

*1½ Cambridge Street, Salem*

According to available evidence, the earliest part of this house was built c.1740 for Samuel Curwen, merchant, as his shop. In 1760 the shop was moved back from its street-front site (312 Essex Street) and became the storehouse (rear ell) attached to Mr. Curwen's new house. Over the years, Mr. Curwen's house was much-modified, if not entirely rebuilt; and this early (c.1740) section became part of a larger rear ell, which served the owners of the main house, one of whom was Nathaniel Bowditch in the years 1811-1823. The early and later ell, or most of it, was detached from the house and moved here in 1946.

Samuel Curwen (1715-1802) was born in Salem on 17 December 1715, the second son of Rev. George Curwen (1683-1717), Harvard 1701, minister of Salem's First Church. The baby's paternal grandfather, Jonathan Curwen (1640-1718), was living at the time of Samuel's birth. Jonathan was a prominent merchant and magistrate of Salem who had been a judge at the infamous witchcraft hearings in 1692. Of his none siblings, the Rev. George Curwen had only one who survived childhood: an older sister, Elizabeth, Mrs. James Lindall; and he had half-brothers, Henry and Robert Gibbs, sons of the first marriage of George's mother, Elizabeth (Sheafe) Curwen (1650?-1718).

The infant Samuel Curwen's mother was Mehitable (Parkman) Curwen (1688-1718), the only surviving child of a merchant, Deliverance Parkman (d. 1715) and his wife, Susannah (Clarke) Parkman, who would die on 19 Feb. 1727/8. The Parkman house stood on the east corner of Essex and North Streets.

At the age of 34, Rev. George Curwen died on 23 Nov. 1717, leaving his very pregnant wife Mehitable, 29, and two little sons, Jonathan and Samuel. Less than two weeks later, on 4 Dec. 1717, Mehitable gave birth to a baby son whom she named George—this is a “posthumous” child, so called because born after the death of the father. In July and August, 1718, the senior Curwens, Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan & Elizabeth Curwen, died at the ages of 78 and about 68, respectively. The season of death was not over for the family, as little Jonathan Curwen died on 6 Nov. 1718, aged five; and his mother, Mehitable (Parkman) Curwen, 30, died one week later, making orphans of Samuel, almost three, and the infant George. All of the Parkman wealth, and much of the Curwen wealth, suddenly descended to these two small children. Of their immediately families, only their maternal grandmother, Susannah (Clarke) Parkman, survived to look after them. She would live on for more than nine years.

In the matter of the estate of Hon. Jonathan Curwen (#6948), the inventory of 28 Feb. 1718/19 valued the "homestead house barn & land and cottage rights at 600 li, pasture land where tomb is at 200 li, and two ten-acre lots in North Field, 200 li." His wife Elizabeth had devised her property to her son Rev. Henry Gibbs, to the children of her deceased son Robert Gibbs, and to the children of her son Rev. George "Corwin."

In the matter of the double estate of Rev. George & Mehitable Curwen, Samuel Browne was administrator; and in the inventory of 16 July 1719 the extremely valuable real estate, described only as "housing & lands," was appraised at 1576 li, and the personal estate at 937 li (#6945).

The two little orphaned Curwen boys were raised under an informal arrangement in some prominent Salem family, with their grandmother Parkman supervising, and administrator Samuel Browne evidently managing the property. Old Mrs. Parkman died on 19 Feb. 1729. In January, 1731/2, the teen-aged Curwen brothers, Samuel and George, petitioned the Court to appoint Benjamin Lynde Jr., Esq., their guardian (see probate book 319:66). The Court decided to place them under the joint guardianship of Thomas Barton, an apothecary, and Benjamin Lynde Jr., Esq., on 6 Dec. 1732 (see probate books 317:85, 319:458). The guardians managed the Curwen property well, and saw to the education of the Curwen boys. Samuel was sent to Harvard in the fall of 1731, aged 14; and he graduated in 1735. He began studies for the ministry, but poor health distracted him, and an unhappy love-affair led him to spend time abroad. By 1736 Samuel, 21, and George, 19, were deemed old enough to take possession of their property.

In 1736, Samuel & George Curwen, "Salem gentlemen," for 95 li sold to William Browne and others the wharf and buildings on the South River that had belonged to their grandfather Parkman (ED 76:8). In 1737 Samuel Curwen, Salem gentleman, for 90 li sold to William Browne, merchant, five rights in Salem's common lands (ED 74:142). And in 1738 Samuel Curwen, gentleman, for 50 shillings sold to his cousins, Mary & Elizabeth Lindall, his right in land to the rear of the homestead of their mutual grandfather Judge Jonathan Curwen (ED 77:63).

Judge Curwen had left only two surviving heirs: daughter Elizabeth (Curwen) Lindall (mother of Elizabeth & Mary Lindall), and son Rev. George Curwen (father of Samuel & George). By 1740 the four heirs agreed to a division of the Jonathan Curwen homestead, which consisted of land fronting on the main street (modern Essex Street), and running all the way back to the North River, bounding easterly on North Street, with warehouses and barns thereon, as well as the mansion house at the

corner of North Street. To the Lindalls went the western-most part of the homestead land. The easterly part, with the house thereon, was divided between Samuel and George on 27 October 1740 (ED \_\_\_:122). To Samuel Curwen, Salem gentleman, went the “middle division of my grandfather’s homestead,” bounded 48’ on the main street, westerly 24.5 poles (404’) on the Lindalls’ land, northerly on land of the Lindalls 110’ 8”, easterly on the lane 14 poles 7’ (228’), southerly on land of George Curwen 65’ 4”, easterly on George Curwen land about 192’ (11 poles, 10’ 4”). George also released to Samuel his rights in three other parcels, some of them nearby. For his part, Samuel ceded to George all of his rights in the Jonathan Curwen house and its land, at the corner of the two streets—the house known today as “the Witch House.”

Samuel Curwen, 25 in 1740, was not married and had evidently not settled into the business of a merchant. Merchants owned ships and sent them and their cargoes overseas to trade for goods more valuable than those they began with, and then sold those goods at other ports or back in Salem.

Salem’s only reliable export was salt cod, which was caught far offshore and then “cured” until it was hard and dry and could be shipped long distances. This was a staple food in Catholic Europe (Spain and Portugal especially) and also in the Caribbean, where it was fed to slaves. To Europe went the “merchantable” cod (high-grade), and to the Caribbean went the “refuse” cod (low quality). Either sort, put into a pot of boiling water, would turn into nutritious food. Lumber, horses, and foodstuffs were also sent to the Caribbean, whence came sugar, molasses, cotton, and mahogany. From Europe came back finished goods, wine, fruit, feathers, and leather. There was also some trade between Salem and the Chesapeake Bay area, which provided corm, wheat, and tobacco, while South Carolina provided rice.

Most merchant vessels were small, under 60 tons. Timothy Orne was the leading merchant of the 1730s and 1740s, followed by his protégé, Richard Derby (1712-1783). Up until the time of the Revolution (1775), Salem’s trade was prosperous but modest. The salt water (South River) came in along modern Derby and New Derby Streets all the way to the present post office; and in this secure inner harbor were most of the wharves and warehouses.

The fact that Samuel was termed a “gentleman” and not a “merchant” tends to indicate that he had not engaged in trade in a big way. Nonetheless, he may have had a store at this time, where he sold imported goods acquired on “adventures”—the exchange of a partial cargo for certain other goods that made up part of the return cargo. It could be that by 1740 he had a store here on this land, or even that it was

here in the 1730s (the inventories of his grandparents and parents are not specific about what buildings stood on the Corwin/Curwen homestead by 1718). We do know that there was a store here by 1759; and the architectural evidence indicates that the store's frame was made up of wood that was dressed for construction before 1730, since it is chamfered. The chamfers, however, do not have "stops" at the intersections of beams and posts, as they would if the framing elements had been assembled new for the shop; and so it would appear that the store's frame was recycled from pieces of an earlier, larger building that had been taken down.

As others would note later, Samuel Curwen was a very thin, very irritable person who was not very sociable. After a while he left Salem again: in 1744, aged 29, he secured a commission as a Captain and joined the British-led expedition against Louisburg, the French fortress at the tip of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. His brother George, who was married and had children, also participated as an officer. It is possible that Samuel resided with brother George while living in Salem.

After his military service, Capt. Samuel Curwen returned to Salem. He won appointment as a County impost officer, and would later become an admiralty court judge. Well past the age of thirty he was a bachelor, if not a hardened bachelor; but then he courted Abigail Russell, of Charlestown, who was likely a descendant of Samuel's great-aunt Abigail Corwin, who had married James Russell of Boston. Unhappily, Samuel's courtship of the young lady proved successful and they married in 1750, when he was 34. It was a disastrous match.

Where the couple resided in the 1750s is not known. They evidently had no children, and had no "need" to build a new house. By the end of the 1750s, Samuel had established himself in trade, as well as in office-holding, and was ready to build a residence. At that time, 1759, he and his wife resided in a suite in the house of his cousin, Mary Lindall, at 314 Essex Street.

In June, 1759, he began planning the construction of his house. From the account book that he kept, it is clear that he served as the general contractor; and he may have been the architect as well. In December, 1759, he agreed with Miles Ward 3d to be the supplier of window frames and sashes. On 11 Jan. 1760 he agreed with Abraham Redington, Boxford housewright, to make the frame for the house, which was to be 36' wide and 22' deep, with 10' stud (height of one story) and a hipped roof sloping 9.5' in from each end toward the ridge, with deep joists, and summer beams 9.5" deep, "as per draught." There was, then, a draft, or plan of the house, or at least of its framing. Redington was to deliver the frame by May 1, 1760, "on the spot whereon my shop now stands." Curwen hired Gideon Foster as the cellar

mason, and Joseph McIntire and Samuel "Liscomb" to make six window shutters of four leaves each, and to supply doors with raised panels on both sides but not with quarter rounds on both sides. Mr. Boyce was to supply the cellar rocks. On March 12, anticipating that he would be moving his shop off the new site of the house-cellar, Samuel Curwen asked Mr. Gerrish to rent him a shop for 3-4 months. The Gerrish shop probably stood on Norman Street, near the South River; Mr. Gerrish did not answer him right away, but did finally agree to the lease.

Mr. Curwen acquired "stair banisters" (from Edmund Whittemore) and timber (from Jonathan Mansfield). On 7-8 April 1760 he moved his "goods out of my shop;" and on 9 April 1760 he had the workmen "remove my shop back in order to make a store of." By this, he probably meant that the shop, repositioned at the back of the house-site, would become a store-house for the shop, which would probably be conducted from one of the front rooms of the new house. John Cox, mason, did the underpinning for the new site of the shop building ("my store house"), and Nathaniel Reeves and his "servant" John Deadman did the carpentry involved in finishing off the small building once it was in place—all this in April, 1760. On April 19, Curwen noted that S. Daland had "carted 43 barrels of flour, barrels of sugar, etc., from Mr. Sparhawk, to my own store." From this, it would appear that he was something of a grocer.

The cellar-work for the house was going forward in April under Gideon Foster, with bricks from Mr. Page, mason-work by Mr. Foster and "Stimson" (perhaps John Stimpson of Marblehead, a noted mason who later moved to Salem). James Andrews worked as a carpenter. The frame was delivered late, much to Mr. Curwen's annoyance. On May 14<sup>th</sup> "part of the frame (was) this day brought down, four loads, nine tons." Two weeks late, on May 16, the frame was raised, accompanied by the traditional feast: Mr. Curwen gave a dinner for 40 men. Subsequently, he paid "house carpenters and house joiners" Nathaniel Reeves, John Deadman, James Andrews, Samuel Shillaber, Amos Trask, Littlefield Sibley, George Daland, Edmund Whittemore and son Joseph, Mansfield Burrill, John Ward, Nehemiah Clough, William Lefavour, and John Warden.

On May 22, fed up with Gideon Foster, Curwen went to Ipswich and hired a new mason, Eben Lovett. By July 4<sup>th</sup> the house was so near completion that he could note, "began yesterday to remove the goods into the shop from Mr. Gerrish's." He noted the purchase of white lead and oil for painting, and then of the arrival of "Luscomb, painter." On July 28, 1760, he wrote, "We completed it and are to lodge for the first time in new house, designing to give up the key of old house tomorrow (Aug. 1, sent the key to Mary Lindall), after which my rent ceases to her..."

The house was finished, the store-house repositioned, and the shop open for business. The Curwens, Samuel and his wife Abigail, moved in here and participated prominently in the life of the town. In March, 1760, Samuel Curwen, Esq., gave to his cousin Mary Lindall a small piece of land next to her house (ED 108:258).

In the 1760s, after the taking of Canada by the British and Americans, relations between the colonials and the British authorities cooled. The Americans deeply resented English efforts to squeeze tax revenues out of the colonists' trade. Although they had been under royal governors for two generations, they had been allowed them to govern themselves completely at the town level by town meetings, and, at the provincial level, through a legislature and Governor's council. Over time, the Americans had come to see themselves as free people, and not as dependents of a far-away mother country. The British authorities were surprised at the Americans' resistance to their policies, and feared an incipient insurrection. In 1768, they sent over a small army of occupation and installed it in Boston. This was a big mistake, for now the Americans were forced to see themselves as misbehaving colonials, and to realize that they were not free. They did not like this picture, and the result was greater tension and frequent street violence. The Boston Massacre took place in March, 1770; in short order, much of Massachusetts turned openly against the British, and the clouds of war gathered on the horizon.

Admiralty Court Judge Curwen was unhappy with British trade policy of the 1760s and 1770s as it affected America, but did not favor an armed rebellion and believed that his townsmen should try to work out their differences through negotiation. He struggled to remain a member of the society he was born into, but ultimately realized that he was a Tory, and was no longer welcome in most circles of Salem or Massachusetts. Pre-revolutionary Salem had more than its share of Tories; but the Sons of Liberty were in the majority. Wealthy scions of old Salem families like the Curwens, Pickmans, and Brownes, chose to remain loyal to the King, as did many others who had married into the merchant families. In 1774 one of the most outspoken Salem Tories was Peter Frye, a prominent merchant and magistrate whose wife was a Pickman. He resided in the most fashionable part of Salem, on Essex Street just west of modern Washington Street. One night in October, Judge Frye learned just how obnoxious he had made himself to the rebel faction: his fine house on Essex Street was set afire, and he and his family barely escaped into the street. Their house, and several others, going westward toward North Street, burned down. Like other local Loyalists, Judge Curwen made arrangements to move away, if

necessary; and that prospect was made more alluring by the likelihood that his wife, with whom he could not get along, would stay behind.

By early 1775, there was little doubt that the war faction was in control, and that Curwen and other neutrals and loyalists would soon have a day of reckoning: the Salem militia regiment had been purged of Tory officers, and Timothy Pickering, 29, who had published a book on military drill, was leading the men in their training on the Common. One Sunday in February, 1775, the Revolutionary War almost began in Salem. When everyone was in church, Col. Leslie's redcoats came ashore in Marblehead and marched briskly on to Salem, where they hoped to seize munitions. They came to the North Bridge, and found that its draw was up; and soon they were surrounded by the Salem militia regiment. By agreement, the draw was lowered, Leslie's men advanced over the bridge a short distance into North Salem, faced about, and marched back through the South Fields and Marblehead, whose own regiment, led by Col. Jeremiah Lee, could have slaughtered them. Instead, the Marbleheaders fell in behind them, marching in mockery of Leslie's Retreat as the British made their way back to Fort Beach and boarded the boats to their transport vessel.

Two months later, the battle of Lexington & Concord was fought on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1775, and war began. Of course no one knew how the war would end, and there was little to indicate that the colonials could actually defeat the King's army and navy, but virtually every able-bodied Salem man and boy gave himself over to the cause.

Not Judge Curwen, now 59. He left for Philadelphia, hoping to find a pleasant place to ride out what he thought would be a short-lived conflict; but Philadelphia was too far-gone in rebel politics for his taste; and on May 12, 1775, he sailed for England on a merchant ship. He went straight to London, and began keeping a journal, which has been published and which has earned him a place in the **Dictionary of American Biography**. During his ten-year absence, Samuel's wife Abigail resided here, for at least part of the time, along with her relative Russell Wyer, whom Samuel Curwen detested (but had let live with them), and whom he had forbade her to allow to reside here in his absence. For her part, Mrs. Abigail Curwen, abandoned for nine years by her husband, made what arrangements she pleased; and, unfortunately, she feuded with her next-door neighbors, the George Curwens and Richard Wards.

Salem's regiment participated in the siege of Boston, as George Washington took command of the army in Cambridge. The British left Boston in March, 1776, never to return. Washington's army went to New York, and was pushed southward from

Long Island in a series of defeats, during which Salem's Col. Timothy Pickering became one of the General's most trusted officers, and Quartermaster General of the army. Washington's first victory was the Battle of Trenton, on Christmas Day, 1776. Eventually most of the Salem men came home and sailed in privateers for the rest of the war, which continued at sea until 1783. The husband of Samuel Curwen's favorite niece, Mehitable Curwen, was Capt. Richard Ward, an officer of the regiment, and a leading rebel official in Salem.

Judge Samuel Curwen returned to Salem in 1784, squabbled with his wife, and went back to London. During his brief stay in Salem, he conveyed his mansion house estate on 30 May 1785 for 1200 li (pounds sterling) to his niece, Mehitable (Curwen) Ward, and her husband, Richard Ward, 44, the veteran officer of the Revolution, and the father of several children (ED 143:163). Samuel's brother George had no surviving sons by this time.

Judge Curwen eventually returned and would continue to reside in Salem, sometimes with the Richard Wards and sometimes with their son Samuel Curwen Ward, who agreed to change the name of one of his sons to Samuel Curwen, in order to keep the surname alive. Judge Curwen's marriage to the estranged Abigail Russell officially ended with her death in 1793. Now, at 78, Samuel enjoyed his freedom, and became quite a sociable old man, gadding about in the streets of the town dressed in his old-fashioned nabob's togs. He made a fast friend in Rev. William Bentley, another well-known figure on the streets of Salem, who also kept a diary.

Samuel Curwen died on 9 April 1802, in his 87<sup>th</sup> year.

As of 1785, the owner of the house was Richard Ward, born in Salem in 1741, the son of Joshua Ward. In 1762 he had married Mehitable Curwen, the daughter of Samuel's brother George Curwen, owner of the old Curwen house at the corner of Essex and North Streets (the "Witch House"), which, by then, had been enlarged under a deep gambrel roof. George Curwen had married Sarah Pickman in 1738, and they had a son George Jr. in 1739, Mehitable in 1741, and Sarah in 1743. George Curwen Jr., a mariner, was lost at sea in January, 1761, aged 21 years; and Sarah Curwen would die unmarried in 1774, aged thirty. Therefore, Mrs. Mehitable (Curwen) Ward was the only member of her generation to survive, marry, and have children.



**Richard Ward** (1741-1824), son of Joshua Ward & Sarah Trevett, died 1824. He m. 8 Nov. 1764 **Mehitable Curwen** (1741-1813), d/o George Curwen & Sarah Pickman, died 1813. Known issue, surname **Ward**:

1. George Curwen, 1765, m. 1786 Abigail Elkins; res. NH; issue.
2. Samuel Curwen, 1767, m. 1790 Jane Ropes, m/2 1807 Malvina Glover.
3. Sarah, 1769, m. 1793 James Cushing
4. Mehitable, 1771, died 1807.
5. Elizabeth, 1774, died 1834.

Before 1785, the Richard Ward family evidently resided in the old Curwen house, with Mehitable's sister Sarah and mother Mrs. Sarah (Pickman) Curwen, who would live until 1813. Richard Ward, evidently a merchant, was an ardent patriot before the Revolution, served on the Salem Committee of Safety & Protection throughout the war, and superintended construction of the fort at Salem Neck, named Fort Lee, for Gen. Charles Lee, under whom he had served. Ward had marched with the Salem regiment to the battles of Lexington & Concord and Bunker Hill; but in both cases they were just too late to participate.

On 6 June 1776, Richard Ward, 35, had been commissioned Captain of the Third Company of the First Essex Regiment, under Col. Timothy Pickering Jr. (1745-1829). He fought with the regiment in New York and New Jersey, and at the end of 1776 returned to Salem to help his wife, then in poor health, to care for their children. After the war, he was active in local politics, and was elected a state legislator as well as an acting judge and a selectman. He was an anti-Federalist (Jeffersonian Democratic-Republican) in politics, and "possessed great firmness and equanimity of temper, (with a) suavity of manners and obliging disposition (that) endeared him to all."

(Much of the Richard Ward information comes from the sketch, pp. 669-670, in G.A. Ward's 1864 edition of **Journal & Letters of Samuel Curwen**)

Evidently the post-war period was not a boom time for Richard Ward; for on 13 Oct. 1789 Richard & Mehitable Ward for 500 li mortgaged their homestead here to Thomas Russell Esq. of Boston (ED 150:200). Thomas Russell was the very wealthy brother of their aunt, Mrs. Samuel (Abigail Russell) Curwen, and was, evidently, a descendant of Mehitable's great-grandfather Curwen. The 500 li was probably used to give Richard Ward and his sons, George, Samuel, and Richard, a stake in Salem's new foreign commerce.

**Richard Ward** (1741-1824), born 5 April 1741, son of Joshua Ward & Sarah Trevett, died 4 Nov. 1824. He m. 1764 **Mehitable Curwen** (1741-1813), d/o George Curwen & Sarah Pickman, died 4 April 1813. Known issue:

1. George Curwen, 1765, m. 1786 Abigail Elkins; res. NH.
2. Samuel Curwen, 1767, m/1 Jane Ropes, m/2 1807 Malvina Glover.
3. Sarah, 1769, m. James Cushing
4. Mehitable, 1771, d. 1807.
5. Elizabeth, 1774, died 1834.
6. Richard, 1776, m. 1805 Lydia Robinson
7. Martha, 1779, m. Charles Adams.
8. Daniel, 1782, d. 1813.

In some places, the post-war loss of the former colonial connections and trade routes was devastating; but in Salem, the merchants were ready to push their ships and cargoes into all parts of the known world. Shut out of all British and British colonial ports, Hasket Derby, William Gray, Eben Beckford, and Joseph Peabody led the effort to open new markets. In 1784, Derby began trade with Saint Petersburg, Russia; and in 1784 and 1785 he dispatched trading vessels to Africa and China, respectively. Voyages to India soon followed, and (sent by Beckford, of 14 Lynde Street) to the Spice and Pepper Islands (Sumatra, Java, Malaya, etc.). In 1798 trade opened with Mocha, Arabia, which supplied coffee. The size and number of vessels was increased, and by 1800 Salem was the greatest worldwide trading port in America, with some of the wealthiest merchants. It was at this time (1792) that Salem's first bank was founded: the Essex Bank would be followed by the Salem Bank (1803).

Throughout the 1790s the Richard Wards resided here. The Wards' second son, Samuel Curwen Ward, born in 1767, certainly had his share of ambition. In 1790 he married the girl almost-next-door, Jane Ropes, also 23, the daughter of the late Judge Nathaniel Ropes (owner of the present "Ropes Memorial") and of Priscilla (Sparhawk) Ropes, who would die in 1798. In 1790, per the census (p.93, col. 1), this house was occupied by the family headed by Richard Ward (himself and three males over 16, two males under 16, six females, and two free blacks) and perhaps by the family headed by Henry Gardner (himself, five females, and one free black). In marrying Jane Ropes, S. Curwen Ward became kinsman to a very prominent group of young merchants: Nathaniel Ropes (Jr.) (1759-1806) was married to Sarah Putnam (and lived in the "Ropes Memorial" in 1790, per census, p. 93, col. 1), John Ropes (1763-1828) was married to Hannah Harraden (and lived in the Harraden house on Charter Street), Abigail Ropes was married to William Orne, and Elizabeth

Ropes (b. 1764) was married to Jonathan Hodges. All of these men were merchants, and many of their in-law connections were merchants or shipmasters.

Samuel Curwen Ward and his bride Jane Ropes evidently set up housekeeping on the westerly side of lower Liberty Street, near the Burying Point, which was then the town's waterfront. Their house, which came with its own wharf, was owned by Richard Ward, and had been the home of his father, Joshua Ward, a successful tanner and merchant who had married into a prominent Marblehead family, the Trevetts. On 27 March 1795 Richard Ward Esq. sold this Liberty Street homestead for 1550 li to Samuel Curwen Ward, Salem trader (ED \_\_\_:74), who was residing there at the time. The S.C. Wards had already had three sons, one of whom died in 1795. They would have two more children before Jane's untimely death early in 1803.

*Samuel Curwen Ward* (1767-1817), son of Richard Ward & Mehitable Curwen, died 26 Nov. 1817. He m/1 31 Oct. 1790 *Jane Ropes* (1767-1803), b. 22 Jan. 1767, d/o Nathaniel Ropes Esq. & Priscilla Sparhawk, d. 18 Jan. 1803. He m/2 1807 *Malvina T. Glover* (d. 1817+), d/o Benjamin Stacey Glover of Marblehead. Known issue:

1. Samuel C, 1791, d. 1795.
2. George A., 1793, m. 1816 Mehitable Cushing.
3. Samuel C., 1795, name changed 1802 to Samuel Curwen, m. Priscilla Barr.
4. Charles, 1797, merchant, v.-1855.
5. Jane S., 1802
6. Malvina G., 1809, d. 1809.
7. William R. Lee, 1811, m. twice, resided NY & Salem.
8. Henry Orne, 1816, m. 1847 Janet Buchanan; resided in Illinois.

Samuel Curwen Ward was not a merchant; he was a trader. He did not own ships and import/export goods. He had a ship chandlery, and dealt in hardware and other supplies for outfitting a ship and making a long voyage. As his counter-clerk and bookkeeper, he employed a young man, Nathaniel Bowditch (born 1773), who had worked for his brother-in-laws at Ropes & Hodges; and Bowditch worked for Curwen Ward until 1794, when he was freed from his indenture and went to sea. There were many such businesses in Salem in the 1790s, and most of them prospered in those boom-times (William Bentley so observed in his diary).

By the end of 1796 the S.C. Wards wished to move up from the waterfront; and his parents, Richard and Mehitable Ward, agreed to sell him the Samuel Curwen house.

They probably moved back into the old Curwen homestead at the corner of North Street; and on 25 Feb. 1797 Richard Ward & wife Mehitable sold the homestead (312 Essex) to Samuel Curwen Ward, Salem trader, for \$1,000 and agreement to pay the mortgage held by Thomas Russell (ED 162:101).

Unfortunately, as time had gone on (and with Nathaniel Bowditch no longer in his employ), Curwen Ward had proved to be a poor businessman. He ran his operation deeply into the red, due to inattention and a fondness for the life of the taverns, which was shared, to some degree, by all members of his class in Salem, a very bibulous and convivial place in those days. On 27 Nov. 1797, Bentley noted that "last Friday, a Sam. Curwin Ward was distrained upon by his creditors and was obliged to shut his doors. Such events so seldom happen in Salem that they are attended with great alarm and form the whole conversation (of the town). This Ward has been much abroad from his family, often at the public taverns, and very negligent of his affairs. (He) is young, but in a very embarrassed situation: the weight of his debts falls upon his young companions, and the manner in which they were contracted does not appear."

Since there was no immediate cure for his bankruptcy, S. Curwen Ward sold his property. Fortunately, the buyer was his brother-in-law, Nathaniel Ropes, Salem merchant, who bought the homestead on 16 Nov. 1797 for \$1000 and Ropes' agreement to pay the T. Russell mortgage (ED 163:8). The property was described as being situated near the Town pump, fronting 40' on the main street, westerly on land in the occupation of Mercy Gibbs 190', northerly on land of Nathaniel Weston 43', easterly 188' on land of widow Sarah Curwen and of Richard Ward and wife Mehitable.

Mr. Ropes was doing Mr. Ward a favor, and allowed him and his family to continue to reside there until Mr. Ward could recover his fortune. Mr. Ward's wife Jane, sister of the new owner, did not sign off on this deed, and so retained her dower right in the premises. Also in November, 1797, for another \$2150, Curwen Ward sold to Nathaniel Ropes all of his other property that had not already been sold: the wharf on Water Street that he had bought in 1795 from his father, a parcel on Federal Street, and his pew in the Old Meeting House (ED 163:9,9,9).

Nathaniel Ropes did not long own the property, which was more entangled than he thought. William Gray Jr., Esq., the great Salem merchant "Billy" Gray, had won a court-claim against S.C. Ward, and the Court had levied a new lien on the S.C. Ward property. On 6 Dec. 1797 Mr. Ropes for \$2948.72 sold to Ebenezer Putnam, gentleman, the homestead (312 Essex Street) and the wharf that he had bought from

S.C. Ward (ED 162:276). Mr. Putnam was the brother of Mr. Ropes' wife Sarah. The house was still subject to the T. Russell mortgage and to Billy Gray's lien, but not to Jane Ropes Ward's dower right, which she sold that same day, for \$954.63, to Mr. Putnam (ED 162:277). The S.C. Wards continued to reside here with their children, probably with the understanding that Mr. Ebenezer Putnam would let Mr. Ward buy the place back once he was able.

Salem was the scene of great mercantile enterprise and great national influence in the 1790s. In the late 1790s, there was agitation in Congress to go to war with France, which was at war with England. Pres. John Adams in 1797 sent negotiators to France, but they were insulted. In summer, 1798, a quasi-war with France began, much to the horror of Salem's Crowninshield family, which had an extensive trade with the French, and whose ships and cargoes in French ports were susceptible to seizure. The quasi-war brought about a political split within the Salem population. Those who favored England aligned themselves with the national Federalist party, led by Hamilton and Salem's Timothy Pickering (the U.S. Secretary of State). These included most of the merchants, who were eager to go to war with France, and opposed Adams' efforts to negotiate. They were led locally by the Derby family. Those who, like Richard Ward, favored peace with France (and who admired the French for overthrowing their monarchy, even while deploring the excesses of the revolutionaries) were the Anti-Federalists, who aligned with Jefferson and his Democratic-Republican party; they were led locally by the Crowninshield family. For the first few years of this rivalry, Derby and the Federalists prevailed. Hasket "King" Derby died in 1799 and his own family's power rapidly waned, but his nephews and rivals, the five Crowninshield brothers, all shipmasters-turned-merchants in a firm with their father, began a rapid ascent.

In 1798, Ebenezer Putnam owned this house, which was occupied by the Samuel Curwen Ward family (see 1798 Direct Tax, listing under Ebenezer Putnam).

The non-occupant owner, Ebenezer Putnam (1769-1826), Harvard Class of 1785, was a merchant, the son of Dr. Ebenezer Putnam & Margaret Scollay. He had married Sarah Fisk in 1791, and she died four years later in 1795; and in 1796 he married her sister Elizabeth Fisk, who would die in 1808. Mr. Putnam had six surviving children. His only sister-Sarah (b. 1765) had married Nathaniel Ropes (Jr.); and Mr. Putnam was evidently a partner in the firm of Ropes & Hodges, ship chandlers, for he had joined them in purchasing their wharf and warehouse on Neptune Street (on the salt water near the foot of modern Hawthorne Boulevard). Like many others in Salem, Mr. Putnam would eventually lose his fortune due to the combined effects of the Embargo, the War of 1812, and bad luck; but at this time he

was a wealthy man. On 28 May 1800 for \$2512.78 Ebenezer Putnam, gentleman, purchased the balance of the mortgage that had been held by the late Thomas Russell.

Before long, it was apparent to Mr. Putnam that S.C. Ward would not be able to re-purchase the homestead. With increasing need for his own liquidity, Mr. Putnam found a buyer for the S.C. Ward homestead, and on 7 Nov. 1800 he sold it for \$4000 to William Ward, merchant. Thereupon the Samuel Curwen Ward family moved out, and the William Wards moved in. S. Curwen Ward's wife Jane Ropes died in 1803. He continued to struggle in life after that, but with small children to raise he married again, in 1807, to Malvina Glover, of the prominent Marblehead family. With her he had more children, and mended his ways somewhat, attaining solvency and a place in Salem's economy. His son Samuel Curwen, whose surname had been changed, founded a new family of Curwens that persisted into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. S. Curwen Ward died in 1817, aged 50 years.

In 1800, Pres. Adams was successful in negotiating peace with France, and thereupon fired Pickering, his oppositional Secretary of State. Salem's Federalist merchants erupted in anger, expressed through their newspaper, the *Salem Gazette*. At the same time, Britain began to harass American shipping. As with the French earlier, Salem's seafarers added guns to their trading vessels, and the Salem owners and masters aggressively expanded their trade to the farthest ports of the rich East, while also maintaining their trade with the Caribbean and Europe. Salem cargoes were exceedingly valuable, and wealth was piling up in Salem's counting houses. The Crowninshields, led by brother Jacob, were especially successful, as their holdings rose from three vessels in 1800 to twelve in 1803. The greatest of the Salem merchants at this time was William "Billy" Gray, brother-in-law of William Ward (their wives were sisters), the new owner of the house, who sailed as shipmaster for Mr. Gray.

In 1800, Salem was still a town, and a small one by our standards, with a total population of about 9,500. Its politics were fierce, as the Federalists squared off against the Democrats. The two factions attended separate churches, held separate parades, and supported separate schools, military companies, and newspapers (the Crowninshield-backed *Impartial Register* started in 1800). Salem's merchants resided mainly on two streets: Washington and Essex (particularly between what are now Hawthorne Boulevard and North Streets). The East Parish (Derby Street area) was for the seafaring families, shipmasters, sailors, and fishermen. In the 1790s, Federal Street, known as New Street, had more empty lots than fine houses. Chestnut Street did not exist: its site was a meadow, backlands for the Pickerings on

Broad Street and the old estates of Essex Street. The Common was not yet Washington Square, and was covered with hillocks, small ponds and swamps, and utility buildings and the town alms-house. In the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, Salem's commercial prosperity would sweep almost all of the great downtown houses away (the brick Joshua Ward house, built 1784, is a notable exception).

The town's merchants were among the wealthiest in the country, and, in Samuel McIntire, carver and housewright, they had a local architect who could help them realize their desires for large and beautiful homes in the latest style. While a few of the many new houses built in the next ten years went up in the old Essex-Washington Street axis, most were erected on or near Washington Square or in the Federalist "west end" (Chestnut, Federal, and upper Essex Streets). The architectural style (called "Federal" today) had been developed years before in the Adam brothers in England and featured fanlight doorways, palladian windows, elongated pilasters and columns, and large windows. It was introduced to New England by Charles Bulfinch upon his return from England in 1790. The State House in Boston was his first institutional composition; and soon Beacon Hill was being built up with handsome residences in the Bulfinch manner.

Samuel McIntire was quick to pick up on the style and adapt it to Salem's larger lots. His first local composition, the Jerathmeel Peirce house (on Federal Street), contrasts greatly with his later Adamesque compositions. The interiors of this Adam style differed from the "Georgian" and Post-Colonial: in place of walls of wood paneling, there now appeared plastered expanses painted in bright colors or covered in bold wallpapers. The Adam style put a premium on handsome casings and carvings of central interior features such door-caps and chimney-pieces (McIntire's specialty). On the exterior, the Adam style included elegant fences; and the houses were often built of brick, with attenuated porticoes and, in the high style, string courses, swagged panels, and even two-story pilasters. The best example of the new style was the Elias Hasket Derby house, co-designed by Bulfinch and McIntire, and built on Essex Street in 1797 (demolished in 1815), on the site of today's Town House Square.

As of November, 1800, the owner of the homestead was William Ward, who occupied the house with his wife Joanna and children Thomas, Lucy, and William, with at least two more, Miles and Nancy, born here after 1800. William Ward was not closely related to the Curwen-Wards; and his mother, a Putnam, was not closely related to Ebenezer Putnam, from whom he purchased the property. Formerly a shipmaster, and commander of the ship *Pallas*, Mr. Ward had recently he had set up as a merchant (see EIHC 3:175).

*William Ward* (1761-1827), s/o Wm. Ward & Ruth Putnam, m/1 1785 *Martha Proctor* (d. 1788), m/2 1790 *Joanna (Nancy) Chipman*. To Medford by 1816. Known issue (per Sidney Perley), surname *Ward*:

1. Thomas Wren, 1786, m. 1810 Lydia Gray
2. Nancy
3. Lucy Ann, bp 1797, m. 1833 Charles Lawrence
4. William, bp 1799
5. Miles, 1801, d. unm'd.

Salem's commerce created great wealth, which in turn attracted many newcomers from outlying towns and even other states. A new bank, the Salem Bank, was formed in 1803, and the fierce politics and commercial rivalries continued. The ferment of the times is captured in the diary of Rev. William Bentley, bachelor minister of Salem's East Church (it stood on Essex Street, near Washington Square), and editor of the *Register* newspaper. Bentley's diary is full of references to the civic and commercial doings of the town, and to the lives and behaviors of all classes of society. On Union Street, not far from Mr. Bentley's church, on the fourth of July, 1804, was born a boy who would grow up to eclipse all sons of Salem in the eyes of the world: Nathaniel Hawthorne, whose father would die of fever while on a voyage to the Caribbean in 1808. This kind of untimely death was all too typical of Salem's young seafarers, who fell prey to malaria and other diseases of the Caribbean and Pacific tropics.

Salem's boom came to an end with a crash in January, 1808, when Jefferson and the Congress imposed an embargo on all American shipping in hopes of forestalling war with Britain. The Embargo, which was widely opposed in New England, proved futile and nearly ruinous in Salem, where commerce ceased. As a hotbed of Democratic-Republicanism, the East Parish and its seafarers, led by the Crowninshields, loyally supported the Embargo until it was lifted in spring, 1809. Shunned by most of the other Salem merchants for his support of the Embargo, the eminent Billy Gray took his large fleet of ships—fully one-fourth of Salem's tonnage--and moved to Boston. This was a blow from which Salem never fully recovered. Gray soon switched from the Federalist party, and was elected Lt. Governor under Gov. Elbridge Gerry, a native of Marblehead. Diminished by many vessels and much wealth by Gray's removal, Salem resumed its seafaring commerce for three years, but still the British preyed on American shipping. William Ward,



merchant, was no doubt affected by all of these events, but whether for good or ill is now unknown.

It would seem that William Ward, merchant, perhaps enlarged the Samuel Curwen house in the first decade of the 1800s, adding a third story, a new staircase and trim, doors, etc. Possibly he took down the Curwen house and built a new one on its site. He did not alter the old "store" out back, but probably expanded the rear ell with a new section added to the old store section. Further investigation of the present building should indicate whether Ward remodeled the Samuel Curwen house, or rebuilt on its site. Mr. Ward had decided to move to Boston, where he would work as the Cashier (manager) of the State Bank; and he would die in Medford in 1827.

On 6 May 1811 William Ward, Salem merchant, for \$5833.34 sold to Nathaniel Bowditch, Salem merchant, the homestead here (ED 194:91). The land was bounded southerly 40' on Essex Street, easterly 188' on land of Sarah Curwen and Richard Ward Esq. and wife Mehitable (as established in a deed to William Ward of 9 Nov. 1803, 173:86), northerly on land of Dr. John W. Treadwell, and westerly 190' on Mercy Gibbs' land, with the right to use Gibbs' land to work on the house and the right to use a passage-way in from North Street in the rear of the land.

Nathaniel Bowditch, the famous navigator and brilliant mathematician who in 1811 headed up an insurance company, moved in here with his wife and children.

**Nathaniel Bowditch** (1773-1838), son of Habbakuk Bowditch and Mary Ingersoll, died 16 March 1838, Boston. He m/1 25 March 1798 **Elizabeth Boardman** (d. 1798), d/o Francis Boardman & Mary Hodges. He m/2 28 Oct. 1800 **Mary Ingersoll** (died 1834). Known issue:

1. Nathaniel I., 1805
2. Jonathan I., bp 1806
3. Henry I., 1808
4. Mary I., 1816
5. Charles I., 1810, d. 1820.
6. William I., 1819
7. Elizabeth Boardman, bp 1823

In June, 1812, war was declared against Britain.

Although Salem had opposed the war as being potentially ruinous and primarily for the benefit of the southern and western war-hawk states, yet when war came, Salem

swiftly fitted out 40 privateers manned by Marblehead and Salem crews, who also served on U.S. Navy vessels, including the *Constitution*. Many more could have been sent against the British, but some of the Federalist merchants held their vessels back. In addition, Salem fielded companies of infantry and artillery. Salem and Marblehead privateers were largely successful in making prizes of British supply vessels. While many of the town's men were wounded in engagements, and some were killed, the possible riches of privateering kept the men returning to sea as often as possible. The first prizes were captured by a 30-ton converted fishing schooner, the *Fame*, and by a 14-ton luxury yacht fitted with one gun, the *Jefferson*. Of all Salem privateers, the Crowninshields' 350-ton ship *America* was the most successful. She captured 30-plus prizes worth more than \$1,100,000.

Salem erected forts and batteries on its Neck, to discourage the British warships that cruised these waters. In June, 1813, off Marblehead Neck, the British frigate *Shannon* defeated the U.S. Navy frigate *Chesapeake*. The Federalists would not allow their churches to be used for the funeral of the *Chesapeake*'s slain commander, James Lawrence ("Don't give up the ship!"). Almost a year later, in April, 1814, the people gathered along the shores of Salem Neck as three sails appeared on the horizon and came sailing on for Salem Bay. These vessels proved to be the mighty *Constitution* in the lead, pursued by the smaller British frigates *Tenedos* and *Endymion*. The breeze was light, and the British vessels gained, but Old Ironsides made it safely into Marblehead Harbor, to the cheers of thousands.

On land, the war went poorly for the United States, as the British captured Washington, DC, and burned the Capitol and the White House. Along the western frontier, U.S. forces were successful against the weak English forces; and, as predicted by many, the western expansionists had their day. At sea, as time wore on, Salem's vessels often were captured, and its men imprisoned or killed. After almost three years, the war was bleeding the town dry, and the menfolk were disappearing. Hundreds of Salem men and boys were in British prison-ships and at Dartmoor Prison in England. At the Hartford Convention in 1814, New England Federalist delegates met to consider what they could do to bring the war to a close and to restore the region's commerce. Sen. Timothy Pickering of Salem led the extreme Federalists in proposing a series of demands which, if not met by the federal government, could lead to New England's seceding from the United States; but the Pickering faction was countered by Harrison G. Otis of Boston and the moderate Federalists, who prevailed in sending a moderate message to Congress.

At last, in February, 1815, peace was restored.

The new owner as of 1811, Nathaniel Bowditch (1773-1838), was born in Salem on 26 March 1773 in a house near the Common on Brown Street. He was the fourth of the seven children of Capt. Habakkuk Bowditch, a shipmaster, and his wife Mary (Ingersoll) Bowditch. Capt. Bowditch's mother was a Turner, descended from John Turner, builder of the so-called House of The Seven Gables and leading merchant of 17<sup>th</sup> century Salem. When Nathaniel was only 2 or 3, the family moved to what is now Peabody, where little Nathaniel received his first schooling. They returned to Salem when he was 5 or 6. At age seven he was enrolled in Master Watson's school, the best in town, corner of Essex and Union Streets, which he attended for three years, evincing such great abilities in mathematics that Master Watson accused the boy of receiving adult help in his homework. At the age of ten he was withdrawn from school, due to his father's straitened circumstances at the end of eight years of war: Capt. Bowditch had lost his position as a shipmaster and had become a cooper; and Nathaniel became his helper. Then Nathaniel's beloved mother Mary Ingersoll Bowditch died, leaving the family bereft. Capt. Bowditch evidently placed his sons in apprenticeships, rented a house from Benjamin Pickman, and descended into despondent obscurity.

Daniel A. White, in "An Eulogy on the Life and Character of Nathaniel Bowditch, LL.D., F.R.S." (Salem, 1838, Salem Gazette printing office), who knew Bowditch, relates what happened next. "After quitting Watson's school, as we have mentioned, and passing some time with his father, in his cooper's shop, he (Nathaniel) attended a number of months at Michael Welch's school, to learn book-keeping, and then, at the age of twelve or thirteen, he entered the ship-chandlery store of Ropes & Hodges, with whom he passed several years. Upon their relinquishing the business, he removed to the similar and extensive store of Mr. S. C. Ward, in which he remained till he became of age, when he took his first voyage at sea. For the business, to which he was now introduced, he had fully prepared himself, by his diligence and activity in improving all the advantages which had fallen within his reach. He had acquired an insatiable thirst for knowledge, and his ardent attachment to books and study was already known. This soon became predominant and almost exclusive. The moments of leisure, which lie found through the day, while in these stores, were eagerly devoted to reading or study. Sometimes he exercised his philosophical ingenuity in the way of experiments. One of his juvenile companions remembers, in particular, a curious sort of barometer, of his construction, while at the store of Ropes & Hodges. His diffusive kindness, too, was manifested at this early period in imparting instruction to other poor boys. There are those, now living among us in humble life, who speak with deep emotion of his generous efforts to teach them useful knowledge. But, fired as his whole soul was with the love of science and learning, such was the strength of his resolution and principles, that it was never

suffered to interfere with the punctual performance of his duties. He is represented as having made himself, by his prompt attention and pleasing manners, a general favorite with the great variety of sea-faring people with whom he transacted business. It is needless to add, that he received the unbounded confidence of his employers. His fidelity and skill in business became so conspicuous, indeed, and such was his reputation for sound judgment and integrity, before he left this employment, that merchants are said to have resorted to him for the settlement of controverted questions among them, and a better tribunal they could hardly have found.

“He had attended no schools but those already mentioned, and, it is believed, that after quitting them, he received no direct instruction in literature or science, except a few lessons, many years afterwards, in French pronunciation, having otherwise studied the language by himself. Yet, with his inexhaustible native resources, he had perhaps the best of all schools for him, that of nature and necessity. He certainly had the best of teachers in himself, and the best means of improvement in his own incomparable powers. By the admirable order and discipline which he kept up in this, his great school, he secured to himself the highest objects of education, purity of life, energy of mind and character, invincible power of application to business or study, facility and quickness in the use of his faculties, mental vigor, practical skill, and methodical habits, together with a rich fund of various knowledge and profound science. Yes, young Bowditch, at this period of his greatest destitution, created for himself advantages above all, which all the schools of the country would have given him. This he did, not merely by the strength of his resolution and industry, his intellectual and practical talents, extraordinary as these were, but also by the virtues of his heart, which made every body and every thing around him tributary to his resources, uniting them to him with all the power of attraction and the force of cohesion. The friends, whom he drew to himself, never forsook him; the means of improvement, which they afforded him, became his own, if not by possession, yet by his thorough use of them, which is better than possession; and the various treasures of learning, which he gathered, were never lost.

“The seven or eight years, which he passed in these ship-chandlery stores, was undoubtedly the most important period of his life, as it comprised the course of his education, and laid the foundation of all his future eminence and usefulness. It therefore deserves our more particular consideration. During most of the time that he continued with Ropes & Hodges, he was a boarder in the family of the latter, at the house of the late Judge Ropes, where he had access to the valuable miscellaneous library, left by that gentleman, containing many of the choicest works of English literature. These, with books occasionally obtained from other sources, became the constant companions of his leisure hours, and he perused them with delight,

whenever he was not engaged by his more fascinating science of numbers. An apartment, in the upper story of the house, was the scene of his summer's labors, while a large kitchen fire-place afforded him a commodious place of study for his long winter evenings. Here, too, he was often to be seen in the morning, with an infant of the family in one hand, and a book in the other, uniting the spirit of kindness with his industry and love of knowledge.

"This early familiarity with the best English authors, accounts for his pure English style, so remarkable in a self educated man of science, for its perspicuity and beautiful simplicity. His love of literature and poetry, too, may be traced to the same source. The works of Shakespeare could not fail to delight his imagination, and enrich his mind with noble sentiments and useful views of life; and many of this poet's most beautiful and impressive passages were treasured up in his memory.

"But mathematics and natural philosophy were the objects of his most ardent pursuit; and whatever books, relating to these, fell in his way, were devoured by him with avidity. He read through the whole of Chambers's Cyclopaedia, in two large folio volumes, without the omission of a single article. This would seem to us a formidable undertaking; but to him it was entirely interesting, and, with his ready comprehension and activity of mind, was accomplished by him with ease. He always read with close attention, though rapidly, passing over nothing without understanding it, and as his memory was remarkably retentive, he was, doubtless, not a little indebted to this mass of miscellaneous reading and study, for that extensive and various information, which sometimes surprised his learned friends, who, being accustomed to regard him as the great mathematician, were not prepared to find in him such a fund of general knowledge. Many of the articles in this Cyclopaedia must have come in aid of his favorite pursuits, and increased his desire for more extended researches.

"Soon after removing to Mr. Ward's store, he was favored with the friendship of the Hon. Nathan Reed, who then kept an apothecary's shop in Salem, with one of Mr. Bowditch's schoolmates as an assistant; and at this shop he used to pass his Sunday evenings, studying with his young friend the scientific books which he there found. Mr. Reed, himself a lover of science, perceiving his insatiable thirst for knowledge, offered him the free use of his books, among which were a number of valuable works in mathematics, astronomy, and natural philosophy. This was a most welcome privilege, and he improved it to the fullest extent. He felt the absence of scientific books, as a great impediment in the way of prosecuting his beloved studies to his own satisfaction. Every thing which persevering industry and labor could do, to remove this impediment, was done by him. He copied, in whole or in part, many of the volumes which he was able to borrow or consult, perhaps with the double view of possessing the works, and fixing their contents more deeply in his mind. There are now in his library twelve folio, and fourteen quarto volumes of

manuscripts, from his own pen, including several volumes of original matter, written at a later period. No one, without actual inspection of these volumes, can form a just estimate of his prodigious labor and diligence in producing them. They appear to me among the most astonishing monuments of human industry, which I ever beheld..."

D.A. White's eulogy of Nathaniel Bowditch, written immediately after his death in 1838 by one who knew him, gives us an excellent picture of this extraordinary man in his youth. Among other things, it shows that he resided with the family of his co-employer, Jonathan Hodges, in the Hodges' family home, now known as the Ropes Memorial (Mrs. Hodges was born Elizabeth Ropes at the Ropes Memorial), which was also the boyhood home of Mr. Hodges' business partner and brother-in-law, John Ropes. Judge Nathaniel Ropes (died 1774) had assembled an excellent library in his short life, and it remained in the house, where Nathaniel Bowditch used it to feed his mind. Bowditch was open to knowledge wherever he could find it: for example, it was from Edward Dorr, employed in Retire Becket's shipyard, that he learned the use of the Gunter's scale (EIHC 3:90).

Capt. Jonathan Hodges Jr. (1764-1837), the son of Gamaliel Hodges and Priscilla Webb, was a trader at first, and became a merchant, and owned a distillery near his chandlery. He was commander of the Salem Cadets, and for many years was Treasurer of Salem. He had three sons with his wife, Elizabeth Ropes, who died in 1840 (BF Browne, EIHC 4136-7).

After he went to work for S. Curwen Ward (husband of Jane Ropes, another sister of John Ropes), Bowditch evidently shifted his lodgings, perhaps to the S.C. Ward house. Mr. Ward, in 1790, may have resided here (at 312 Essex) with his father; and he may have resided here through 1794, when Nathaniel Bowditch's apprenticeship expired. As has been mentioned, S.C. Ward purchased his grandfather's house on Liberty Street in 1795; and in 1797 he purchased the homestead at 312 Essex Street.

The Ropes & Hodges chandlery evidently stood at the head of a wharf not far from the foot of modern Hawthorne Boulevard; evidently it had been built on land purchased in 1789 by Messrs. Ropes, Hodges, and Putnam, but probably leased by them as early as 1786. In 1790 John Ropes resided on Charter Street, near the chandlery (see 1790 census, p. 96, col. 3); and Jonathan Hodges resided nearby on Union Street (1790 census, p. 97, col. 1). In those days the South River extended in from the sea all the way to the site of today's Post Office building, and formed an extensive inner harbor.

While it is not within the scope of this report to trace the details of Nathaniel Bowditch's life, it is worth noting that, per the 1800 census, he was residing on Central Street (then called Market Street), in an apartment in a house owned by a prosperous cabinet-maker, William Appleton (1765-1822), whose first wife was Anna Bowditch (1772-1795), daughter of Eben Bowditch, and so evidently a first cousin of Nathaniel Bowditch (BF Browne, EIHC 4:83). This house, long gone, occupied a spot north of the Salem Bank building (Boys & Girls Club), and was near the insurance office in which Bowditch would later work. It would seem (see below) that Bowditch resided here for at least five years (note: Harold Bowditch's *The Buildings Associated With Nathaniel Bowditch*, published in EIHC 79, makes for interesting reading. In some instances, my conclusions differ from his).

On 28 October 1800, Nathaniel Bowditch married his first cousin Mary Ingersoll. At that time, he was a mariner, and frequently was away from Salem at sea. B.F. Browne "thought" that Bowditch may have resided in the Francis Boardman house at 82 Washington Square East, but it seems more likely that Browne was recalling Bowditch's having resided there with his first wife, Elizabeth Boardman, who died in 1798. In 1802, Bowditch's *New American Practical Navigator* was published, and in short order he became famous. Harvard bestowed upon him an honorary master's degree, and he was launched on a remarkable career in which he balanced business and scientific pursuits.

In May, 1803, the Essex Fire & Marine Insurance Co. took a lease on the north end of the Essex Bank house at \$70 per annum, and in October, 1803, took the two lower rooms of the north end of the Bank building, on Market (now Central) Street (EIHC 68:298). In 1804, Nathaniel Bowditch, returned from his fifth and last voyage, became president of the above insurance company. In the summer of 1804, the Essex Bank purchased from William Appleton his Central Street house (where Bowditch resided at the time of the 1800 census), near the corner of Essex on the east side. Beginning on 1 Aug. 1804 Nathaniel Bowditch was a tenant of the Bank in the north end of that house at \$190 per annum, while Col. William Raymond Lee was tenant of the south end of that house at \$230 per annum. Col. Lee, formerly of Marblehead (185 Washington Street), was a Custom House official (the custom House was then on Central Street). The two men were to share the yard, pump, aqueduct hook-up, necessary, and garden. There was a two-story outbuilding, the lower part to be used by Col. Lee, the upper part by Mr. Bowditch, who ended his tenancy on 14 June 1805 (EIHC 68:240).

It would appear that the Bowditches next moved into the northern half of a house owned by Jonathan Hodges, Nathaniel's former employer, located not far from the

corner of Essex Street, on the westerly side of Summer Street. Jonathan Hodges had purchased that property in December, 1796, from Sally Blyth, widow of Samuel Blyth (ED 161:94); and the Hodges family had evidently moved into the northern part of the house while Mrs. Blyth occupied the southern half: per the 1800 census, Jonathan Hodges (1764-1837) was listed between Ebenezer Pope and Sally Blyth, on Summer Street. The Hodges family evidently resided in that house until 1805, when Mr. Hodges built a new house on Chestnut Street, but kept half of the Blyth house on Summer Street. Bowditch evidently moved into the Hodges part of the Blyth house, on Summer Street, possibly beginning in June, 1805 (when Bowditch's lease on the Central Street half-house expired). Bowditch himself, in his notes regarding observation of an 1805 solar eclipse, wrote that, "the place where this latitude was observed was in the garden adjoining Essex Bank in Market Street, Salem" (EIHC 79:215). Market Street was the former name of Central Street. By 1806, he was residing in the Summer Street half-house owned by Jonathan Hodges, for, regarding the June, 1806, observation of a solar eclipse, he wrote, "the observations were made in the garden adjoining the house of Mr. Hodges in which I then lived" and in which he was still living in 1808 (EIHC 79:217). Perhaps the Bowditches continued to reside in the Summer Street house until they moved in at 312 Essex Street in 1811.

In 1804 Mr. Bowditch had left the East Church (Unitarian) of William Bentley and had joined the North Church (Unitarian) of Mr. Prince—a move that reflected Bowditch's strong associations with the town's Federalists, among them his old mentor Nathan Read, who had been put up by the Derbys as the successful Federalist candidate for Congress. Having shifted his religious affiliation, it was perhaps easier for Bowditch to move into the western end of town, which was the Federalist bastion. Certainly Bentley, who had played an important role in the education of the young Nat Bowditch, and had been his minister since 1791, was deeply hurt by Bowditch's defection (see his diary), but evidently said nothing in public. Shortly before his death, Bentley, in April, 1818, ran in the *Register* newspaper an appreciative notice of the achievements of Nathaniel Bowditch.

The War of 1812 has already been discussed. After the war, Salem tried to re-establish its foreign trade, with the intention of building it to pre-war levels. The task proved impossible, for international conditions had changed dramatically, and domestic manufacturing was on the rise, with severe consequences on imports. Salem was able to open new markets in Africa and other places, and encouraged the town's fishery in order to provide a staple export commodity. Into the 1820s the foreign trade continued prosperous; and new markets were opened with Madagascar (1820), which supplied tallow and ivory, and Zanzibar (1825), whence came gum



copal, used to make varnish. This opened a huge and lucrative trade in which Salem dominated, and its vessels thus gained access to all of the east African ports. From 1827 to 1870, there were 189 arrivals in Salem from Zanzibar, carrying ivory, gum copal, and coffee.

The pre-war partisan politics of the town were not resumed post-war, as the middle-class "mechanics" (artisans) became more powerful and brought about civic harmony, largely through the Salem Charitable Mechanic Association (founded 1817). Salem's general maritime foreign commerce fell off sharply in the late 1820s. Imports, which were the cargoes in Salem ships, were supplanted by American goods, now being produced in great quantities. The interior of the country was being opened for settlement, and many Salemites moved away to these new lands of opportunity. To the north, the falls of the Merrimack River powered large new textile mills (Lowell was founded in 1823), which created great wealth for their investors; and in general it seemed that the tide of opportunity was ebbing away from Salem. Most of Salem's merchants committed themselves completely to continuing their merchant shipping, while merchants in Boston and other places invested in canals and textile factories. Nathaniel Bowditch, who had become a very astute investor, could see that his future lay in Boston, with its huge mixed economy, and not in Salem, with its insistence on foreign trade. In 1823, he decided to move away to Boston.

In July, 1823, for \$3900, the Bowditch homestead was sold at auction to Dr. John Treadwell (ED 233:183). Dr. Treadwell, who resided on North Street nearby, took some of the back land of the homestead that he had bought; and on Aug. 1st Dr Treadwell sold the house and land for \$3500 to William Procter, Salem merchant (ED 233:196). Mr. Procter, wife Sarah, and family, who had resided at Buffum's Corner (Essex Street at Boston Street), soon moved into this house (312 Essex). He was a merchant, and in 1825 he was a partner of Robert Brookhouse in the ownership of the brig *Siren* (see EIHC 64:116,118). Evidently Mr. Procter took out a mortgage on his new homestead with William F. Gardner.

Mr. Procter acquired or inherited a small interest in the homestead to the east of his new home. He sued to have his interest set off from the rest of that adjoining property (the "Witch House" and its land); and on 24 June 1826 the Court awarded him a long strip of land fronting about 10' on Essex Street and running back about 130' (ED 253:231). Part of the old Curwen house stood on this strip, but Procter was not entitled to ownership of any of that house. By July, 1829, Mr. Procter was ready to sell his homestead; and on 23 July 1829 for \$3997.76 he paid off the mortgage to Mr. Gardner and for \$4500 sold the homestead to David Cummins Esq.

of Salem (ED 253:232,233). For the next ten years, Mr. Cummins and his family would reside here.

In 1830 occurred a horrifying crime that brought disgrace to Salem. Old Capt. Joseph White, a wealthy merchant, resided in the house now called the Gardner-Pingree house, on Essex Street. One night, intruders broke into his mansion and stabbed him to death. All of Salem buzzed with the news of murderous thugs; but the killers, as it happened, were members of Salem's elite class and relatives of the victim. A Crowninshield committed suicide, and two Knapps were hanged. The results of the investigation and trial were very damaging, and more of the respectable families quit the infamous town of Salem.

Salem's remaining merchants had to move quickly to take their equity out of wharves and warehouses and ships and put it into manufacturing and transportation, as the advent of railroads and canals in the 1830s diverted both capital and trade away from the coast. Some merchants did not make the transition, and were ruined. Old-line areas of work, like rope-making, sail-making, and ship chandleries, gradually declined and disappeared. Through the late 1820s and well into the 1830s, Salem slumped badly.

David Cummins (1785-1855), the owner of the house as of 1829, was a judge as of 1828 and appears not to have been affected unduly by Salem's downturn. He was born in Topsfield and proved to be a very bright boy. He was sent to Dartmouth College, and, after graduating in 1806, settled in Salem, where he read the law under Samuel Putnam of Federal Street, the town's pre-eminent lawyer and instructor in law. He was something of a poet, and (evidently) published his poem, *The Hermit*, in 1806. Mr. Cummins was admitted to the Essex Bar in 1809, and soon made a name for himself in law and politics. His party affiliation was with the anti-Federalists, or Jeffersonian Democratic-Republicans, and he allied himself with another young transplanted Salem lawyer, Joseph Story of Marblehead, also notable for his poetry.

The Democratic-Republicans' Fourth of July oration in 1811 "was delivered by Mr. David Cummings, a young gentleman of the law," according to William Bentley's diary. In the next year, Mr. Cummins married Sally Porter of Topsfield. She soon died.

In 1813, David Cummins was nominated as the Republican candidate for Town Clerk. Running as part of a slate, he and the Republicans were defeated, 834 to 886,

by the Federalists (see Bentley, 13 March 1813). In July, 1815, he married Catherine Kittredge, the daughter of Dr. Thomas Kittredge of Andover; and they had children before her untimely death, from apoplexy, in 1824. In October, 1825, Mr. Cummins married his second wife's sister, Miss Maria F. Kittredge. They would have several children, of whom the eldest was Maria Susannah Cummins, born 9 April 1827.

Mr. Cummins was recalled as "a man of strong powers, and prominent at the bar, and is well remembered for his ardent natural eloquence at public meetings and in addresses to juries. His pure and noble spirit, and transparent character, secured the respect and confidence of all, while his genial ingenuousness, freshness of thought and expression, acuteness of perception, keen but playful and benignant satire, and an enthusiasm all his own, delighted every circle in which he moved" (per C.W. Upham, p. 28, *Memoir of Francis Peabody*).

In 1826, David Cummins spoke in opposition to continuing the work of the Salem Mill Dam Corporation, which had planned to dam the North River in order to create water power for industrial production in Salem. His opposition was countered by a speech by his old colleague Joseph Story, the Salem-based U.S. Supreme Court justice, whose arguments won the day and caused Cummins to retract his opposition. The project, led by John Pickering and backed by most leading Salemites, failed anyway. Mr. Cummins "was a very successful practitioner in Salem until he was called to the bench of the Court of Common Pleas, in 1828" (p. 251, *Essex Bar Memorials*, 1900).

In 1829, the Cummins family moved into this house. Judge Cummins was then 44, and his daughter Maria was just two.

Miss Kiddy King, in her memoirs, recalled seeing some of Salem's notables passing her house in Essex Street on their way to the Salem Atheneum (then located downtown), which was open only between noon and one. In those days, gentlemen wore dressing gowns in the street in hot weather. First she watched the stately and fearsome minister, John Brazer, pass by. "After the last whisk of Dr. Brazer's gown had disappeared in the distance, Judge Cummins would come prancing along, in a gay flowered long gown, cordial and genial, bowing and smiling to everyone he met—a cheerful homely figure, in everything just the opposite of the dignified pastor." She also recalled that "above North Street, Essex Street was absolutely like a village highway, with grassy roadsides starred with dandelions, and it was a pretty sight at sunset of an evening in May, to see the cows come slowly meandering down from the great pasture, their way along the street marked by columbines and

houstonias, dropped from the great bunches carried by the boys who drove them.” (pp. 17-19, Catherine King’s memoir of childhood, *When I Lived In Salem*).

In 1839, Judge Cummins decided to move to Springfield, Mass. On 31 August 1839, for \$4940 he sold the homestead to John G. Treadwell, Salem physician, using Gilbert G. Newhall as a straw (ED 314:277-278). The Cumminses did move away to Springfield. Maria S. Cummins, then twelve, had already showed an interest in literature; in Springfield, encouraged by her poet-manque father, she attended Mrs. Sedgwick’s school in Lenox and blossomed as a writer. At twenty she began to write stories that were published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and in 1854, when Ms. Cummins was 27, her first novel, *The Lamplighter*, about a foundling who was adopted and finally re-united with her father, was published and sold 40,000 copies in just a few weeks. It was one of the biggest best-sellers of its day, and inspired the envy and jeers of Hawthorne and others whose audiences were not so large. Her father, Judge David Cummins, lived to see his daughter’s success, in which he no doubt took great pride; and he died in the following year, 1855, in Dorchester, Mass., where his daughter lived too. She continued to write and publish popular novels: *Mabel Vaughan* (1857), *El Fureidis* (1860), and *Haunted Hearts* (1864). After the publication of the latter, she fell ill and never recovered, lingering for two years before her death on 1 October 1866, aged 39 years (see *Dictionary of American Biography* listing).

Despite setbacks and uncertainties, Salem was chartered as a city in 1836. City Hall was built 1837-8 and the city seal was adopted with an already-anachronistic Latin motto of “to the farthest port of the rich East”—a far cry from “Go West, young man!” The Panic of 1837, a brief, sharp, nationwide economic depression, caused even more Salem families to head west in search of fortune and a better future. Salem had not prepared for the industrial age, and had few natural advantages. The North River served not to power factories but mainly to flush the waste from the many tanneries (23 by 1832) that had set up along its banks. Throughout the 1830s, the leaders of Salem scrambled to re-invent an economy for their fellow citizens, many of whom were mariners without much sea-faring to do. Ingenuity, ambition, and hard work would have to carry the day.

One inspiration was the Salem Laboratory, Salem’s first science-based manufacturing enterprise, founded in 1813 to produce chemicals. At the plant built in 1818 in North Salem on the North River, the production of alum and blue vitriol was a specialty; and it proved a very successful business. Salem’s whale-fishery, active for many years in the early 1800s, led, in the 1830s, to the manufacturing of high-quality candles at Stage Point, along with machine oils. The candles proved

very popular. Lead-manufacturing began in the 1820s, and grew large after 1830, when Wyman's gristmills on the Forest River were retooled for making high-quality white lead and sheet lead (the approach to Marblehead is still called Lead Mills Hill, although the empty mill buildings burned down in 1960s).

These enterprises were a start toward taking Salem in a new direction. In 1838 the Eastern Rail Road began operating between Boston and Salem, which gave the people of Salem and environs a direct route to the region's largest market. The new railroad tracks ran right over the middle of the Mill Pond; the tunnel under Washington Street was built in 1839; and the line was extended to Newburyport in 1840.

In the 1840s, new companies in new lines of business arose in Salem. The tanning and curing of leather was a very important industry by the mid-1800s. It was conducted on and near Boston Street, along the upper North River. There were 41 tanneries in 1844, and 85 in 1850, employing 550 hands. The leather business would continue to grow in importance throughout the 1800s. In 1846 the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company completed the construction at Stage Point of the largest factory building in the United States, 60' wide by 400' long. It was an immediate success, and hundreds of people found employment there, many of them living in industrial tenements built nearby. Also in the 1840s, a new method was introduced to make possible high-volume industrial shoe production. In Lynn, the factory system was perfected, and that city became the nation's leading shoe producer. Salem had shoe factories too, and attracted shoe workers from outlying towns and country areas. Even the population changed, as hundreds of Irish families, fleeing the Famine, settled in Salem; and the men went to work in the factories and as laborers.

The new owner, Dr. J.G. Treadwell, did not reside here, but rented out the house for income. In 1840, the house was evidently inhabited by Ephraim Russell and his family (per 1840 census). Mr. Russell (1789-1870), a native of Princeton, Mass., worked as a baker. He, "of Boston" was in Salem by 27 Nov. 1813, when he married the widow Sarah Shepard. He settled in Salem. Mrs. Shepard had Shepard children, evidently, including Samuel and Elizabeth. Ephraim and Sarah had at least one child, Sarah Ann Russell, born in 1821. In 1837, baker Ephraim Russell and family resided on the "turnpike" (Highland Avenue); by 1842 his home was at 14 St. Peter St., which, by 1846, he used as boarding house (see Salem Directories). The Russells' daughter Sarah in 1845 married Daniel H. Jewett, 25, one of Salem's foremost contractors, who built, among others, the fine house at 78 Washington Square East in 1846, to the plans of the architect Gridley Bryant, for Gilbert G.

Newhall, who had once served as Judge Cummins' straw in the conveyance of the house at 312 Essex Street. The D.H. Jewetts resided at 3 Briggs St.; and Mr. Jewett had his carpenter shop at 25 Vine Street (now Charter) (1846 Salem Directory). By 1850, Ephraim & Sarah Russell, 66, had moved in with the Jewetts (and their daughter Sarah E., three) at 3 Briggs Street, along with a currier, Samuel Shepard, Elizabeth Shepard, and Hannah Page, 31, and another Page (1850 census, ward two, house 185). Beginning in 1855 Mr. Russell resided with the D.H. Jewett family at 61 Charter Street, a fine house at the corner of Central Street. He would reside there for 15 years and die on 21 April 1870, of a lung disease, in his 82d year.

In the face of change, some members of Salem's waning merchant class continued to pursue their sea-borne businesses; but even the conditions of shipping changed, and Salem was left on the ebb tide. In the late 1840s, giant clipper ships replaced the smaller vessels that Salem men had sailed around the world; and the clippers, with their deep drafts and large holds, were usually too large for Salem and its harbor. The town's shipping soon consisted of little more than Zanzibar-trade vessels and visits from Down East coasters with cargoes of fuel wood and building timber. By 1850 Salem was about finished as a working port. A picture of Salem's sleepy waterfront is given by Hawthorne in his "introductory section" (really a sketch of Salem) to **The Scarlet Letter**, which he began while working in the Custom House.

Between 1842 and 1846 Mrs. Elizabeth Derby, widow of E. Hersey Derby, had moved to 312 Essex Street, and she was still there in 1851, and perhaps later. She was born Elizabeth Derby Pickman, in Salem in 1799, the daughter of Benjamin T. Pickman and Anstiss (Derby) Pickman, and was a granddaughter of both Col. Benjamin Pickman (Jr.) (1740-1817) and E. Hasket Derby (1739-1799), the greatest merchant of his day. She remained single until 1837, when she married her cousin, E. Hersey Derby of Boston, a lawyer and a graduate of Harvard, Class of 1818. He died two years later, on 14 Nov. 1839, leaving no children. She did not re-marry. The Salem Directory for 1846, 1850, and 1851 list her as residing at 312 Essex Street, but in the 1850 census she is residing on Lynn Street in a household of herself, 50, Martha Maxfield, 50, and Mary Walcott, 20 (see census, ward four, house 594). The 1850 census does not list any residents in the house at 312 Essex Street (or the house that should be it in the census-taker's sequence), so it may have been temporarily empty while Mrs. Derby shifted her residence, perhaps seasonally, from Lynn Street. In the 1851 McIntyre Atlas of Salem, this house (#312) is identified as belonging to Mrs. E.H. Derby. She died on 8 May 1870, aged 71 years.

The symbol of Salem's new industrial economy was the large twin-towered granite train station, built in 1848-9 on filled-in land at the foot of Washington Street, where before had been the merchants' wharves. The 1850s brought continued growth: new churches, schools, streets, stores, etc. Catholic churches were built, and new housing was constructed in North Salem and the Gallows Hill areas to accommodate the workers. In March, 1853, several streets were re-named and re-numbered, including the consolidation of County, Marlboro, and Federal Streets as Federal Street.

The owner of the house, Dr. John G. Treadwell, died in 1856. Evidently he devised the premises to the Massachusetts General Hospital, which in turn conveyed the property in 1858 to Joseph B.F. Osgood, a Salem lawyer. Mr. Osgood, the son of Capt. William Osgood, had grown up in the house at 314 Essex Street. He was a nephew of Salem's first historian, Joseph B. Felt, for whom he was named. He was a leading Salem lawyer of his time. In 1858, just before moving to this house, he resided at 17 Norman Street and had offices at 235 Essex Street. Mr. Osgood ran for Mayor of Salem several times from the late 1850s on, but was defeated until 1864, when he won. The Civil War had begun in April, 1861, and had gone on for four years, during which hundreds of Salem men served in the army and navy, and many were killed or died of disease or abusive treatment while imprisoned. Hundreds more suffered wounds, or broken health. The people of Salem contributed greatly to efforts to alleviate the suffering of the soldiers, sailors, and their families. Joseph Osgood took office as Mayor in January, 1865, and helped guide the city through the last months of the conflict; and there was great celebration when the war finally ended in the spring of 1865.

Through the 1860s and 1870s, Salem continued to pursue a manufacturing course. The managers and capitalists tended to build their new, grand houses along Lafayette Street (these houses may still be seen, south of Roslyn Street). For the workers, they built more and more tenements near the mills of Stage Point. A second, larger, factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company would be added in 1859, and a third in 1865; and by 1879 the mills would employ 1200 people and produce annually 14,700,000 yards of cloth. Shoe-manufacturing also continued to expand, and by 1880 Salem would have 40 shoe factories employing 600-plus operatives. More factories and more people required more space for buildings, more roads, and more storage areas.

After withstanding the pressures of the new industrial city for about 50 years, Salem's rivers began to disappear. The once-broad North River was filled from both shores, and became a canal along Bridge Street above the North Bridge. The large

and beautiful Mill Pond, which occupied the whole area between the present Jefferson Avenue, Canal Street, and Loring Avenue, finally vanished beneath streets, storage areas, junk-yards, rail-yards, and parking lots. The South River, too, with its epicenter at Central Street (that's why there was a Custom House built there in 1805) disappeared under the pavement of Riley Plaza and New Derby Street, and its old wharves (even the mighty Union Wharf, formerly Long Wharf, at the foot of Union Street) were joined together with much in-fill and turned into coal-yards and lumber-yards. Only a canal was left, running in from Derby and Central Wharves to Lafayette Street.

Judge Joseph B.F. Osgood continued to practice law, with his office at One Central Street. As late as 1908 he resided here at 312 Essex, along with a widow, Mrs. Henry A. (Elizabeth C.) Cook. After the Osgood ownership ended in 1911, the house would be used for apartments and shops (see John Goff's report on this house and its occupants).

Salem kept building infrastructure; and new businesses arose, and established businesses expanded. Retail stores prospered, and machinists, carpenters, millwrights, and other specialists all thrived. In the 1870s, French-Canadian families began coming to work in Salem's mills and factories, and more houses and tenements filled were built in what had been open areas of the city. The Canadians were followed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century by large numbers of Polish and Ukrainian families, who settled primarily in the Derby Street neighborhood. By the eve of World War One, Salem was a bustling, polyglot city that supported large department stores and large factories of every description. Its politics were lively, and its economy was strong.

On June 25, 1914, in the morning, in Blubber Hollow (Boston Street opposite Federal), a fire started in one of Salem's fire-prone wooden tanneries. This fire soon consumed the building and raced out of control, for the west wind was high and the season had been dry. The next building caught fire, and the next, and out of Blubber Hollow the fire roared easterly, a monstrous front of flame and smoke, wiping out the houses of Boston Street, Essex Street, and upper Broad Street, and then sweeping through Hathorne, Winthrop, Endicott, and other residential streets. Men and machines could not stop it: the enormous fire crossed over into South Salem and destroyed the neighborhoods west of Lafayette Street, then devoured the mansions of Lafayette Street itself, and raged onward into the tenement district. Despite the combined efforts of heroic fire crews from many towns and cities, the fire overwhelmed everything in its path: it smashed into the large factory buildings of the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company (Congress Street), which exploded in an



inferno; and it rolled down Lafayette Street and across the water to Derby Street. There, just beyond Union Street, after a 13-hour rampage, the monster died, having consumed 250 acres, 1600 houses, and 41 factories, and leaving three dead and thousands homeless. Some people had insurance, some did not; all received much support and generous donations from all over the country and the world. It was one of the greatest urban disasters in the history of the United States, and the people of Salem would take years to recover from it. Eventually, they did, and many of the former houses and businesses were rebuilt; and several urban-renewal projects (including Hawthorne Boulevard, which involved removing old houses and widening old streets) were put into effect. By the 1920s, Salem was once again a thriving city; and its tercentenary in 1926 was a time of great celebration.

In 1946, due to the widening of North Street and the consequent need to re-locate the Jonathan Curwen house (Witch House), the house at 312 Essex Street was scheduled to be moved from its original site. Before the move, parts of the house were torn down (an Osgood addition in the rear) or pulled away, including the old Samuel Curwen "store" in the rear ell, along with another section of the rear ell, perhaps built for William Ward c.1805. This rear ell was trundled off to Cambridge Street in 1946 (see May 11 Salem *Evening News*), and became the largest part of the house built in that year at 1½ Cambridge Street. The main part of the house at 312 Essex was moved around to its new site on North Street, where it stands today.

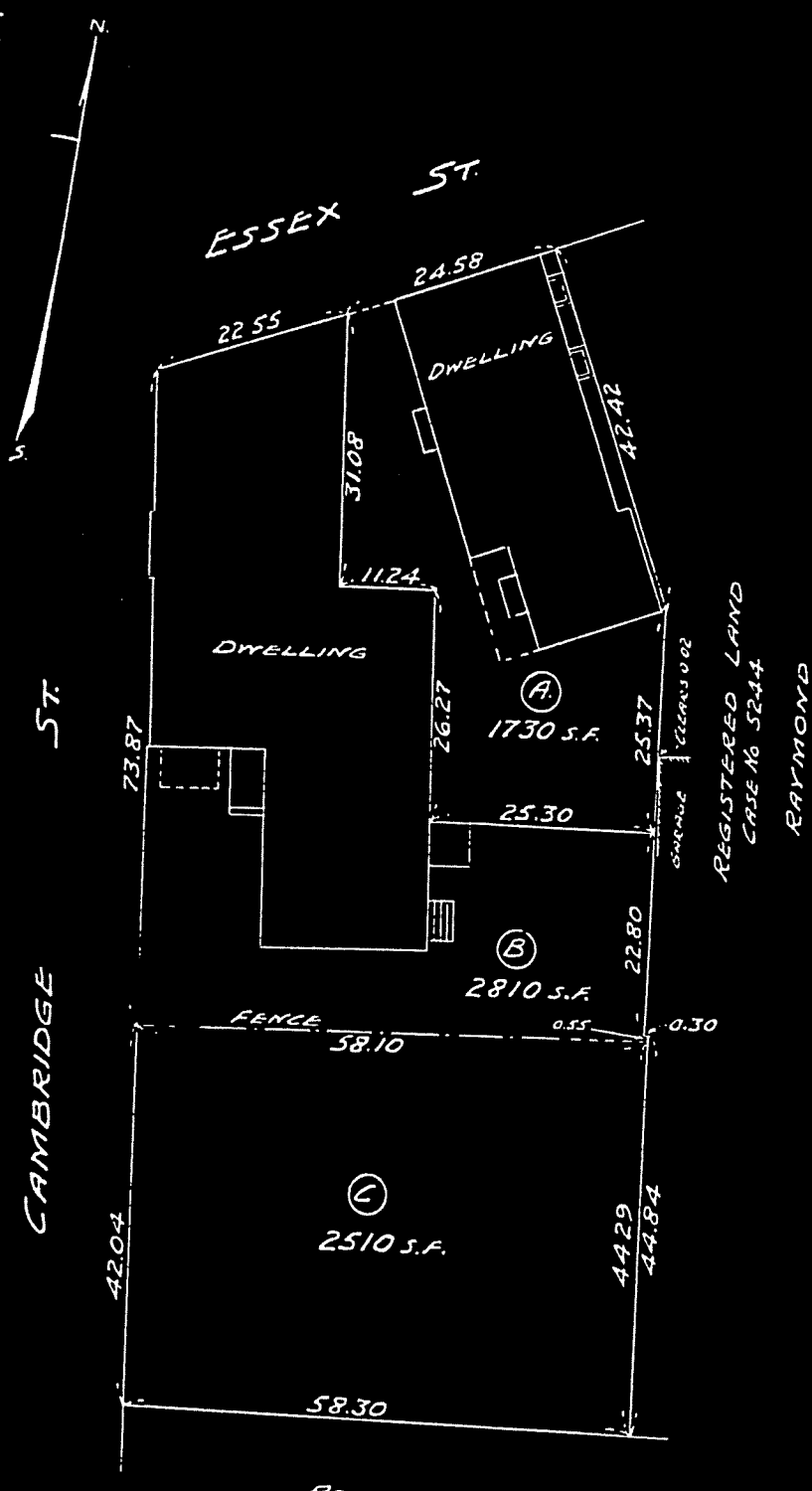
At 1½ Cambridge Street, the new house was evidently used as a two-family, since it had separate staircases until the Kearneys bought it. In 1948, the Naumkeag Directory lists just one occupant, John J. Perkins, a mechanical engineer, who resided here with wife Elizabeth W., and any children they might have had. The Perkinses resided here in 1949; and in 1950 and 1951 the house is listed as the residence of F. Anthony Butler (wife Nancy P.), who worked in Danvers.

The arrival of suburban shopping malls and the relocation of manufacturing businesses took their toll on Salem, as they have with many other cities. More than most, Salem has navigated its way forward into the present with success, trading on its share of notoriety arising from the witch trials, but also from its history as a great seaport and as the home of Bowditch, McIntire, Bentley, Story, and Hawthorne. Most of all, it remains a city where the homes of the old-time merchants, mariners, and mill-operatives are all honored as a large part of what makes Salem different from any other place.

--6 Nov. 2001, Robert Booth for Historic Salem Inc. (note: this report was built on the foundation of John Goff's research in connection with his report on the house, its architecture, occupants, and associations).

1809

190  
1945



REGISTERED LAND  
CASE NO. 5244  
RAYMOND

ESSEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS, SO. DIST. SALEM, MASS.  
Received July 14 1945 Will. Dand  
Deed book to Mary E. Mason  
Rec. B 3419 p. 5 Filed as No. 190 1945  
Attest:

LAND OF OSGOOD COOK  
SALEM, MASS.

SCALE 1 IN. = 16 FT.  
JULY, 1945.

A. Franklin Priest  
Register of Deeds

Thomas A. Appleton C.E.



on land set out to Elizabeth & Mary Lordall The fourth is that part of  
Parish & Floty at the North End of the Town of which Butly Easterly  
the lane southerly on land set out to Elizabeth & Mary Lordall Westerly on  
Land & Floty released to one & Motherly on the North River A. M. 1740  
1740 the granted & released Premises with the app'tenancy to the said  
Sam<sup>r</sup> Curwen his heirs & assigns forever as an absolute inheritance in  
Fee without any Condition Limitation or Reservation (Free of all burthens)  
Moreover I Howard George my Heir Esq<sup>r</sup> & Son<sup>r</sup> shall Warrant & Defend  
the granted & released Premises with the app'tenancy unto & for the said  
Samuel Curwen his Heir & assigns forever against all persons whomsoever  
in Writts whereof I Howard George Curwen & Sarah my Wife in token  
of her Consent have hereunto set our hands & seals the Twenty seventh  
day of October A.D. 1740

Witness our hands & seals the day of October A.D. 1740  
George Curwen and a seal  
Sarah Curwen Parcel  
Esq<sup>r</sup> March 16 1740 George Curwen & Sarah my  
Wife severally owned this to be their free act & deed

Before me  
John Higginson Justice

in presence of us  
John Higginson  
Nath<sup>l</sup> Rogers Jun<sup>r</sup>

Void to Sett up Sd. House to the Lowest Bidder, and was according Sett up and bidd off by John Brown of Wenham for the Sum of 125 Dollars, one half to be paid in the Month of April Next the other half at the completing of Sd House and I the Said Brown do engage to Build Sd House according to the Dimensions above written, if not completed at that time I Sd Brown forfit the Sum of two Hundred Dollars to the Signers for Said House and I the Said Brown do promise to Deduct my part of equity out of Said Sum Sd House if finished to be left to ye Judgement of Cap. R. Dodge, Lt. Porter, Mr. John Lovering a Com appointed by the proprietors for Sd purpose according to the above Dimensions. In witness of all above written I ye Said Brown have hereunto Sett my hand  
John Brown Jr

—Essex Institute Mss.

NOTES IN CASH BOOK OF ESSEX BANK, 1804

W. Appleton Dr. to rent from Aug. 1 to Aug. 21 inclusive at \$230 per an.

Col. Lee takes possession of the South end of the dwelling house (lately purchased of W. Appleton) this day Aug. 22, 1804 at \$230 pr an.

Mr. Nathl. Bowditch became a tenant to the Essex Bank Co. for the North end of the House lately purchased of W. Appleton—Aug. 1, 1804 at \$190 pr an.

Note.—The yard, pump & aqueduct & Necessary are to be in common between the two tenants. The eastern lower part of the out building to be occupied by Col. Lee for wood. The chamber of the out Building to be for the use of the North End tenant. The Garden to be divided as the tenants can agree.

N. Bowditch gave up the Dwelling House June 14, 1805. Feb. 1, 1806 rec'd the rent of him being \$165.22.

W. R. Lee, Esq., gave up the Dwelling House January 22<sup>d</sup> 1806—rec'd the rent in full, \$325.53.

—Essex Institute Mss.

David Pasho, Santa Anna Sherman, William Hall and Guy Clarke. . . .

Mr. George himself became, in 1851, a conductor on what was known as the Western Vermont Railroad. Walter S. Johnson was Superintendent of this company, but left it about 1854 to become General Manager of the Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad, afterwards the famous Chicago and North-Western. Mr. George went with him and for many years was conductor and station agent on that road. He also for a long period was a Pullman and dining-car conductor between New York and Chicago, and Chicago and Omaha.

NOTES FOUND IN ESSEX BANK BLOTTER, 1803.

Col. Lee took the Custom house 19 of August 1802 at 70 Dolls pr. annum. settled with Col. Lee for Rent up to Dec. 31, 1803.

Essex Fire & Marine Ins. Co. took the north end of the Bank house May 17, 1803 at 70 Doll. Settled with Essex Fire & Marine up to Dec. 31, 1803.

Essex Fire & Marine Ins. Co. Take the 2 lower rooms of the North End of the Bank Building with their appurtenances from Oct. 1, 1803 at \$135 per an.

Col. Lee takes the 2 Chambers over the Bank room & Fire & Marine office at \$90 per an. from Jan. 1. 1804. Left the above chambers, Nov. 11, 1805.

[The *Chicago Seminary Quarterly* for 1904 made its October number a memorial to Curtiss, and the same journal in its issue of July 1903 contains an autobiographical sketch of Curtiss entitled "Twenty-five Years as a Seminary Professor." See also *Who's Who in America*, 1903-05; *Biblical World*, Nov. 1904; *Bibliotheca Sacra*, Jan. 1905.]

J. M. P. S.

**CURWEN, SAMUEL** (Dec. 17, 1715-Apr. 9, 1802), Loyalist, author, was born in Salem, Mass., the son of George Curwin, a minister, and Mehitable (Parkman) Curwin. He was descended from George Curwin, of North England, who settled in Salem, Mass., in 1638. Following his father's footsteps, he attended Harvard, graduating in 1735. About this time he began to spell his name Curwen. Poor health forced him to abandon his studies for the ministry, and an unhappy love-affair led him to seek distraction abroad. Upon his return, he engaged in commerce. In 1744 he was a captain in the New England expedition against Louisburg, the base of predatory French cruisers. In May 1750, he married Abigail Russell of Charlestown, Mass. He was impost officer of Essex County, and judge of admiralty at the outbreak of the Revolution. Association with prosperous business circles made his views conservative, and the holding of office through administrative favor inclined him to support the existing authorities. When Gov. Hutchinson returned to England, Curwen's name was attached to an address of approbation and sympathy. Public opinion arose against the "Addressers." Alarmed at the "sour and malevolent" temper against "moderate" men, he embarked for Philadelphia. His wife did not accompany him, fearing the dangers at home less than an ocean voyage. The atmosphere of Quaker Philadelphia was less pacific than he had hoped, so he took ship to England on May 12, 1775. The first year of his exile he spent in London, but as it became apparent that the struggle in America would be of considerable duration, he visited the industrial cities of England, hoping to find the cultural advantages of London at less expense in some other city, but returned disillusioned. His resources were running very low, when in March 1777, the English government granted him an annuity of one hundred pounds. He recorded his life as a refugee in an interesting journal and in letters. The Loyalists in London led an isolated existence. The most irksome feature to Samuel Curwen was the lack of occupation, the "constrained, useless, uniform blank of life." He was usually pessimistic about his personal affairs, and about political conditions, but he could not forget that he was an American, and British contempt for colonial ability stirred him to indignation. His own convictions, although

sincere, were based on the belief that rebellion could not be successful, and he came to regret that he had not kept his opinions to himself. As soon as peace was established he began to consider returning to America. He landed in Boston, Sept. 25, 1784, somewhat disappointed in the physical aspects of the land he had longed to see again. He was not persecuted for his political course but lived a quiet and secluded life until his death in his native Salem.

[The chief source of information about Curwen is his *Jour. and Letters* (1864), reviewed in the *North Am. Rev.*, LVI, 89, and the *Southern Quart. Rev.*, IV, 97. Charles Dickens, in *Household Words*, VII, 1, 157, bases a description of conditions in England at the time of the American Revolution, upon the *Journal*. There are brief accounts in C. H. Van Tyne, *The Loyalists in the Am. Revolution* (1902), and L. Sabine, *Biog. Sketches of Loyalists of the Am. Rev.* (1864).] V. R.—c.

**CURWOOD, JAMES OLIVER** (June 12, 1878-Aug. 13, 1927), novelist, son of James Moran and Abigail (Griffin) Curwood, was born in Owosso, Mich., where he also died. His father was related to Capt. Marryat, the novelist, and his mother, according to the legend, was remotely descended from an Indian princess. When he was about five, his family took up an eight years' residence on a farm near Vermilion, Ohio, close to Lake Erie. Shortly after acquiring his first gun, at the age of eight, he began writing adventure stories remarkable both for length and for profuse incident. Expelled from school, he successively toured much of the South on a bicycle, peddled medicines, trapped wild animals, and studied (1898-1900) at the University of Michigan. From 1900 to 1907 he worked as reporter and finally as editor of the *Detroit News-Tribune*. Then he returned to live in Owosso with the definite purpose of making himself an author. With *The Courage of Captain Plum* (1908), he inaugurated a series of books which, despite his long annual sojourns in camp, numbered twenty-six before death intervened nineteen years later. His writings are concerned chiefly with the extreme northwest of this continent—God's Country, he named it—with the wild animals that live there, and with the human masters of both land and beasts. He dealt with a type of life exactly suited at his precise moment to the vague imaginings of the rank-and-file citizen, and he instinctively availed himself of the conventional literary devices that make for popularity. Of the sixteen novels including *The Grizzly King* (1916) and culminating with *Nomads of the North* (1919), he is reported to have sold at the outset an average of about 10,000 copies each, but modern advertising arrangements ran up the advance orders for *The River's End* (1919) to 100,000 copies, and for *The Valley of Silent Men* (1920)

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**CUSHING** (1879), state Salisbury, scendant of owner who gent. The and practice clergymen Newmarch ship-owner, tune. Caleb were doubtl Dow, a delic N. H., who 1802, John Merrimac F of Newbury more than h was a peric ing a group

there is treachery within is to lower the flag and surrender the citadel to her enemies" (Alexandrine M. Cummins, *Memoir of George David Cummins*, 1879, p. 333). Finally he lost all hope that the evil would be eradicated by any action of the authorities of the church, and became convinced that by officiating in Ritualistic churches, he was sanctioning and indorsing dangerous errors. These feelings together with the criticisms he brought upon himself by participating in a communion service in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Oct. 12, 1873, during a meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, at length caused him to withdraw from the Episcopal Church. He was formally deposed from his office and ministry, June 24, 1874. In the meantime, however, a meeting of clergymen and laymen was held in New York, Dec. 2, 1873, at which the Reformed Episcopal Church was inaugurated, Bishop Cummins being elected presiding officer and Rev. C. E. Cheney [*q.v.*] elected bishop, and later consecrated by Bishop Cummins. The brief remainder of his life was spent in the service of the new church, his death occurring at his home in Lutherville, Md., less than two years later. In addition to a *Life of Mrs. Virginia Hale Hoffman* (1859), he published several sermons.

[Mrs. Cummins's *Memoir*, referred to above, is based chiefly upon Bishop Cummins's diary and correspondence. It contains portraits. See also H. K. Carroll, *Religious Forces of the U. S.* (1893), and Chas. C. Tiffany, *A Hist. of the Protestant Episc. Ch. in the U. S.* (1895), both in the American Church History series; Annie D. Price, *A Hist. of the Formation and Growth of the Reformed Episc. Church, 1873-1902* (1902); and Benj. Aycrigg, *Memoirs of the Reformed Episc. Ch.* (5th ed., 1880); and *The Sun* (Baltimore), Jan. 27, 1876.]

H. E. S.

**CUMMINS, MARIA SUSANNA** (Apr. 9, 1827-Oct. 1, 1866), author, was a descendant of Isaac Cummings, of Scotch ancestry, who settled in Ipswich, Mass., and owned much land there previous to 1638. She was born in Salem, Mass., the daughter of Judge David Cummins and Mehitable (Cave) Cummins of Middleton, Mass. Her early studies were carried on at home and directed by her father, who himself had literary tastes and encouraged them in his daughter, in whom he thought he discovered a gift for writing. She later attended the fashionable school of Mrs. Charles Sedgwick at Lenox, Mass. When she was only a little past twenty she began to write stories for the *Atlantic Monthly* and other magazines. *The Lamplighter* (1854), written when she was twenty-seven, was her one striking success. It met immediate popularity and the sales mounted to over 40,000 copies within a few weeks. It was republished

in England and in translation in France and Germany, and in all of those countries had large sales. The novel is the story of a child lost in infancy, rescued from a cruel woman by an old lamplighter, adopted by a blind woman, and later discovered by her well-to-do father. A double love story slightly enlivens the plot, which is worked out at great length. The style is tediously detailed and the point of view is one of extreme piety. Later books of Miss Cummins did not win so much public approval, though *Mabel Vaughan* (1857) was considered by some critics to be better. *El Fureidis* (1860) is a story of Palestine and Syria, written entirely from imagination, and *Haunted Hearts* (1864) is a sentimental tale which was first published anonymously. All her books have a strong moral tone. The life-likeness of some of their characters constitutes their chief appeal. Miss Cummins had a quiet, retiring personality and led an uneventful, secluded life, occupied with the duties of home and church and with her writing. The loss of her father was a great grief to her. The Cummins family had before his death changed their home from Salem to one on Bowdoin St., in Dorchester, a house in colonial style, with gardens, shrubbery, a fish pond surrounded by pine trees, and an orchard. There, soon after the publication of *Haunted Hearts*, impaired health made it necessary for Maria Cummins to lay aside her writing and there, after a long illness, she died.

[See Albert O. Cummins, *Cummings Genealogy* (1904); Nathaniel Hall, *Sermon Preached in the First Ch., Dorchester, on the Sunday (Oct. 8, 1866) Following the Decease of Maria S. Cummins* (1866); Wm. D. Orcutt, *Good Old Dorchester* (1893); *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Oct. 2, 1866. A new edition of *The Lamplighter* was published in 1927.]

S. G. B.

**CUNLIFFE-OWEN, PHILIP FREDERICK** (Jan. 30, 1855-June 30, 1926), editor, publicist, was the eldest son of Sir Francis Philip Cunliffe-Owen and Baroness von Reitzenstein whose father was Baron Fritz von Reitzenstein of the Prussian Royal Guards. He was a grandson of the distinguished Capt. Charles Cunliffe-Owen, R.N., and Mary Blosset whose father, Sir Henry Blosset, was Chief Justice of Bengal. Born in London, he received his early education at the Lancing School in England but went for his college work to the University of Lausanne. Becoming an attaché in the British diplomatic service, he was stationed in several foreign countries including Egypt and Japan. He first visited the United States in 1876 to represent officially at the Centennial Exposition his father, the British Executive Commissioner, who was then director of the South Kensington Mu-

seum and one of the national Exhibition in England, he returned to settle in New York, where, being an omnivorous reader of newspapers and magazines and he soon secured a position on the *New York Tribune* on foreign topics. These duties continued until Whitelaw Reid was appointed minister to France, where the editorship of the *Tribune* was substituted for the author. Because of his familiarity with foreign affairs, he was appointed copy editor and later, upon confinement to the hospital, so told on his health, he was made editor, a position he held until 1913. With his wife, he was *guerite du Planty* de France, Nov. 22, 1877, and *editor of the Tribune* syndicate. In 1899 Cunliffe-Owen and his wife were appointed Marquis de Fontenay, in 1910, with his father never recovered from the loss of signed articles under noms de plume, he was a cultured and learned man. His death left vacant a position of international affairs. His remarks were published in *Journalism*, New York (1929) by his executor, C. H. Owen, *The Deeds of the Cunliffes of Wye* (London), Oct. 23, 1878; 19; obituary in *N. Y. Times*.

**CUNNINGHAM, ALICE** (1816-May 1, 1875), author, the Mount Vernon Union, was born at Mount Vernon, S. C., the daughter of (Bird) Cunningham. Her ancestry on both sides has been prominent in several generations, and the family in Pennsylvania. Her father was much given to home education in the life of her mother, who was educated by a government institute, near Columbia, South Carolina, remarkable for her pr-

fr. Essex Bar MEMORIAS (1700)

IN MEMORIAM.

show extraordinary learning and profound views of the science of law. They include a commentary on the Constitution, on Conflicts of Laws, and many other legal subjects. His opinions in the Supreme Court form an important part of thirty-four volumes. He died in Cambridge, September 10, 1845.

EBENEZER MOSELY.

Ebenezer Mosely was born November 21, 1781; he was a direct descendant from Governor Caleb Strong, and was by marriage nearly connected with Chief Justice Parsons. He was graduated from Yale College in 1802. He studied law one year with Judge Chauncey in New Haven, one year with Judge Clark of Wyndham, and one year with his uncle, Judge Hinkley of Northampton. He settled in Newburyport, where he remained during the rest of his life. He was a very able lawyer, and had a very large and lucrative practice. He was engaged in the famous Goodrich trial at Newburyport. He gave the address of welcome to Lafayette when he visited Newburyport; was colonel of the 6th regiment which participated in the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of Newburyport. He was for several years a member of the State Senate; was a presidential elector in 1832; president of the Board of Trustees of Dummer Academy, and president of the Essex Agricultural Society. He died August 28, 1854.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL.

Leverett Saltonstall was born in Haverhill, June 13, 1783, and was a descendant from Sir Richard Saltonstall, one of the fathers of the Bay Colony. He graduated at Harvard College in 1802. In 1805 he commenced practice in Salem, where he remained until his death, May 8, 1845. He was a State Senator in 1831; was first mayor of Salem in 1836; was a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1838 to 1843. He was one of the most eminent lawyers in Essex county.

IN MEMORIAM.

BENJAMIN MERRILL.

Benjamin Merrill was born in Conway, New Hampshire, March 13, 1784. He was grandson of John Merrill of Haverhill. He was graduated from Harvard College in 1804. He studied law first with William Steadman of Lancaster, New Hampshire; afterwards with Francis D. Channing of Boston. He first practised in Marlborough for about a year, thence removed to Lynn, and soon after to Salem, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was for several years partner with Samuel Putnam, until the latter was appointed a justice of the Supreme Judicial Court. He was a member of the State Legislature one year. He was a very able lawyer and highly respected throughout the county; was a member of various learned societies, and took great interest in the literary and other societies of Salem. He died in Salem, July 30, 1847.

DAVID CUMMINS.

David Cummins was born in Topsfield. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1806; studied law in the office of Judge Putnam, in Salem, and was admitted to the Bar in 1809. He was a very successful practitioner in Salem until he was called to the bench of the Court of Common Pleas, in 1828. He continued in that office until 1844, when he resigned. He died March 30, 1855. At the Bar he was a zealous and impassionate advocate; and on the Bench he was distinguished for his ability, learning, and impartiality.

BENJAMIN LYNDE OLIVER.

Benjamin Lynde Oliver was born in Salem in 1788. He graduated from Harvard College in 1808, studied law with Joseph Story and Samuel Putnam and was admitted to the Bar in 1809. He was the author of "Forms of Practice," "Practical Conveyancing," "Forms in Chancery, Admiralty and Common Law." He died in Malden, June 18, 1843.



of his pen in racy articles, long continuing to add attractiveness to the local press, particularly to the Salem Gazette.

David Cummings, a man of strong powers, and prominent at the bar, is well remembered for his ardent natural eloquence at public meetings and in addresses to juries. His pure and noble spirit, and transparent character, secured the respect and confidence of all, while his genial ingenuousness, freshness of thought and expression, acuteness of perception, keen but playful and benignant satire, and an enthusiasm all his own, delighted every circle in which he moved.

Joseph E. Sprague, was early drawn from legal practice into political life, in which few ever bore a more active or efficient part. His facile, rapid, and felicitous pen was always ready to meet the demands of the hour, not merely for party purposes, but to give expression to worthy sentiments on the topics and occurrences that arrested notice from time to time. Like his classmate Merrill, he fully discharged his obligations to the public by using the columns of the Register to promote the intelligence, and guide the thoughts of the people. Saltonstall and Merrill, on one side, and Cummings and Sprague, on the other, were leading actors in political operations, at a time when party passions were exasperated beyond the experience of our day, but so liberal and enlightened were their spirits that the bonds of personal friendship were never severed between them, and they acted cordially together in giving their sympathy and influence to the general welfare and progress of society.

John Glen King, a learned lawyer, had rare classical attainments, and was widely known as one of the choicest

scholars of his period. He studied the writings of the early fathers of the Christian Church to an extent which but few clergymen have equalled.

Reuben Dimond Mussey, M. D., LL. D., A. A. S., was a leading practitioner here, and established a national reputation that ultimately drew him to the West, where he was welcomed as one of the heads of his profession. While in Salem, in 1812 and 1813, he gave courses of lectures on chemistry, imparting such an interest, in this community, to that subject that the thoughts of enterprising business men were particularly turned to it; and as is generally supposed, the Laboratory, incorporated in 1819, which has been in successful operation ever since, manufacturing, on a large scale, aquafortis, muriatic acid, oil of vitriol, blue vitriol and alum, was the result. For many years he had in charge the medical department of Dartmouth College, lecturing on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, Materia Medica, Surgery, and Medical Jurisprudence.

Daniel Oliver M. D., LL. D., A. A. S., was associated with Dr. Mussey in practice, and cooperated in conducting the lectures on chemistry. In 1820, he was elected Professor in the Medical School of Dartmouth College, and also filled the chair of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy there, continuing in the discharge of his duties with high reputation until 1837. Subsequently he was called to a professorship in the college of Ohio. After a brief, but distinguished service in that new and wider field, he was compelled to relinquish his labors by a disease which proved fatal in 1842. He was a learned, able, and accomplished scholar, outside of his profession, of rare attainments in classical, French and German literature. His tastes, manners, and character were

inspired  
Salem  
Feb. 6

163

16 Nov. 1797  
C. Ward  
to  
Rojies

Griffon personally acknowledged this Instrument to be his Deed before me  
 Nic! Pike Just. Pac.  
 Essex Co Rec<sup>d</sup> Novem. 21. 1797 & recorded & examined by John Pickering Reg<sup>r</sup>

I know all men by their presents that I Samuel Curwen Ward of Salem in the  
 County of Essex tradit in consideration of One thousand Dollars paid by  
 Nathaniel Rojas of said Salem merchant the receipt whereof I do here by  
 acknowledge have and by these presents do give grant bargain sell  
 convey and confirm unto him the said Nathaniel Rojas his heirs and  
 assigns all that <sup>my</sup> Mesuage dwelling house out houses and land in Salem  
 aforesaid situate near the Town pump so called bounding southw<sup>ly</sup>  
 on Essex Street lately called main Street and there measuring about  
 forty feet, westerly on land in the occupation of Mercy Gibbs late  
 Mary Lindalls the line running northerly about one hundred and  
 ninety feet, northerly on land of Nathaniel Weston and there measuring  
 about forty three feet and easterly on land of the widow Sarah Curwen  
 and on land of Richard Ward Esquire and Melitabile his wife and there  
 measuring about one hundred and eighty eight feet with the  
 privileges and appurtenances being the same Mesuage dwelling  
 house out houses and land which Richard Ward Esquire and Melitabile  
 his wife conveyed to me by Deed bearing date the twenty fifth day of  
 February A. D. 1797 and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for said County  
 Book 162 leaf 101 reference to the same being had. and all my right  
 in law or in equity to redeem said Mesuage dwelling house out houses  
 and land the same being now under and subject to a Mortgage to the late  
 Thomas Russell <sup>Esquire</sup> now deceased as collateral security for the payment  
 of five hundred pounds principal money and the lawful interest  
 thereof the Deed of mortgage of said Mesuage dwelling house out  
 houses and land being dated the thirteenth day of October A. D. 1789  
 and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for said County Book 130 leaf  
 200, reference thereto being had. To have and to hold said Mesu-  
 age Dwelling house out houses and lands, subject to said  
 Mortgage thereof to said Russell, to him the said Nathaniel Rojas  
 his heirs and assigns forever. And I the said Samuel Curwen Ward  
 do for my self my heirs executors and administrators covenant  
 with said Nathaniel Rojas his heir and assigns that I have good  
 right to sell and convey said Mesuage dwelling house out  
 houses and land to the said Nathaniel Rojas to hold in  
 manner aforesaid and <sup>that</sup> the same are free from any incum-  
 brances whatever excepting the aforesaid Mortgage thereof  
 to said Russell and that I the said Samuel Curwen Ward  
 and my heirs will warrant and defend the same to the said Nathaniel  
 Rojas his heir and assigns forever against the lawful claims and  
 demands of all persons excepting the claim upon the said granted  
 premises by virtue or force of said Deed of Mortgage to said Russell.  
 In testimony whereof I the said Samuel Curwen Ward have hereunto  
 set my hand seal this sixteenth day of November in the year of our  
 Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven  
 Signed sealed & delivered in presence of Samuel Curwen Ward & seal  
 Joseph Perkins Benj. Driscoll  
 Essex Co November 16. 1797 Then Samuel  
 Curwen Ward acknowledged this Instrument to be his free deed. before  
 Richard Ward Justice of the peace.  
 Essex Co Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov. 22. 1797 & recorded & examined by John Pickering Reg<sup>r</sup>