

*Nine Oliver Street*  
*Salem*

Built for Mrs. Mehitable Pedrick Story, 1818

Home of Mrs. Charlotte Story Forrester (1788-1867)



MRS. CHARLOTTE (STORY) FORRESTER  
1788-1867

From the portrait by Stuart (1825), now in the possession  
of the Essex Institute.

## *Nine Oliver Street Salem*

**According to available evidence, this house was built in 1818 for Mehitable Pedrick Story, a native of Marblehead.**

In 1818, Mrs. Mehitable Story, 60, was the relict of Dr. Elisha Story (1742-1805), a Revolutionary patriot and physician of Marblehead. The eldest of her eleven children was Joseph Story, a Salem lawyer and politician (raised in Marblehead) who had become a Justice of United States Supreme Court under Jefferson. An oval miniature portrait of Mrs. Story, painted by William Verstill, is in the collection of the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem (EIHC 72:257).

On 3 June 1818 Mehitable Story, Salem widow, purchased for \$600 from Isaac Killam, a Topsfield yeoman (farmer), a "lot of land" bounded northeasterly 80' on Oliver Street, northwesterly on land of Lampson 84' 6", southwesterly on lands of Hubbard and of Fettyplace 79' 6", and southeasterly 93' 8" on land of Fettyplace (ED 216:193). The owner to the southeast, the merchant Capt. William Fettyplace, also a native of Marblehead, was her son-in-law and she may have resided in his family.

It would appear that Mrs. Story proceeded to have this house built soon after purchasing the lot, perhaps in the summer and fall of 1818, and almost certainly by 1820. In the latter year, in the Salem census (p.64), her name appears in a list of residents in the Oliver Street neighborhood. Her household consisted of Mrs. Story, three girls/young women, a small boy, and a young man. These were probably family members, perhaps grandchildren. The valuation records are not helpful, because (evidently) Salem did not tax the property of widows at that time, and so her name does not appear on the valuation lists. That policy evidently changed in 1831, when her name did appear on the tax valuation lists.

Mehitable Pedrick was born in Marblehead in 1758, the daughter of John Pedrick, a wealthy ship-owner and merchant, and Mehitable Stacey, the daughter of Ebenezer Stacey, also a prominent merchant. In the 1760s Mehitable's father built a mansion in Marblehead at the corner of Washington and Pickett Streets; the "Pedrick House," as it is known, stands today. Mehitable was 16 when her father, then known as Major John Pedrick—an officer in the Marblehead militia—rode from Marblehead to Salem to sound the alarm as the British landed at Marblehead and began marching overland to Salem. Thanks to Major Pedrick, the Salem militia was able to turn out and block the British at the North Bridge in the incident now known as Leslie's Retreat. Major Pedrick, who leaned toward neutrality in his pre-war politics, ventured all in the Revolution, and lost almost everything—his ships and most of his money. After the war he and his family lived in a Marblehead that was greatly reduced from its pre-war prosperity, having lost hundreds of men and scores of its vessels to the war.

Early in the course of the Revolution, in December, 1778, Mehitable Pedrick, 20, married Dr. Elisha Story, 35, an esteemed physician and patriot who was a native of Boston, and had been one of the disguised Sons of Liberty at the Boston Tea Party. He had moved to Marblehead with his wife, Ruth Ruddock, who had seven children before her death, in childbirth, aged 32, in March, 1778. Mehitable became the stepmother of the children, and within a year had herself become a mother, giving birth on 8 September 1779 to a son, Joseph Story, the future Supreme Court Justice. She would have ten more children between 1781 and 1799: Mehitable, Isaac, Eliza, Harriet, Charlotte, Caroline, Horace, Franklin, Frederick, and Eloisa. They resided in a large house on Washington Street near Marblehead's Town House, and Dr. Story enjoyed an extensive medical practice and the esteem of all in his adopted town. In August, 1805, when the youngest of his 18 children was but five years old, Dr. Story died at the age of 63. By his will, he devised virtually all of his property to his wife Mehitable.

Mrs. Story resided in Marblehead for several years more. Her son Joseph, a 1798 Harvard graduate, settled in Salem in 1801, after which others of her children settled there, including Caroline and her husband Capt. Fettyplace. Joseph Story, a lawyer and notable orator, was elected to the General Court and then, in 1808, to the U.S. Congress. He resided on Winter Street in a fine brick mansion; and Salem was his primary residence until 1829.

At the time that the Story family members moved from Salem to Marblehead—the first years of the 1800s, a “False War” with France had just ended, followed by an undeclared war with Britain. Merchant shipping faced new dangers from these enemies, but the Salem owners and masters aggressively expanded their trade, beyond the normal routes to Europe and the Caribbean, and on to the Baltic to trade with Russia and all the way to India and China.

Salem at the turn of the century was growing and thriving. The town's merchants were among the wealthiest in the country. In Samuel McIntire, they had a local architect who could help them realize their desires for large and beautiful homes built and decorated in the Adamesque style. This style (now known as “Federal”) had been developed years before by the Adam brothers in England and featured fanlit doorways, palladian windows, elongated pilasters and columns, and large windows. It had been 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, a talented joiner and draftsman of Salem, was quick to pick up on the style, and to adapt it to Salem's larger lots, as on Chestnut Street, Federal Street, and Washington Square, a somewhat boggy stretch of land that had been filled in and cleaned up in the period 1802-4. McIntire's first composition, the Jerathmeel Peirce house (on Federal Street, near North), contrasts greatly with his Adamesque compositions of just a few years later. The interiors of this style differed from the “Georgian” and Post-Colonial by eschewing walls of wood paneling in favor of plastered expanses painted in

bright colors or, more commonly, covered in bold wallpapers. In vernacular (less high-style) houses, the "wallpaper" effect was achieved by painted walls with an overlay of stenciled designs. The Adam style put a premium on handsome casings and carvings of central interior features such as door-caps and chimney-pieces (McIntire's specialty). On the exterior, the Adam style included elegant fences and houses that were often built of brick, and, sometimes had attenuated porticoes and, in the high style, string courses, swagged panels, and even two-story pilasters.

Salem's foreign commerce was booming in the first decade of the nineteenth century, as was the commerce of Newburyport and even Marblehead. Salem vessels sailed to the Caribbean and Europe—including Russia—as before, but were opening trade to the East as well, sailing to the far side of the globe to trade with the merchants of the Spice Islands, India, and Malaya. Salem cargoes were exceedingly valuable.

This commerce created great wealth, which in turn attracted many newcomers to Salem, from outlying towns and even other states. The ferment of the times is captured in the diary of Rev. William Bentley, bachelor minister of Salem's Second Church (it stood nearby on Essex Street). Mr. Bentley's diary is full of references to the civic and commercial life of the town, and the personalities of the leading families, and the doings of the families who made up the main part of the populace. On Herbert Street, 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, a mariner, would die of fever while on a voyage in 1808. This kind of untimely death was all too typical of Salem's young seafarers, who had little immunity to malaria and other diseases of the Caribbean and Pacific tropics.

Salem's great commercial boom had crashed when, in January, 1808, Pres. Jefferson and the Congress imposed an embargo on all American shipping in hopes of forestalling war. The Embargo proved futile and nearly ruinous in Salem, whose commerce ceased. As a hotbed of Democratic-Republicanism, the seafarers of the Derby Street area, led by the Crowninshield family, loyally supported the Embargo until it was lifted in spring, 1809. Salem, out of patience with Jefferson, furiously resumed its seafaring commerce, but still the British preyed on American shipping, Salem's included; and in June, 1812, war was declared against Britain.

Most of the Massachusetts towns opposed the war as potentially ruinous and for the benefit only of the western war-hawk states. Not Salem and Marblehead, which went to war eagerly. Forty privateers were immediately fitted out in Salem, manned by Marblehead and Salem crews, who also served on U.S. Navy vessels, including the *Constitution*. In addition, Salem fielded companies of infantry (including Capt. Joshua Oakes) and artillery.

In August, 1812, the *Constitution*, manned largely by Marbleheaders, defeated the British frigate *Guerriere* on the western edge of the Grand Bank. 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 adventure and possible riches of privateering kept the men returning to sea as often as possible.

Salem feared attack from British vessels, and erected forts and batteries on the Neck. In June, 1813, off Marblehead Neck, the British frigate *Shannon* engaged the U.S. Navy frigate *Chesapeake*, Capt. James Lawrence. Lawrence was defeated, and mortally wounded; his last words were the famous "Don't give up the ship!" followed by the less-famous "Blow her up!" Almost a year later, in April, 1814, the people of Salem gathered along the shores of the Neck as three sails appeared on the horizon and came sailing on for Salem Bay. As the day wore on, 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, Salem's vessels often were captured, and its men captured or killed. After almost three years, the war was bleeding the town dry, and the men-folk were disappearing. Hundreds of Salem men and boys were imprisoned in British prison-ships and at Dartmoor Prison in England.

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

Salem merchants soon rebuilt their fleets and resumed their worldwide trade, to great effect. A new custom house was built in 1819, at the head of Derby Wharf. Through the 1820s the foreign trade continued prosperous.

Mrs. Story evidently resided with one of her many offspring, in the Washington Square area, during the years leading up to 1818. None of them was more financially successful than her son-in-law Capt. John Forrester, who resided on Derby Street in a mansion built for his father, the privateer and merchant, Simon Forrester, born in Ireland, who had married Rachel Hathorne. The Forrester house overlooked the stores and pier known as Forrester's Wharf. In 1810 Charlotte Story had married Capt. John Forrester, and they would have ten Forrester children: Charlotte (1811), John (1813), George H.H. (1815), Rachel (1817), Charles (1818), Elizabeth M. (1820), Simon (1823), Louisa (1825), Annie M. (1827), and Henry W. (1829). A wonderful group portrait, *The Forrester Children*, was painted in 1822 by James Frothingham. In 1825 Gilbert Stuart painted the portrait of their beautiful mother, Charlotte, who would later reside here.

Mrs. Mehitable Story probably resided here at Nine Oliver, with family members, through the 1820s. During that time Salem merchants prosecuted a worldwide trade, to great effect. A new custom house was built in 1819, at the head of Derby Wharf, two doors over from the Forrester House (which stands today). Through the 1820s

the foreign trade continued prosperous. In 1824 Mrs. Story sold the Dr. Elisha Story homestead in Marblehead for \$1350.

Salem's commerce declined rapidly toward the end of the 1820s. In 1829, two of Mrs. Story's sons, Justice Joseph Story and Franklin H. Story, both moved from Salem to Boston, the center of capital and commerce; and the Fettyplaces would follow. In 1830 Capt. John Forrester and his family moved from Derby Street to Winter Street (and, shortly after, to Brown Street). They were probably frequent visitors here on Oliver Street. In that year, Capt. Forrester was taxed on \$160,000 worth of personal property—a huge fortune. He and his wife Charlotte were probably well pleased when, in 1832, their eldest child, Charlotte Story Forrester, married George H. Devereux, an ambitious young Salem merchant—and a Harvard man—also from a Marblehead background. In the year 1830, too, it would appear that Mrs. Story moved elsewhere, temporarily, for her house here at #9 was then occupied Eben Putnam, the Salem Post Master, his wife, a young son, a daughter, and another young woman (see 1830 census, p.380).

In the 1830s, with the advent of railroads and canals, capital and trade were diverted away from the coast. The Eastern Rail Road (a company based in Salem) began operating a Boston-to-Salem train in 1838, which meant that coasting vessels were not so much needed to carry cargoes between the two places. On a larger scale, American goods were now filling the needs once met by shipped-in imports; and the interior of the country was being opened for settlement. People moved west, including some from Salem, and the economic attention of the merchants turned westward with them. Manufacturing and the railroads now attracted Salem's capital, and many of the more notable merchants moved to Boston, the center of investment in these non-maritime industries. Salem did engage in some manufacturing—leather, shoes, and textiles especially—but not on a scale comparable to the factory towns of Lowell, Lawrence, and Haverhill, with their mills driven by the powerful waters of the Merrimack.

1831 is the first year in which this house appears on the valuation records. In faded pencil is the entry "Widow Story, house Oliver Street, \$1200." Eben Putnam, the Salem Post Master, was still an occupant of this house in 1831 and part of 1832, in which year he moved to Monroe Street (per Salem valuation records).

From 1831 through 1837, Mrs. Mehitable Story was taxed as the owner of Nine Oliver Street, valued at \$1200. She resided here, as evidenced by the 1836 Salem Directory. In 1838 she moved to Cambridge (per valuation records), but she returned in 1839 and was listed here with her grandsons John Forrester, 26, and George Forrester, 24. In 1840 Mrs. Story, 82, had removed from Salem (she evidently resided with her daughter Mrs. Fettyplace in East Boston).

From that point forward, the house was associated with the Forresters. Capt. John Forrester had experienced the full brunt of Salem's rapid decline as a seaport. His

vast fortune rapidly evaporated in the 1830s. In 1834 he was forced to make over his property to creditors (ED 276:293). He died in 1837, evidently bankrupt.

As mentioned above, Charlotte Forrester, born in 1811, had married George H. Devereux, Harvard class of 1829, a Salem merchant who would become a military leader here. Unlike their sister, the other Forrester daughters and sons did not marry, and lacked ambition: John (Jr.) was a sailor who died in 1840, aged 27, and George and Charles were described in the 1840s as mariners (sailors) in directories.

Somewhat stubbornly, Salem's waning merchant class pursued their business on the sea; but as the years went by the conditions of shipping changed, and Salem was left on the ebb tide. Giant clipper ships replaced the smaller ships 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 fell off to visits from Down East lumber coasters. By 1850 Salem was finished as a working port; and its glory days were over. This decline was captured in the preface to **The Scarlet Letter**, written by the Forresters' cousin (first cousin to the late Capt. John Forrester), Nathaniel Hawthorne, who resided nearby on Mall Street in the 1840s.

On 9 August 1847, in East Boston, Mrs. Mehitabel Pedrick Story died at the age of 89 years. She had survived her husband by 42 years.

In 1850 (per census, house 271), this house was occupied by Mrs. Charlotte Story Forrester, 59, her children George, 33, a clerk, Charles, 31, a clerk, Rachel, 28, Elizabeth M., 25, Simon, 23, a civil engineer, Louisa, 22, and Anna M., 20, as well as by Elizabeth Hooper, 63. George Forrester moved away in 1851. Simon Forrester would die in 1855 in Nicaragua. Charles Forrester would move elsewhere in Salem in 1856 and would die, a Salem merchant, on 7 February 1864.

In 1852 Mrs. Charlotte Forrester, Salem widow, for \$2000 purchased from the executor of her mother's will (Mrs. Forrester's brother Franklin H. Story, Esq.), the house and land here, fronting 80' on Oliver Street (ED 468:274).

The house had been built, evidently, as a "half-house," including the entry stair-hall and the rooms to the northeast thereof (nearest the street), on a granite-face foundation. Interior trim of those rooms is consistent with this. Perhaps it was in the 1850s that the Forresters enlarged the house to the southwest, with one room up and one room down on the west side of the entry, with attic. The present kitchen ell was yet to be built (added after 1874).

In 1861 came the civil War, in which Mrs. Forrester's Devereux grandsons all took prominent parts as officers. One, Lt. Col. Arthur Forrester Devereux, led his men into battle at Antietam and was wounded; by 1864 he was a Brigadier General. His brother, Capt. Charles U. Devereux, was also wounded at Antietam. George, John, and Walter were officers as well. All survived the war.

Mrs. Forrester died here on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December, 1867, in her 79<sup>th</sup> year. Her daughters inherited this house and land, and resided here. They made their livings by operating a private school.

In the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, Salem re-tooled as an industrial center, with good economic success. It filled in its old inner harbor, which had wound in from Derby Wharf along what is now New Derby Street all the way to where the Post Office now is, where it had met the waters of the beautiful Mill Pond, also filled in. A very large railroad station, rising in two enormous granite towers, symbolized the industrial economy of Salem, while the warehouses along the old piers went to ruin.

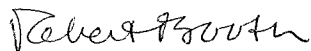
In June, 1882, the owners—Rachel, Elizabeth, Louisa, and Annie Forrester—for \$1800 mortgaged the homestead here to Betsy Hobbs of Wenham (ED 1084:4). All but Elizabeth were still residing here in 1886 (see 1886 Salem Directory).

By 1900 all of the Forrester sisters had died; and the last of them (evidently), Louisa Forrester, devised the homestead to her niece, Miss Marianne Silsbee Devereux of Salem. Miss Devereux was 57 in 1900, when she sold the premises to Miss Eliza Dodge Devereux, her younger sister (ED 1617:243). Miss Devereux owned it for four years, and sold it, in October, 1904, to Alice M., wife of William S. Nichols of Salem (ED 1754:145). It may be at about that time that the building was remodeled further, the present staircase built, and the rear ell added, along with certain interior features.

In 1914 occurred the great Salem Fire, which, on June 25, came up out of Blubber Hollow (Boston Street at Federal Street) and spread southeasterly, attacking South Salem and ending after a 13-hour rampage. It consumed 250 acres, 1600 houses, and 41 factories, leaving three killed and up to 15,000 people homeless. The Fire did not threaten the neighborhood of Washington Square, but its residents had no way of knowing that until it was finally extinguished. Thousands of people lived temporarily on the Common in the weeks following the conflagration.

In 1920 the Nicholises sold the house and land here to Mark A. and wife Johanna J. Call of Salem (ED 2469:119). Today the homestead is owned by Donald W. Moore.

--Robert Booth, 9 Sept. 2000





## Glossary

#1234 refers to probate case 1234, Essex County probate

ED 123:45 refers to book 123, page 45, Essex South Registry of Deeds

Salem Directory refers to the published Salem street directories

Census refers to census records, taken house-by-house with occupants listed.

EIHC refers to Essex Institute Historical Collections



J. H. Story Ex<sup>r</sup>  
to  
C. Horrester

I know all men by these presents, that I Franklin G. Story of Boston in the County of Suffolk Esquire, as I am executor of the last will and testament of M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> Story late of Salem in the County of Essex, Widow, deceased, by virtue of the power & authority thereby invested in me & any and all powers me hereto enabling & in execution and discharge of the trusts thereby reposed in me and in consideration of two thousand dollars to me in my said capacity paid by Charlotte Horrester of said Salem widow, the receipt whereof is acknowledged, do hereby convey, grant, bargain, sell, remise, release & quit-claim to her the said Charlotte her heirs and assigns all that lot of land in said Salem with the buildings thereon, bounded as follows, viz, Beginning at the corner of land now or late of William Pettyplace, on Oliver Street, so called & running Northwesterly, on said street eighty feet to land

now or late of Deacon Thomas Sampson, thence running Southwest 27<sup>th</sup> or  
 28<sup>th</sup> by land now or late of said Thomas eightly four feet six inches  
 to land now or late of Oliver Hubbard, thence running South  
 easterly seventy nine feet six inches on land now or late of  
 said Hubbard & Betty place, thence running East Northerty  
 Ninety three feet eight inches on land now or late of said Betty  
 place to the bounds first mentioned - or however otherwise bounded,  
 described or measuring, with all the rights, easements, privileges  
 and appurtenances thereto belonging, Being the same land  
 which Isaac Killeam conveyed to said Testatrix by deed dated  
 June 3<sup>d</sup> 1810 recorded with Essex deeds on or about June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 1810 - To have and to hold the same to her the said  
 Charlotte her heirs and assigns to her and their own use  
 forever but without recourse in any event to be had to me, my  
 heirs or representatives by reason of these presents. In wit-  
 ness whereof, I the said Franklin H. Story, Executor as aforesaid  
 have hereto set my hand and seal this first day of November  
 A.D. 1852.

Franklin H. Story, Executor }  
 Signed, sealed, and delivered } Suffolk Co. Boston Nov. 1. 1852. Then per-  
 in presence of Mrs. Popkin } sonally appeared Franklin H. Story  
 Wm. J. Kenfield } Executor as aforesaid & acknowledged  
 the above to be his free act and deed;

Before me, N. J. Bowditch Justice of the Peace.  
 Essex Co. Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov. 5. 1852. 15 m past 3 O'clock P.M. Rec<sup>d</sup> & Cor<sup>d</sup> by, Ephm. Brown Cler<sup>k</sup>

Know all men by these presents, that I Charlotte For<sup>ster</sup> C<sup>lerk</sup> <sup>15</sup>  
 rector of Salem in the County of Essex Widow, in consideration of E. White  
 Nine hundred and twenty five dollars to me paid by Eliza White <sup>15</sup>  
 of Boston in the County of Suffolk, widow, the receipt whereof <sup>15</sup>  
 is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell  
 and convey unto the said Eliza White her heirs and assigns  
 all that lot of land in said Salem with the buildings thereon  
 bounded as follows, viz. Beginning at the corner of land now

1874 Atlas

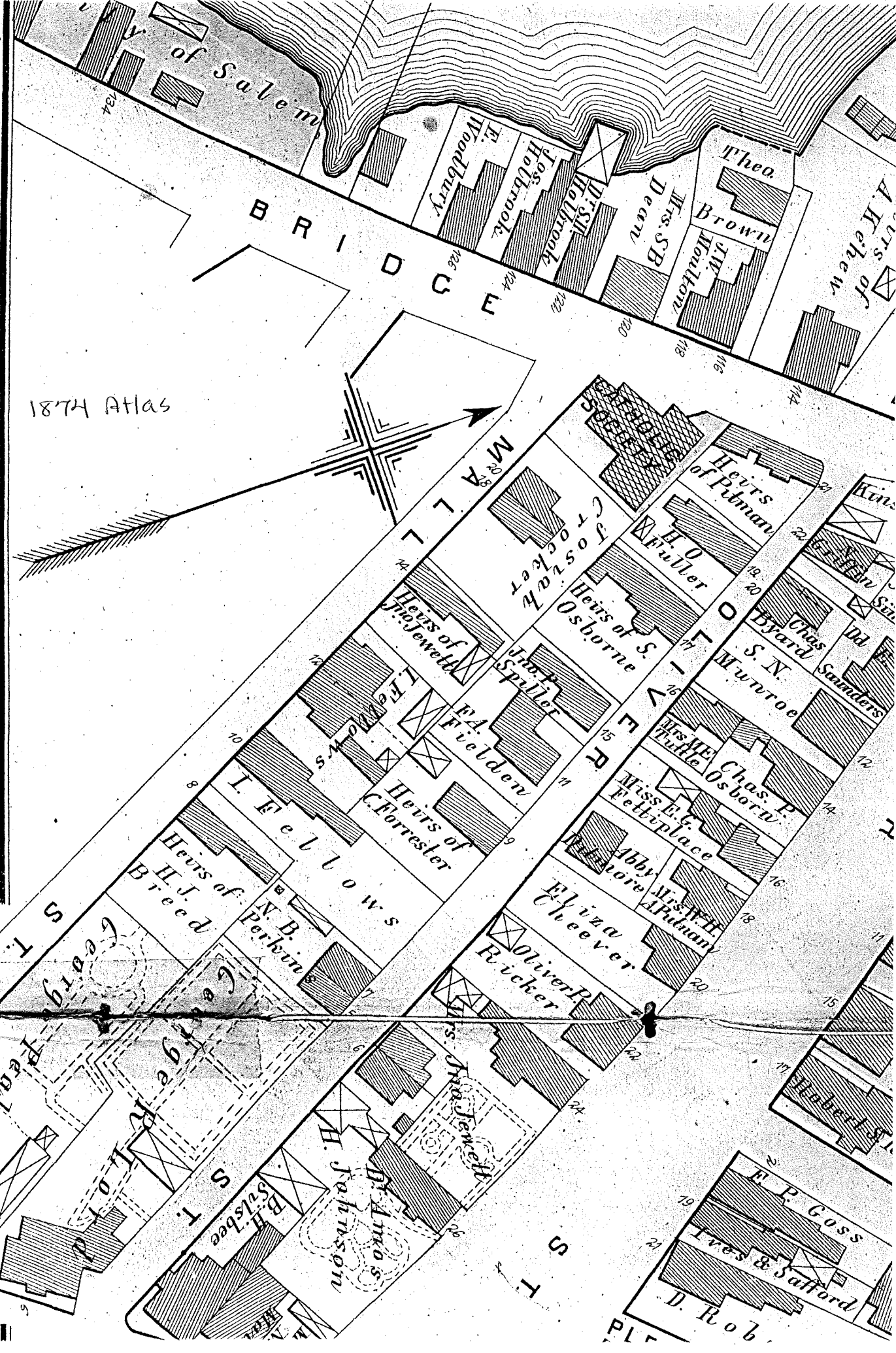
BRIDGE

M<sup>8</sup> A L L I N

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was appointed paymaster of Hitchcock's 11th Regiment. June 1, 1777, he became Brigade Quartermaster under General Glover, and four months later Deputy Quartermaster General, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, under General Nathaniel Greene. He held that office until November, 1780, after which he served in the Quartermaster General's Department. In September, 1781, he was appointed Aide-de-Camp to General Lord Stirling, and held that position until his commander's death in December, 1782. He was much respected and beloved.

16. DANIEL, b. July 28, 1756; d. at Marietta, Ohio. He was educated at Princeton College, N. J.; studied divinity at New Haven, Conn., and becoming interested in the settlement of Marietta, was with the first company, under Manasseh Cutler, who went from New England to found that place. He was the first minister called to preach over their newly organized church; and came on horseback the whole of that distance to Hamilton, Mass., to be ordained over the aforesaid church. His brother Isaac preached the ordination sermon.
17. EBENEZER, b. Aug. 7, 1757; d. young.
18. SARAH, b. July 28, 1759; m. Dec. 23, 1787, Ebenezer Clough of Marblehead. Children, b. in Marblehead: (1) Samuel, bapt. Dec. 21, 1788; (2) John, bapt. Oct. 26, 1790; (3) Isaac, bapt. July 21, 1793; (4) Joanna, bapt. Aug. 6, 1799, d. Lynn, Nov. 25, 1857.

9. ELISHA STORY, son of William, was born in Boston, Dec. 3, 1743, and died in Marblehead, Aug. 27, 1805. From the life of Judge Story, we learn that he received his instruction at the Latin school in Boston, under the tutorship of the renowned Master Lovell. His father, a strict and religious disciplinarian, objected to his entering Harvard College, on account of the strong savor of Arminianism supposed to haunt the halls of that time-honored institution. He was a sturdy Whig and a Republican, and took an early and active part in the Revolution, and was a leader of one of the squads of the "Sons of Liberty," who destroyed the tea in Boston harbor. Soon after the breaking out of the war he entered the army as a surgeon, in Col. Little's regiment, marched to Lexington, April 10, 1775, and fought as a volunteer from Concord to Boston. At the battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17,

1775, he fought in the trenches at the side of his friend, Dr. Joseph Warren, until obliged to assist in removing a wounded friend to Winter hill, "where," as he remarked, "I passed the night in taking care of the wounded and dying." He was one of the two commanders of the "Sons of Liberty" who surprised, gagged and bound the sentinels and seized the two brass cannon placed upon the Common to intimidate the inhabitants. Models of these pieces are now deposited in the top of Bunker Hill monument. June 30, 1775, he was engaged as surgeon, in Colonel Moses Little's 17th Regiment.

Dr. Story was with General Washington during the campaign of 1777, in the Jerseys, at the close of which year he retired from service through disgust of the mismanagement of the medical department, but carrying with him the highest respect and admiration of his General. After the disbandment of his regiment, the 12th Mass., he returned to the practice of his profession. About this time the town of Marblehead was so infected with the small pox that the inhabitants were obliged to inoculate throughout the place, and the selectmen sent to the authorities of Boston to recommend a physician who was well acquainted with the disease. They accordingly recommended Dr. Story, introducing him to his patrons of that town, with a certificate which mentions him to have served two years with Dr. E. Mather, a physician of distinction at Lyme, Conn., and returning to Boston, served four years longer with Dr. John Sprague, and setting forth his skill in the treatment of the various common and complicated diseases.

After the disease had subsided and the place once more was restored to a healthy condition, Dr. Story was strongly urged to remain in the practice of his profession, to which entreaty he at length assented, and continued there the remainder of his days. He proved eminently successful, gained an extensive practice, and was often consulted in difficult cases by the noted Dr. Holyoke of Salem.

Judge Story describes the Doctor's personal appearance as follows: "He had been a handsome man in his youth, with blue eyes, of singular vivacity, eyebrows regularly arched, a fine nose, and an expressive mouth; he possessed

great blandness of manners approaching to elegance. Not a man of genius, but of plain practical sense, and a quick insight into the deeds of his fellow-men; he made but a modest pretension to learning. He was very efficient and successful in his practice."

His will follows:—"In the Name of God, Amen. I Elisha Story of Marblehead, in the County of Essex, in the State of Massachusetts, Physician, being of a sound and disposing mind do make my last will and testament in manner following.

"First, I bequeath my soul to God, hoping for his mercy through the only merits of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and I order that my body be decently buried at the discretion of my Executrix, with as little expence as possible. I say this because I know the partiality of my friends would lead them to too great expence.

"I also desire that no monument beyond a middle sized stone with a simple inscription be erected.

"As to the rest, it is uncertain what I shall have after my just debts are discharged (be that as it may) after they are paid which I request may be as soon after my disease as conveniently can be by my Executrix.

"My will concerning my worldly substance is short; as my beloved faithfull and affectionate wife did during the whole time in which I have lived most happily with her, take on her the charge and management of my children whom I had by my former wife, and did conduct that trust reposed in her with great patience and prudence, which probably have few examples, and thereby left my mind free to prosecute my professional engagements.

"And whereas it has pleased God to give me a numerous offspring, whereby the prudence and economy of my wife in her domestic affairs is considerably increased and will require great exertions in her to bring them up, so as to be able to get their living, if it should please God to remove me before her.

"I therefore by this my last will give, devise and bequeath unto my amiable wife Mehitable Story all my real estate of whatever kind, and all my personal estate of whatever kind, to hold and to have the same to her and her heirs forever, subject however as to the real estate to

the limitations hereinafter mentioned in case of her marriage.

"And if my said wife Mehitable should marry after my decease, then I give her all my real estate for her sole use during her natural life; and I further give her full power in her discretion to sell and in her own name to make valid deed or deeds of all or any part of the reversion of such real estate in fee or otherwise, and to vest the proceeds of such sale in some trustee, other than her husband, to be by her named in such deed or deeds of conveyance to be disposed of in educating my younger children till the age of fourteen years, and in default of such sale, I further give her full power to appoint by writing under her hand in whome the same real estate shall rest in fee or otherwise after her decease, with full power in such trustee or trustees so appointed to sell or otherwise dispose of the same real estate, wholly or in part for the educating my younger children to the same age, and in default of such appointment, the said real estate shall remain to her heirs for the same purposes. And when all my children have arrived at the age of fourteen years, if any of such real estate shall remain undisposed of for their education as aforesaid, then the said powers of appointment and sale shall cease, and my real estate subject to the said life estate of my said wife, shall remain and be equally divided among all my children. But it is my express understanding that if my said wife never marries after my decease, all my real estate shall be to her and her heirs. But, if she dies without disposal of the same, then the same shall be equally divided among all my children.

"Secondly, I do earnestly recommend to my beloved wife my children which I had by my former wife to her particular favour and if in her power to mark them with some token of her affection.

"Thirdly, I do give and bequeath unto each and every of my children the sum of Five dollars to be paid them and each of them by my Executrix within six months after my decease.

"Fourthly, I also request my Executrix hereafter mentioned not to distress the Poor who may owe me at my

discease, but receive their debts as they may be able to pay in ever so small a sum.

"I also make my wife, Mehitable Story aforesaid, my sole Executrix of this my last will, knowing that she will receive advice and assistance from her son Joseph, to whom I recommend her and her concerns, though that, perhaps, is needless. I do it to mark my special confidence in his affection, skill and abilities.

"Signed and sealed as my last will and testament this twenty-first day of August, Eighteen hundred & three being written all with my own hand without the recommendation of any person whatever.

Elisha Story."

Witnesses: John Bond, Thomas Williams, John Williams.

Dr. Story married, first, Sept. 13, 1767, Ruth, daughter of John and Tabitha (Drinker) Ruddock, born in Boston, March 5, 1745-6; died in Marblehead, March 21, 1778, and described on her gravestone in the 2d Church burial ground as "the daughter of the late patriotic John Ruddock of Boston." He married, second, Dec. 2, 1778 (B. R.), Nov. 29 (W.), Mehitable, daughter of Major John and Mehitable (Stacey) Pedrick, of Marblehead, baptized June 4, 1758, died in East Boston, Aug. 9, 1847, aged 89 years. Judge Story, in a correspondence with his son William, speaks of her as a young woman "nineteen yrs. of age when married, and assumed the care of seven children of a previous mother; was slight in her frame, but handsome and vivacious, and of a vigorous constitution."

Children, by wife Ruth:—

19. JOHN RUDDOCK, b. Sept. 8, 1769, Boston; d. Lynn, Nov. 1, 1846.
20. TABITHA, b. Mar. 17, 1771; d. Marblehead, Feb. 1, 1852; m. Nov. 4, 1792, Nathaniel King, son of Robert and Mary (King) Devereux of Marblehead. Children: (1) Ruth Ruddock, b. Aug., 1794, d. Sept. 10, 1795; (2) Elisha Story, bapt. Nov. 15, 1795, d. Oct. 12, 1810, on board the schooner "Tam;" (3) Ruth, bapt. Feb. 24, 1799; (4) Mary King, b. Jan. 14, 1801, d. May 17, 1802; (5) Robert, bapt. Nov. 7, 1802; (6) Nathaniel, d. Oct. 11, 1814; (7) James, d. Nov.

- 25, 1819, thrown from a carriage; (8) William, bapt. Feb. 7, 1808; (9) Ralph Potter, bapt. Oct. 21, 1810.
  21. ABIEL RUDDOCK, b. Boston, April 5, 1772. The Marblehead records give the decease of Capt. Abiel Story, "Dec. 2, 1829, of consumption, aged 58," which would correspond with the date of his birth. Mrs. White states it as 1806. There being no administration of his estate on record, it is difficult to determine the correct date. He m. Feb. 2, 1799 (Mhd. Rec.), Huldah Clough. She was called "Mrs." Huldah Clough in the marriage intention. She was probably the Huldah Green who married Samuel Clough in Marblehead, March 1, 1787. Samuel Clough, who was son of Ebenezer, died in Marblehead, September 28, 1787, aged 22 years, 2 months. Child: (1) Eloise Green, bapt. Aug. 29, 1802; d. young.
  22. ELISHA MARION, b. Boston, Apr. 5, 1772; d. young.
  23. REBECCA, b. Boston, July 18, 1773; removed, with her husband, to St. Bartholomew, W. I., where she d. in 1812. She m., 1st, Nov. 7, 1798, by Rev. Joseph Eckley, Francis Denis Liebe; mar. 2d, to another Frenchman, by name Robainna. Children, by 1st marriage: (1) Rebecca, b. Aug., 1794; m. 1st, Capt. John Taylor, who was lost at sea; m. 2d, to a Mr. Martinez, by whom she had 2 chn.: (a) Wm. Fettyplace, and (b) John. These sons lived in the vicinity of Boston, and were known by the name of Martin, having dropped the last syllable "ez." William served with distinction as captain in the Civil War. (2) Francis Augustus. Children by 2d m.: (a) Terazini; (b) Aurora; (c) Augustina; and others.
  24. WILLIAM, b. Malden, Aug. 18, 1774; d. Salem, Mar. 17, 1864.
  25. ELLEN MARION, b. Malden, Oct. 8, 1775; d. Marblehead, Aug. 9, 1821. She and her husband were buried in the Elm Street burial ground, near the entrance. Married, Oct. 19, 1794, Samuel, son of Samuel and Sarah Roads, of Marblehead, who died Nov. 23, 1836, aged 73 years. Children, b. in Marblehead: (1) Samuel, bapt. Aug. 28, 1796, d. June 1, 1826; (2) John, b. 1798; (3), William, b. 1801; (4) Augustine, b. 1803; (5) Stephen; (6) Ellen, bapt. Feb. 21, 1813; (7) George, b. 1808, d. Oct. 5, 1833.
  26. A SON, b. Mar. 20, 1778; d. next day.
- Children, by wife Mehitable:—
27. JOSEPH, b. Sept. 18, 1779; d. Sept. 10, 1845.
  28. MEHITABLE, b. Apr. 16, 1781; d. East Boston, Dec. 3, 1863; m., June 17, 1804, by Rev. Samuel Dana, to William, son of



- Edward and Jane (Williams) Fettyplace of Marblehead, b. May, 1780, d. at East Boston, Nov. 30, 1867, aged 87; merchant. Children, b. at Marblehead: (1) Mary Lynde Fitch Oliver, b. June 9, 1805; m., Dec. 17, 1828, by Rev. Henry Colman, to Lewis P., son of Moses and Anna (Town) Endicott, b. Danvers, July 27, 1805; d. Boston, Nov. 6, 1870. After his decease, she, with her sister, removed to Chicago. Children: (a) Lewis Fitch, b. Sept. 23, 1829; d. Sept. 20, 1865. (b) Harriet Story White, b. May 6, 1831; d. Jan. 17, 1848. (c) William Fettyplace, b. June 29, 1835. (d) Edward Marion, b. July 17, 1840. (2) Jane Williams.
29. ISAAC, b. Feb. 18, 1783; d. Dec. 29, 1852.
30. ELIZA, b. Dec. 3, 1784; d. at Boston, Sept. 2, 1865; m. Jan. 19, 1808, by Rev. James Bowers, to Capt. Joseph, son of Henry and Phebe (Brown) White, b. Salem, Jan. 8, 1781, d. May 5(W.), 1816 (May 4th—Story Bible). Children, b. in Salem: (1) Elizabeth Stone, b. Aug. 27, 1809; d. Aug. 15, 1842; m., by Rev. Henry Colman, July 1, 1829, to Samuel Cally, son of Samuel and Anne Orne Gray of Boston, formerly of Salem, b. Sept. 7, 1792, d. Dec. 15, 1849. Children: (a) Samuel Cally, b. Apr. 17, 1830. (b) Charlotte Sargent, b. Oct. 27, 1832; m. Apr. 9, 1856, Henry, son of Mindert and Mary Van Shaick of New York. (c) Elizabeth Stone White, b. Jan. 3, 1835; m. Jan. 26, 1858, John Ellis, son of John Rice and Ellis Blake of New York. (2) Mary Barrow, b. Mar. 27, 1811; m., May 31, 1831, by Rev. Francis W. P. Greenwood, to George William, son of William Pratt, of Derby, England, later of Boston, and Mary (Williams) Pratt, formerly of Salem. Children: (a) George Williams, b. Feb. 2, 1832; d. in Italy. (b) William, b. Aug. 5, 1834. (c) Robert Marion, b. Nov. 10, 1837. (d) Joseph White, d. in infancy. (3) Charlotte Sophia, b. Dec. 23, 1812; d. Feb. 23, 1813. (4) Charlotte Sophia, b. Aug. 8, 1814; d. June 1, 1854; m., Dec. 2, 1834, John Turner, son of John T. and Christiana K. Swan Sargent. Children: (a) Joseph White, b. Mar. 6, 1836; (b) Charlotte Sophia, b. — —; (c) Christiana Kady Swan, b. Mar. 17, 1839; (d) John Turner, b. Oct. 14, 1840; (e) William Story, b. Oct. 4, 1842; (f) Elizabeth White Gray, b. Aug. 19, 1844; (g) Edward Marion, b. 1847, d. young; (h) Edward Marion, b. May 30, 1849; (i) Arthur Winthrop, b. June 26, 1853.
31. HARRIET, b. Jan. 21, 1787; d. June 19, 1827; m. Aug. 9, 1808, by Rev. James Bowers, to Stephen, son of Henry and Phebe (Brown) White, who died Aug. 10, 1841. Children: (1) Harriet Story, b. Nov. 29, 1809; m. — —, 1831, James

- William Paige of Boston. Children: (a) James William; (b) Harriette White, m. Apr. 12, 1853, Abbott, son of Abbott and Katherine (Bigelow) Lawrence of Boston. Eight chn. (2) Caroline, b. June, 1811; m. Daniel Fletcher, son of Hon. Daniel and Grace (Fletcher) Webster. Colonel Daniel Fletcher Webster was colonel of the 12<sup>th</sup> Regt. Mass. Volunteers in the Rebellion and was killed at the head of his regiment at the battle of Bull Run, August 30, 1862. Children: (a) Grace; (b) Grace; (c) Caroline White; (d) Daniel Fletcher; (e) Julia Appleton; (f) Ashburton. (3) Ellen Marion, b. Aug., 1812; m. John Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Hannah Barrel Joy. (4) Joseph, b. Jan., 1813; died in Boston.
32. CHARLOTTE, b. Oct. 16, 1788 (1789—Story bible); d. Salem, Dec. 16, 1867; m. Oct. 25, 1810, at St. Michael's church, Marblehead, by Rev. James Bowers, to John, son of Simon and Rachel (Hathorne) Forrester, b. Oct. 3, 1781, d. Salem, Jan. 25, 1837. Children: (1) Charlotte Story, b. Sept. 4, 1811; d. Apr. 27, 1873; m. Dec. 19, 1832, George Humphrey, son of Humphrey and Eliza (Dodge) Devereux, b. Dec. 1, 1809. H. C., 1829. Merchant. For many years connected with the military of Salem. He commanded the Salem Light Infantry and in 1848 resigned to become Adjutant General of Massachusetts. Children: (a) George Forrester, b. Sept. 2, 1833. He was commissioned March 2, 1865, second lieutenant in the 2nd U. S. Vol. Reg't; (b) John Forrester, b. Mar. 12, 1835. He was a captain in the 11th Reg't Mass. Inf. in Dec. 1861. (c) Arthur Forrester, b. Apr. 27, 1836. He was commander of the Salem Zouaves (Co. J. 8th Mass. Reg't), April 18, 1861. August 3, 1861, he was commissioned Lieut. Col. of the 19th Reg't, Mass. Inf., was promoted Col. Nov. 29, 1862, and brevetted Brig. Gen. U. S. Vol. in 1864. He was wounded at Antietam. He died February 14, 1906. (d) Charles Upham, b. June 27, 1838. He was first sargeant of the Salem Zouaves, April 18, 1861; and captain of Co. H., 19th Reg't Mass. Infantry, November 15, 1861. He was wounded at Antietam. (e) Walter Forrester, b. Sept. 7, 1841. During the Civil War he was a captain in the 47th Reg't U. S. Colored Infantry. (f) Marianne Silsbee, b. Sept. 21, 1843; (g) Philip Humphrey, b. Oct. 5, 1845; (h) Charlotte Forrester, m. Francis Quarles Story; (i) Eliza Dodge. (2) John, b. May 16, 1813. (3) George Heley Hutchinson, b. Feb. 23, 1815. (4) Rachel, b. Feb. 5, 1817. (5) Charles, b. Dec. 14, 1818; d. Feb. 7, 1864. (6) Elizabeth Marion, b. Aug. 14, 1820. (7) Simon, b. Feb. 8, 1823; d. Oct.

- 23, 1855, at Nicaragua. (8) Louisa, b. Jan. 19, 1825. (9) Annie Maria, b. Apr. 2, 1827. (10) Henry Williams, b. Jan. 23, 1829; d. Mar. 31, 1830.
33. CAROLINE, b. Oct. 24, 1791 (Story bible); bapt. Oct. 31, 1790 (2d Church Rds., Marblehead); d. Nov. 1, 1874, at Boston.
34. HORACE CULLEN, b. Jan. 20, 1793 (Story bible); bapt. Nov. 4, 1792 (2d Church Rds.); d. at New Orleans, July 26, 1823.
35. FRANKLIN HOWARD, b. Mar. 6, 1795; d. Feb. 13, 1871.
36. FREDERICK WASHINGTON CHATHAM, b. Apr. 5, 1797; lost in the English channel, Dec. 21, 1819; unm.
37. ELOISA ADALINE, b. Oct. 4, 1799; d. Salem, June 5, 1858; m. by Rev. Thomas Carlisle, Feb. 20, 1820, to John Tucker, son of Daniel H. and Marcia (Tucker) Mansfield, who d. at Boston Mar. 25, 1839. Children: (1) John Tucker, b. Aug. 6, 1820; (2) Stephen White, b. June 24, 1827; (3) Gideon Tucker, b. Mar. 12, 1829; (4) Marcia Tucker, b. Jan. 3, 1833; (5) Horace Cullen, b. Jan. 25, 1836; (6) Henry Tucker, b. Feb. 2, 1838.

11. WILLIAM STORY, son of William, was born in Boston, March 17, 1748, and died in Georgetown, D. C., Dec. 17, 1806. He was educated as a merchant. For some time after the decease of his first wife, he was a clerk in the Treasury Department at Philadelphia. At the close of his life he held the office of Secretary of State under Jefferson's administration. He married, first, Dec. 6, 1778, by Rev. Mr. Stillman, Bathsheba, daughter of Nicholas and Bathsheba (Edwards) Gray, of Boston, a distant relative of Hon. William Gray, of Boston, formerly of Salem. She died in Ipswich, Aug. 12, 1791. He married, second, at Philadelphia, Lydia W., daughter of Judge Phillips of the District of Columbia. When Mr. Story removed from Ipswich he left his children in the care of his wife's sister, Betsy Gray, who married, Oct. 15, 1797, William Treadwell of Ipswich. He occupied a house belonging to his father William.

Children:—

38. BATHSHEBA, b. Jan. 16, 1780; d. Sept. 8, 1811, unm.
39. JOANNA, b. Apr. 11, 1781; d. Oct. 8, 1783.
40. WILLIAM, b. July 27, 1782; d. Dec. 18, 1812.

(To be continued.)

THE PROBATE RECORDS OF ESSEX COUNTY  
MASSACHUSETTS.

(Continued from Vol. L, page 240.)

ESTATE OF WILLIAM NEVILL OF IPSWICH

"I William Nevill of Ipswich singleman being body but of pfect memory & vnderstanding doe n my last will & Testament as followeth I comit my god that gave it & my body to the earth when I sha this life and for my worldly goods I thus dispose first that Phisitian & other debts that I owe sha Alsoe I give Mary whipple my bible and I give to the rest of my m<sup>r</sup> children that which my master c alsoe I give that which my dame oweth me; and I Philip fowler oweth me to william Robinson alsoe william Gooderson my interest in the Teame hir Bradstreet and in the ground hired of m<sup>r</sup> Carner be with william Robinson as alsoe in an other barg agreement wherein william Robinson & I are ptners will is that william Gooderson shall have halfe th past & to come & to beare halfe the charges that ar are yet to pay for & that shalbe hereafter to be dor I give to Goody Langton the feed wheat alsoe I giv Langton that which goodman Horton oweth me give to Joseph Langton my fowling peece also I Sarah Langton my barley Alsoe I give John wood bushell of Barly as is at Goodman Quilters & a l which John doth owe me And lastly I make Roger my only executor & overseer of this last will & T Alsoe I give Ann whipple my chest wittnes my ha month the 15<sup>th</sup> day 1643."

william

Witness: Joseph Morse, Thomas Dorman.  
Proved 7m: 1643.

Ipswich Deeds, vol. 1,