'S Artillery.

Independent Cadets — under Major SCOLLAY.

Mufick.

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### *THE CIVIL.*

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SELECTMEN, and Townclerk.

Deputy Sheriffs.

Sheriffs of Suffolk and Middlesex on horseback.

The COUNCIL, and  
The LIEUTENANTGOVERNOUR, in carriages.  
The MARSHAL of *Massachusetts* district.

*The President*

On an elegant white Horse, attended by  
Major JACKSON, and Mr. LEAR,  
his Secretaries.

The VICEPRESIDENT.

The Hon. Mr. BOWDOIN, and others, in two carriages.

Committee of Arrangements.

Commiffarygeneral, and Treasurer of the State.

Representatives.

Overfeers of the Poor.

Town Treasurer.

Magistrates of the town.

Conful of Holland.

Rev. Clergy of this, and other towns.

Lawyers and Physicians.

MERCHANTS and TRADERS,

Preceded by JOHN COFFIN JONES, Esq. carrying a Flag — The  
Device — *A quay, with a ship coming in, and another loading.*  
Motto — *Generous commerce binds the nations by a golden chain.*

MARINE SOCIETY,

Preceded by Capt. DUNN, with a flag. The device — *A ship pass-  
ing the Lighthouse and a boat going to her.*

Masters of Veffels.

Revenue Officers.

Officers of the American Army, preceded by Dr. EUSTIS, carrying  
a Flag, with the *Union Cockade.*

Strangers.

Then followed the Artizans, Tradefmen, and Manufacturers, alphabetically arranged. Every Profession was distinguished by a white silk flag, of a yard square, on a staff seven feet long, with some emblematical device painted thereon. They were numbered from 1 to 50, and being handfomely done, made an agreeable appearance.

The Procession was closed by the seamen, under the orders of Captains *Prince* and *Hallet*, carrying a blue ensign, and the Scholars of the several Schools in town, with quills in their hands, under the care of their respective masters.

On the arrival of the front of the Procession at the Old Brick Meeting, the whole halted — and the Military, the Selectmen and Council conducted THE PRESIDENT through the Triumphal Arch erected across the Mainstreet, to the Senate chamber, by the East door of the Statehouse, from whence the President passed through the Representatives' Chamber to

#### THE COLONNADE

erected for the occasion in the West end of the Statehouse, composed of six large columns, fifteen feet high, and a ballustrade hung in front with Persian carpets, on which were wrought thirteen roses. The circle of the colonnade measured forty four feet, and projected boldly into the Mainstreet, so as to exhibit in a strong light, "*The Man of the People.*" The central West window of the Statehouse was the door through which the President passed to the ballustrade, descending from a platform four easy steps to the floor of the gallery, which was furnished with armed chairs, and spread with rich carpets. On this platform was a pedestal, covered with green, supporting the figure of *Plenty* with her *Cornucopiæ* and other emblems. As soon as the President entered this Colonnade, he was saluted by three huzzas from the citizens; and by an ODE sung by a select choir of singers, with Mr. REA at their head, in

*THE TRIUMPHAL ARCH*

which was adjacent to the Colonnade. This Arch is 18 feet high, composed of a center arch 14 feet wide, and one on each side, of 7 feet, with an Ionick pilaster and proper imports between them. The freeze exhibits 13 stars on a blue ground, and a handsome white dentil cornice is carried to the height of the platform; above is painted a ballustrade of interlaced work, in the center of which is an oval tablet, with the following inscriptions — On one side, “*To the Man who unites all hearts*” — and on the other, “*To Columbia's favourite Son.*” At the end adjoining the Statehouse, is a pannel decorated with a *Trophy*, composed of the arms of the United States, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and our French Allies, crowned with a laurel wreath; over these an inscription, “*Boston relieved March 17, 1776*” — as a proof of a grateful remembrance of the services rendered this town by the illustrious President in his military character. Over the Center arch, a rich canopy of 20 feet in height was erected, with the American Eagle perched above; the whole forming a spectacle, which, while it captivated the eye of the beholder, added much to the testimonials of the respect of the day.

After the Ode was sung, the Procession passed the President, and proceeded into Courtstreet, where the whole were dismissed.

The military companies then escorted the President to his residence in Courtstreet,\* after which they returned into Statestreet, gave 3 volleys, and were dismissed. The number of people collected to see their beloved President, it is almost impossible to compute — The streets were crowded —

*You would thought the very windows mov'd  
To see him as he pass'd, so many young and old  
Through casements darted their desiring eyes.*

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\* This was the building formerly standing on the south-east corner of Court and Tremont streets.

But from the precautions taken, and more from the occasion of their meeting, no one accident happened to mar the pleasure enjoyed on the auspicious day.

In the evening fireworks were exhibited in several parts of the town—In Statestreet, the Bunch of Grapes, the Eastern Coffee-house, Hayt's and Jones's Rooms, &c. made a handsome appearance; and several fireworks were let off from the Castle, and from the French ships, which were beautifully illuminated.

On Tuesday the 27th instant, The President dined at Faneuil Hall, with the Vice President, Lt. Governour, Council, Hon. Mr. Bowdoin, Judges of the Supreme Court, Officers of his Most Christian Majesty's Squadron, Foreign Consuls, President of Harvard College, Clergy, Military Officers, &c. to the number of 150. The Hall was beautifully ornamented with the several flags which had been displayed in the Procession.

During the President's stay in town, he received the respects of His Excellency the Governour—the Viscount de Ponteves Gien, and other officers of his Christian Majesty's Squadron—the Cincinnati, &c.—He visited the Governour—the Hon. Mr. Bowdoin—the fleet of His Most Christian Majesty, where he was received with the respect usually paid European Sovereigns—the Oratorio, at the Chapel—the assembly at Concert Hall, &c. He also visited the Duck Manufactory, and the Card Manufactory of Messrs. Richards and Co. with both of which he was much pleased.

Not confined to the male creation are the testimonials of respect paid to the illustrious PRESIDENT of the United States—The ladies have invented fashes on which the *bald eagle* of the Union, and G. W. hold conspicuous places; and at the *Oratorio* on Tuesday, the Marchioness Traverffay, exhibited on the bandeau of her hat the G. W. and the *Eagle* set in brilliants on a black velvet ground.

## THE "CIVIC FESTIVAL" OF 1793.

It is not difficult to find the reasons which prompted so many of the citizens at the time of the French Revolution to show visible sympathy for the unhappy people in France, who were striving to gain their social and political freedom in the momentous drama which was being enacted there.

In this country, existing conditions were changing rapidly; the upper classes, who had previously monopolized the positions of influence in public and private life, were compelled to realize that the "middling interests" in society were taking an active part in shaping the destinies of the nation.

The elaborate Colonial and Provincial mansions of the aristocracy were giving way to the less pretentious dwellings; the prevailing style of dress was much less elaborate; it had lost much of its elegance and display and had become simple and sedate; new amusements, of which the "play house" was the most important, were becoming a source of pleasure to all classes.

The news of the French Revolution was received therefore with great rejoicing in Boston. The title of "Citizen" became popular, and even the bakers stamped their cakes with the motto "Liberty and Equality." A Liberty Pole was erected, and a great barbecue took place in State street, in front of the present Old State House, which was then the seat of the State govern-

ment. This barbecue was followed by a great feast in Faneuil Hall, at which the presiding officer was "Citizen" Samuel Adams, who at that time was Lieutenant Governor of the State, and a sympathizer with the Jeffersonian party, under whose auspices this affair seems to have been conducted.

This gala day was January 23, 1793, two days after the beheading of the French king, Louis XVI, in Paris. In those days however the news of current events was transmitted very slowly, and Boston did not learn of the terrible crime until many days had passed.\* Then the effusive expressions of popular sympathy ceased, for the American people believed that such deeds of violence could only result in anarchy, with all that that significant word implies.

The following account of the Civic Festival, unique in the annals of Boston, is copied from the issue of the *Columbian Centinel*, which bears the date of January 26, 1793:

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\* The *Columbian Centinel*, printed on Saturday, March 23, 1793, had the following announcement, which was the first reliable information received in Boston:—

We preface it is now in our power to confirm the distressing tidings a few days ago announced to the public, of the decollation of Louis XVI, late King of the French. Capt. Higgins in the schooner Ruby arrived here on Thursday in thirteen days from St. Eustatius, and informed us that the day after he left that island he spoke a brig from Bordeaux, France, out forty days, the captain of which assured him that the King was beheaded.



CIVIC FESTIVAL.

The Committee of the citizens of this metropolis having appointed Thursday last, as a day of Festivity, in commemoration of the successes of their French brethren, in their glorious enterprise for the establishment of equal Liberty, the same was observed by all of the citizens in various companies, with demonstrations of conviviality and festive gratitude. The dawn was welcomed by a salute of cannon from the Castle, from citizen BRADLEE'S artillery, and by a number of citizens assembled at Liberty square.

At 11 o'clock, an Ox, devoted as an offering on the occasion, having been roasted entire the previous night, was prepared for exhibition to the citizens, and a procession was formed, which moved in the following order :

Two Citizens, on horseback, with civic flags.

Citizen WATERS, Marshal.

The Committee, nine in number, with a number of

Citizens, Peace Officers, on the flanks.

Musick.

A full band, with drums and fifes.

Citizens, eight and eight.

Twelve citizens, in white frocks, with cleavers,

Knives, steels, &c —

OX.

Of one thousand wt, elevated about 20 feet, on a Car, drawn by Fifteen fine Horses, and ornamented with ribbons, box, &c. — his horns gilded; from the right of which was displayed the Republican Flag of France, and from the left that of the United States —

forward of him, on a board at the end of the spit, was this inscription in large gold letters

“PEACE OFFERING  
TO LIBERTY AND EQUALITY.”

Citizens eight deep.

Eight hundred Loaves of Bread, in a cart, drawn  
by six horses, suitably decorated.

A Hoghead of Punch, drawn by six horses.

Eight hundred loaves of Bread, in a cart and a second hoghead of Punch, drawn as before, closed the procession.

Each horse had a Conductor, dressed in white; a number were ornamented with elegant silk flags, as were all the carts, in which the liquor and bread were conveyed.

In this manner the Procession moved from the Northern extremity of the town, to Liberty Stump, from thence by the houses of the Governour and Lieut. Governour, through Federal-street and Liberty-square, into State-street; saluting with three huzzas, the Governour, Lt. Governour, the Consul of France, the Federal Meeting-House, and the flags at Liberty-stump, and Square.

When arrived at the Federal Meeting-House, a Committee of the Society, who worship therein, delivered the following address to the Committee :

The Proprietors of This House  
congratulate the Fellow-Citizens assembled,  
on the joy of the day, and with  
Equal Liberty to all Mankind—

In behalf of the Proprietors,

FRANCIS WRIGHT.

Federal-Street, 24th Jan. 1793.

And when the Procession passed Liberty-Square (formerly called Oliver's Dock) the ceremony of naming the spot was performed, and the procession was saluted with fifteen guns.

From the immense number of citizens assembled in State-street, the refreshments provided, could not be so equally distributed, as was wished; but notwithstanding this circumstance, the highest degree of cheerfulness and good will prevailed; and the sacrifice being speedily demolished, the citizens retired in good order.

The remains of the bread were sent to the Jail and Alms-House.

All conditions of citizens were gratified by the novel exhibition, and during the march of the Procession no accident or circumstance, intervened in the least to mar the hilarity of the day.

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At two o'clock, another Procession of the citizens, who instituted the Feast, was formed at the State-House; and preceded by Citizen WATERS, and the Band of Music, moved to Faneuil-Hall; where an elegant and sumptuous Entertainment was provided, at which near three hundred partook; citizen S. ADAMS acting as President, and the citizen LETOMBE, as Vice-President.

After the entertainment, the following Toasts and Sentiments were given — accompanied by discharges of artillery.

*Toasts.*

1. The People. 15 guns.
2. The Rights of Man. — Wisdom to explain, and Courage to defend them.

3. The American and French Revolutions. — May patriotick energies, continue to refute aristocratick predictions.
4. The Republicks of America. — Perpetuity to their union and happinefs. 13 Guns.
5. The Republick of France. — May this rising luminary increafe in splendour, until not a star of monarchy shall be visible in the political hemisphere. 13 Guns.
6. The Fraternity of Freemen. — Harmony and increafe to this mighty family.
7. The Law. — May it always breathe the spirit of liberty and speak the language of patriotifm.
8. The Citizen Soldiers of France.
9. Civic virtues to the military, and a military spirit to the citizens.
10. May the light of philosophy irradiate the caverns of superstition and despotifm, and reveal their horrors.
11. Democratic organs to exprefs American sentiments.
12. May the spirit of freedom pervade the seminaries of literature, and the light of knowledge invigorate the tree of liberty. 13 Guns.
13. [This toast was thus repeated by Citizen CHARLES JARVIS :  
“ We propose but one individual, and your hearts will tell you that this is WASHINGTON.” 13 Guns.
14. In all governments may Liberty be the check, and Equality the ballance.
15. May every man have the feelings of a citizen, and every citizen the spirit of a man.

After which the following were given as volunteers :

1. HANCOCK, by Citizen ADAMS. 13 Guns.
2. The Whigs of Seventy-Five.
3. Justice to M. LA FAYETTE.

In the course of the Festival, a Committee from our fellow citizens of Charlestown, were introduced amidst the plaudits of the company, and expressed the congratulations of their constituents on the auspicious occasion. They proposed to drink the health of the citizens of Boston, at 4 o'clock: The compliment was returned, and five of the company was deputed to inform the festive band in our sister town, that The Prosperity of the Town of Charlestown, would be drunk at one quarter past four o'clock, under a discharge of artillery — which was accordingly done.

At the early hour agreed upon, the Company retired with those emotions and feelings the occasion was so well calculated to inspire.

#### DECORATIONS.

The Hall was as beautifully decorated as the season of the year would permit. At the West-end over the head of the President, arose an obelisk, bearing in front the figure of Liberty, her left hand supporting her insignia, and her extended right hand displaying "The Rights of Man"— Under her feet, the badges of Civil and Ecclesiastical Despotism (a crown, sceptre, mitre and chains) were broken in pieces. . . . Over her head, a descending cherub presented in its right hand a wreath, "as The Reward of Virtue," and in its left hand, The Palm of Peace. . . . A garter annexed, emphatically expressed, "Thus we go to the stars." Over the whole, the benign Eye of Providence appeared to view with approbation the scene, and to express "I guard the faithful." The right side of the Obelisk displayed the American, and the left the French Flags.

At the entrance, an Orchestra was erected. . . . Its front exhibited an inscription, "Sacred to Liberty, Justice and Peace" from which arose the Figures of Fame, Peace and Justice: While under this assemblage the endearing wish of "Liberty and Equality," issued for all Mankind, the extended Trumpet of Fame, pronounced a cordial Amen.

[The decorations were made under the direction of Citizen WATERS.]

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#### THE NEW STATE HOUSE.

A study of the history of Boston teaches us that the erection of a State capitol on Beacon Hill marked the beginning of an era of development of the town, which continued until the outbreak of the War of 1812. When the effects of that great struggle had passed away, the prosperity of Boston rapidly increased until after the first quarter of the nineteenth century, and the town had become a city.

During this period many enterprises were inaugurated and carried to a successful conclusion. Beacon Hill was developed as a residential section of the town, and the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, the Boston Athenaeum and other well-known institutions were incorporated. India and Central Wharves were constructed and covered with warehouses in which were stored rich cargoes from many foreign lands. Bridges were built and turnpikes opened, connecting Boston with the adjacent towns.

In 1822 the town of Boston accepted the Charter granted by the Legislature, and the year 1825 saw the completion of the leading enterprise of the day, the building of Faneuil Hall Market and the adjacent stores on North and South Market streets. The three men whose names were most prominently connected with the great public improvements of that period were Charles Bulfinch, the accomplished architect and Selectman; Uriah Cotting, merchant, who had an abiding faith in the future of Boston, and Josiah Quincy, the great Mayor; others contributed largely of their wealth, time and energy, but these were pre-eminent.

December 21, 1793, a committee was appointed by the town of Boston, to report what proposals should be offered to the Legislature, on the subject of erecting a "State House for the Commonwealth within the Town of Boston." This committee reported on the 22d of the following January, recommending that a committee "should be immediately raised with plenary Powers," and that the following proposal be made:—

That if the Commonwealth will grant to the Town all their Estate in the present State House and the Old Province House, and the Land appurtenant thereto. that in such Case the Town shall and will Erect a New State House for the Commonwealth on any Spot of Ground within the Limits of the Town, being the Towns property, which the Legislature shall elect, and on any Model they shall direct, provided the whole expence shall not exceed Nine Thousand Pounds,

and on Condition that the Commonwealth shall Grant. Two Thousand Pounds to the Town in addition to the real Property, to be conveyed as before stipulated.\*

This report was signed by William Tudor, for the committee. The town unanimously adopted the proposal, and Messrs. William Tudor, William Eustis, Charles Jarvis, Perez Morton, Daniel Austin, John Coffin Jones, and "Mr. Treasurer Russell," were appointed the committee "to Effect the Purposes of this Report." On February 11, 1795, the same committee, with the exception of Mr. Austin, and enlarged by the addition of Messrs. Thomas Dawes, Harrison G. Otis and William Little, were empowered to purchase and convey any piece of land owned by the Town, deemed expedient for its interest, for the proposed building, but "not alienating any part of the Common, unless the accommodation cannot be had on any other terms."† This committee reported on the 13th of the following May, that they had

purchas'd from the Heirs of the late Governour Hancock, a piece of Land on the north easterly side of the mansion house of the late Governour Hancock, commonly called the Governour's pasture; at the price of Four thousand pounds. . . . Your Committee found it necessary to borrow of the Massachusetts and Union Banks the sum of One thousand pounds & on the same day, viz. the 6th of April last, gave

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\* Printed Town Records, XXXI: p. 317.

† *Ibid.*, p. 383.



their Notes on interest for the remainder of the purchase money. . . .\*

The corner-stone of the new building was laid by his Excellency, Samuel Adams, Governor of the Commonwealth, with appropriate ceremonial, on the Fourth of July, 1795. By invitation of the Governor he was assisted by the Grand Lodge of Masons, of which Paul Revere was then Grand Master. A procession of the State officials accompanied by the Grand Lodge and a large number of its subordinate Lodges, and escorted by the Independent Fusileers, moved from the Old State House to Beacon Hill at ten o'clock. Immediately behind the escort followed a truck on which was the corner-stone; this was drawn by a team of fifteen white horses, each with a leader.

Beneath the stone a plate was deposited, which was inscribed as follows:—

This corner stone of a building  
intended for the use of the Legislature  
and Executive Branches of Government of the  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
was laid by  
His Excellency Samuel Adams, Esq.  
Governor of said Commonwealth,  
assisted by the Most Worshipful Paul Revere,  
Grand Master,  
and the Right Worshipful William Scollay,  
Deputy Grand Master,

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\* Printed Town Records, XXXI: p. 397.

*Historic Processions in Boston.*

The Grand Wardens and Brethren  
Of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,  
on the 4th day of July,  
An. Dom. 1795,  
A. L. 5795.

Being the 20th anniversary of American Independence.

The procession with its banners and bands of music, the various Masonic bodies in full regalia with their jewels of office, was a very attractive one, — much more imposing, if we may judge from the accounts given at the time, than that when the State took possession of the completed building two years and a half later.

The *Columbian Centinel*, January 10–13, supplies the following account of the formal occupancy of the New State House:—

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

GOVERNMENTAL PROCEEDINGS.

Wednesday, Jan. 10 — 1798.

Agreeably to adjournment, a quorum of both Branches assembled at the *Old State-House*, and proceeded to the election of Committees preparatory to the execution of business.

A committee was raised to report the time and manner of repairing to the New State-House, which the Agents had reported was prepared for the accommodation of the government. Adjourned.

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Thursday, Jan. 11 — 1798.

Agreeably to assignment, on invitation of the Legislature, the Supreme Executive repaired to the *Senate Chamber* of

the old House, and, at 12 o'clock, a Procession moved consisting of the

*Sheriff of Suffolk.*

His Excellency the GOVERNOR,  
His Honor the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR,

The Hon. *Council*,

The PRESIDENT of the Senate,

CHAPLAIN of the Legislature,

The Hon. *Senate*,

The SPEAKER of the House of the Representatives.

The Hon. House,

The *Secretary* of the Commonwealth,

Clerks of the two Houses,

The *Treasurer* of the Commonwealth,

Clerks, Messengers, &c.

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In this order the whole proceeded to the *Representatives* room, in the new Commonwealth-House; where the Rev. Dr. THATCHER, as Chaplain of the *Legislature*, in a very eloquent and pathetic address, dedicated the building to the most honorable of human pursuits — the honor of God, and the People's good.

The different branches then separated, and took possession of their appropriate rooms.

Dr. EUSTIS, in behalf of the *Representatives* of *Boston*, in a very handsome manner, returned thanks to the House, for its politeness in permitting them to take the front range of seats opposite the Speaker.

The *Secretary* informed the House, that he had it in direction from His Excellency the Governor, to acquaint the

Houfe, that he should meet them tomorrow, in the Representatives' Room, to make the usual communications to the Legislature. Adjourned.

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#### RECEPTION OF CAPT. ISAAC HULL.

Isaac Hull was a son of Joseph Hull, a soldier of the Revolution; he was born in Derby, Conn., March 9, 1775. After passing his childhood in Derby, he came to Boston when a lad, to seek his fortune, and lived for a while with his uncle, Col. William Hull, who resided in Newton, Mass., a few miles from Boston.

Finding that he had a fondness for the sea, young Hull entered the merchant marine service and at nineteen years of age commanded a vessel then making a voyage to London. He was appointed Lieutenant in the United States Navy in 1798, Commander in 1804, Captain in 1806, and later became a Commodore. He saw active service in the West Indies and in the War with Tripoli in 1804. After the War of 1812 he commanded fleets in foreign waters, and was also at various times in charge of the navy yards at Boston, Portsmouth and Washington.

Capt. Hull married in 1813 Miss Anna Hart of Saybrook, Conn. He died in Philadelphia, Pa., February 3, 1843, leaving no issue.

Commodore Hull attained great distinction as a naval officer at home and abroad. His memorable career in

the War of 1812, which proved his remarkable skill in handling both ship and crew and won a medal from Congress, has kept his name high on the rolls of the United States Navy. His valor was celebrated in prose and verse, and even now his exploits furnish favorite themes for the songs of the crews on our battle-ships.

His victory over the British frigate was not his first service on the *Constitution*, for he was her First Lieutenant, under Commodore Talbot, in May, 1800, when in a small sloop at noon-day he cut out a French letter-of-marque from one of the West India islands, without losing a man. In 1804 he again distinguished himself at the storming of Tripoli, and his escape by superior seamanship from a British squadron not long before the fight, is hardly less famous than his victory.

The capture of the British frigate *Guerriere* by the *Constitution* on the afternoon of August 19, 1812, after a short and brilliant action of only half an hour, and with a loss of only fourteen killed and wounded, while her adversary lost seventy-nine, was the first naval battle of the War of 1812. It has been said that this battle was "of more importance to the United States than all the subsequent victories, because it demonstrated that the notion that the British navy was invincible on the seas was incorrect." It occurred at a time when the American Nation was wrapped in gloom at the incompetence of the government and the consequent

disasters in the North-West which had but recently occurred.

When therefore the victorious Constitution sailed into Boston Harbor and Capt. Hull, her gallant commander, announced to the delighted Bostonians that a few days previous he had engaged the frigate *Guerriere* in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and that as a result her hulk lay at the bottom of the gulf, their joy knew no bounds.

Later, when the welcome news spread through the country, it was felt that the victory of the Constitution in the first sea fight of the war had proved that the American Navy, though small indeed when compared with that of Great Britain, was yet fully capable of successful warfare on the sea.

The citizens of Boston gave a Public Dinner to Capt. Hull and his officers a few days after their return, in recognition of their brave and gallant conduct. A full account of this occasion, with the formation of the Procession which escorted them to Faneuil Hall, and of the toasts proposed, was given in the *Centinel* of Sept. 9, 1812, and is reproduced below:—

#### TRIBUTE TO NAVAL HEROISM.

THE Public Dinner given on Saturday last, at *Faneuil-Hall*, to Capt. HULL, in honor of his brilliant victory over the British frigate *Guerriere*, eminently partook of that species of national gratitude and admiration, which reflects equal credit on both political parties, who united, like "brethren



CAPT. ISAAC HULL.

[From an Original Portrait by Gilbert Stuart.]





of the same principle," on this august occasion ;— whilst, at the same time, it furnished the most noble incentives to our little but gallant NAVY to pursue with zeal and effect the path of DUTY and GLORY.

At a time when incapacity and impolicy had nearly sunk the character and spirit of the nation ; when our affairs in the "*North-West*" had met with discomfiture and disgrace ;— to celebrate an exploit in the *East* so eminently calculated to chase away gloomy forebodings, and to exhilarate the breasts of every true American, was equally the pride and satisfaction of all, who, on many other occasions, could only "*agree to differ.*"

The principle, That a *Navy is the most efficient species of defence for our Commercial Rights*, is no longer contested. — Capt. HULL has most honorably proved its truth ; and led those who doubted to doubt no more. — He has, therefore, ensured a *double* victory ; and the Nation, we trust, will eventually reap every advantage from it.

Agreeably to the arrangements, mentioned in our last, a sumptuous dinner was prepared at *Faneuil-Hall*, which was splendidly decorated for the occasion. At an early hour in the morning, State-Street, Long-Wharf, Merchants'-Row, &c. and the shipping at the wharves, were beautifully dressed with flags. At 3 o'clock the procession, consisting of about 500 of the most respectable citizens of both parties, was formed at, and moved from the Exchange Coffee-House, preceded by an excellent band of music, to the hall of entertainment. The spectators were numerous, and cheered the procession as it passed down State-Street. The following was the

## ORDER OF PROCESSION.

Aid.	Chief Marshal.	Aid.
G. BETHUNE.	F. J. OLIVER.	R. G. SHAW.
Committee of Arrangements.		
Music.		
Marshal } G. SULLIVAN. }	President of the Day and Capt. HULL.	{ Marshal, { JAS. MAGEE.
Vice Presidents.		
Officers of the U. States Navy, according to seniority.		
President ADAMS and Hon. Mr. GORE.		
Members of the Hon. Council.		
Judge BENSON, and Hon. Mr. QUINCY.		
President of Harvard College.		
Reverend Clergy.		
Judges of the Federal and State Courts.		
Selectmen of the town of <i>boston</i> .		
Gen. BOYD, and other officers of the U. States Army.		
Other invited Guests.		
N. APPLETON.	Marshals.	N. HALE.
Subscribers to the dinner.		
O. EVERETT.	Marshals.	E. UPHAM.

The Hon. JOHN C. JONES was the President of the day; the Vice Presidents were the Hon. *Samuel Dexter*, Hon. *H. G. Otis*, *Tristram Barnard*, Esq. *James Perkins*, Esq. *George Blake*, Esq. Col. *Daniel Messinger*, Hon. *Daniel Sargent*.

A more pleasing and animating design and arrangement of appropriate decorations has never been exhibited in *New-England*. Our limits will not admit of a full illustration of each emblem;—the *naval history* of past and present times; and the *duties* and *hopes* of Americans, were most aptly concen-

trated in the various displays of Taste, Genius and Patriotism. It would require a *plate* with *annotations* to give a satisfactory view of the scenery. Suffice it to say, the EYE and MIND were delighted and instructed — and great praise is awarded to Col. H. SARGEANT, who superintended and designed the decorations. A faint prospective idea, can only be obtained from the following rough sketch:

*At the WEST end of the Hall.* — The fixed Naval Pillar (on which is inscribed the names of departed American Naval Heroes) was richly decorated with variegated wreaths of flowers. — Four banners, (equidistant) inscribed with “*Civil Liberty.*” — “*Naval Defence.*” — “*Naval Glory.*” — “*Free Trade.*”

*SOUTH side.* — 1st, a Naval Pillar, with emblems, and a tablet inscribed “*Philadelphia frigate burnt, 1804.*” — 2nd, an Urn — 3d, a Cannon, with emblems, and a tablet inscribed “*Rights asserted, wrongs avenged.*” — 4th, a Naval Pillar, &c. &c. “*Vengeance, Feb. 1, 1800.*” — 5th, a Cannon, &c. &c. “*Tribute from the Cannon's mouth.*” — 6th, an Urn. — 7th, Naval Pillar, &c. &c. “*Constellation, 1799 and 1800.*”

*NORTH side.* — 1st, Naval Pillar, with emblems, and a tablet inscribed “*Signal action of Gunboats, Aug. 3, 1804*” — 2d, an Urn — 3d, a Cannon, &c. &c. “*The last Resort.*” — 4th, a Naval Pillar, &c. &c. “*Insurgent, Feb. 9, 1799*” — 5th, a Cannon, &c. &c. “*Commerce Protected.*” — 6th, an Urn. — 7th, a Naval Pillar, &c. &c. “*Tripoli, 1804.*”

*EAST end of the Hall.* — A Ship (the CONSTITUTION; with sails furled, flags flying, masts fished,\* and vessel victoriously moored in port) — The tablet inscribed with “*Aug. 20, 1812.*”

\* \* The Pillars which support the gallery, &c. were gracefully entwined with American pendants.

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\* The typographic errors of the original are followed.

The Dinner was excellent, well served and well attended, and was prepared by Mr. JONES, of the Exchange Coffee House.

After the Dinner was concluded, the following Sentiments were pronounced, and received with universal applause; which was re-echoed from the cannon of the *Washington* Artillery, under Capt. WM. HARRIS, who paraded for that purpose near *Faneuil-Hall*.

#### REGULAR TOASTS.

1. *The American Nation* — May Danger from abroad ensure Union at home.
2. The President of the United States.
3. The Governor of this Commonwealth.
4. *Our Infant Navy* — We must nurture the young Hercules in his cradle, if we mean to profit by the labors of his manhood.
5. *The Victory we celebrate.* — An irrefragible proof that we are able to defend our rights on the ocean.
6. A speedy peace with the Country of our Ancestors, and until that event, a contest so conducted as not to banish the recollection of past, or the hope of future friendship.
7. *No entangling Alliance* — We have suffered the injuries and insults of despotism with patience, but its friendship is more than we can bear.
8. *The gallant frigate Constitution* — Whatever disasters may happen to her spars and rigging, we are certain she will always remain safe and sound in her HULL.

The Hon. Chairman then proposed the following sentiments —  
 “The memory of the gallant BUSH — Our tears like our joys come from the heart.”

9. *The fourth Regiment of Infantry* — The valour and discipline which saved our army from the fury of savages, are crowned with laurels, which misfortune cannot wither.
10. *The Officers and Crews of our little fleet* — A galaxy of talent and courage: — Let their country afford the means and occasion, and they will requite their country by victory and honor.
11. *Freedom to our Commerce* — It asks thousands for Defence, and would give millions for Revenue.
12. *The Memory of our Country's Father* — May his spirit inspire our councils in war and in peace.
13. *The American Eagle* — Instead of wasting his lightnings on the desert, may they be reserved for a nobler struggle on the deep.
14. *A Free Press* — The natural source of those rights, of which a Navy is the surest defence.
15. *Our National Union* — Strict fidelity to the Nation in every State, and equal protection to the interests of every State by the power of the Nation.
16. *The Memory of Commodore Preble* — A peerage and a statue rewarded the hero of *Trafalgar*, may the hero of *Tripoli* find a title and a monument in the imperishable *gratitude* of his country.
17. *Russia, Spain and Portugal* — The patriots of all nations, who are engaged in the defence of the rights of all mankind.

After Capt. HULL had retired, the Honorable Chairman gave the following sentiment: —

ISAAC HULL, *Esquire, his Officers and Ship's Company* — They have atchived a Victory, not surpassed in bravery and talent, by any precedent — We accord to them our highest esteem and most

grateful acknowledgements — May services so signal, and merit so brilliant, be appreciated by the Government and Nation.

When the President of the day had retired, the Hon. Mr. DEXTER was called to the Chair — and the following Toast was drank : —

The President of the Day.

Mr. DEXTER observed that he had taken the Chair in consequence of the retirement of the President of the Day, and that he knew of no remaining duties to perform; but however begged leave to propose one toast :

*The Iron Colossus* that bestrides the Continent of *Europe* —  
May the nations no longer be blasted with its shadow : —

— Which was received with great enthusiasm by the whole company.

By the arrangements of the Committee no Volunteer Toasts were allowed to be pronounced; but the Hon. Chairman, in a short but pertinent address, informed the company that the late President ADAMS, who was an invited guest, was unable, from his age, and the inclemency of the weather, to attend, and that he had communicated a number of sentiments to be drank on the occasion. The following toasts were then pronounced from the Chair as coming from him :

May every Commodore in our American Navy soon be made an Admiral, and every Captain a Commodore; with ships and squadrons, worthy of their commanders, and worthy of the wealth, power and dignity of their country. *Proh Dolor! Proh Pudor!*

*Talbot, Truxton, Decatur, Little, Preble* — Had their country given them the means, they would have been *blakes, Drakes* and *Nelsons*.

After the 5th Toast, an Original Ode . . . was sung by Mr. *Stebbins*, with his usual taste and elegance, and was received with great applause; particularly the stanza where the names of HULL and MORRIS are introduced.

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☞ The following beautiful ODE was composed for and sung at the Public Dinner given in *Faneuil-Hall* to Capt. HULL, and the Officers of the *Constitution* frigate, on Saturday last:—

ODE

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[BY L. M. SARGENT, ESQ.]

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Tune — “*Ye Mariners of England.*”

BRITANNIA's gallant streamers  
Float proudly o'er the tide,  
And fairly wave *Columbia's* stripes,  
In battle, side by side,  
And ne'er did bolder foemen meet,  
Where ocean's surges pour.  
O'er the tide they now ride,  
While the bell'wing thunders roar,  
While the cannon's fire is flashing fast,  
And the bell'wing thunders roar.

When Yankee meets the Briton,  
Whose blood congenial flows,  
By HEAV'n created to be friends,  
By fortune render'd foes;  
Hard then must be the battle fray,

Ere well the fight is o'er.

Now they ride, side by side,  
While the bell'wing thunders roar,  
While the cannon's fire is flashing fast,  
And the bell'wing thunders roar.

Still, still for noble *England*,

Bold DACRES' streamers fly;  
And, for *Columbia*, gallant HULL's,  
As proudly and as high.

Now louder rings the battle din,  
More thick the volumes pour;  
Still they ride, side by side,  
While the bell'wing thunders roar,  
While the cannon's fire is flashing fast,  
And the bell'wing thunders roar.

Why lulls *Britannia's* thunder,

That wak'd the wat'ry war?  
Why stays that gallant *Guerriere*,  
Whose streamer wav'd so fair?  
That streamer drinks the ocean wave!  
That warrior's fight is o'er!  
Still they ride, side by side,  
While *Columbia's* thunders roar,  
While her cannon's fire is flashing fast,  
And her Yankee thunders roar.

Hark! 'tis the Briton's lee gun!

Ne'er bolder warrior kneel'd!  
And ne'er to gallant mariners  
Did braver seamen yield.  
Proud be the sires, whose hardy boys,



Then fell, to fight no more ;  
    With the brave, 'mid the wave,  
When the cannon's thunders roar,  
    Their spirits then shall trim the blast,  
And swell the thunder's roar.

Vain were the cheers of Britons,  
    Their hearts did vainly swell,  
Where virtue, skill and bravery,  
    With gallant MORRIS fell.  
That heart, so well in battle tri'd,  
Along the Moorish shore,  
    Again o'er the main,  
When *Columbia's* thunders roar,  
    Shall prove its Yankee spirit true,  
When *Columbia's* thunders roar.

Hence be our floating bulwarks  
    Those oaks our mountains yield ;  
'Tis mighty Heaven's plain decree —  
    Then take the wat'ry field !  
To ocean's farthest barrier then  
Your whit'ning sail shall pour ;  
    Safe they'll ride, o'er the tide,  
While *Columbia's* thunders roar,  
    While her cannon's fire is flashing fast  
And her Yankee thunders roar.

---

Charles Morris, to whom reference is made above, was First Lieutenant of the Constitution, and dangerously wounded in the fight, but he recovered and subsequently achieved a high reputation as a naval commander, dying in 1856.

## RECEPTION OF GENERAL LAFAYETTE.

Gen. Lafayette came to America four times between the years 1777 and 1824; in the former year he entered the military service of the United States. He returned to his duties after a leave of absence of about one year, which he passed with his family in France; it was then that he brought to Gen. Washington the welcome news that the French King would send a fleet and six thousand troops to assist the Americans in prosecuting the war. Lafayette landed in Boston at the conclusion of this voyage, and was welcomed with the greatest enthusiasm by the inhabitants of the town. He remained with the army until after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

He returned to France in the winter of 1781, sailing from Boston in the frigate *Alliance*. After the treaty of Paris in 1783 he once more visited the United States, arriving in New York in August, 1784, and was everywhere received with marked distinction.

It is recorded that when he came to Boston during this visit, he was welcomed with greater enthusiasm than any where else. Governor Hancock, the State Legislature and the town authorities assembled to greet him at a grand reception, and he attended a dinner in his honor at which thirteen toasts were given.

In 1824 he made his last and memorable visit to the United States as the nation's guest. His progress



LA FAYETTE

[From a Portrait by Ary Scheffer.]



through the country was a continued ovation, and it may well be said that to few men have been rendered so sincere a tribute of the gratitude of an enlightened people.

It may be interesting to quote the following extract from a letter of Lafayette, written in 1797, in which he tells us that he considered Boston and its environs a desirable place in which to pass the remainder of his life. This letter was written to his wife while she was in France, and he was separated from her by his exile:—

George and I have been planning a farm for you, either in the beautiful valley of the Shenandoah, in the State of Virginia, not far from Federal City and even Mount Vernon, or in the lovely fields of New England within reach of the town of Boston, for which you know my fancy. I do not conceal from myself, dear Adrienne, the fact that I, who complain of the serfs of Holstein as a sad surrounding for a friend of liberty, should find negro slaves in the valley of the Shenandoah; for if in the Northern States there is equality for all, in the Southern it exists only for the whites. . . . . I should however prefer New England, and at the same time I feel all the reasons which ought to draw us near Mount Vernon and the seat of government. But we only want the first dollar to buy our farm with.

The name of Lafayette, "the Knight of Liberty," will be interwoven with the history of the United States of

America so long as the nation shall endure, for every true American knows the story of the youthful and gallant Frenchman who became so prominent in the war for Independence.

The life of Lafayette was full of romance from early youth to extreme age, and we rejoice that he was permitted to accomplish so much for the cause of liberty, both in America and France.

Marie Jean Paul Roch Yves Gilbert Motier de Lafayette, son of the first Marquis de Lafayette, was born September 6, 1757, in the Chateau de Chavagnac, in the former province of Auvergne, France.

When he was less than two years old his father, who held the rank of *maréchal-de-camp*, was killed in the battle of Minden, Westphalia, in 1759, and by the deaths of his mother and grandfather about the year 1770, he inherited a large fortune. When but fifteen years of age, the young Marquis became an officer in the *Mousquetaires du Roi*, the body guard of Louis XVI, which was entirely composed of representatives of the highest French nobility. He was married at the age of sixteen to Marie Adrienne Françoise, a maiden of but fifteen years of age, and the daughter of the Duc d'Ayen.

Three years after his marriage, the Marquis was stationed at Metz, in the capacity of an officer in the French army, and while there was intimate with the Duke of Gloucester, brother of the King of England, and then an exile from the Court of Great Britain.

Through him Lafayette became deeply interested in the efforts of the American Colonies to secure their independence, and resigning his commission, he hastened to Paris to make preparations to start at once for America. He offered his services to Silas Deane, then one of the Colonial agents in France. Deane gave him a letter to the American Congress, asking that he be granted a commission as Major General in the American army.

Lafayette landed on the coast of South Carolina in the summer of 1777, having defrayed from his own estate the cost of the equipment of the vessel, the *Victory*, in which he had crossed the Atlantic.

On July 31, 1777, Congress tardily conferred on Lafayette the rank of Major General, and the next day at a dinner party in Philadelphia he first met Washington. The two comrades in arms were at once attracted to each other in spite of the disparity of their ages, and thus began a friendship which was broken only by the death of Washington in 1799. Their relations were like that of father and son, and the grateful Frenchman named his only son George Washington Lafayette.

Lafayette saw much active service. He was wounded in the battle of Brandywine, and received from Congress a sword of elaborate workmanship, and from Washington his personal thanks after the decisive victory which forced the surrender of Yorktown, in which he showed conspicuous bravery.

On his subsequent career we need not enlarge. It may be said of him that rarely if ever does it fall to the lot of one man to participate as prominently and yet so nobly in so many momentous events; and his enthusiastic reception by the people of the United States, a half-century after he first drew his sword in the cause of American freedom, proved that republics are not ungrateful. Nowhere was this shown more clearly than in the city of Boston. The following account, taken from the *Galaxy*, a newspaper of the day, was probably written by the editor, Joseph T. Buckingham.

---

WELCOME LAFAYETTE.

The *fathers* in glory shall sleep,  
That gathered with thee in the fight,  
But the *sons* will eternally keep  
The tablet of gratitude bright.

We bow not the *neck*, and we bend not the *knee*,  
But our *hearts*, Lafayette, we surrender to thee.

General Lafayette, our nation's guest, was received in this city, on Tuesday, and welcomed by the inhabitants with demonstrations of joy, that perhaps may be conceived but are difficult to describe. The streets through which he passed were crowded with anxious and gratified spectators, and every window exhibited indications of the delight which his presence and the recollections of his service inspired.

An arch was thrown across Washington-street above South-Boston bridge, near the spot where, when Lafayette left the town in 1787, were the remains of a breastwork erected dur-



ing the revolutionary war. At each side of the arch was planted a tree of oak, and another of pine, about twenty feet in height, and the pillars were tastefully wreathed with evergreens and flowers. The arch itself was decorated with American flags and evergreens, and from its centre a scroll was suspended, bearing the inscription which stands at the head of this article.

Another arch was erected across Washington-street by the Boylston Market, on the spot once shaded by the "Liberty Tree," which was elegantly decorated with oaken garlands, so arranged as to form a beautiful border on each side of the arch. The space not covered with these leaves of oak, was about two feet broad, and contained the motto, "Washington and Lafayette" in large capitals, extending from one end of the arch to the other. Underneath was the motto, "A Republic not ungrateful."

At several places lines were extended across the street, decorated with flags and forming handsome festoons.

About 11 o'clock, Gen. Lafayette approached the boundary line of the city, from the residence of Governor Eustis in Roxbury. His arrival at the line was announced by a discharge of artillery, when all the bells of the city commenced ringing a peal which was continued till he arrived at the State House.

He was met at the line by the Mayor and City Council. The Mayor\* addressed him as follows :

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\* The Mayor of Boston at this time was the Hon. Josiah Quincy, Harvard 1790; he served 1823-1828, and was President of Harvard 1829-1845. He died July 1, 1864.

Sir, — The citizens of Boston welcome you, on your return to the United States ; mindful of your early zeal, in the cause of American Independence ; grateful for your distinguished share, in the perils and glories of its achievement.

When, urged by generous sympathy, you first landed on these shores, you found a people, engaged in an arduous and eventful struggle for liberty, with apparently inadequate means and amidst dubious omens. After the lapse of nearly half a century, you find the same people, prosperous beyond all hope and all precedent ; their liberty secure ; sitting in its strength ; without fear and reproach.

In your youth, you joined the standards of three millions of people, raised in an unequal and uncertain conflict. In your advanced age, you return and are met by Ten Millions of people, their descendants, whose hearts throng hither to greet your approach and to rejoice in it.

This is not the movement of a turbulent population, excited by the fresh laurels of some recent conqueror. It is a grave, moral, intellectual impulse.

A whole people, in the enjoyment of freedom, as perfect as the condition of our nature permits, recur with gratitude, increasing with the daily increasing sense of their blessings, to the memory of those, who, by their labours and in their blood, laid the foundations of our liberties.

Your name, sir : the name of LAFAYETTE is associated with the most perilous and most glorious periods of our revolution ; with the imperishable names of WASHINGTON, and of that numerous host of heroes, which adorn the proudest Archives of American History, and are engraven in indelible traces on the hearts, of the whole American people.

Accept, then, sir, in the sincere spirit, in which it is offered, this simple tribute to your virtues.

Again, sir, the citizens of Boston bid you welcome to the cradle of American Independence and to scenes, consecrated with the blood shed by the earliest martyrs in its cause.

REPLY OF THE GENERAL.

TO THE MAYOR AND PEOPLE OF BOSTON,

The emotions of love and gratitude, which I have been accustomed to feel on entering this city, have ever mingled with a sense of religious reverence for the cradle of *American*, and let me hope it will be hereafter said, of *universal* liberty.

What must be, sir, my feelings, at this blessed moment, when, after so long an absence, I find myself again surrounded by the good citizens of Boston—where I am so affectionately, so honorably welcomed, not only by my old friends, but by several successive generations; where I can witness the prosperity, the immense improvements, that have been the just reward of a noble struggle, virtuous morals, and truly republican institutions.

I beg of you, Mr. Mayor, Gentlemen of the City Council, and all of you, beloved citizens of Boston, to accept the respectful and warm thanks of a heart, which has, for nearly half a century, been particularly devoted to your illustrious city.

The mayor then took a seat with Gen. Lafayette in the barouche prepared for that purpose, and the procession moved in the following

## ORDER :—

Three Marshals.

A corps of Light Dragoons.

Marshal.

Music.

Battalion of Light Infantry.

Aid.

CHIEF MARSHAL.

Aid

Committee of Arrangements in four Carriages.

The Members of the Common Council in Carriages.

The Aldermen in Carriages.

City Marshal.

The President of the Common  
Council, and Senior Aldermen, in  
a barouche, drawn by four  
roan horses.

Marshal.

Marshal.

Marshal.

**GEN. LAFAYETTE,**

Accompanied by the Mayor of the City,  
in an open barouche, drawn by  
four white horses.

Marshal.

Marshal.

The General's family in a carriage.

Marshal.

Society of Cincinnati.

Officers of the Army and Navy of the United States

Officers of the United States Government,

Field and Staff Officers of the First Division, in uniform,  
and mounted.

Strangers of distinction, in Carriages.

Civil, Judicial, Municipal Officers, Societies, and Citizens,  
in Carriages.

The mounted Cavalcade, in divisions, with Marshals at  
intervals.

Two Marshals.

The procession passed through Washington, Milk, Broad, State, Court and Common-Streets, to Boylston-street. A company of light dragoons led the van. The light infantry companies belonging to the Boston brigade, which followed, made an elegant appearance. Following the carriages in which the municipal authorities rode, were field and staff officers of the militia, and next came a troop of Truckmen, and Woodwharfingers, consisting of nearly two hundred, neatly dressed in white frocks and black or blue pantaloons, with an appropriate standard. The cavalcade of citizens on horseback and in carriages brought up the rear. We are not able to state the number of persons in this part of the procession, but a gentleman informed us that he counted upward of seven hundred on horseback after a part of them had passed. It was the largest procession ever witnessed in our city.

But the most beautiful part of the spectacle was exhibited on the Common. The pupils of the public schools, both male and female, were arranged on the side adjoining the mall in two lines, reaching from Boylston-street to the head of the mall, under the care of their respective teachers, and protected from the press of spectators by peace-officers, appointed for the purpose. Between these beautiful lines, the whole military and civil procession passed. When Gen. Lafayette entered the passage, an interesting little girl, of five or six years old, stepped forward, and being placed in the barouche with the General, presented to him a wreath of roses, and addressing in the French language a respectful and affectionate salutation. The General accepted the present, and kissed the child, while tears dropped from his eyes.

Around the wreath was entwined a paper, on which were written the following verses : —

An infant hand presents these blushing flowers,  
Glowing and pure as childhood's artless hours,  
When roses bloom, and buds of promise smile,  
Repaying with their charms the culturer's toil.

Oh! take them, FATHER, — they were culled *for you!*  
(Still bright with warm *affection's* sacred dew ; )  
Oh! let them *live* in thy benignant smile,  
And o'er thy *brow of glory* bloom awhile,  
'Twined with the *laurel* fame on thee bestow'd,  
When thy *young heart* with patriot ardor glow'd.

*Self-exiled* from the charms of *wealth* and *love*,  
And *home*, and *friends*, thou didst our *champion* prove ;  
And, by the side of glorious **WASHINGTON**,  
Didst make our grateful country *all thine own*.  
Go, fragile offering, speak the ardent joy  
Our bosoms feel, which *time* can ne'er destroy.

Having arrived at the head of the mall, the military formed a line in Park-street, and stood with presented arms while the General passed in review before them to the front gate of the State House, where he alighted, and was conducted to the senate chamber. His Excellency the Governor, with the executive council, was here to receive him as the guest of this Commonwealth. Having been introduced to the members of the city government, he was, by the Mayor and Committee of Arrangements, conducted to the residence prepared for him at the corner of Beacon and Park streets.

It is impossible to convey any correct idea of the splendor and excitement connected with these transactions, to distant readers. The General rode uncovered, bowing to the enraptured throngs, who at short intervals greeted him with loud and joyous acclamations. The ladies, thousands of whom appeared to witness the scene, waved their white handkerchiefs as he passed in token of pleasure and approbation. The windows of the new stone buildings at the head of State-street, the windows and terraces of collonnade row, and of the houses north of St Paul's church, exhibited assemblages of beauty, taste, and fashion, fully equal, it was thought, to any specimens that other occasions have produced.

The city council, with their honoured guest, a deputation from the city council of New-York, Hon. Messrs. Webster and Lloyd, Governor Eustis, Hon. J. Brooks, and a number of others, dined together at the Exchange Coffee House.

*New England Galaxy, Aug. 27, 1824.*







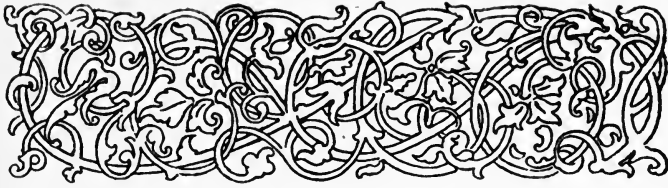
# ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS

SELECTED FROM THE COLLECTIONS

OF THE

BOSTONIAN SOCIETY.





## DOCUMENTS

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FROM ORIGINALS IN THE COLLECTIONS OF THE  
BOSTONIAN SOCIETY

WITH ANNOTATIONS.

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IN the collection of the Bostonian Society there are a number of ancient manuscript documents, which contain interesting historical data, by far the larger part of which has never been published. Among these are several old agreements, contracts, and memoranda, which afford curious items relative to the customs of the early days in Boston, the cost of labor and material, etc.; others have reference to the construction of the Old State House and its predecessor. It is proposed to print from time to time, in the Publications of the Society, gleanings from some of these treasures. The first of these which will be given relates to the agreement for "the building of the

towne-house stayre-cases and Conduit." A reference to this will be found in Whitmore's account of the "Old State House Re-dedication" (pp. 30-31), but the original document was not printed, and it is believed will be read with interest.

BUILDING THE TOWN HOUSE.

28 : 11 : 60.

Att a meeting of Hez. Usher, Jos. Scottow, Tho. Lake, Jno. Hull, Nat. Williams, and Wm. Davis.

In reference to the accounts of Tho. Joy and partner for building of the towne house, stayre cases and Conduit, and the compleating of the said worke, Itt is ordered that the Treasurer shall pay to the said Joy sixe hundred and eighty pounds (deducting what hath beene already paid) outt of the Treasury or next Towne rate ; whereby all contracts made with the said Joy are performed as per his owne hand to a writing of this date.

*Boston (printed) Town Records, II: p. 158.*

The agreement, which follows, is from the original document in the Society's Collection :—

1660

Jan. 28. Agreed betwixt the Selectmen of Boston & Tho : Joy In Behalff of him selfe & p<sup>r</sup>ner In the work done for the Town that mr. Joy &c. shall have with what he hath already received by himselfe or His order six hundred & eighty pound Jn The Townes pay that is either out of the Treafury or the next rate at equall retail prizes and the

fd. Tho: Joy doth Acknowledge & freely own himselfe vpon receipt thereof fully Contented & paied as vnto all former Bargaines with the Town or their representatives with respect to the Town house stair Cafes & Conduit &c. witnessed by the s<sup>d</sup>. Tho. Joy, & the selectmen as their Mutuall Contract.

The mark of }  
Tho: Joy } \*

W<sup>m</sup>. DAVIS.

HEZEKIAH USHER.

THOS. LAKE.

JOHN HULL.

On the margin at the left of this agreement is the following: —

Every selectman is to Give in p<sup>rt</sup> of this paym<sup>t</sup>, thirty s. (?) apeice In money. viz that owe such this present year.

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CELLAR UNDER THE TOWN-HOUSE.

*To all People* to whome these presents Shall Come Mary Lake Relict Widdow and Executrix of the last will & testam<sup>t</sup> of Cap<sup>tn</sup>; Thomas Lake late of Boston in New England merchant deceased Sendeth greeting

*Know Ye* that J the s<sup>d</sup> Mary Lake Executrix as afforesaid for and in consideration of the sume of Eighteene pounds of Lawfull mony of New England to me in hand at

---

\* This mark was apparently a combination of the initial letters of his name, T and E — the latter the old form of J.

and before the Ensealing and dilivery hereof, by John Joyliffe Thomas Brattle James Oliver Daniell Turell Henery Allen and Jacob Ellet Select men of the towne of Boston well and truely p<sup>d</sup> the receipt whereof J doe hereby acknowledge and thereof and of every part thereof doe acquitt and discharge the s<sup>d</sup> John Joyliffe Thomas Brattle James Oliver Daniell Turell Henery Allen And Jacob Eliot and their Successors for ever by these presents Have given granted bargained Sold aliened afsigned and confirmed & by these presents doe fully and Absolutely give grant bargain Sell aliene afsigne and confirme unto the s<sup>d</sup> John Joyliffe Thomas Brattle James Oliver Daniell Turell Henery Allen and Jacob Eliot and to their Successors in the Same place and office for the use of the s<sup>d</sup> Towne of Boston all my right title & interest of in and to the Roome or Celler under the Star<sup>e</sup> Case at the East end of the Towne house in s<sup>d</sup> Boston

*To have* and to hould all my right title & interest of in and to the s<sup>d</sup> roome or Celler under the s<sup>d</sup> Star<sup>e</sup> Case unto the s<sup>d</sup> John Joyliffe Thomas Brattle James Oliver Daniell Turell Henery Allen and Jacob Eliot and their Successors in the Same place and office for the use of the s<sup>d</sup> towne for ever: And J the said Mary Lake for my Selfe my heires Executors and Administrators doe hereby Covenant promise & grant to and w<sup>th</sup> the said John Joyliffe Thomas Brattle James Oliver Daniell Turell Henery Allen and Jacob Eliot and their Successors that they the s<sup>d</sup> John Joyliffe Thomas Brattle James Oliver Daniell Turell Henery Allen and Jacob Eliot and their Successors and afsignes Shall and may by force and Vertue of these presents have hould posses and Enjoy forever all my right title and interest in and to the

said Cellor or Roome under the said Staire case without any manner of Lett Sute trouble or disturbance of me the s<sup>d</sup> Mary Lake my heires Executo's Administo's and Afsignes or any other person or persons whatsoever claimeing by us from us or in o<sup>r</sup> names or in the name of either of us or by our or either of o<sup>r</sup> meanes title or pcurem<sup>t</sup>

*In Witnefs* whereof J the s<sup>d</sup> Mary Lake have hereunto sett my hand and Seale the thirtieth day of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand Six hundred Seventy and Seven And in the Twenty Ninth Year<sup>e</sup> of the Reigne of King Charles the Second over England &c

Signed Sealed & Deliu<sup>d</sup>

MARY LAKE

in the prefsence of us :

John Maryon

John Hayward *scr.*:

It is evident from Josselyn's account (who was here in 1663), that the original "Town-house was built upon pillars, where the Merchants may confer ; in the Chambers above, they keep their monthly Courts." John Dunton, in his "Letters" of 1686, confirms this, but gives no further particulars. Richard Taylor had a shop "under the stairs to the Chambers above," at the west end, in 1661, and in 1669 his lease was extended for sixty-one years! Under the stairs at the east end, Thomas Lake and Hezekiah Usher had possession of a cellar in 1664. Whitmore says that in 1678 Samuel Shrimpton bought Lake's interest from his widow, and obtained an extension of the lease for thirty-nine years.

It is not entirely clear what interest she still retained in the latter year, after the above conveyance.

REPAIRS ON THE OLD STATE HOUSE.

The following itemized bill for repairs on the easterly front of the Old State House, showing the wages paid for labor in the long hours of the working days of the summer of 1773, is in striking contrast with those of the present time.

PROVINCE OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY to THOMAS DAWES *Dr.*

To whitwashing the Council Chamber & Lobby— . . . . .	£0. 16 —
To Do. Hon. Reps. Rooms & Lobby . . . . .	0. 16 —
To do. Two Stairways 15/. To do. 2 Upper Chambers 10/	1. 5 —
To do. The lower part of the State House . . . . .	2. 10 —
To lathing & plastering 50 yds finding the Materials in the } Upper Chambers &c @ 2/ . . . . .	5. — —
To 20 Water Tables at 4d. to 12 lb Yellow Oaker 6/8 6 lb } Red 1/8 . . . . .	1. 4. 6
To blacking 1/6 To Cash pd Edward King for Carting 8/.	5. — —
To Brick Mortar ready made from Dr. Cooper's Meeting .	5. — —
To Joseph Blake 13¼ days. To Thos. Blake 7¼ days	
To Daniel Hewes 11¼ " To Jos Moffatt 1¼ "	
To Ebenr. Hancock 3 " To Jacob Read. 10¼ "	
To Newbury Clough 10½ " To Thos. Read. 11½ "	
To Saml. Webb Hill. 3¼ " To Jacob Cope- } land . . . . . } 5¼ "	
To Thos. Pease. 9¼ "	
	36 days @ 4/
52 Days @ 5/4	7. 4. —
	13. 17. 4
	£37. 12. 10
To Robert Peirpont for 2m. bricks £4 : 5 : 4. To John } Horners Bill for Stones &c 44/ . . . . . }	6. 9. 4
	£44. 2. 2



The above Time, taking down the East End of the State House and rebuilding do: Altering the Chimney in the Hon. Reps. Room, Pointing all the windows & Doors, Repairing the Arches, Cutting out defective Bricks & Water Tables, & repairing do. plastering the Gable Ends, Repairing the Tops of the Chimneys, Coulering do. Pointing the Joints of the Brick & Stone work &c &c

Boston July 1st. 1773 — Errors Excepted

THOS. DAWES.

Thomas Dawes (Jr.), who was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Underwood) Dawes, was born in Boston, August 5, 1731, and died January 2, 1809. His occupation, like his grandfather's (whose name he bore), was that of a mason, and he had charge of laying the cornerstone of the Brattle Street Church, June 22, 1772, and constructed that building and others of importance. He held many offices in town affairs; in the militia, he commanded the Boston regiment and the Ancient and Honorable Artillery; he was such a "high patriot," that his house on Purchase Street, next to the home of Samuel Adams, was sacked by the British when they evacuated Boston. He served in both branches of the Legislature, and in the Governor's Council, and was three times chosen a Presidential Elector. In the church he was also active, being one of the deacons of the Old South, from October, 1786, until his death.\* He was interred in King's Chapel Burying Ground, and his monument there has a long inscription.

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\* See "William Dawes and his Ride with Paul Revere," pp. 60 *et seq.*, where will be found his portrait and an extended account of his life.

## PETITION FOR INCREASE OF SALARY.

Gentlemen. Understanding that it belongs to your Province to lay before the Town at the Annual Meeting, any proper Articles of Business that may Occur; therefore now Apply myself to you with my Desire, that you would consider of and offer to the Town my following Request, Viz: That the Salary granted me for Keeping the Free Gramer School at the North End of the Town, may have such an Addition made to it, as to be a Comfortable Subsistence for a Family, and that a Sum may be allow'd me to pay the Rent of a Suitable Habitation — My whole Dependence for a living is upon the School; I having no other Employment, and therefore must ask my Maintenance from the Town, to whose Service alone I am devoted. — My Present Salary (which is 80 pounds p. Annum) was Granted me when in a Single Capacity. I hope there is none that will think it unreasonable, If I should ask the Addition of 20 pounds, and the Rent of a Houfe. Considering my present Circumstances to be different from what they were, when that Salary was Voted me — My School is not Inconsiderable for the Number of Schollars, which is now encreased to about 70. I hope the Town will Consider this also, and Improve it as an Argument in my Favour, which J am the More Ready to Promife my selfe inasmuch as the Other Gramer School which doth not Exceed the foresaid Number above Thirty, is allowed 150 L<sup>b</sup>. p. annum. Your smiles (Gentlemen) upon what I propose, as an Advantagious Representation of the Matter to the Inhabitants of the town at their Next Meeting would very Much Oblige Your most humble Servant,

JOHN BARNARD.

Boston — March 10<sup>th</sup> 1715/16.

The name of John Barnard does not appear in the list of Masters or Ushers of the North Free Grammar School, printed in the Latin School Catalogue (pp. 33-35); from his petition, printed above, it seems probable that he was appointed to succeed Recompense Wadsworth, who, it appears from an old gravestone found in Copp's Hill Burying Ground, Dec. 22, 1878, was the first Master of that school, and died June 9, 1713. Wadsworth graduated at Harvard in the class of 1708, and later received the Master's degree. The Selectmen were "requested to procure a suitable master" for the school by a Town meeting held March 11, 1711-12. On March 9 of the following year they were "empowered to introduce Mr. Recompense Wadsworth . . . and to allow him sixty pounds for one year." He served only a few months, and John Barnard seems to have succeeded him immediately, although no mention of his appointment as a teacher in the school has been found in the Records of the Town of Boston. This was not the first public school in the northern part of the town, where it is shown by the Hutchinson MSS. there was one in the time of Governor Andros, in 1687, and earlier.

John Barnard may have been the Latin School boy of 1689, where he was a pupil of the famous Ezekiel Cheever, and who graduated at Harvard 1700, a classmate of John Winthrop; if so, he was later "Minister of Marblehead" and died 1770; but this has not been established with certainty.

## PETITION FOR A LICENSE.

BOSTON 23<sup>d</sup> October 1754 -

Gentlemen

Whereas m<sup>r</sup>. Joseph Ballard of Boston Ship Joyner has lately hired a large & commodious house, which for the conveniency of its Apartments is often made use of by divers incorporated & other Society's and has desired that we will recommend him as a fit person for the Special purpose of selling Spirituous liquors ["by retail" *cancelled*] within said Houfe to the said Society's as an innholder, We do recommend him for that purpose & think such a special license will be of publick benefit — & are (with All due Respect) Your humble Servants

JONATHAN CLARKE.

JAMES BOWDOIN.

WM. COFFIN.

RALPH JNMAN.

ROB<sup>t</sup> JENKINS.

NATHL. PERKINS.

CHAS. PAXTON.\*

JOSEPH PRINCE.

JAS. BOUTINEAU.

JAMES PITTS.

SAM. WENTWORTH.

NAT. HATCH.

THO<sup>s</sup>. FLUCKER.

GILES TIDMARSH.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Boston.

Joseph Ballard, whose petition is given above, was the proprietor of the "British Coffee House," which stood for many years on State Street, at or near No. 66. The place was famous in its day for its dinners, and the Masonic Lodges frequently held their gatherings there

---

\* This signature is not clear in the MS.

before the Revolution. It was in this house that the patriot James Otis was assaulted by John Robinson, a Commissioner of Customs, in 1761, and there a large company assembled to celebrate the repeal of the Stamp Act in March, 1767.

Many of the names of Ballard's endorsers will be recognized as those of prominent citizens: James Bowdoin was afterwards Governor of Massachusetts; Samuel Wentworth was the father of the beautiful Lady Wentworth, wife of the last Royal Governor of New Hampshire; her portrait and that of her husband, a cousin, Sir John Wentworth, were painted by Copley. Others of the signers are mentioned by Sabine, in his "Loyalists."

---

A WHARF ON THE TOWN DOCK.

*This Witneseth* that whereas John Saffin William Tailer and Richard Wharton of Boston in New England Merchants have for their Joynt account and common conveniency purchased of Eliakim Hutchison of Boston affores<sup>d</sup> merchant a peere or part of the Dock or Cove in Boston commonly called or knowne by the name of the towne Dock: which Lyeth before the wharfes and Warehouses of the said John Saffin William Tailer and Richard Wharton as by a Deed of sale under the hand and Seale of the said Eliakim Hutchinson bearing Date the Ninth day of March in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred seaventy and

four more fully and at Large doth and may appeare *and* Whereas the said John Saffin William Tailer and Richard Wharton for their Joynt account and comon conveniency have Erected built made and Set up a Wharfe in and upon part of the Dock or cove purchased as affores<sup>d</sup>: *now* this farther Witneseth that the said John Saffin William Tailer and Richard Wharton for them Selves respectively and for their respective heires Executors and administo<sup>r</sup>s doe hereby mutually Covenant grant and agree to and with each other and their respective heires and assignes that as the said purchas hath beene made by them the said parties for their Joynt account in Equall thirds And the s<sup>d</sup> wharfe hath beene built made and finished by them the said parties in Equall thirds : So also that all the said parties and their respective heires shall have the use and privilidge of the said Wharfe so built as affores<sup>d</sup> free for their Respective famalyes and the employm<sup>t</sup> of their Respective ware houses without being accountable to each other *And* also that all other goods Landed upon or shiped of from any of the premises or betweene the Corner of the turning Bridge (that goes over the mouth of the said Dock) and the Westernmost part of the premises purchased as affores<sup>d</sup> shall pay customeary charges *And* that all profitts and advantages thereby arising or accrowing shall be equally divided betweene the said parties according to their Respective shares and proportions affores<sup>d</sup> *And* that the said parties or any two of them their or any two of their heires shall and hereby have power to employ any person or persons whome they shall thinke most meet from yeare to yeare to collect the wharfeage and repaire the premises : *Or* otherwise to Let the privilidges and benefitts

ariseing from and by the said wharfe to rent as they shall thinke most meet: *Which* person so imployed for the Collecting or Renting the same shall be accountable and Lyable to make Satisfaction to each of the said Persons according to their respective intrests and Shares in the premises *And* farther it is hereby mutually agreed by and betweene the said partyes to these presents that all repaires that shall be made upon the said purchasfed premises shall be equally borne and paid by the said parties according to their respective shares & proportions afore mentioned: And that there shall be no other improvem<sup>t</sup> made or building Set upon the said purchased pr<sup>e</sup>mises then what shall be agreed upon or consented to by all the said three parties their heires and afsignes *And* also It is agreed that all pafsages and wayes now leading to upon or about the said wharfes shall for ever be left and kept open as they now are and remaine with out any incroachm<sup>ts</sup> whatsoever *And* also that they shall and will bear and disburst and equall share part and proportion in the building and maintaineing of the said Bridge from time to time that now goeth: (or is to goe) Crofs the said Dock's mouth *Provided* alwayes and it is neverthelefs concluded and agreed by and betweene the said partyes that although the pr<sup>e</sup>mises are to Lye and be for the common use and conveniency of all the s<sup>d</sup> partyes their heires & afsignes for ever: Yet that each mans propriety according to their former bound Lines shall be and remaine unto them selves respectively and to their respective heires and afsign's for ever as a good and absolute Estate of inheritance in ffee simple anything above Exprest to the Contrary notwithstanding

In Witnefs whereof the said John Saffin William Tailer & Richard Wharton have hereunto set their hands and Seales the Sixteenth-day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand Six Hundred Seaventy and five

JOHN SAFFIN

W<sup>m</sup> TAILER

Signed Sealed & Delivered  
in p<sup>r</sup>fence of

RICHD WHARTON



ffreeGrace Bendall

Ben Townsend

This Infstrum<sup>t</sup> was acknowleged the sixteenth day of octob<sup>r</sup> 1675 to be theyr act & deed signed & fealed by them viz · John Saffin : W<sup>m</sup> Tayler & Richard Whartō. before me

JOHN : LEVERETT Gov<sup>r</sup>

Lib (?) 9 p 253-4-5 Entred & Recorded word for word & compared therew<sup>th</sup> this 16<sup>th</sup>: of o<sup>br</sup>. 1675 as Attefts

FFREEGRACE BENDALL Record<sup>r</sup>

The seals attached to the Document above were of wax, and evidently once bore devices, but these cannot now be distinguished. The mode by which they were affixed differs from that now in use. The margin on the right was cut in two places, opposite each name, and the paper turned back ; these slips were held in place by the wax and were sealed on the surface obtained by the fold.



The Town Dock, at the time of this contract, extended over what is now Dock Square (to which it gave its name) as far as Elm Street, formerly called Wing's Lane. At the foot of what is now Merchants' Row was the "turning" or swing-bridge, mentioned in the Deed; this was constructed in two parts. That part of the Dock west of Merchants' Row, known as the Market Dock, was filled up in 1780; the lower or easterly section, which was somewhat narrower than the rest, is now covered by North Market Street. As late as 1826 the Town Dock came up nearly as far as the front of Faneuil Hall. It was around this cove or bay, which subsequently became the Town Dock, that the chief part of the town was originally built, and Boston records of 1634, in their first paragraph, show that here was the principal landing place. Woodmansies' wharf, on the south of the Dock, must have very nearly coincided with the "piere" mentioned in the Instrument.





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