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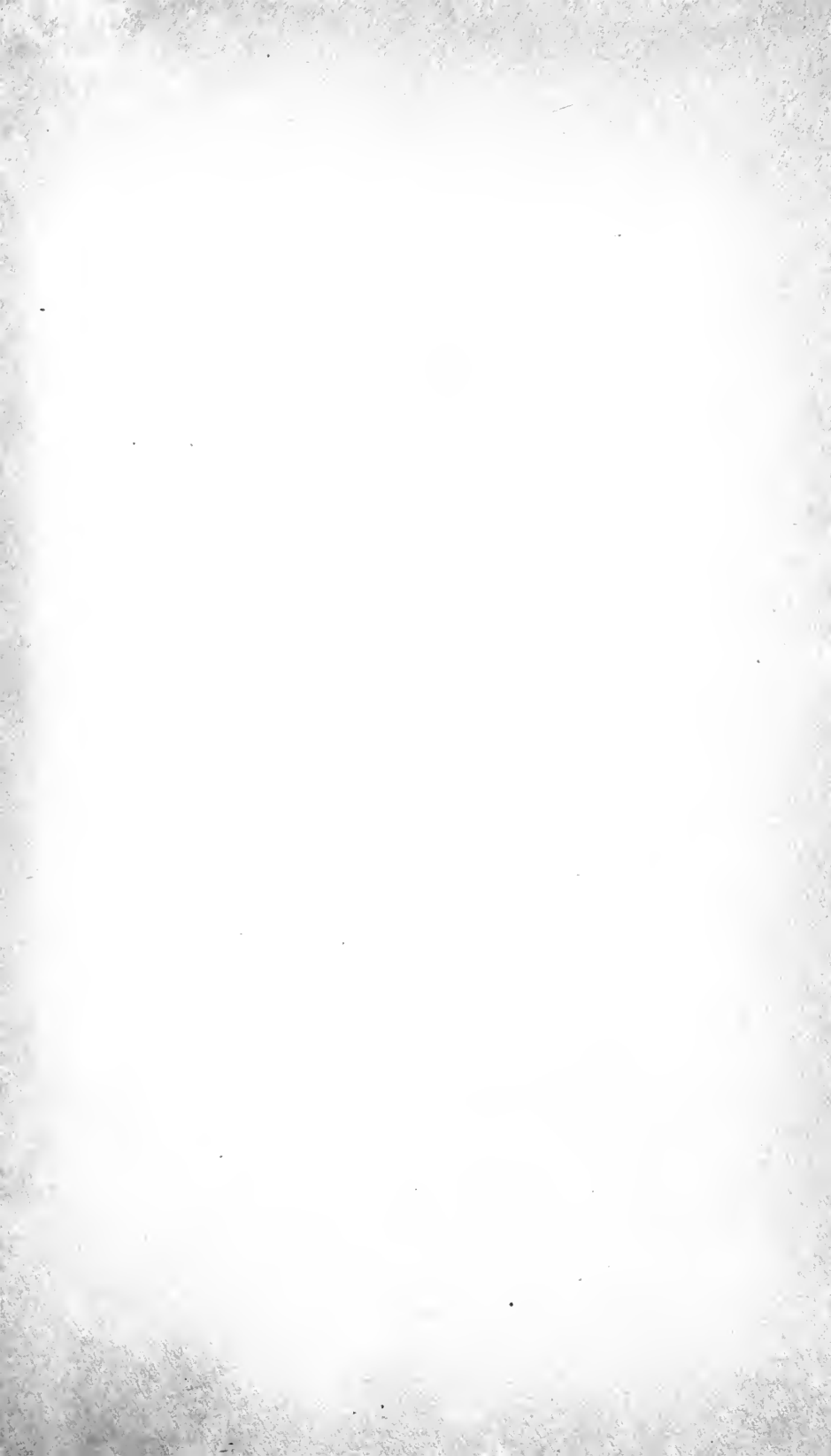
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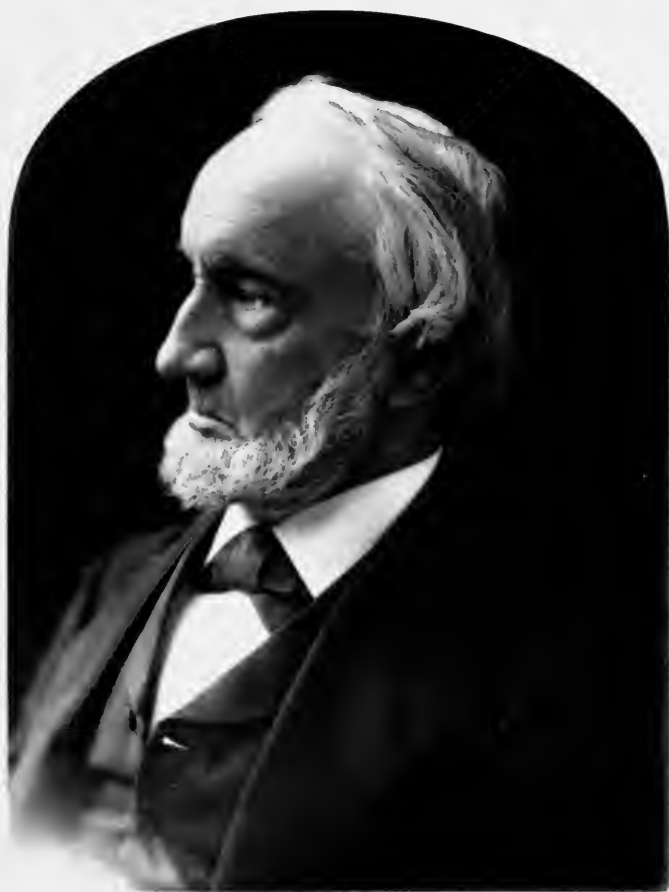
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GEORGE HOWLAND JUNIOR

William H. R. Gifford

NEW BEDFORD MASSACHUSETTS

Privately Printed

1892

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NOTE

At the request of the trustees of the New Bedford Free Public Library, I have prepared this biographical sketch of their former associate. There were many details in the long and active life of George Howland, junior, which I should have been glad to relate more at length, had not the lapse of years made extended information impossible. Among those who have courteously rendered me assistance, I am particularly indebted to Mrs. Frederic S. Gifford and to Mr. M. Morris Howland.

WILLIAM L. R. GIFFORD.

NEW BEDFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY,

10 November, 1892.

I

It is granted to but few men to hold for so long a time a place in the life of a community such as George Howland, jun., filled in that of New Bedford. For more than sixty years he was connected with the whaling industry, to which New Bedford owes its early growth and a large part of its wealth; and during the greater portion of this time he almost constantly held some office of public trust. Whatever duty fell to his share received the careful attention of one who never slighted details in anything which he undertook; and to the recognition of this trait of his character may be traced many of the responsibilities which devolved upon him and which helped to shape the course of his life.

George Howland, jun., the son of George and of Elizabeth (Howland) Howland, was born in New Bedford, October 20, 1806. The house of his father then stood on what is now Bethel street, on land at present covered by the *Standard* building; and here his earliest years were spent. In his boyhood, he attended a private school and also the Friends' Academy in New Bedford, which had then been recently established, and of which his father, George Howland, senior, was one of the early trustees. When the younger George was ten years old,

his father sent him to live with a French family in New York city, in order that he might acquire a knowledge of the French language. Here the boy remained six months; and he returned home with the object of his visit well fulfilled. He had gained a facility in speaking French and also a love for that language which he retained, with increasing pleasure, to the end of his life. The last of Mr. Howland's school days, which closed when he was fourteen years of age, were passed at a school in Germantown, Pennsylvania, well known at that time. It was under the charge of John Maitland Brewer, who was the first master of the Friends' Academy in New Bedford.

After leaving school, George Howland, jun., entered the office of his father, one of the foremost merchants of his day in New Bedford, and the agent of many vessels engaged in the whale fishery. The elder George built the wharf at the foot of North street and also the stone building now standing there, in which for many years he conducted the business of candle-making. The ability and good judgment which the son displayed at an early period supplemented well the shrewdness and energy of the father, and their ventures prospered.

April 30, 1829, George Howland, jun., was united in marriage with Sylvia G. Allen, the daughter of James and of Sarah (Howland) Allen. This is said to have been the first marriage which was solemnized in the present meeting-house of the Society of Friends in New Bedford. Mr. Daniel Ricketson makes the following mention of the event in some interesting reminiscences which he not long ago contributed to the *Standard*:

I might have added before I ended my notice of the old [Friends'] Academy that, at the time of the marriage of the late George Howland, jun., and Sylvia Allen in the Friends' meeting-house on Spring street, the pupils were dismissed from school in time to attend the ceremony during the afternoon. The writer was one of the boys present on that occasion, and fifty years later he also attended the golden wedding of the above at their late residence on Sixth street.

After his marriage, Mr. Howland went to live in the house which is still standing on the northwest corner of Walnut and First streets. Here he continued to reside until he removed to the brick house on the west side of Sixth, between Walnut and Madison streets. This house, which he built in 1834 and in which he lived for fifty-four years, was designed by Mr. Howland himself, and he personally prepared the working-plans. In fact, he never lost an opportunity to gratify his love for the use of tools and to turn his knowledge of them to serviceable account. Many hours, when business affairs did not demand his attention, were spent in the wood-working shop of Edward Bierstadt and in the ship-yard of Zachariah Hillman.

The following incident, which Mr. Howland once related, will answer as an example of many more of its kind. He was making a brief visit in Florida and met at the hotel an Englishman, whose yacht had received a serious injury in the planking near the bowsprit. No artisan in the town knew how to repair the damage properly, and the owner found himself in a quandary. Mr. Howland arose very early the next morning and set himself to work on a piece of wood which he had selected the previous evening. When the owner of the yacht appeared, he

found his boat neatly and thoroughly repaired. His surprise and delight amply repaid Mr. Howland for his early morning's work.

In January, 1832, George Howland, jun., was elected a member of the corporation of the New Bedford Institution for Savings, of which he remained a member until the time of his death, sixty years later. In 1832, he was also chosen one of the trustees of the same institution. This latter office he retained until January, 1877, when he was no longer eligible for re-election. A Massachusetts statute of 1876 forbade the holding of office in more than one such corporation at the same time. As Mr. Howland was president of the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank, he necessarily retired from the board of trustees of the other organization. He was clerk of the corporation of the Institution for Savings and secretary of the board of trustees during the years 1833-1837.

The New Bedford and Taunton railroad, the first railroad from New Bedford, was opened July 1, 1840. George Howland, jun., was one of the original stockholders. While the road was in process of construction, some delay occurred in the shipment of the iron, and Mr. Howland was sent to England to attend to the matter. A few extracts from the brief journal which he kept during his absence from home will be of interest to those who knew him :

1st mo. 28, 1840. At 12 o'clock left New Bedford for Boston, on my way to New York to embark for Liverpool. Passed the night in Boston; and at 7 a. m. of the 29th started on the railroad for Springfield. At 4 p. m. took stage-sleigh for Hart-

ford, which place I reached at 8 p. m., expecting to stop the night and take the railroad in the morning for New Haven. In this I was disappointed, the road being obstructed by snow. Found it necessary, in order for despatch, to proceed forthwith; consequently nine of us procured an extra conveyance for New Haven and arrived there at five the next morning. Thence to New York by mail, a distance of 76 miles, [arriving] at 10 p. m.

1st mo. 31. About 9 a. m., in company with a friend, went on board the packet ship *South America*, Capt. Bailey, bound for Liverpool. Selected my berth on the starboard side of the ship, directly abreast of the mizzen-mast, state-room no. 9. My companion is a young man from New York, by the name of Brush, by birth a German.

A storm delayed the departure of the *South America* until February 3, at twelve o'clock, on which day the voyage began. In the evening, Mr. Howland, to use his own words, "thought it most prudent to retire, as the water was getting rather rough." An attack of sea-sickness kept him below for about two days, after which he apparently enjoyed the voyage.

2d mo. 20, 11 a. m. Took a pilot for Cork harbour, where we anchored at 12 m. After getting a bite, eighteen of us proceeded by the pilot boat for the Cove of Cork, where we were detained about one hour, and then started by the same conveyance for the city of Cork, where we arrived at 5 p. m. The custom-house being closed, and it being necessary to have our luggage examined before we could take it up (we having been escorted from the Cove by a custom-house officer), it was thought proper to take measures to have it passed this evening. Accordingly, one of our number started off for the proper officer, whom he was so fortunate as to find readily, and we succeeded without further difficulty. At 7 p. m., we found ourselves comfortably settled in the Imperial Clarence hotel.

2d mo. 21. Took a short walk before breakfast, and in the

space of three-quarters of an hour saw more wretchedness and poverty than could be found in all the state of Massachusetts. Afterwards, walked about in company with some of our party and made a general examination of the city of Cork, being beset every few minutes by beggars of the lowest imaginable kind. At half-past six, six of us took Her Majesty's mail coach for Dublin and arrived at half-past three the next afternoon. We passed through, as far as we saw it, for the most part a highly cultivated country; but as to the dwellings (here called cabins), they are miserable. Some of them are constructed of mud, others of peat, and some of stone; all, or nearly all, with thatched roofs. The inhabitants corresponded to the cabins. In one instance, I saw the horse, and in another the pig and chickens, under the same roof with the family.

2d mo. 23. It being First day, I attended meeting at ten o'clock in Eustace st. Had a silent meeting, excepting just at the close when an elder read the publishment of two couples. At quarter-past four, left for the railroad dépôt to go to Kingstown, a distance of seven miles, and took the steamer *Princess* for Liverpool. After a rough passage of seventeen hours (it being usually made in twelve), we arrived at Liverpool and took lodgings at the Adelphi.

Mr. Howland remained but a few days in Liverpool and then started on his way into Wales, where lay his destination. After a coaching journey, taken by easy stages through a region abounding in beautiful scenery, he finally reached Ebbw Vale on the twenty-ninth of February. At this place and at Nantyglo, about two miles distant, were situated the two establishments which held the contracts for furnishing the iron for the New Bedford and Taunton railroad. Mr. Howland learned on his arrival that the last of the iron had that day been shipped to Liverpool. His business, therefore, was speedily finished; and he departed at once for London,

which he reached March 5, after paying brief visits by the way to Newport, Chepstow, Bristol, and Bath.

Mr. Howland remained five days in London and made good use of the time in sight-seeing. Thence, by way of Birmingham, he went to Liverpool, where he was detained a week by business affairs relating to the iron. From that time, he spent about a month travelling in Wales, Ireland, Scotland, and England. His journal during this period contains many interesting accounts of places visited, which are described with an attention to detail seldom bestowed in these days of universal travel and of elaborate guidebooks. As this portion of the journal is largely of a descriptive character and contains little of personal interest, no further extracts need be made. Throughout the pages of this little diary, the mechanical turn of Mr. Howland's mind is strongly, though unconsciously, indicated. Wherever he went, he improved every opportunity to visit factories of whatever kind and to inspect the notable results of modern engineering. Dimensions, moreover, of every sort, he jotted down apparently as a matter of course.

April 28, 1840, Mr. Howland sailed from Liverpool in the packet *Patrick Henry*, of which Joseph C. Delano of New Bedford was captain. After a passage of twenty-eight days, the vessel arrived at New York, May 27.

In November, 1839, George Howland, jun., was one of the Whig representatives chosen to the General Court for the ensuing year. The *Mercury* in announcing the result of the election made note that he and certain others "were voted for by the colored Abolitionists." This is explained by the fact that Mr. Howland, like other members of the Society of Friends in New Bedford, was an early advocate of the abolition of slavery.

For the next twenty-five years, George Howland, jun., held some active political office during a large part of the time. After serving his first term in the Legislature, he was re-elected for a second. In April, 1842, he was chosen one of the selectmen of the town and was re-elected every year until 1847, when New Bedford became a city. The first city government was organized April 28, 1847, and Mr. Howland, the chairman of the selectmen of the town, made declaration of the election of a mayor, of a board of aldermen, and of a common council.

In 1844, Mr. Howland went to Europe with his brother, Robert B. Howland, who was then about eighteen years old, and whose health had been injured by close study. They were accompanied by their brother-in-law, Samuel B. Parsons. The party sailed from New York, December

10, 1844, in the ship *Argo*, Captain Caleb Anthony, and after an uneventful voyage arrived at Havre, January 5, 1845. During the journey on the continent that followed, George Howland, jun., wrote out an account of his travels, as in the former instance of his tour through Great Britain. The later journal was more carefully kept than the earlier one; the greater part of it is entirely free from hurried notes, and it is written throughout in ink. Some of the descriptions of European travel of fifty years ago are very interesting, as a few extracts will serve to show :

1st mo. 7. At 9.30 a. m., took our seats in the *coupé* of a French diligence, which by the way is a queer sort of thing, having three separate apartments. The first is considered the best and is called the *coupé*; it has but three seats, is all glass in front, and has a large window on each side, of course commanding a good view of the country if the fog is not so dense as to prevent it, as was the case this day. It is well finished inside and is altogether a very comfortable affair, being at this season of the year warmed by a lamp fitted under the bottom, but which answers the purpose remarkably well. The middle part is called the *intérieure* and contains six seats with only side windows, like a common carriage, and no heat. Behind is what is called the *rotonde*, with sideway seats for six or eight; and then on the top is still another place which will contain one or two besides the *conducteur*. The diligence is drawn by five horses, two on the pole, and three ahead, side by side. * * * Before leaving Havre, we supplied ourselves with provisions for the road, consisting of a boiled chicken, a veal pie, and some bread, which we ate on the road. At about 5.15 p. m. we arrived at Rouen, a distance of about seventy miles, where after waiting about half an hour (it being dark of course) we set off for the railroad. On arriving, the diligence was lifted off its wheels, passengers, baggage, and all, and set upon a platform fitted for that purpose. In that style we went to Paris, reach-

ing there about 10.15 p. m. After having our baggage examined by a custom-house officer, we took a porter for the Hotel des Princes.

A few days were spent in looking about Paris, and then the travellers departed by way of Chalons for Lyons. Mr. Howland found the latter "the dirtiest and most inconvenient city" he ever saw. Naturally but a brief stay was made here, and on the 19th the party took passage on a little steamer for Avignon. A day in this ancient city of the popes, and the journey was continued to Nismes. Barely a glance by the way was given Tarascon, which had not yet become the home of the valorous Tartarin. Of Nismes Mr. Howland writes :

This is I think without exception the finest city I have yet seen in France, the streets, particularly in the new part, being wide and straight.

Apparently the narrow, crooked streets of Avignon and of other old French towns found little favor in the eyes of one who loved above all things regularity and order, and who carried a remembrance of the unbroken uniformity of our New Bedford highways.

After spending two days in Marseilles, Mr. Howland and his companions took a steamer for Civita Vecchia, where they arrived February 3, after a stormy passage. On the way, the steamer stopped a day at Genoa, and here the travellers had their first glimpse of an Italian city. At Civita Vecchia seats in the diligence were taken at once for Rome. On the way thither, the conveyance was overturned in ascending a hill, and it was found

necessary to send the postillion on to Rome to procure carriages. In the meantime Mr. Howland and his two fellow-travellers had the pleasure of spending four hours in a wrecked coach, in the middle of the night, and without lights.

They finally reached the city early in the morning of February 5, which was the last day of the carnival. Mr. Howland describes the scene as follows :

We walked up and down the Via del Corso, where for about four hours we were exceedingly amused in witnessing the sports, and in which we joined to some little extent. The first that we discovered, except the fitting up of the windows along the streets as balconies to stand in, was now and then a man or woman hopping or running along dressed in the most fantastic manner and masked. Then they began to come in groups; then the carriages began to move, filled with people, some masked and dressed in all manner of ways, and others in citizen's dress. All had small bunches of wild flowers tied together and mixed with green, which they exchanged with those who by this time had taken their places in the windows. About 2 p. m., the street was literally filled with horses, carriages, and people, and such a scene I never saw before. Every one from the least to the greatest seemed to enter into the spirit of it, and all went on with the greatest harmony. The boys and men employed themselves with picking up the bunches which dropped upon the street, which by the way were the greater part, and selling them. I have no doubt some were sold many times over. Some had their pockets, or baskets upon their arms, filled with some small sugar plums made for the occasion, with a good share of flour scattered over them, which they threw indiscriminately among the multitude, almost blinding some, and covering the hats and backs of others. Some threw lemons and oranges; some had bladders, blown up and tied with a short string to a stick, with which they would run through the crowd and strike any one they chose, which made a great noise without inflicting pain.

Some had old tin pails upon which they were beating ; some, great loaves of bread in the form of quizzing glasses ; and all doing their very best to amuse and to be amused. This was kept up until nearly five, when the military cleared the middle of the street, with great difficulty ; and at five precisely, seven or eight horses were let loose from the top of the Corso (without riders) and ran down through that otherwise crowded street as hard as they could. Notwithstanding all this, I have not heard of the slightest accident.

At about half-past five, they commenced another and the final portion of the amusements of the day by having in their hands, or on sticks, small wax candles, of which there must have been thousands, the sport consisting in blowing out those within reach ; and when they succeeded in extinguishing all within a carriage or window, they would set up a tremendous shout of *Smoccola, Smoccola*, the which if they did not succeed would be shouted by those in the carriages or windows. This was kept up for two or three hours. I could not help entering into this also for half an hour or so with as much zeal as many of them. In fact I exchanged flowers and put out lights with people whom of course I never saw before and probably never shall see again.

Two weeks were devoted to Rome ; and then, after a few days spent in Naples and Pompeii, Mr. Howland and his fellow-travellers turned their faces north toward Florence. Beyond a somewhat dangerous journey across the Apennines in a snow-storm, nothing occurred during the two remaining months spent on the continent which requires particular mention. They travelled in northern Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, and Holland, lingering nowhere for more than a few days. That they made excellent use of their time, the list of places visited, as given by Mr. Howland in his journal, is ample evidence.

The continental tour ended with a pleasant week in Paris, and then the travellers departed for London, where they arrived April 28. The following extracts are taken from a letter written by George Howland, jun., to his father, the next day. The first relates to a new sheathing for vessels which Mr. Howland purchased at that time as an experiment, but which, not proving entirely satisfactory, was never used extensively in New Bedford :

While in Havre last week, I saw a kind of sheathing copper, called copper bronze, which will last from ten to twelve years in constant wear and is in general use there. I saw a statement from the owner of one ship which had been coppered with it eleven years and had gone again to India with a slight repair of only twenty sheets ; and of several others that had used it for ten or more years and had found it necessary to take it off to caulk the ship's bottom, before it was worn out. I was so well satisfied with the appearance of the article and with what I learned respecting it, that I ordered him (J. Winslow) to ship for our account 2200 sheets, enough for two ships. The actual cost is about the same as copper.

Our friend L. M. Hoag is spoken of by all whom I have heard speak of him as having given very general satisfaction in this country. He, with the other American Friends, is now attending the Dublin yearly meeting, as also H. C. Backhouse and many other English Friends. We are now comfortably settled in a private boarding-house, kept by a Friend by the name of John Hughes, where we shall probably spend the most if not all the time before, and of course during, yearly meeting ; immediately after which I shall be under the necessity of leaving for Liverpool to embark for home.

The brevity of the notes in Mr. Howland's journal during the month that was spent in London would alone suffice to show how fully his time was occupied. The Lon-

don yearly meeting of Friends, which was the chief object of his visit at this time, did not begin until the twenty-first of May. The intervening days were employed in looking about the city and in meeting certain prominent members of the Society of Friends, to whom Mr. Howland and his companions bore letters of introduction. They visited, to cite a few from among many places of interest, Hampton Court, the House of Commons, and Madame Tussaud's waxwork exhibition. The American minister, Edward Everett, gave them tickets to enter the House of Lords, where they saw the Duke of Wellington, an old man who was then nearing the end of his long leadership in that political body. They likewise witnessed the bringing in of the immense petitions against Sir Robert Peel's project for the extension of the college of Maynooth. This college had been devoted, since 1795, to the education of the Roman Catholic priesthood, and the proposed grants met with violent though unavailing opposition from both Churchmen and Dissenters. With the excitement over the Maynooth grants and the agitation caused by the Anti-Corn-Law League, English political feeling at this time ran very high.

At the sessions of the yearly meeting, George Howland, jun., met many of the well-known members of the Society of Friends in England, and by them he was cordially welcomed and hospitably entertained. He dined with the Gurneys (Joseph John and Samuel) and with Josiah Forster. Other names which occur in the pages of his journal at this time are those of John Bright, Elizabeth Fry, William Forster, and Isaac Braithwaite, all of

whom, as well as many others, he met during these last days that he spent in London. The following extract relating to the yearly meeting will have a particular interest for members of the Society of Friends. It is taken from a letter written by Mr. Howland from New Bedford, immediately after his return from England, and addressed to his father, who was then in Newport :

The yearly meeting closed on seventh day, the 31st of 5th mo., after a session of eleven days. I attended every sitting, and I may say that some of them were exceedingly interesting, more particularly on sixth and seventh days, the 30th and 31st. The committee on epistles reported an address to the seceders from Indiana yearly meeting and proposed to the meeting to send a deputation of four Friends to attend the ensuing yearly meeting of Indiana and take charge of the address and take such measures to bring about a reconciliation between the seceders and the yearly meeting as may appear best ; which was very fully and feelingly united in. The subject, after some discussion, was referred back to the committee to report the names of the Friends to compose the delegation ; previous to which, however, J. J. Gurney observed that there appeared to be an exercise resting on the minds of some of the members of the committee, which he felt sure would result in their being constrained to undertake the task. (I do not pretend to give his language, but the import of it.) He was of the opinion that our dear friend, Edward Pease, who had indeed been to the committee as a father in Israel, could give their names to the meeting. However, the subject was disposed of as before stated. The same committee were requested to prepare an epistle to Indiana yearly meeting, and in the afternoon, after some other business was disposed of, the report of the committee was read. On the announcement of the names of William Forster, George Stacey, Josiah Forster, and John Allen, there was such a feeling brought over the meeting as I never before witnessed on any occasion. They also recommended the ap-

pointment of a Friend from Ireland, Joseph Bewley, to accompany them, if about the time of their departure he should feel clear to do so, which was also approved. The meeting adjourned at ten minutes to 9 p. m., under the same feeling which had pervaded it from the time the subject was first opened. I have thus attempted to give you a slight sketch of the proceedings of that day, however imperfect it may be, and I am well aware it is so.

Immediately after the London yearly meeting, Mr. Howland and Mr. Parsons returned to America, leaving Robert Howland in England. George Howland, jun., arrived in Boston, June 19, 1845, after a passage from Liverpool of about fifteen days.

III

In 1849, George Howland, jun., was elected one of the directors of the New Bedford and Taunton railroad. Both he and his father were among the original stockholders of this corporation, and the latter had already served as a director. Mr. Howland continued to hold the directorship, to which he was now chosen, until 1873. In that year the road was sold to a new organization, called the New Bedford railroad, which in turn leased the property to the Boston, Clinton, and Fitchburg corporation.

George Howland, senior, died in New Bedford, May 21, 1852. After his death, the whaling business which he had established was continued by George Howland, jun., and his brother Matthew, although no partnership was ever formed between them. Among the ships for which they were agents were the *Javá*, *George Howland*, *George and Susan*, and *Rousseau*. In the great disaster in the Arctic ocean in 1871, when thirty-three whalers were either wrecked or abandoned, George and Matthew Howland lost three vessels, the *Concordia*, the *George Howland*, and the *Thomas Dickason*, of which the estimated value at the time of sailing was about \$173,000. As the Messrs. Howland were uninsured, they were among

those to whom the misfortune brought the largest pecuniary loss. With the decline of the whale fishery, the brothers gradually withdrew their ships from active service, until the business practically ceased about 1882.

In 1852, George Howland, jun., again accepted public office and became for the third time a member of the General Court. The following year, when John H. Clifford was governor, Mr. Howland served in the state Senate from the Bristol district. In 1855, he consented to become a candidate for the office of mayor of New Bedford, and was chosen, March 5, for the year beginning in the following April. Mr. Howland received 1836 votes, while 715 were cast for Rodney French, who was a candidate for re-election. Mr. Howland's inaugural address to the City Council began as follows :

When, eight years ago, I took leave of municipal affairs with which I had then been several years connected, I hoped to be permitted to remain a private citizen for the residue of my life. But through the partiality of my fellow citizens, extended to me with a very great degree of unanimity. I have been again called to the field of labor ; and although the duty imposed upon me is of a character somewhat different from any I have before assumed, yet I hope to be enabled so to conduct the public affairs, as at least to receive the approval of my own conscience, looking to that, rather than to the applause of men, for my reward.

Far from having ended, Mr. Howland's public life, or the more important part of it, was but just beginning. In 1856, he was again elected mayor over his former antagonist, Mr. French, after an exciting and closely contested campaign. During his second term of office, Mr.

Howland laid the corner-stone of the building at present occupied by the Free Public Library. The erection of this building had been strongly recommended by Mr. Howland in his first inaugural address, and it was with great pleasure that he saw definite steps taken in the matter before he gave up his guidance of municipal affairs. A further account of Mr. Howland's relations with the Free Public Library will be found in subsequent pages devoted to his connection with educational institutions.

The New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank was organized May 5, 1855, and George Howland, jun., was chosen for its first president. He held this office, together with a membership in the board of investment, from that time until his death. During this same year Mr. Howland was appointed to another office which he continued to hold for the remainder of his life, when on June 27, 1855, Governor Gardner selected him for one of the trustees of the Taunton Lunatic Hospital. In the work of this institution Mr. Howland took a great interest; and his practical suggestions for increasing its efficiency were highly valued by his associates throughout his long connection with the board of trustees.

After serving as a member of Governor Gardner's council in 1857, George Howland, jun., returned to a municipal office and became, in 1858, a member of the Common Council and president of that body. The winters of 1858-9 and 1859-60 Mr. Howland spent in Florida with his wife and son. These journeys were undertaken on account of the delicate health of his son, George Henry Howland. An extract from a letter writ-

ten by Mr. Howland to his brother Matthew, dated at Jacksonville in December, 1858, indicates that the comfort of northern tourists in Florida did not then receive the same careful attention that it now does :

This city contains from 2000 to 2500 inhabitants and is the largest town in East Florida. How we shall get along and fill up our time, we do not allow ourselves to dwell upon. Suffice it to say that so far we have made out very well. Having determined to make the best of everything, we do not permit little things to disconcert us. There are many things we would have different ; but as we are satisfied that for the most part we have things about as good as they can procure, we say but little about it. If we have not already had our peck of dirt, we are in a fair way to get our share of it this winter.

In 1861, George Howland, jun., was again a member of the Common Council of New Bedford and was chosen president as before. He was elected to fill the same position for the following year. The mayor of the city, Isaac C. Taber, died September 29, 1862. October 7, the City Council in convention chose George Howland, jun., to fill out the unexpired term. He was re-elected for 1863 without opposition, the first time that there was no contest over the office since New Bedford had become a city. Mr. Howland's administration of city affairs during the trying period of the civil war received warm commendation from his fellow-citizens, and they continued to re-elect him mayor during the years 1864 and 1865. The Society of Friends, of which George Howland, jun., was a life-long member, could not consistently with their doctrines give approval to the war. But Mr. Howland felt

that since the Union could not endure without a bitter struggle, a vigorous prosecution of the war was plainly a necessity. His conception of the duty of a patriotic citizen once formed, he threw all his energy and influence as the chief executive of the city into the encouragement of recruiting and into attention to the welfare of the departing troops.

In the summer of 1863, when draft riots occurred in New York and in other cities of the North, it was feared that opposition to the call for troops might arise in New Bedford. These were anxious days for Mr. Howland, in whose hands lay the responsibility for the preservation of order and for the enforcement of the law. It was indeed a difficult position for a member of the Society of Friends to occupy, where it might be necessary at any moment to give orders that would cause bloodshed. But George Howland's conception of his duty was clear, as always, and his course of action was determined without a thought of evading any of the obligations of the office he had accepted. The City Hall was garrisoned, and mounted patrols guarded at night the roads leading to New Bedford, with the object of intercepting men who were seeking to instigate riots wherever an opportunity might be given. In the course of a conversation which he held at this time with his sister-in-law, Mrs. Rachel Howland, Mr. Howland was asked what he intended to do in case the dreaded insurrection should occur. He quietly responded, "There will be no blank cartridges fired."

The time of danger passed by, however, and no disturbances over the draft took place in New Bedford. But

the precautions adopted under Mayor Howland's leadership were wisely taken; and the knowledge that the municipal authorities were ready to make a determined stand in defence of law and order may have contributed in no small degree to avert a very considerable outbreak.

September 14, 1864, the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Dartmouth was celebrated in New Bedford by the people of the towns formed out of the old township. George Howland, jun., mayor of New Bedford, acted as chairman of the committee of arrangements and delivered an address of welcome at the exercises which were held in the First Christian church, on Purchase street. An extract from this address may be of interest as showing how much of the growth of New Bedford had taken place within Mr. Howland's recollection:

Even I, at my comparatively early period of life, recollect when New Bedford contained only about three thousand inhabitants; the details of a painting,* made some twenty-five years since by one of our native artists, representing the "Old Four Corners," are all familiar to me; many a time have I accompanied my respected father to the shed market there represented; the old store on one of the corners, then and now known as the

* The painting referred to is by William A. Wall, and is entitled, "New Bedford, fifty years ago." It represents, at about the year 1810, what is now the corner of Union and Water streets, and gives a view of Union street as far west as the Mansion house. The original picture was painted for the late Albert C. Barney. It was subsequently, and for a long time, the property of Hon. Joseph Grinnell. After his death, it came into the possession of his grand-nephew, Mr. Grinnell Willis, of New York, who is the present owner. A replica of this painting was made for the late William W. Swain, of New Bedford, whose widow bequeathed it to Mr. Daniel Ricketson, in whose hands it now remains. Another replica, into which the artist introduced three or four new figures, belongs to Mrs. Edward C. Jones, of New Bedford. From this last-mentioned painting, the many lithographs of the picture were made.

“Four Corners,” with the upper half of the window shutter propped up on a stick, and nearly all the other objects handed down to us of the present day by this picture, I recollect as though they were still extant, not forgetting some of the more prominent persons so faithfully represented, nor yet the little old No. 1 fire engine, nor the old chaise with the small round seat in front, upon which sat old “Tony,” when he drove his excellent master, the venerable William Rotch, sen., through the streets. I have heard my maternal grandmother relate that when the house which stood upon the northwest corner of Union and First streets, on a portion of the site now occupied by Thornton block, was raised, she sat at the window of her house on Water street, between School and Walnut streets, and, looking through the forest, witnessed the operation. In that house, many years after I was born, I have been told by an uncle of mine, that when he was a boy and went with other boys after berries, if they thought to go so far from home as where I now live, on Sixth street, they considered it necessary to take their dinners with them. These, and many other incidents that might be related, show the changes that have taken place in a few years.

During the years that elapsed between the time of the delivery of this address and his death, Mr. Howland witnessed still further changes in his native city, which, though perhaps not so marked, were hardly less in magnitude than those which he has here indicated.

In July, 1865, Sylvia Ann Howland of New Bedford died and left an estate valued at over two millions of dollars. She bequeathed two hundred thousand dollars to the city of New Bedford, one hundred thousand to aid in the introduction of water into the city, and the income of the other one hundred thousand to be expended “for the promotion and support within the city of liberal educa-

tion, and for the enlargement from time to time of our Free Public Library." Trust funds amounting to about \$1,700,000 were created by the will, and these were left in the hands of three trustees, of whom George Howland, jun., was one. Mr. Howland received a personal bequest of fifty thousand dollars. The litigation which resulted from this will developed into a famous case, in which some of the ablest lawyers in New England were engaged. A great mass of evidence was taken, which included the testimony of many scientific experts. The result in brief was that after an adverse judgment from the United States circuit court, the case of the complainant (Mrs. Hetty H. Green, the niece of Sylvia Ann Howland and her heir-at-law) was withdrawn. A compromise was effected, and the will remained valid.*

Another estate of which Mr. Howland was a trustee for many years was that of John West, a former resident of what is now Fairhaven, Massachusetts. Mr. West died about one hundred years ago and left the income of his property to be divided among the poor and needy of New Bedford, with a request that the nearest monthly meeting of Friends should appoint the trustees of the estate whenever successors to those named in his will might be required. Trustees were accordingly appointed by the New Bedford monthly meeting; and it was by this means that in the course of time George Howland, jun., came to occupy the position. Since the death of John West, the

* A full account of the Howland will case may be found in the documents bearing on it which are in the New Bedford Free Public Library. A summary of the case was given in the *American Law Review* for July, 1870. Vol. 4, p. 625.

two towns of Fairhaven and Acushnet have been formed from territory which was at that time included within the limits of New Bedford; and the income of the fund is now divided among the poor of the three places. During Mr. Howland's trusteeship, the original property was sold, by permission of the probate court, and the proceeds were re-invested in bank stock. In this way the income was largely increased.

At the annual meeting of the New Bedford Port Society, held January 26, 1866, George Howland, jun., was chosen president. This office he held until January 29, 1866, when he declined another re-election. At the anniversary meeting of the society, March 8, 1868, Mr. Howland delivered an historical address, which reviewed the work of the organization to that time. Referring, in this address, to the claim which sailors have upon a city to which they have brought so much prosperity, Mr. Howland said :

I would respectfully ask of you, my friends, if this claim upon us has been fully recognized and requited? Have we done for the sailor all that is demanded at our hands? Have we sufficiently considered the necessity of providing for him more and greater opportunities while on shore for his moral and religious improvement? Have all the better impulses of our natures been stirred and our hearts been warmed on his account? If not, my friends, let us no longer permit this institution to struggle on, would I could say sustaining itself, or being sustained as it should be, but just living from year to year, when it should of right have such an income as would enable it to extend its usefulness with each recurring year. Permit me in this connection to suggest to you the propriety of taking this subject under your careful, and may I not say prayerful consider-

ation, and decide whether it is not only your duty but a positive requisition upon you to contribute a portion of that material substance derived from the labors of the sailor, to aid in promoting the objects for which this society was incorporated.

June 6, 1870, Mr. Howland became one of the fellows of the American Society of Civil Engineers. These fellowships are honorary positions, to which are chosen properly qualified subscribers to the so-called "Fellowship" fund of the society. Mr. Howland, with his natural bent toward matters pertaining to engineering, was interested in the objects of this society through Mr. W. J. McAlpine, who was the consulting engineer at the time of the introduction of Acushnet water into New Bedford. The preliminary measures in this undertaking were adopted during the last years in which Mr. Howland was mayor of the city.

IV

From the earliest settlement of New Bedford, the influence of the Society of Friends has been a potent factor in its religious and social life. During many years this sect held the leading position in the town, and most of the well-known citizens were among its adherents. The quiet Quaker garb was commonly seen on the streets, and the growing township was guided by the customs of the society. The inevitable changes, however, which come with fresh generations and with new pursuits have nearly effaced the outward characteristics which once distinguished New Bedford from other New England towns; and the Quaker usages have lost their dominating influence with the advent of a population with different traditions.

George Howland, jun., was a birthright member of the Society of Friends, and he remained throughout his life a believer in its doctrines. The son of a wealthy Quaker merchant (who was himself a benefactor of the society), and acquainted by his travels abroad with the prominent Friends in England, it was natural that Mr. Howland should take at an early age an influential place among the New England Quakers. He served for many years as treasurer of the New England yearly meeting of Friends, and at the time of his death he had long been one of its

correspondents. Mr. Howland took a deep interest in the work of the foreign missions of the society, particularly in Syria; and to all educational projects he gave valuable and willing aid.

To his active participation in the affairs of the Society of Friends was due a visit which Mr. Howland paid to the Osage Indians in the winter of 1871-72. In 1869, upon the election of General Grant to the presidency, delegations of Friends from the yearly meetings in the West and from Philadelphia urged upon him the immediate necessity of adopting a more just and humane policy in the treatment of the Indians. General Grant made the proposition that the Society of Friends should take charge of the Indians, under the supervision of the government. The proposition as a whole was declined; but it was agreed that the society should assume the oversight of those belonging to the northern and central superintendencies, which then comprised about 16,000 Indians. Accordingly, delegates were appointed from each yearly meeting to form an "Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs." In the hands of this committee was placed the nomination of Indian agents, school superintendents, teachers, farmers, and other employees, who were then appointed and paid by the government.

It was as a member of this Associated Executive Committee, and in its behalf, that George Howland, jun., visited the Osage Indians, in the Indian Territory. He was accompanied by Thomas Wistar, of Philadelphia. The latter, however, on account of ill health, was compelled to abandon the journey at Lawrence, Kansas. The

object of the visit was a general investigation into the condition of the Osages, who were a peaceable tribe, in order that the aid to be given them should be rendered in the most efficient way. The encouragement of agriculture and stock-raising and the erection of suitable buildings to meet the various needs of the agency were among the subjects which required consideration.

During his journey, while between St. Louis and Kansas City, Mr. Howland had a narrow escape from death in a railroad accident. The following is an extract from a letter, written a few days later, to his brother, Matthew Howland :

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY,
LAWRENCE, KANSAS, 2d mo. 6th, 1872.

DEAR BROTHER :

I write thee from this far off land this beautiful winter's morning (good sleighing, thermometer 12 to 13 degrees below zero), feeling a great burden resting upon me, owing to my being obliged to set off for the Indian Territory without my friend on whom I have so much relied, Thomas Wistar. The state of his health is such that the doctor (Wm. Nicholson) says it is not proper for him to go. It is now arranged for us (Isaac T. Gibson, the agent of the Osages, and myself) to set off to-morrow about eleven o'clock, hoping to meet Mahlon Stubbs, agent of the Kaws, at a point on the road, reaching Coffeyville, the end of the railroad, to-morrow evening; thence next morning, by some kind of a conveyance, proceed on some 75 or 100 miles right out on to the plains to find some of the Indians, who are out on a hunt, have a conference with them there, thence return to I. Gibson's agency and see some more of them, and try to make some arrangements with and for them, by which their condition will be improved. What the result will be is only known to Him in whose hands are the events of men.

Before this reaches thee, you will have heard of the very serious accident through which we passed between St. Louis and Kansas City. Why we were not entirely torn to pieces, I cannot yet comprehend, except that we were through the mercy of the Lord kindly cared for and protected, wonderfully so. I have no language to convey to anybody the condition in which we found ourselves after the accident.

There seems to me just now no possibility of saying when I shall return. I cannot give any idea of the length of time that will be required to bring about the object of our mission.

There are unfortunately no letters existing from which might be gathered some details of Mr. Howland's experiences during his residence among the Osages. He remained with them several weeks and gained, from personal observation of their customs, a fund of information which proved highly serviceable in determining what was needed to bring about the desired improvement in their mode of living.

V

A sketch of the life of George Howland, jun.,* would be very incomplete which made no mention of the interest he took in the subject of education. Beginning with the New Bedford school committee, he held, with scarcely a break, some position connected with an educational institution during a period of fifty years. He was first chosen a member of the school committee, April 22, 1843, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of the late Gen. James D. Thompson, and remained a member until 1851. He subsequently held this office during the years 1868 and 1869 and then resigned. The interest he felt in the public schools of his native town, and in all measures which might increase their usefulness and influence, was constant and sympathetic; and it was by no means confined to the years of his service as a member of the school committee.

In 1852, Mr. Howland was elected by the corporation of Brown University one of the trustees of that institution. This position he held for the remainder of his life, and at the time of his decease he was the oldest trustee in

* Mr. Howland wrote his name George Howland, *junior*, throughout his life, notwithstanding the death of his father.

point of service. In 1852, he received from Brown the honorary degree of A. M.

George Howland, jun., was also for a long time one of the managers of Haverford College. He was appointed to succeed his father, who bestowed upon Haverford the sum of fifteen thousand dollars and was the largest individual benefactor in its early history.

In the will of George Howland, senior, who died in 1852, there was created a special trust of fifty thousand dollars for the establishment and support of a school for young females. The location was left to the decision of the trustees of the fund, although the testator favored Cayuga county in New York. The school was finally established at Union Springs in that county about 1862 and was continued in operation until 1878. The endowment of the school was insufficient for its needs, and the hope that additional bequests would be attracted, when the institution was successfully started, was not realized. As a result, the school was closed, and the trustees were absolved from their trust by a decree of the supreme court of New York. George Howland, jun., acted as president of the board of trustees during the entire period of the existence of the school and made every effort to carry his father's wishes to a satisfactory conclusion. But as the income of the school was too small to enable it to reach the period when it should become self-supporting, the whole project was necessarily abandoned.

In 1847, the New England yearly meeting of Friends chose George Howland, jun., a member of the committee in charge of the Friends' School in Providence. From

that time until his death, with the exception of the years 1862, 1863, and 1864, Mr. Howland was one of the most active and honored members of this committee. He withdrew temporarily, during the years just mentioned, because the views he held concerning the civil war were not in accord with the commonly accepted beliefs of the Society of Friends. He was mayor of New Bedford at this time; and it has already been seen how valuable a stimulus in the preparations for war which devolved on the local authorities was the earnest patriotism which he displayed as the official head of the city. It is hardly necessary to add that Mr. Howland lost neither influence nor regard among the members of the Society of Friends by his fidelity to his own convictions.

Mr. Howland was clerk of the managing board of the Friends' School, which in this case means that he was both president and secretary, from June 22, 1875, until his health failed in 1891. As executive of the committee, his name is on more than half of the diplomas which have been granted by the school. The loss which this institution experienced in the death of so active and sympathetic an adviser was keenly felt. To quote the words of Mr. Augustine Jones, the principal of the school, as expressed in a letter to the writer of these pages, "We deeply realize that this institution has lost in Hon. George Howland, jun., one of its most competent and distinguished patrons and guardians. And that out of all of our lives has gone a great light which will not return."

With the New Bedford Free Public Library, George Howland, jun., had an intimate connection during almost

the entire period of the forty years of its existence. He first became a member of the board of trustees in 1855, by virtue of his election to the office of mayor of the city. From that time until his death in 1892, with the exception of the years 1857 and 1860, his membership was constant. While serving as mayor, and again as president of the Common Council, he was an *ex-officio* member of the board of trustees ; but during the other years, and from 1866 to 1892 continuously, he was chosen by the City Council for the regular term of office. It was as mayor of the city that Mr. Howland laid the corner-stone of the present library building, August 28, 1856. His address on this occasion gave a succinct history of the movement toward the establishment of a public library in New Bedford, and closed with the following words :

That the library to be located in the building, the corner-stone of which we have now laid, may ever continue to receive, as it has thus far received, the fostering care of the city government, and that the rich treasures with which its shelves will be stored may be a means of healthful and agreeable recreation, not only to us of the present day, but to our children and our children's children through all coming generations, is the fervent desire, and may I not say the fervent prayer, of those who have been instrumental in promoting this great public work ; a work which will redound to the credit of our city, when we who are now participating in these exercises shall have gone hence, to be seen of men no more forever.

The interest of George Howland, jun., in the new library was not confined to an expression of good-will. In 1857, at the expiration of his second year as mayor of

New Bedford, he sent the following letter to the City Council :

NEW BEDFORD, 37 6th street,
4 mo. 6, 1857.

To the City Council.

GENTLEMEN :

Having held the office of mayor of the city for the past two years, for which service I have received from the city treasury the sum of sixteen hundred dollars, and as, when I accepted the office, I did it against my own inclinations and without any expectations of being compensated for the time and labor I might devote to it, and with a view to manifest in some degree the interest I feel in our "Free Public Library," I now make for your consideration the following proposition :

I will return to the city the amount I have received therefrom for my services as mayor, on condition that the same shall be constituted a fund, the income of which shall forever be appropriated to the purchase of books for the said "Free Public Library," to be expended under the direction of the trustees for the time being, who shall in their annual report give a statement of the disbursements of said income ; the class of books I would propose to be obtained from the above source to be of a more expensive character, embracing some of the higher works of art and science, than the trustees would feel themselves justified in procuring with the funds annually set apart and placed at their disposal by the city government for the enlargement of the library.

Should this proposition meet with your approval, I will hold myself in readiness to complete the arrangement at any time that will suit your convenience.

Respectfully yours,

GEORGE HOWLAND, JUN.

The City Council at once passed resolutions gratefully accepting Mr. Howland's generous offer. To signify its just appreciation of this the first endowment which the

library had received, the Council, one week later, appropriated three hundred dollars to procure a portrait of Mr. Howland. The portrait, painted by Matthew Wilson, now hangs in the delivery-room of the library.

There is another incident connected with Mr. Howland's gift, which is deserving of mention. The money was invested in three bonds of the Androscoggin and Kennebec railroad, which were payable in stock. This subsequently proved of no value. Unwilling that the slender resources of the library should be in any way diminished, Mr. Howland deposited in the city treasury a sum of money equal to the original amount of his gift, and even made up to the trustees of the library the amount of income which had been lost in the meantime. The interest on the George Howland, jun., fund, as it is called, has from that time been placed semi-annually by the city treasurer to the credit of the trustees of the library. In regard to the character of the books purchased from this fund, the wishes of the donor have always been strictly observed; and in the thirty-five years that have passed since the gift was first made, many valuable books have accumulated on the shelves of the library, forming a lasting memorial of Mr. Howland's liberality.

In 1888, George Howland, jun., presented the New Bedford Free Public Library with nearly all of his private collection of books, and also with a portrait of his father, George Howland, senior. This was the last of many gifts to this institution, extending throughout his long term of service as a member of the board of trustees. But there is no record, and none can be made, of the benefit which

the library received from Mr. Howland's quick discernment of its needs and from his unfailing interest in its growth. To every organization with which he was connected, he brought wise counsel and (what is perhaps more rare) a practical knowledge of the best way of doing things. To the constant support of a man of this character, continuing as it did through so many years, the people of New Bedford may well attribute much of the good which their library has accomplished.

VI

The closing years of Mr. Howland's life were, for the most part, passed quietly and uneventfully in New Bedford. As the whaling industry declined, in which he had been interested for so long a period, Mr. Howland, like most of the older merchants, gradually withdrew from it. He abandoned the business altogether about 1882. There remained to occupy his time, however, his duties as president of the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank; and to the needs of the Taunton Lunatic Hospital, in which his long service as trustee had made him deeply interested, he gave much attention during these latter years.

In 1875 and 1876, George Howland, jun., was a member of the New Bedford water board. In the fall of the latter year, Mr. Howland was one of a committee of fifty which organized an independent movement in municipal politics, with a view to breaking away from the strong party antagonisms of previous years. Alanson Borden was nominated for mayor, and Mr. Howland accepted a nomination for alderman. Mr. Borden was elected, as were also four of the aldermen of his party, of whom Mr. Howland was one. He resigned his position on the water board and served his term as alderman during the year

1877, which was the last of his participation in municipal politics.

In 1888, April 17, the death of Mrs. Howland brought to a close an exceptionally long and happy union. From the time, sixty-one years before, when they were joined in marriage in the Friends' meeting-house, Mrs. Howland had retained a deep and unflagging interest in the many projects which her husband had at heart, and to her advice and encouragement he had always attached a deservedly high value. Three sons were born of this union, of whom two died in infancy, and the third at the age of twenty-eight.*

In the autumn of 1888, Mr. Howland met with financial misfortunes by which he lost a large portion of his property. He sold the house in which he had lived since 1834 and took up his residence with Mrs. Frederic S. Gifford, a grand-niece of Mrs. Howland. With the exception of considerable time spent in Providence, he passed here the remainder of his life. It was characteristic of George Howland's courage and strength of character that he accepted uncomplainingly the trouble that came to him in his old age; and his chief regret that his means had been impaired was that he was thereby prevented from giving, as he had hoped to do, to the organizations for which he cared so much.

Up to the last year of his long life, Mr. Howland enjoyed the best of health, and illness in any form was to

*1. James A., born June 18, 1830, died September 5, 1831.
 2. George Henry, born December 21, 1831, died August 1, 1832.
 3. George Henry, born June 3, 1833, died June 24, 1861.

him literally a thing unknown. In the fall of 1890, however, his health failed, and he was confined to his bed. There was no acute disease, but he seemed to be suffering from a general weakening of the system resulting from his advanced years. After a time his health temporarily improved, and during the summer and autumn of 1891 he went back to his old habits of life, though hardly with his old-time vigor. In the winter he again became ill, and it was soon evident that no hope could be entertained for his recovery. A curious phase of the last part of his illness was that in his delirium he spoke nothing but French, an indication that his mind dwelt on those early days of his boyhood when he first acquired a knowledge of that language and conceived for it a lasting love. Several weeks went by, during which Mr. Howland endured great pain, and the end finally came February 18, 1892.

The funeral services were held February twenty-second in the Friends' meeting-house on Spring street, where George Howland had been a familiar figure from the time when it was erected, nearly seventy years before. A large number of people were assembled, which included representatives of the many organizations with which he had been connected in the course of his life. When the simple services were concluded, Mr. Howland's friends looked for the last time on the features of the man who had so long been the recipient of their respect and of their love.

There were many beyond the circle of the close friends and associates of George Howland to whom the announce-

ment of his death brought a genuine feeling of personal loss. His prominent position in the Society of Friends and the active part he had taken in the commercial as well as in the public affairs of his native city would alone have sufficed to explain this fact, were explanation needed. His kindness, his willingness to aid, and his conspicuous integrity had combined to render him one to whom positions of trust came almost in the nature of things. A retiring disposition and a strong love for home surroundings made him shrink from rather than seek public office. Yet he believed it his duty not to withhold his services when his fellow-citizens desired to make use of them; and to the demands of any position to which he was called he gave an even more conscientious attention than he bestowed upon his own private interests. Although a man of quick decision and of positive convictions, he never refused to give ear to opinions which differed from his own; and however resolute and determined his subsequent action, it was not undertaken without a careful consideration of every point at issue. The duties of each recurring day he faithfully performed, and the result was a life of singular usefulness and merit.

The New Bedford in which George Howland, junior, spent the most active years of his life is fast becoming a memory, and its chief characteristics will ere long be known only to the local antiquary and historian. The industry which made the city famous has passed away with the men to whom it brought riches, and the dismantled whaleships at the docks bear a silent testimony to the change that has come. In the present era of pros-

perity, the second which the old whaling city has enjoyed, the wealth acquired in former days has been diverted into new channels, and mills have arisen to take the place of the old-time fleets of vessels. But however far New Bedford may advance beyond the dreams of its citizens in bygone years, the men who then made its history deserve to be held in lasting remembrance; and among the names of those to whom the prosperous city of to-day owes a debt of gratitude, that of George Howland, junior, will always have a high place. Few instances will occur in time to come where one man will give, as he did, to New Bedford so many years of untiring service, animated by so deep and affectionate an interest in its welfare. And although to others there will be granted broader opportunities for action than were given to the men of his generation, yet fortunate indeed will that man be in the completed record of whose life there shall be found, as in that which belongs to George Howland, junior, so much of good, accomplished by quiet perseverance, high purposes, and an unstained honor.

APPENDIX

The following resolutions on the death of George Howland, jun., were adopted by the trustees of the New Bedford Free Public Library, February 29, 1892 :

It is with deep sorrow that the trustees of the New Bedford Free Public Library have learned of the death of their associate, George Howland, jun., and they take this method of expressing their sense of the loss they have sustained.

Mr. Howland's connection with this board began in 1855 and, with the exception of the years 1857 and 1860, lasted until the time of his death. Throughout this long term of service, his interest in the library was keen and unvarying. Its steady growth, the new conditions and the fresh demands imposed by the rapid development of our city and by the changing character of our population,—all these were ever carefully watched by Mr. Howland with an eye to the meeting fairly of every new want and to the omitting of nothing that might render the library a more efficient factor in the lives of our people.

Mr. Howland was the first benefactor of this institution with which he was so long connected. In 1857, while the library was yet small and with slight resources, he gave the salary which he had received as mayor of the city for two years, then just completed, as a perpetual fund, the interest on which should go toward the purchase of books which would ordinarily be regarded as beyond the means of the trustees. It is particularly deserving of mention in this place that when, a few years later, the bonds in which the gift was made became of no value, Mr.

Howland deposited in the city treasury a sum equal to the original amount, in order that the means of the library, increased by his own generosity, might in no way be impaired. The fund thus constituted was of great assistance for many years. And although the munificence of other New Bedford people has since greatly increased the resources of the library, yet the usefulness of this fund has in no degree diminished; and our shelves will continue to receive valuable books, which will form a lasting memorial of the thoughtfulness and public spirit of our late associate.

The portrait of George Howland, jun., which has long hung on our walls, has witnessed many changes in the institution which owes him so much, and it will witness many more as time goes on. But his name will always be remembered as of one whose kindly aid and wise counsel were often sought and never in vain.

The board of investment of the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank adopted resolutions as follows :

Whereas, We, the members of the board of investment of the New Bedford Five Cents Savings Bank, have learned with profound sorrow of the death of our president, the Hon. George Howland, jun., who from the date of the incorporation of the bank has been actively and continuously connected with the management of its affairs, and whose high character, fearless integrity, and constant devotion to its interests have contributed largely to its prosperity; and

Whereas, We desire to record our sense of personal loss, our appreciation of the value of his service and our admiration of his character, now therefore it is

Resolved, That the death of Hon. George Howland, jun., marks the close of a career which for more than half a century has been identified with most honorable and useful service in both public and private life, and one that should serve as an example to be cherished by us and commended to the admiration of those who will succeed us.

The directors of the New Bedford Young Men's Christian Association took action as follows :

Whereas, Our Heavenly Father has called our beloved friend, George Howland, jun., from a life on earth spent in the service of his fellow-men, to an unending life, as we believe, with those to whom the words "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" were addressed ; and whereas in life he was an earnest friend of this association, assisting by his loving service and wise counsels, therefore it is

Resolved, That the members of this board do hereby express their deep sense of their loss and their firm conviction that the example of our friend's life will long live to encourage us to lay aside every weight and to press forward in the work of upbuilding young men to maintain before the world that firm Christian manhood which our dear friend so signally displayed ; and it is further

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on our records and that a copy of the same be sent to the family with whom we deeply sympathize.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to the memory of our deceased friend the members of this board attend the funeral.

N. W. GIFFORD, Clerk.

At a meeting of the New Bedford City Council, held February 25, the following resolutions prepared by a joint special committee were unanimously adopted :

Whereas, In the death of Hon. George Howland, jun., our attention is called to a life which was continually in the lead in promoting enterprises connected with our city's welfare, growth, and prosperity, and

Whereas, His public spirit and exceptional abilities were early recognized by his fellow-citizens, who honored him with nearly every official position of trust and responsibility in the gift of the people, and

Whereas, He having filled with ability the office of chief

magistrate of our city, we desire to take official notice of his demise and place on record our tribute to his memory, it is therefore

Resolved, That the members of the City Council of the city of New Bedford point with pride to the life of the deceased as a model of industry, integrity, devotion, and honorable achievements, worthy of imitation, and commanding the highest praise of a sympathizing community.

Resolved, That the assurance of our warmest sympathies be extended to the family and relatives of our departed fellow-citizen.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon record.

The *Evening Standard* printed the following account of the funeral of Mr. Howland :

Services in memory of the late George Howland, jun., were held in the Friends' meeting-house on Spring street yesterday. There was a very large gathering of representative men.

Among those present were Hon. William W. Crapo, Hon. William J. Rotch, Mayor Ashley, Hon. Walter Clifford, Hon. Weston Howland, Charles S. Kelley, Collector James Taylor, Postmaster Gifford, Edmund Rodman, Thomas R. Rodman, Hon. George B. Richmond, Daniel Ricketson, George F. Tucker, George F. Bartlett, George A. Bourne, Gilbert Allen, Rev. William J. Potter, William Watkins, Hon. Morgan Rotch, Edward S. Taber, Rev. C. W. Holden, Charles W. Clifford, Rev. M. C. Julien, John W. Macomber, Rev. E. Williams, John A. P. Allen, Horatio Hathaway, Rev. William Carruthers, Capt. Isaiah West, Charles H. Peirce, Rev. B. S. Batchelor, J. C. Brock, Capt. Orrick Smalley, Capt. James E. Stanton, David B. Kempton, Hon. Simeon Borden of Fall River, S. G. Morgan, Tilson B. Denham, Robert C. Ingraham, John B. Baylies, Frederic A. Washburn, William Gordon, jun., Humphrey A. Gifford, jun., George W. Paine, Lot W. Gibbs, George R. Phillips, and Rev. Edmund Kelly.

There were besides large delegations from the City Council,

the Young Men's Christian Association, and the officials of the Five Cents Savings Bank. A large number of ladies were also in attendance. The simple services commenced with prayer by Ruth S. Murray and by William O. Newhall of Lynn, clerk of the New England yearly meeting of Friends. Mrs. Murray spoke briefly of Mr. Howland's symmetrical life and character, and of the lessons which might be drawn from it. Mr. Newhall spoke of the record of the deceased, which is finished. Charles Varney of Providence alluded to the necessity of the living for dependence on a higher power. Prayer was offered by William P. Macomber of Fairhaven and by Mr. Varney, after which many of those present looked for the last time on the features of the dead.

The pall-bearers were : Edward D. Mandell, representing the Sylvia Ann Howland trust ; Alanson Borden, representing the ex-mayors ; Loum Snow, representing the Five Cents Savings Bank ; Jireh Swift, representing the Port Society ; George H. Dunbar, representing the trustees of the Free Public Library ; Augustine Jones, principal of the Friends' School at Providence ; William O. Newhall, representing the New England yearly meeting of Friends ; and Oakes A. Ames, representing the trustees of the Taunton lunatic asylum.

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