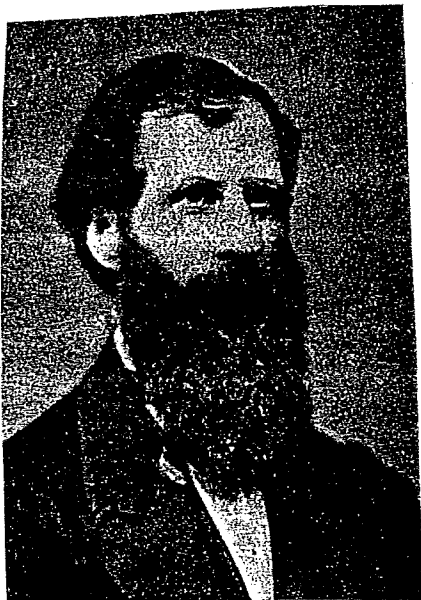


**94 Federal Street  
Salem**

*Built 1770*

*For*

*James Gould, housewright*



Lt. Col. Henry Merritt (1819-1862), killed in the Civil War,  
whose boyhood home this was

94 Federal Street, Salem

***According to available evidence, this house was built by deacon James Gould, housewright, in 1770.***

On 1 May 1767 for 38.18.6 James Gould, Salem housewright, purchased from widow Mary Toppan of Salem a piece of land, 32.44 poles in area, fronting 7 poles and 1 link (115') on "a new town way" (Federal Street) and butting on the beach of the broad North River (ED 128:28). It is fairly certain that the house was built in 1770, for that is the date assigned it by his contemporary and neighbor, Judge Samuel Curwen (of 312 Essex Street), who compiled a list of houses built in Salem, 1750-1773, in which he refers to this as built by "James Gould (near North Street)" (EIHC 58:294). The grantor of the house-lot, Mrs. Mary (Barton) Toppan was the widow of Dr. Bezaleel Toppan, a Harvard-educated physician, apothecary, and merchant who had died in 1762. Dr. Toppan's house stood on Essex Street. The backland of the homestead had run back to the North River, but the laying-out of Federal Street (known as "New Street" or "New North Street") in the 1760s had created new houselots of the sort that Mrs. Toppan sold to Mr. Gould.

James Gould (Jr.) was born in Salem, in the part that is now Peabody, on 23 May 1736, the son of James Gould, a farmer, and his wife Margaret Chadwell, who came from Lynn. James Gould Sr. (1693-1771) was the grandson of Thomas Gould, who had settled in Salem (Peabody) in the 1660s. James Gould Jr. was one of six surviving siblings: he was the second son, and had an older brother, Amos, two older sisters, and two younger brothers.

Like most boys of his place and time, James was apprenticed to learn a trade when he was twelve or thirteen. His master was a housewright, and James spent eight years learning that trade. His younger brother Josiah followed him into that trade, and may have worked with him. James was a journeyman as of 1757, and, as a good and dependable worker, probably received a good deal of patronage. In 1758 he married Mehitable Townsend, who came from Lynn, as had his own mother. No children were listed as born to the couple, but the records are not complete. In August, 1758, at about the time of his marriage, James Gould purchased a piece of land on Cambridge Street, and built a house thereon as his residence (see ED 96:220,122:250).

At this time, Salem was a prosperous seaport, with a thriving fishery as well as an extensive merchant shipping business to the Caribbean and Europe. Salem's main 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. The molasses was turned into rum in Salem's distilleries, and sold locally and regionally, and some overseas. From Europe came finished goods, wine, fruit, feathers, and leather. There was also some trade between Salem and the Chesapeake Bay area, which provided corn, wheat, and tobacco, while South Carolina provided rice.

Most merchant vessels were small, under 60 tons. The salt water came in along Derby and New Derby Streets all the way to the present Post Office; and in this secure inner harbor, known as the South River, were most of the wharves and warehouses, although some wharves were built along the North River too. The Browne family, whose houses stood on Essex Street between Liberty and Washington, dominated Salem's society, and the Brownes were leading merchants of the 1740s-1750s, along with Benjamin Pickman (1708-1773), Samuel Gardner, Timothy Orne, and Richard Derby (1712-1783). Salem's colonial commerce was active but the imperial authorities limited the Salem merchants to trade with designated British possessions. To the extent that the Salem merchants broke the rules by smuggling and trading with un-approved partners, they made good profits; and some came to feel disdain for the British, who sought to hold them back and keep them in their place.

In the 1760s, after Canada was taken from the French, the English, who had emptied their treasury in fighting the war, decided to squeeze tax revenues out of the colonials' trade. Although they had been under royal governors for two generations, the Americans had been allowed to self-govern at the local level by town meetings, and, at the provincial level, through a legislature and Governor's council. Over time, they had come to regard themselves as a free people, and not as dependents of a far-away mother country. Merchants and mariners had always traded with the Spanish in Europe and with the various islands of the Caribbean, regardless of their national affiliations; and they deeply resented the

British crack-down on this trade, accompanied by privateering against American vessels by both the French and the British.

In 1761, a group of Salem and Boston merchants sued to prevent the use of search warrants (“writs of assistance”) by the Customs officials who were trying to inspect their vessels and warehouses. In the courtroom, attorney James Otis Jr. electrified the audience with his attack on British arrogance and his argument for American rights and liberties—an event that John Adams later identified as the birth of “the child independence.” Later in the decade, Salemites protested against the Stamp Act, and applied tar and feathers to a couple of men who disagreed. In Boston, the opposition was even larger and more determined, as mobs attacked the royal officials’ houses and beat up their flunkies. The British authorities were surprised at the Americans’ resistance to their policies, and feared an insurrection. In 1768, they sent over a small army of occupation and installed it in Boston. 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 bitter public opposition and more street violence in Boston. The Boston Massacre, in which townsmen were gunned down by the soldiers, took place in March, 1770; and then all of Massachusetts turned openly against the British, and the clouds of war gathered on the horizon.

James Gould was able to make a good living in the early 1760s for, despite the political problems, Salem remained pretty prosperous, and contracts were always being given for construction of new houses, additions, wharves, stores, warehouses, barns, distilleries, and other buildings. Mr. Gould was devout, and probably a member of the First Church. His faith was tested by the early death of his wife Mehitable, who died, probably, in 1762 or 1763. Eventually, he began to socialize again, and in April, 1764 he married Lydia Sherman of Lynn. Later that year, his brother Josiah Gould married Sarah Sherman of Lynn, perhaps Sarah’s sister. It may be that James and Josiah Gould were partners in the construction business. In March, 1767, James Gould sold to James Punchard, fisherman, a new house that he had built on a small lot on north Street (ED 124:248). As has been noted, he bought the lot here on “New Street” in 1767; and he mortgaged it to the seller for about 39 li (ED 121:54).

In 1770, evidently, Mr. Gould had the house built. Its plan was unusual for Salem, in that it fronted on the street with four window bays rather than the more typical three bays or five bays (symmetrical). It has a large central chimney, and is two rooms in depth, with a pitch roof and later additions to the rear, one of them fairly early. The house, which has two original staircases and an

extraordinarily high cellar story, is thoroughly paneled throughout, including a parlor with four walls of raised-field paneling. Today, the house retains most of its original features, including some doors and bolection moldings in the fireplace surrounds; and it has much character.

James Gould was a member of the First Church, and a devout one. In 1770 the First Church minister, Rev. Thomas Barnard, had a stroke and needed a young colleague minister. His son, Rev. Thomas Barnard Jr., 22, was the favored candidate until Rev. Asa Dunbar, 21, came along and won admirers. The congregation could not agree, and so a large minority withdrew amicably and formed the North Church with Mr. Barnard Jr. as its minister. James Gould was one of this group. The new North Church was built in the spring of 1772, at the corner of North and Lynde Streets. No doubt Mr. Gould was involved in the construction of the edifice. The new society had some of the richest families in town, including the Brownes and others who would prove to be loyalists at the time of the break with England. The ruling elder of the First Church, John Nutting, became the ruling elder of the North Church (with Joshua Ward), and James Gould and Samuel Holman were elected its first deacons (see p. 547 H. F. Worthley, *Inventory of Records, Harvard Theological Studies XXV*, 1970).

In 1771, Mr. Gould's father, a Danvers farmer, died. In 1772 and 1773 James and his brother Josiah for 50 li purchased the interest of their brothers Benjamin and Amos in the 60-acre farm and a two-acre piece in Lynn (ED 130:230). In November, 1772, Mr. Gould sold his former home, on Cambridge Street, for 120 li to Rev. Thomas Barnard (ED 122:250). And in April, 1774, for 156.12.8 James and Josiah Gould sold their father's property, at a good profit, to Elizabeth Foster, wife of Joshua Foster, a Marblehead tailor (ED 137:2).

Pre-revolutionary Salem had more than its share of Tories; but the Sons of Liberty were in the majority. Wealthy scions of families like the Curwens, Pickmans, and Brownes, stayed loyal to the King, as did many others who had married into the merchant families. In 1774, military rule was imposed from England as Gen. Thomas Gage became governor of Massachusetts and the port of Boston was shut down in punishment for the Tea Party of December, 1773. On June 2, 1774, Salem became the new capital of Massachusetts, as a reward for its supposed loyalty. Governor Gage and his officials relocated to the North Shore, and the Customs operation was conducted from Marblehead, while Salem became the major seaport of New England, handling virtually all of the commercial business that Boston had done. Hundreds of new people moved to Salem, and the legislature met in Salem's Court House. In short order, that

legislature, led by Sam Adams, turned into a rebel body, and voted to ignore British laws and to send delegates to a continental congress. Gage tried to shut it down, but it was too late: he had lost control of Massachusetts to the rebel assembly gathered in Salem. The town still had a powerful and outspoken group of loyalists, led by Peter Frye, a prominent merchant and magistrate whose wife was a Pickman. One night in October, Judge Frye learned just how far the rebels were willing to go: his fine house on Essex Street was burned down and his family barely escaped with their lives as half a block of houses and stores and a church all burned down. Next day, the rebel assembly met again and voted to move their proceedings to Concord; and Gage and his officials moved to Boston, and many of the loyalists followed. Outside of Boston, all of Massachusetts was under the control of the rebels.

By January, 1775, loyalists had been purged from the Salem militia regiment, and Col. William Browne was replaced by the rebel Col. Timothy Pickering, who was writing a book on military drill. One Sunday in February, 1775, the Revolutionary War almost began in Salem. When everyone was in church, Col. Leslie's redcoats marched overland from Marblehead and arrived in downtown Salem, hoping to seize cannon and munitions in North Salem. They came down North Street, in sight of this house, and suddenly halted at the North Bridge—the Salem men, alerted by a Marblehead rider, had pulled up the draw of the bridge. Presumably James Gould, who lived so near the bridge, was present on that day, and perhaps even involved. His pastor, Rev. Thomas Barnard Jr. of the North Church, engaged Col. Leslie in discussion; and his fellow congregant, Capt. John Felt, warned Leslie that blood would flow if he did not turn back. Negotiations followed, and agreement was reached: the draw went down, Leslie's men advanced a short distance into North Salem, faced about, and marched back through Salem's 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 the beach and boarded their whaleboats to return to the transport vessel.

With the battle at Lexington & Concord, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1775, the die was cast. 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. 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 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, made possible by the Marblehead regiment of Gen. John Glover. Eventually most of the Salem men came home and sailed in privateers for the duration of the war, which went on for years. The land war ended in 1781 at Yorktown, but the war continued at sea and Salem men continued to risk and lose their lives until 1783.

Regarding this house during that time: in 1777 valuations, ward four, James Gould was taxed on a house worth 200 li and had stock & faculty worth 100 li. By 1779 he was taxed on 2/3 house (130 li), shop worth 30 li, faculty & stock worth 50 li. This means that one-third of the house was rented out; but I do not know who the tenant was. This situation continued through 1781.

In some places, the post-war loss of the former colonial connections and trade routes was devastating, for Americans were prohibited from trading with most British possessions; but in Salem, the merchants and mariners were ready to push their ships and cargoes into all parts of the known world. They did so with astonishing success. For a period of about 25 years, Salem was a famous center of commercial enterprise: by virtue of competing fiercely, pioneering new routes, and opening and dominating foreign markets, Salem won a high place in the world. Hasket Derby, William Gray, Eben Beckford, and Joseph Peabody were the town's commercial leaders. In 1784, Derby began trade with Russia; and in 1784 and 1785 he dispatched trading vessels to Africa and China, respectively. Voyages to India soon followed, and to the Spice Islands and Pepper Islands (Sumatra, Java, Malaya, etc.).

Once again, Salem was a boom-town, fueling much new construction. James and Josiah Gould partook of their share of the new business, and did well. James and Lydia had no children, but Josiah and Sarah had sons Josiah and James, born in 1766 and 1768. Deacon James Gould left the North Church to join the Tabernacle Church, and became deacon of the congregation there by 1783 (see Worthley, pp. 542-544). The Tabernacle's minister, Rev. Joshua Spalding, was aggressively orthodox in a town whose other congregations were embracing Unitarianism. Spalding made many enemies, including Rev. William Bentley, who, in his diary, has much to say about the Tabernacle and its minister. Bentley seems to have respected James Gould (many years later, on 8 November, 1801, Bentley noted in his diary, after being irked by Mr. Spalding, "honest Deacon Gould says, when I work I use the sharpest tools I can find. Mr.

Spaulding differs from his neighbors, as he prefers the dullest. Well said, Deacon.”)

In 1784 through 1787 James Gould was taxed on the full house and shop (worth 300 li in 1784) and on stock & faculty (worth 250 li in 1784). In 1787, with currency changes, the house was valued at 175 li and Mr. Gould ( a second adult male lived in the house) had personalty valued at 120 li. This held true in 1788, except that he was also taxed on a “new house,” valued at 50 li. It was probably brand-new and not yet occupied, since tenanted houses had their assessments paid by the tenants.

From a January 11, 1789, entry in the diary of William Pynchon, Salem lawyer, we learn that Deacon James Gould was noted for wearing his hair plain at a time when most men wore wigs. As Mr. Pynchon came to church that day, evidently not wearing his wig, the parson said “I took you for Deacon Gould,” to which a friend joked, “You certainly have on the deacon’s wig.”

By 1790 Mr. Gould was taxed on one house & shop again (200 li; 150 li for personalty). The census of that year lists heads of households: James Gould resided here, perhaps with Hannah (Mansfield) Sawyer, widow of John Sawyer, and others. In this year, his namesake nephew died at the age of 22.

By the 1790s, the new foreign-trade markets—and the coffee trade, which would be opened in 1798 with Mocha, Arabia—brought great riches to the Salem merchants, and raised the level of wealth throughout the town: new ships were bought and built, more crews were formed with more shipmasters, new shops and stores opened, new partnerships were formed, and new people moved to town. In 1792 Salem’s first bank, the Essex Bank, was founded, although it “existed in experiment a long time before it was incorporated,” per Rev. William Bentley. From a population of 7921 in 1790, the town would grow by 1500 persons in a decade. At the same time, thanks to the economic policies of Alexander Hamilton, Salem vessels were able to transport foreign cargoes tax-free and essentially to serve as the neutral carrying fleet for both Britain and France, which were at war with each other.

By the early 1790s, Deacon James Gould was in his fifties, and he probably was slowing down. Rev. Mr. Bentley, in his diary, noted that on 23 Oct. 1794 the draws of the North Bridge collapsed as 20 oxen were crossing over. He notes that “the builder of the bridge, one Gould, was totally ignorant of mechanics.” He also notes that the bridge was repaired five years before. It is not clear that



the builder of the draws was James Gould, or that the problem arose from the repairs of 1789 or from the original construction of the bridge, much earlier.

On 3 Sept. 1794, having subdivided the property, James Gould sold off the western part of the lot, with the house thereon, for 300 li to Samuel Archer Jr., Salem shopkeeper, who mortgaged the premises back to Mr. Gould for payment of 150 li (ED 157:235,235). Mr. Gould would live on for another 16 years, residing, probably, in a house nearby. Eventually he became a lumber dealer.

The new owner, Samuel Archer Jr., shopkeeper, 31 in 1794, probably moved in here with his family in 1794. The lot, as subdivided, was bounded 65.5' on Federal Street, easterly running northerly 27' on Mr. Gould's own land alongside the east side of the house and 6" therefrom, and then running northerly (evidently on a different course), then butting northerly on the bank of the North River, then bounded westerly 5 poles 15 links (92.5') on land of Bullock.

Samuel Archer was born in Salem on 25 Jan. 1763, the son of a wigmaker and merchant, Samuel Archer (d. 1825), and his wife Mary Woodwell (d. 1812). Samuel (Jr.) was the eldest of seven children born between 1763 and 1783. Only the sixth, Nathaniel, died in infancy; but all the rest evidently died as teenagers or young adults, except for Samuel. He may have been apprenticed to his father as a merchant's clerk; and he started his career, in the 1780s, as a grocer, or trader. Samuel married Sarah Woodbury in 1788. They would have at least three children, born in the 1790s: John W., Samuel H., and Sarah E.

In the late 1790s, there was agitation in Congress to go to war with France, which was at war with England. After Pres. Adams' negotiators were rebuffed by the French leaders in 1797, a quasi-war with France began in summer, 1798, much to the horror of Salem's George Crowninshield family (father and five shipmaster sons), which had an extensive trade with the French, and whose ships and cargos in French ports were susceptible to seizure. The quasi-war brought about a political split within the Salem population. Those who favored war with France (and detente with England) aligned themselves with the national Federalist party, led by Alexander Hamilton and by Salem's Timothy Pickering (the U.S. Secretary of State). These included most of the merchants, led locally by the Derby family. Those who favored peace with republican France were the Anti-Federalists, who later became aligned with Pres. Jefferson and his Democratic-Republican party; they were led locally by the Crowninshields. For the first few years of this rivalry, the Federalists prevailed; but after the death of Hasket "King" Derby in 1799 his family's power weakened.

In 1800, Adams negotiated peace with France and fired Pickering, his oppositional Secretary of State. Salem's Federalists merchants erupted in anger, expressed through their newspaper, the *Salem Gazette*. At the same time, British vessels began to harass American shipping. Salem owners bought more cannon and shot, and kept pushing their trade to the farthest ports of the rich East, while also maintaining trade with the Caribbean and Europe. Salem cargos were exceedingly valuable, and Salem was a major center for distribution of merchandise throughout New England: "the streets about the wharves were alive with teams loaded with goods for all parts of the country. It was a busy scene with the coming and going of vehicles, some from long distances, for railroads were then unknown and all transportation must be carried on in wagons and drays. In the taverns could be seen teamsters from all quarters sitting around the open fire in the chilly evenings, discussing the news of the day or making merry over potations of New England rum, which Salem manufactured in abundance." (from Hurd's *History of Essex County*, 1888, p.65).

The Crowninshields, led by brother Jacob, were especially successful, as their holdings rose from three vessels in 1800 to several in 1803. Their bailiwick, the Derby Street district, seemed almost to be a foreign country: in the stores, parrots chattered and monkeys cavorted, and from the warehouses wafted the exotic aromas of Sumatran spices and Arabian coffee beans. From the wharves were carted all manner of strange fruits and blue and red patterned china and piles of gorgeous silks and figured cloths. The greatest of the Salem merchants at this time was William "Billy" Gray, who owned 36 large vessels--15 ships, 7 barks, 13 brigs, 1 schooner--by 1808. Salem was then still a town, and a small one by our standards, with a total population of about 9,500 in 1800. Its politics were fierce, and polarized everything. The two factions attended separate churches, held separate parades, and supported separate schools, military companies, and newspapers. Salem's merchants resided mainly on two streets: Washington (which ended in a wharf on the Inner Harbor, and, above Essex, had the Town House in the middle) and Essex (particularly between what are now Hawthorne Boulevard and North Street). The East Parish (Derby Street area) was for the seafaring families, shipmasters, sailors, and fishermen. In the 1790s, Federal Street still had more empty lots than fine houses. Chestnut Street did not exist: its site was a meadow. The Common was not yet Washington Square, and was covered with hillocks, small ponds and swamps, utility buildings, and the alms-house. As the 19<sup>th</sup> century advanced, 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, 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 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 by 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 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 (1757-1811), who was self-educated and who made his living primarily as a wood-carver and carpenter, was quick to adapt the Bulfinch style to Salem's larger lots. McIntire's first local composition, the Jerathmeel Peirce house (on Federal Street), contrasts with his later Adamesque designs. 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 1797-8 (demolished in 1815), on the site of today's Town House Square.

Presumably Samuel Archer prospered as a grocer during these years, as most Salem people did. Per the 1800 census (p.367), he resided here with his family, including his wife, two girls, and a young woman, and himself and three boys.

A new bank, the Salem Bank, was formed in 1803, and there were two insurance companies and several societies and associations. 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 and editor of the *Register* newspaper. His 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 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.

In 1806 the Derbys extended their wharf far out into the harbor, tripling its previous length. This they did to create more space for warehouses and ship-berths in the deeper water, at just about the time that the Crowninshields had built their great India Wharf at the foot of now-Webb Street. The other important wharves were Forrester's (now Central, just west of Derby Wharf), and Union Wharf at the foot of Union Street; and then, father to the west, a number of smaller wharves extended into the South River (filled in during the late 1800s), all the way to the foot of Washington Street. Each had a warehouse or two, and shops for artisans (coopers, blockmakers, joiners, etc.). The waterfront between Union Street and Washington Street also had lumber yards and several ship chandleries and distilleries, with a Market House at the foot of Central Street, below the Custom House. The wharves and streets were crowded with shoppers, gawkers, hawkers, sailors, artisans ("mechanics"), storekeepers, and teamsters; and just across the way, on Stage Point along the south bank of the South River, wooden barks and brigs and ships were being built in the shipyards.

Salem's boom came to an end with a crash in January, 1808, when Jefferson and the Congress imposed an embargo on all 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, Salem's East Parish and its seafarers, led by the Crowninshields, loyally supported the Embargo until it was lifted in spring, 1809. Shunned by the other Salem merchants for his support of the Embargo, the eminent Billy Gray took his large fleet of ships—fully one-third of Salem's tonnage—and moved to Boston, whose commerce was thereby much augmented. Gray's removal eliminated a huge amount of Salem wealth, shipping, import-export cargos, and local employment. Gray soon switched from the Federalist party, and was elected Lt. Governor under Gov. Elbridge Gerry, a native of Marblehead. Salem resumed its seafaring commerce for three years, but still the British preyed on American shipping; and in June, 1812, war was declared against Britain.

Although the merchants had tried to prevent the war, when it came, Salem swiftly fitted out 40 privateers manned by Marblehead and Salem crews, who also served on U.S. Navy vessels, including the frigate *Constitution*. Many

more local vessels could have been sent against the British, but some of the Federalist merchants held them 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 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. 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 vessels were captured, and its men imprisoned or killed. After almost three years, the war had taken a terrible toll. 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.

Samuel Archer, the owner of this house, was probably hard-pressed to keep his grocery and retail business afloat during the war. He evidently tried farming to supplement his income; and he was certainly in financial trouble, for in 1814 he mortgaged the homestead here for \$800 to Rebecca Cabot. Before he could repay any of the mortgage, he died on 13 June 1815, aged 52 years.

His estate was inventoried in January, 1816 (see appendix). Among the furnishings were five beds, a coat of arms with glass and frame, silver plate, a mahogany card table, 70 books, two pictures—also, “sundry articles of hard

ware goods etc.” which may have been part of the wares that he sold at his store. The homestead was valued at \$2333.33 (“real estate consisting of house and land and barn and outhouses, situate on Federal Street”). His widow, Sarah, was made administratrix of the estate, which proved to be insolvent, with debts of \$2298.62 versus assets (other than real estate) of \$501.18. The main creditors were Rebecca Cabot (owed \$880) and Margaret Symonds (owed \$500), Kimball & Cogswell (\$142.50), and E. & C. Treadwell (\$106).

Mrs. Archer (and her children, who were teenagers) tried to hold onto the homestead. One of her sons, Samuel H., was enrolled at Dartmouth College, in the class of 1818. On 30 January 1817 Mrs. Archer purchased the house and land from her husband’s estate, from straw John Derby (ED 212:242,243). She then mortgaged it for \$800 to Tobias Davis, a mariner (ED 212:243); and she persuaded Rebecca Cabot to extend the other mortgage. None of this did much good; and by the spring of 1819 Mrs. Archer was forced to sell out. On June 8<sup>th</sup>, for \$1 she sold the land and the house, barn, and other buildings to sisters Eliza and Maria Mansfield (ED 221:102). This was the end of the Archer connection to the house. It should be noted that Samuel H. Archer (1798-1838) did graduate from college in 1818, and in 1819 opened a private school in Salem, which proved highly successful. He married a minister’s daughter and resided nearby on Carpenter Street. The boy Nathaniel Hawthorne was among his pupils (see appended pages for more). Samuel’s brother John became a bookseller, and eventually moved west.

The Misses Mansfield, having paid off the Cabot and Davis mortgages, immediately (1819) conveyed the homestead, for \$1720, to Edward Southwick, who was acting as a trustee for the benefit of Mrs. Abigail (nee Herbert) Mansfield and her children (ED 222:149). Mrs. Mansfield was the beneficiary of a trust, set up in the 1811 will of her sister, Mrs. Mary Norris. Consistent with the trust, she was to occupy gratis for her lifetime this homestead, described as “the tenement, dwelling house, and all other buildings” with about 200 poles of land (ED 222:149). Beginning in 1819, she resided here with her husband, Ellis Mansfield, a merchant, and their four daughters. Mr. Mansfield was born in Salem in 1758, the son of Jonathan Mansfield and Elizabeth Burchstead of Norman Street. Jonathan Mansfield (1717-1791), who had begun his career as a blacksmith, became an anchormsmith and then a merchant and trader (grocer); he had 11 children by two wives, including a last child, Dorcas, born when he was fifty. Ellis Mansfield, who had a twin brother, Bream, served in the Revolutionary war, and was on the expedition to Rhode Island in 1778. He had married Abigail Herbert in 1786, and they had daughters Eliza, Maria, Harriet,

and Judith. Mr. Mansfield conducted his merchant business with some success (on 8 May 1787 he made a gift to Rev. William Bentley of eight volumes of *The View of Lord Bolingbroke's Philosophy*), and continued for at least twenty years. The Embargo (1808) and especially the War of 1812 probably damaged his business, and he seems to have retired by the time he moved here in 1819.

Post-war, the Salem merchants rebuilt their fleets and resumed their worldwide trade, slowly at first, and then to great effect. Many new partnerships were formed. 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). Rev. William Bentley, keen observer and active citizen during Salem's time of greatest prosperity and fiercest political divisions, died in 1819. Ellis Mansfield was ill by 1821, and died on May 6, 1821, aged 62 years. He was survived by his wife Abigail and their four daughters, of whom two, Judith and Maria, were married (to Joseph Lord and Nathaniel Sleeper, respectively). The inventory of his estate, taken 6 July 1821, shows the possessions that he owned at the time of his death (appended to this report).

Into the 1820s foreign trade continued prosperous; and new markets were opened with Madagascar (1820), which supplied tallow and ivory, and Zanzibar (1825), whence came coffee, ivory, and 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.

Mrs. Abigail (Herbert) Mansfield died on 1 March 1825, aged 65 years. Her four daughters were her heirs; and on May 14th they sold the homestead for \$1950 to David Merritt, Salem trader (ED 239:74). At that time, David Merritt, his wife Anna Ashby, and their many children moved in here; and the house would remain in the family for more than 45 years.

David Merritt (1775-1862) was born in England, one of a numerous family. David started out as a house carpenter in England, then became a shoemaker. He loved books and loved to write letters, and would later keep a journal and conduct a lifelong correspondence with old friends in England. He became an enthusiastic lay preacher in England. In 1804, having married Anne Ashby, he, she, her young brother William Ashby, and David's sister Jemima decided to go to America. They sailed in August, 1804, and soon settled together in Sacketts Harbor, New York. Mr. Merritt resumed his preaching there, refusing to take pay for it. In 1805 the rest of the Ashby and Merritt families took passage on the

ship Jupiter to come to America; but the vessel hit an iceberg and sank, and all of Mr. Merritt's family members were drowned except for one brother. The Ashbys fared better, and escaped in the boats, and were picked up and landed safely at Marblehead. David Merritt, his brother Henry Merritt (1772-1821), and the Ashbys settled at Marblehead, where the Merritts and William Ashby Jr. engaged in the grocery and provision business. They transported their goods from Boston by wagon, and went into the trucking (express) business as well, and carried goods for the other shopkeepers and merchants of Marblehead and environs. They had their grocery store at 12 Darling Street, built new for them in 1818.

In 1823 David Merritt and family moved to Salem, where he engaged in the grocery business. The Merritts had eight surviving children: David, Henry (b. 1819), William, Alfred, Anne, Eliza, Jane, and Mary.

Salem's general maritime foreign commerce fell off sharply in the late 1820s. Imports in Salem ships were supplanted by the goods that were now being produced in great quantities in America. The interior of the country was being opened for settlement, and some Salemites moved away. 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. In an ingenious attempt to stem the flow of talent from the town and to harness its potential water power for manufacturing, Salem's merchants and capitalists banded together in 1826 to raise the money to dam the North River for industrial power. The project, which began with much promise, was suspended in 1827, which demoralized the town even more, and caused several leading citizens to move to Boston, the hub of investment in the new economy.

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 killer was a Crowninshield (a fallen son of one of the five brothers; after he was put in jail he killed himself). He had been hired by his friends, Capt. White's own relatives, Capt. Joseph Knapp and his brother Frank (they would be executed). The results of the investigation and trial having uncovered much that was lurid, more of the respectable families quit the now-notorious town.



As the decade wore on, Salem's remaining merchants had 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 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. Salem slumped badly, but, despite all, the voters decided to charter their town as a city in 1836—the third city to be formed in the state, behind Boston and Lowell. 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 25 tanneries 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).

In the 1830s, David Merritt fell ill, and his grocery business failed. He consulted with his friends, and especially with his pastor, Rev. Henry Colman, and started a new enterprise in the express and transportation business, in which he would prove to be very successful, even after the coming of the Eastern Rail Road, headquartered in Salem, which in 1838 began operating between Boston and Salem and gave the local people 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, as more industrial methods and machines were introduced, new companies in new lines of business arose in Salem. The tanning and curing of leather was very important by the mid-1800s. 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 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 the countryside. Even the population changed, as hundreds of Irish families, fleeing the Famine in Ireland, settled in Salem and gave the industrialists a big pool of cheap labor.

David Merritt had conveyed the homestead here in 1827 to William Ashby, who in 1830 had sold it back to Mrs. Anne Merritt (ED 239:74, 247:95). In 1848, as the Essex Railroad laid its tracks over the North River, Mrs. Merritt sold the back part of the lot to the Railroad (ED 402:101). Another house, evidently a small one, was built in the back yard of this homestead, possibly as a residence for younger family members.

The Gothic symbol of Salem's new industrial economy was the large twin-towered granite train station—the “stone depot”—smoking and growling with idling locomotives, standing on filled-in land at the foot of Washington Street, where before had been the merchants' wharves. In the face of all this 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 mean-spirited “introductory

section" to **The Scarlet Letter**, which he began while working in the Custom House.

In 1850, David Merritt was 75 but still active in business, running his freight office at 14 Washington Street, assisted by his sons Alfred and David Jr., who resided next door on Federal Street. Son Henry, a jeweler, lived on Lafayette Street and worked in Boston. The census of that year shows David (75, freighting merchant) and Anne, 66, residing here with Emily, 38, and Alfred, 27 (house 564, ward four).

Salem's growth continued through the 1850s, as business and industries expanded, the population swelled, new churches (e.g. Immaculate Conception, 1857) were started, new working-class neighborhoods were developed (especially in North Salem and South Salem, off Boston Street, and along the Mill Pond behind the Broad Street graveyard), and new schools, factories, and stores were built. A second, larger, factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company was added in 1859, down at Stage Point, where a new Methodist Church went up, and many neat homes, boarding-houses, and stores were erected along the streets between Lafayette and Congress. The tanning business continued to boom, as better and larger tanneries were built along Boston Street and Mason Street; and subsidiary industries sprang up as well, most notably the J.M. Anderson glue-works on the Turnpike (Highland Avenue).

During the 1850s, Henry Merritt joined his father and brothers in the express business for a while, then resumed working in Boston, with an office on Merchants Row. He, his wife, and three children resided at 14 Lynde Street in 1858. Henry was very interested in Salem's military societies, having enlisted at 17, in 1836, in the Salem Mechanic Light Infantry. He later (1851) became a brigade Major of the 6<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Regiment.

As it re-established itself as an economic powerhouse, Salem took a strong interest in national politics. It was primarily Republican, and strongly anti-slavery, with its share of outspoken abolitionists, led by Charles Remond, a passionate speaker who came from one of the city's notable black families. At its Lyceum (on Church Street) and in other venues, plays and shows were put on, but cultural lectures and political speeches were given too.

By 1860, with the election of Abraham Lincoln, it was clear that the Southern states would secede from the union; and Salem, which had done so much to win

the independence of the nation, was ready to go to war to force others to remain a part of it. In that year, David Merritt, 85, and wife Anne, 76, resided here with daughter Emily, 48, and with a servant, Honora Sullivan, 19, and with Georgiana Botwell, 16. There were boarders, too: Ann Jocelyn, 17, Jerry Noyes,, 18, a teamster who probably worked for Mr. Merritt, and Maria Grant, 12 (see 1860 census, ward four, house 2111). In the house in the rear, evidently, lived the Merritts' daughter, Jane, 44, her husband Jacob Agge, 47, a blacksmith, and their five children.

The Civil War began in April, 1861, and went 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. With his great interest in the military, Henry Merritt was commissioned a Lieutenant Colonel of the 23<sup>rd</sup> regiment of Mass. Volunteer Infantry in the fall of 1861, under Col. John Kurtz. Many of the soldiers came from Salem and environs. Lt. Col. Merritt proved to be an exemplary officer, and led his men as they were transported to the coast of North Carolina in January, 1862. They participated in the battle of Roanoke Island (Feb. 8), and then went on toward Newbern in March. The story of that battle is appended to this document, and of Col. Merritt's brave leadership. He was killed almost instantly while leading his men in combat; and his remains were returned to Salem with great respect and ceremony. The affect of his loss on his family can only be imagined. His father, David Merritt, died 28 July 1862, aged 87 years.

The people of Salem contributed greatly to efforts to alleviate the suffering of the soldiers, sailors, and their families; and there was great celebration when the war finally ended in the spring of 1865.

Through the 1860s, Salem pursued manufacturing, especially of leather and shoes and textiles. The managers and capitalists tended to build their new, grand houses along Lafayette Street (these houses may still be seen, south of Roslyn Street; many are in the French Second Empire style, with mansard roofs). A third factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company was built in 1865. In that year, this house was the residence of Anne Merritt, 81, her daughter Emily, 52, her daughter Mary, 38, and husband Rev. Warren Burton, 64; and servant Alice Macklin, 30 (1865 census, ward four, house 327). By 1870, Mr. Burton had died. Mrs. Merritt, 86, resided here with daughters Emily and Mary, and with Anna Whitney, 18, and servant Lucy Goodacre, 16 (1870 census, ward four, house 93).

In 1870 Salem received its last cargo from Zanzibar, thus ending a once-important trade. By then, a new Salem & New York freight steamboat line was in operation. Seven years later, with the arrival of a vessel from Cayenne, Salem's foreign trade came to an end. After that, "the merchandise warehouses on the wharves no longer contained silks from India, tea from China, pepper from Sumatra, coffee from Arabia, spices from Batavia, gum-copal from Zanzibar, hides from Africa, and the various other products of far-away countries. The boys have ceased to watch on the Neck for the incoming vessels, hoping to earn a reward by being the first to announce to the expectant merchant the safe return of his looked-for vessel. The foreign commerce of Salem, once her pride and glory, has spread its white wings and sailed away forever" (Rev. George Bachelder in *History of Essex County*, II: 65).

Salem was now so densely built-up that a general conflagration was always a possibility, as in Boston, when, on Nov. 9, 1872, the financial and manufacturing district of the city burned up. Salem continued to prosper in the 1870s, carried forward by the leather-making business. In 1874 the city was visited by a tornado and shaken by a minor earthquake. In the following year, the large Pennsylvania Pier (site of the present coal-fired harborside electrical generating plant) was completed to begin receiving large shipments of coal. Beyond it, at Juniper Point, a new owner began subdividing the old Allen farmlands into a new development called Salem Willows and Juniper Point. In the U.S. centennial year, 1876, A.G. Bell of Salem announced that he had discovered a way to transmit voices over telegraph wires.

By the mid-1870s, old Mrs. Merritt had moved to Linden Street with her daughter Emily. The Merritt heirs evidently sold this homestead by 1874 to Mr. Benjamin Shreve, a Salem man who lived on Chestnut Street and was a partner in the importing and jewelry firm of Shreve, Crump & Low in Boston. Mr. Shreve owned other property in this area and used it for rental income. Mrs. Anne Merritt lived on for many years, and died at last on 13 July 1883, in her 100<sup>th</sup> year, the oldest person in Salem.

In the decade of the 1870s, French-Canadian families began coming to work in Salem's mills and factories, and more houses and tenements were built. The better-off workers bought portions of older houses or built small homes for their families in the outlying sections of the city; and by 1879 the Naumkeag Steam Cotton mills would employ 1200 people and produce annually nearly 15 million yards of cloth. Shoe-manufacturing businesses expanded in the 1870s, and 40 shoe factories were employing 600-plus operatives. Tanning, in both Salem and

Peabody, remained a very important industry, and employed hundreds of breadwinners. On Boston Street in 1879, the Arnold tannery caught fire and burned down.

By 1880, the occupants of the house were a carpenter, Edgar Sanborn, 41, wife Carrie, and baby daughter Jane H., one, all just arrived from Vermont; and in the other apartment resided Dr. Sarah E. Sherman, a homeopathic physician originally of Virginia (she advertised in the 1881 Salem Directory; see appendix). They soon moved on, and by 1883 the occupants were James H. Grater, 36, a candy-maker, and family, and William H. Pollock, a teamster at the Salem Lead Works, and family (per 1884 Directory). Mr. Grater and wife Abbie had one child, a son Irving. The Graters and Pollocks resided here in the two units through the 1880s, and by 1890 Mr. Pollock had become a driver for the fire department, while James Pollock, who also resided here, was an express driver. Mr. Grater worked for years for the George W. Pepper candy-making company in Peabody, then had his own business for a while, and then worked as a candy-maker for Snow Rich in Salem in the 1890s.

In the 1880s and 1890s, Salem kept building infrastructure; and new businesses arose, and established businesses expanded. Retail stores prospered; horse-drawn trolleys ran every which-way; and machinists, carpenters, millwrights, and other specialists all thrived. In 1880, Salem's manufactured goods were valued at about \$8.4 million, of which leather accounted for nearly half. In the summer of 1886, the Knights of Labor brought a strike against the manufacturers for a ten-hour day and other concessions; but the manufacturers imported labor from Maine and Canada, and kept going. The strikers held out, and there was violence in the streets, and even rioting; but the owners prevailed, and many of the defeated workers lost their jobs and suffered, with their families, through a bitter winter.

By the mid-1880s, Salem's cotton-cloth mills at the Point employed 1400 people who produced about 19 million yards annually, worth about \$1.5 million. The city's large shoe factories stood downtown behind the stone depot and on Dodge and Lafayette Streets. A jute bagging company prospered with plants on Skerry Street and English Street; its products were sent south to be used in cotton-baling. Salem factories also produced lead, paint, and oil. At the Eastern Railroad yard on Bridge Street, cars were repaired and even built new. In 1887 the streets were first lit with electricity, replacing gas-light. The gas works, which had stood on Northey Street since 1850, was moved to a larger site on Bridge Street in 1888, opposite the Beverly Shore.

More factories and more people required more space for buildings, more roads, and more storage areas. This space was created by filling in rivers, harbors, and ponds. 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 some of its old wharves 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.

The Graters lived through the 1890s, sometimes with other tenants occupying the other unit. Irving grew up and worked as a machinist. In 1899 a nurse, Miss Minnie Kellogg, was also a tenant here. In 1900 the Graters moved to 20 Beckford Street; and in December, 1900, after a very strenuous Christmas season, James H. Grater suddenly died, on Dec. 28, aged 53. His widow and son moved back into 94 Federal Street by 1903, when Blanche A. Findley, dressmaker, had her shop and home here (per 1905 Directory).

Salem kept growing. 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. People from the surrounding towns, and Marblehead in particular, came to Salem to do their shopping; and its handsome government buildings, as befit the county seat, were busy with conveyances of land, lawsuits, and probate proceedings. The city's politics were lively, and its economy was strong. In 1912-1914 the house was occupied by Mrs. Emma Perkins, a widow, in one unit, and, in the other, by Joseph B. Osborn, wife Hannah, and Gertrude Osborn, bookkeeper, and perhaps others. Mr. Osborn died on May 4, 1914.

On June 25, 1914, in the morning, at the foot of Federal Street, in Blubber Hollow, Boston Street, 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. At this house, the Osborns and Mrs Perkins left, and Charles H. Temple, a carpenter, and family, moved in by 1915 (per Directory).

By the 1920s, Salem was once again a thriving city; and its tercentenary in 1926 was a time of great celebration. The Depression hit in 1929, and continued through the 1930s. By 1934, Thomas L. Walsh and wife Doris were first listed as living here (per 1935 Salem Directory), along with Benjamin A. Neville, printer. Mr. Walsh in 1934 was a manager at the wholesale meats company of John P. Squire & Co. at 291 Bridge Street. By 1945 Mr. Walsh was listed as a grocer, residing here with his family in one unit, while in the other lived Mary A. Fournier, widow of Joseph Fournier, whose daughter lived out back. The house remains in the ownership of Thomas Walsh's descendants.

Salem, the county seat and regional retail center, gradually rebounded from the Depression and prospered after World War II through the 1950s and into the 1960s. General Electric, Sylvania, Parker Brothers, Pequot Mills (formerly Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co.), Almy's department store, various other large-scale retailers, and Beverly's United Shoe Machinery Company were all major local employers. Then the arrival of suburban shopping malls and the relocation of manufacturing businesses took their toll, 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 housewrights are all honored as a large part of what makes Salem different from any other place.

--Robert Booth, 23 Dec. 2003, for Historic Salem Inc.



## Glossary & Sources

A figure like (ED 123:45) refers to book 123, page 45, Essex South registry of Deeds, Federal Street, Salem.

A figure like (#12345) refers to Essex Probate case 12345, on file at the Essex Probate Court, Federal Street, Salem, or on microfilm at Mass. Archives, Boston, or at the Peabody Essex Museum's Phillips Library, Salem.

Census records (censes were taken every 10 years from 1790 on, and in 1855 and 1865) are available on microfilm; they list the heads of households 1790-1840, and then list family members from 1850 on.

MSSRW refers to the multi-volume compendium, *Mass. Soldiers & Sailors in the Revolutionary War*, available at the Salem Public Library among other places.

MSSCRW refers to the multi-volume compendium, *Mass. Soldiers, Sailors, & Marines in the Civil War*, available at the Salem Public Library among other places.

EIHC refers to the Essex Institute Historical Collections (discontinued), a multi-volume set (first volume published in 1859) of data and articles about Essex County. The indices of the EIHC have been consulted regarding many of the people associated with this house.

The six-volume published Salem Vital records (marriages, births, and deaths through 1849) have been consulted, as have the Salem Directory and later Naumkeag Directory, which have information about residents and their addresses, etc.

Sidney Perley's three-volume *History of Salem, 1626-1716* has been consulted, as has the four-volume *William Bentley's Diary*, J. Duncan Phillips' books, some newspaper obituaries, and other sources.

Salem real estate valuations, and, where applicable, Salem Street Books, have also been consulted, as have genealogies.

There is much more material available about Salem and its history; and the reader is encouraged to make his or her own discoveries.

--Robert Booth



of 'F,' Jeffs of 'G' and Burnham of 'I' "now acting as seamen on board Q. M. schooner Triump" were ordered to Captain Smith for duty. 13 May, '62. Captain (sic) Smith and all others on board the "Gideon" were ordered to report to their company commanders. She seems to have ended her days as a sort of wharf-boat or landing-stage at Hatteras.

Gen. Wise had the following estimate of the importance and value, in a military point of view, of Roanoke Island.

"It was the key to all the rear defences of Norfolk. It unlocked two sounds (Albermarle and Currituck); eight rivers (North, West, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Little, Chowan, Roanoke and Alligator); four canals (the Albermarle and Chesapeake, Dismal Swamp, North-west and Suffolk); and two railroads (the Petersburg and Norfolk and Seaboard and Roanoke). . . . It should have been defended at the expense of 20,000 men and of many millions of dollars."

From A Record of the 23rd Regt. MVI  
by Jas. A. Emmerton, Boston 1886.

Section about Lt. Col. Henry Merritt

#### CHAPTER IV.

LANDING AT SLOCUM'S CREEK. THE MARCH THROUGH THE MUD. THE  
BATTLE. CASUALTIES. LT. COL. MERRITT.

THE right wing went, 6 Mch., '62; on board the Highlander and waited, at anchor, through four days of raw northerly wind. 10th. The Gideon took off our cumbersome deck-load. Some of the fleet got under-way.

11th. The brisk north wind continued and bothered the steamers when they attempted to turn their tows, of two or three schooners, to our southern course. Finally, this was accomplished and we started, towing from the port paddle-box of the steamer New York, while hawsers from other transports were made fast to her stern and other paddle-box. This was all very well while we had plenty of sea-room. In passing through the "Marshes" — the narrow passage from Croatan to Pamlico Sound — the New York caught on the bottom and lay helpless under our jib-boom. Capt. Dayton ran and cut our hawser just in time to enable us to sheer clear, except for a parting scratch from our boat-davit. The other tow ran into the steamer. We made sail and ran off. Running free over smooth water showed the Highlander's best points. With our consort, the Gideon, we overtook and passed all the fleet and reached Hatteras but little after the gunboats.

12th. Few, who were there, can forget the balmy Spring morning on which we moved slowly towards New Berne, enjoying meanwhile a huge mail from home. In the afternoon we got up a larger crew for the 12 pounder.

13th. Through some misunderstanding the 23rd was, half an hour, late in answering the signal to land, but we were not unprepared, and, on receiving our orders, very soon joined the long strings of boats as at Roanoke.

Perhaps I can not do better than quote from a letter of the time. "Getting the whole gun-crew together, at about 11.30, we commenced that eventful twenty-four hours, at end of which our forces had taken all their boasted defences and driven the rebels I know not how far. With twenty-four men on the ropes, with promise of good travelling and a short road, we started out bravely. Soon we overtook the howitzers from the gunboats. A friendly trial of speed ensued. The blue-jackets bantered us with offers to report our progress. Capt. Dayton was determined not to risk being left in the reserve, as at Roanoke, and, when a strip of beach came in our route, turned us on to the hard bottom in ankle-deep water. In that mile of amphibious travel we distanced our friends, who persisted in pulling through the dry sand above high-water mark, and we saw no more of them till they joined us on the battle field.

A deserted cavalry-camp, with ample stores and breakfast still smoking on the table, was soon passed. Soon after this our troubles began. Persistent rain and the trampling army turned the road into a mortar-bed. We got some help from companies of the regiment halting on the roadside for other companies to overtake them. I went ahead to find the most available track among the trees and stumps. The real road was by this time marked by the deepest mud. When our own exertions would have been of little avail, we welcomed the aid of a yoke of oxen, sent back for the purpose by officers in advance. They pulled the gun over a rise of some ten feet in thirty, with twelve to fourteen inches of stiff, tenacious clay. So the

day wore away and darkness found the task incomplete. Gun and regiment were together and whole companies, relieving one another by short shifts, kept them so. Past troops, already enjoying their envied rest and the comfort of blazing fires, we plodded till our assigned place was reached and, until, in the woods, a little to the left of the road,—though we were not aware of it, dangerously near, if not directly under, the fire of the enemy's guns,—we too rested."

Very few of us were, I fancy, aware, ere the speedy sleep of exhaustion came to us amid all the discomforts of that rainy bivouac, how much we had done. Gen. Burnside says in his report: "The effecting of the landing and the approach to within a mile and a half of the enemy's works on the 13th, I consider as great a victory as the engagement of the 14th."

But little time for eating was left, for those who waited for daylight to get breakfast, before a rattling volley towards the front started us toward it. As we moved along the narrow road, the sound of a field piece, with its resulting missile ricocheting along an open field to our right, was an earnest of the impending battle. Shortly, Gen. Foster, who had been spying through the morning mists, met us, and, personally, telling Capt. Dayton that a single gun commanded the road, asked him to silence it. It was now but a very little way to our edge of the cleared space before the enemy's works. We halted among the trees on the edge of the wood and opened fire.

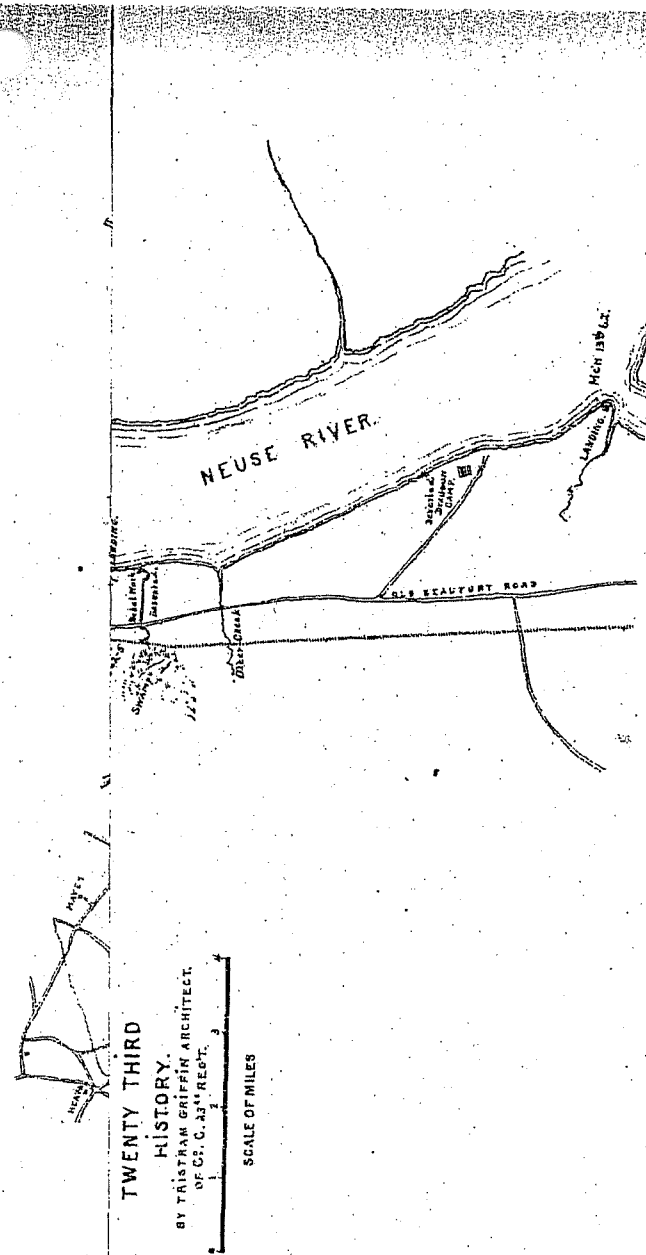
Gen. Foster's single gun developed into a battery. Not less than three guns, at first at least, paid us special attention. The heavy and well sustained musketry of the brigade at either side of us, and, after a little, the fire of the other howitzers, as they came up, made some diversion.

Edward S. Waters, C. E., of Salem, Mass., who served on Gen. Burnside's staff for most of the war, and, with a Lieut. Raymond, bearer of dispatches to Gen. Burnside, shared all our experiences that day, had the curiosity to measure the distance afterwards, and found it 1000 feet. Have sometimes wondered whether any but enthusiastic greenhorns would have undertaken to serve a gun just there.<sup>9</sup>

We were loading from the leather passing-cases, slung around the necks of some of the crew, and were disgusted to find that the wooden ammunition boxes, brought with so much toil through yesterday's mud, were all filled with shells, and that we had no reserve of powder. The missiles, which *seemed* to fill the air, had made their mark on only two of the gun crew, and, at that, only on their clothing. Something struck or grazed a button on Capt. Dayton's breast and compelled him, in spite of a determined effort to remain, to turn the piece over to his second in command, and to go to the rear for treatment and powder. There was but one cartridge left, and, when that was used, nothing to be done but put our bodies and ammunition-boxes behind the biggest trees, haul the gun into a place of comparative safety and await events. Something of an aggravation to us, sheltered from the direct fire, was the cross fire from our gunboats. Huge shells came up from the river, heralded by a roar like that of an express train, and, exploding, scattered their fragments at our feet.

The 23rd regiment, following us up the road, filed into the woods and, after passing the 27th Mass., went "into

<sup>9</sup> Mr. Waters's map, which, he tells me, was made hurriedly, and, for the battle field proper, depends on some "rough horseback surveys" has been corrected from a map in the War of the Rebellion, Ser. I, Vol. IX, p. 248, from another by S. M. Allis, Co. K, 27th M. V. I, and from other sources.



line" on the left of that regiment. The woods were too thick for the exact execution of such an order and some left flank companies were for a time separated.

Capt. Raymond of 'G,' in a letter to the *Salem Register*, says: "We left bivouac about 6.30 and marched by right flank about a mile or so. Supposing some of the regiments were still ahead of us, you may judge of our surprise when we received the first fire of the enemy's battery. Grape, canister and shell all playing about us in great quantities. By the movement at the head of the column, I supposed the order had been given 'Into line on first company' and, accordingly, undertook to half-wheel and forward into line, but found that the companies on the right were marching by the left (file left) into the woods. After marching some distance across a hollow, we halted, formed line and marched with fixed bayonets, with the batteries still some distance ahead."

In Co. 'C' the principal loss was from a shell which exploded in the ranks. The line was hardly, if quite, formed when a round shot, or shell, hit Lt. Col. Merritt and, horribly lacerating the anterior walls of his abdomen, killed him.

The regimental line, found to be exposed to a flanking fire from Fort Thompson, on the left of the enemy's line, was slightly withdrawn. In their new place they kept up a brisk fire till their ammunition was nearly exhausted. They were relieved by the 11th Conn. Again slightly withdrawn, they lay with fixed bayonets till the charge, and then entered the works with the rest of the brigade.

On the way to the city, Co's 'A' and 'F' skirmished in advance looking in vain for the enemy who was already far on the way towards Kinston on the cars specially provided for his speedy retreat. Lieut. Bates, with a squad of Co. 'F', captured one Dr. West, claiming to be from

New Rochelle, N. Y., and Surg. C. S. A. His horse was ridden through the war by Col. Chambers. On approaching the burning railroad bridge, the 23rd was ordered into camp on the right of the track. The men were soon started up again, embarked on the steamer Delaware, carried around the city, landed at the railroad wharf and marched to the Fair Ground where they occupied the deserted camp of the 35th N. C.

To finish the record of the artillerists. Shortly after the charge, Capt. Dayton returned and we went into the enemy's works in the wake of the infantry. We tried to use the wounded and abandoned horses to pull the gun, but for lack of harness, could not make them of much avail. Getting over to the railroad track, we put the gun on a platform car, and a company of the 51st N. Y. easily pulled us up to the burning bridge over the Trent.

Not permitted to cross, we occupied a switch-man's shanty at the southern end. Here we remained several days, eking out our rations with fresh beef,—pistolled within a stone's throw of our quarters,—and qualifying its laxative effect with some exquisite Madeira found in deserted cellars across the river. When, finally, the Hussar's launch was sent for the gun, her steersman managed to find one of the "Yankee catchers" as the rebels called the sharpened piles set aslant in the river for the very purpose. A handy tar on the landing stage soon calked the holes with rebel cotton and we made the trip without mishap.

Col. Kurtz, in his report of the battle, says, "particularly Capt. E. G. Dayton of the schooner Highlander, who volunteered to command the 12-pounder howitzer, the persevering manner in which he and his men drew the gun through the mud, in many places knee deep, and the very gallant manner in which they served it . . . met my

warmest approbation. They made every shot tell and had, nearly or quite, fired their last charge before they received any support."

## GUN-CREW AT NEW BERNE.

E. G. Dayton of schr. Highlander,	Captain.	
James A. Emmerton,	Corporal.	Co. F.
Edward C. Blossom,	Private.	Co. A.
William C. Cummings,	"	" "
John L. Foss,	"	" "
William A. Gove,	"	" "
Gilman S. Higley,	"	" "
Caleb Shaw,	"	" "
Leroy S. Chamberlain,	"	" B.
William B. Bessom,	"	" "
Lemuel F. Estey,	"	" "
Charles W. Taylor,	"	" "
Melvin Sawyer,	"	" D.
Isaac S. Peckham,	"	" "
Benjamin Sprague,	"	" "
Leander Washburn,	"	" "
John Gray,	"	" F.
Samuel S. Hooper,	"	" "
Geo. E. Osgood,	"	" "
Samuel S. Southward,	"	" "
Geo. E. Burns,	"	" I.
Thomas F. Porter,	"	" "
Cutter, Miller, Wilson, Winslow of the schooner's crew.		

Capt. Erastus G. Dayton's injury proved more serious than seemed probable at first. It compelled him, by mid-summer of 1862, to give up his command and go home for treatment. In December of that year he was put in command of the steamer "Monitor," hospital transport between the Carolinas and Washington. 9 March, 1863. By the help of Gen. Burnside he was appointed Acting Ensign in the Navy and ordered, in June, to the "Wissahickon" off Charleston. He had charge of a boat in the ill-fated attack on Sumter, 8 Sept. '63, when our whole force was captured.

With his fellow officers he was confined in jail at Columbia, S. C. They were well treated and permitted to obtain, by flag of truce, such comforts as their friends at home could supply. The mere confinement, even under these comfortable circumstances, was more than the Captain's ardent spirit could endure. In company with an army officer, he escaped, one stormy night, and started for our lines in Tennessee. Space fails me to recount all the hardships endured in this attempt. Suffice it to say, he had reached within twenty-one miles of our lines and safety, when he was recaptured and reconsigned to rebel prisons. Ten of these, in turn, received him, till, at last, a mere skeleton, he reached Libby. Here his old comrades at Columbia heard of him, and secured his return to them. He was exchanged in October, '64, and allowed three months leave of absence. He was then ordered to the "Nereus" and, as a volunteer, was prominent in the attack on Fort Fisher. He served till the end of the war, and after muster out, found employment on shore. He never recovered from the effects of his wound, but, when he applied for a pension, was refused, on the ground that when wounded he was in the Quarter-Master's Department! He lived at The Forge, Cairo, Greene Co., N. Y. During a visit to a sister at Brooklyn, N. Y., he had an attack of pneumonia, and died 12 April, 1879, leaving a widow, one son and a daughter. Mrs. Dayton has secured by special bill, a pension of \$15.00 a month as widow of an Acting Ensign.

## CASUALTIES AT NEW BERNE.

KILLED.			
Merritt, Henry,	Lieut. Col.		
Gray, Charles H.,	Corporal,	Co. A.	
Morey, William,	Private,	" C.	
Potter, Walter A.,	"	" D.	
Churchill, Joseph L.,	"	" E.	
Ryan, James,	"	" H.	
Sillers, Donald,	"	" K.	

## CASUALTIES AT NEW BERNE.

69

## DIED OF WOUNDS.

Vasconcellos, Matthew,	Private,	Co. C.
Cavanagh, Charles,	"	" D.
Wallis, William, 2nd,	"	" G.
Williams, James E.,	"	" "
Pillsbury, Wilson M.,	"	" H.

## WOUNDED.

Fisher, Geo. A.,	2nd Lt.,	Co. A.
Winslow, William H.,	Sergeant,	" "
Andrews, William A.,	Corporal,	" "
Kelly, James W.,	Private,	" "
Paine, Joseph A., Jr.,	"	" "
Chenniel, Moses J.,	"	" B.
Cuthbertson, Hugh,	"	" "
Fenton, Patrick,	"	" "
Mears, Henry C.,	"	" "
Millett, Arthur C.,	Sergeant,	" C.
Blatchford, Charles,	Corporal,	" "
Butler, Frank,	"	" "
Atwood, Francis W.,	Private,	" "
Buffington, Hiram S.,	"	" "
Chapdellan, Oliver,	"	" "
Day, Charles,	"	" "
Flint, Samuel,	"	" "
Almy, Allen,	Corporal,	" D.
Bowman, Joshua B.,	"	" "
Hillman, Alexander H.,	Private,	" "
Jennings, Edward F.,	"	" "
Johnson, Samuel,	"	" "
Lake, Noah J.,	"	" "
Morse, Artemas,	"	" "
Sears, Charles H.,	"	" "
Alexander, Wm. B.,	Captain,	" E.
Terry, John D.,	Sergeant,	" "
Burbank, Asaph S.,	Corporal,	" "
Thayer, Benjamin,	Private,	" "
Robbins, Louis L.,	Corporal,	" F.
Brooks, Samuel H.,	Private,	" "
Brown, Ezra,	"	" "
Cummings, Edward,	"	" "
Pinkham, Wm. A.,	"	" "
Dodge, James,	Corporal,	" G.
Barry, Patrick,	Private,	" "

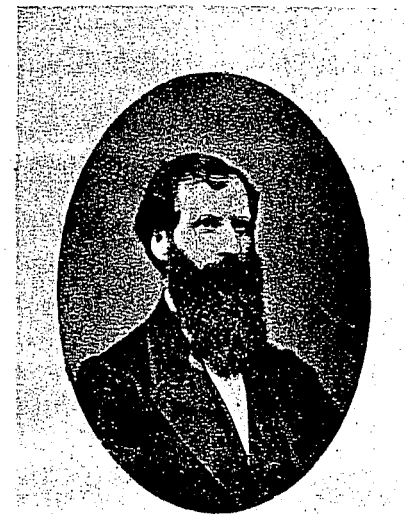


Glidden, John,	Private,	Co. G.
Sawyer, Wesley C.,	Captain,	" H.
Taylor, Walter,	Private,	" "
Willard, James M.,	"	" "
Foss, John C.,	"	" I.
Curtis, Charles H.,	"	" K.

Priv. C. H. Adams, carrying a message from Gen. Foster to Capt. Daniel Messenger, was taken prisoner and, with him, Captain Messenger's horse and outfit.

HENRY MERRITT son of David and Anne (Ashby) was born in Marblehead, Mass., 4 June, 1819.<sup>10</sup> 14 March, 1836. He enlisted in the Salem Mechanic Light Infantry, and, from that date, his connection with the militia service of his state was unbroken, till he was commissioned to represent her as Major of the 23rd M. V. Infy. From 1st Serg. of the Mechanics he was promoted to 1st Lieut. and Adjutant of the 6th M. V. M., acted many years in this capacity, and, following his Colonel, Joseph Andrews, when promoted to command of a brigade, he became Brigade Major and Inspector. He served in this capacity while Gen. Andrews commanded Fort Warren.

"He served an apprenticeship to the watchmaker's trade, with Jesse Smith, of Salem, and followed this trade for several years after becoming of age. He afterwards became a partner in the Express business with his father and brothers. Endearing himself to the regiment by his gentle thoughtfulness for its welfare at Lynnfield and Annapolis, he knit these bonds stronger by the self-sacrifice, which denied himself till the wants of the men were supplied, and, by the hardiness which made light of night-trips in row boats across the stormy waters of Hatteras. Men noted his coolness under fire at Roanoke, and his



LT. COL. HENRY MERRITT.

<sup>10</sup> An obituary of his much respected father and a sketch of the family may be found in Hist. Coll. Essex Inst., Vol. IV, p. 229.

cheery persistence in their struggle through its swamp, and, when word of the loss of the Lt. Col. passed along the line at New Berne, men mourned for they "loved him as a father."

As intimated above, Lt. Col. Merritt received his fatal wound very early in the action. The formation of the regiment, on the right company, had hardly proceeded beyond two companies, when he saw something which needed attention, and started from the flank to attend to it. As he passed along in the rear of so many of his fellow townsmen his affable remarks and courteous answers leave several with the impression that they heard his last words. One of those who bore him from the field sent to the newspapers a statement that the wounded officer had returned an intelligent "Yes," to the query whether he was ready to meet his Saviour. Others think this impossible. The nature and extent of the wound make it, at best, improbable.

His body, under charge of Sergt. Maj. Daniel H. Johnson, Jr., reached Boston at 5 P. M. on the 19th. Adj. Gen. W. S. Schouler, A. A. G. William Brown of Salem, a committee of the Salem City Government and many friends assembled to meet it. In charge of an Escort of Honor,—Maj. Newton and other commissioned officers of the 2nd Battalion, M. V. M., detailed at Headquarters,—it was taken, across the city, to the Eastern Railroad Station where a special train had been provided by Supt. Prescott. The funeral car was appropriately draped and carried the inscription, in gold letters:

"Lt. Col. Henry Merritt. We mourn his loss."

On Friday, the 21st of March, 1862, Salem, the home of his adoption and long residence, paused and put aside all her usual vocations, to honor her patriot dead. At an

early hour hundreds went to his late residence for a last look at their departed friend. He lay clad in the loose military overcoat which he had worn to the field. His face, singularly natural and fair, bore the aspect of sleep rather than of death. When the hour came for removal to a church for the public service, a friend stepped forward to cover the face. The Colonel's aged mother, even then nearly fourscore, gently interposed and performed this last service with the remark, "My son, I have covered you many times before in your cradle, now I do it for the last time and with the flag of your country."

The following lines, suggested by the incident, may be found in the *Boston Evening Transcript* of the 27th March, 1862.

THE MOTHER OF LT. COL. MERRITT.

BY CHISLON<sup>11</sup>.

Round the precious clay they gather  
That away must soon be hid  
From the eye of fond affection,  
Underneath the coffin-lid.  
One long look of love is given,  
— 'Tis the last they can bestow,—  
They the cherished face must cover,  
And, in sorrow, turn to go.

But the gentle mother, — bowing  
'Neath the weight of grief and pain,—  
Gazing on the placid features,  
Bids them from the task refrain.  
"Many times thy form I've covered,  
In thine innocence, my son,  
And, to-day, this last sad duty,  
By thy mother shall be done."

<sup>11</sup> Rev. Augustine Caldwell of Ipswich.

Then she calmly took the standard,  
He so nobly did uphold,  
Gently spread it o'er the sleeper,—  
Wrapped him in its starry fold.  
Precious faith, that made that mother  
Sweetly bow to God's dear will,  
Precious faith, that in that hour  
Bade the aching heart "be still."

Faith, that pointed through the darkness,  
To the realm of light above,  
Where the tender Father gathers  
All the children of His love.  
Happiness awaits that mother,  
A new joy to her is given;  
One the less on earth to love her  
One the more to greet in heaven.

Few of the assembled company could have imagined that the meeting suggested in the last verse could be delayed for more than twenty years, and that the already aged mother would have lingered here till she had reached within a little span, her five score years.

The local newspapers, from which much of the preceding account has been drawn, also record the imposing public ceremony with which Salem honored her illustrious dead. Not only were all available troops on escort duty but the people, in great numbers, thronged the South Church, where services were conducted by the Rev. G. D. Wildes, and afterwards, in spite of a cold storm, followed, in long procession, the remains of their fellow-townsmen to his untimely grave.

Col. Merritt's almost life-long comrades of the Salem *Mechanic Light Infantry* resolved "that — commencing his career as a soldier in our ranks, a quarter of a century ago, he has ever been regarded by us with affection, confidence and respect, in the various military positions of

honor and usefulness to which his energy and patriotism have advanced him."

The City Council of Salem, at a special meeting called by Mayor Webb, resolved "that—we bear cheerful testimony to the great worth of Col. Merritt, as a man of honor and integrity, whose private life was without blemish; as an exemplary and patriotic citizen, who at the call of his country freely offered his life in defence of her liberties and, as a soldier and officer, who has fallen, in the front of battle, in upholding the honor of our National flag."

When Captain Sawyer of 'H' was well enough, after the amputation of his left thigh, to start for home, Gen. Burnside, not only went with him to the boat, but, took personal care that he was comfortably lodged and properly attended. To the Captain's verbal offer to resign his commission, General Burnside turned a deaf ear; asserting that he would hear nothing about resignation, at least, until a proper pension had taken its place. From New York homeward, the tender interest of the people in their wounded soldiers, never, indeed, lacking; but, in that early spring of 1862, not yet dulled by the use of the following ensanguined years, struck our crippled Captain very forcibly.

As soon as he could hobble out with crutches, his services were called upon to encourage enlistments from the platform. On the 19th of September he was appointed, by Special Order, No. 916, from Head Quarters at Boston, Commandant of Camp Stevens at Groton Junction, Mass. Acting as a detailed officer of the 23rd Mass., he organized the 53rd Mass. Vol. Militia and by his usefulness here somewhat reconciled his former comrades to the loss of his valuable services in camp and field.

After he resigned, he travelled and studied in Europe

some four years. He was for some time a professor at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin. For two years he has been Director of the District Teachers' Institute and Professor at the Normal School, at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He received the degree Ph.D. from Göttingen in 1870.

In acknowledging, under date of 20 March, '62, the receipt of the flag captured by the 23rd at New Berne, Gov. John A. Andrew says, "The people of this state—Colonel—watch the achievements of their gallant regiments in N. Carolina, with feelings of such pride and admiration, as, if you could realize them, would be a partial compensation for your labors and your losses. Your commanding General, in whose impartiality, as well as gallantry, I have a perfect confidence, testifies to me most earnestly concerning the bravery, good discipline and good morals of every Massachusetts regiment in his Division. He looks to them as the backbone of his whole command. We look to them as eloquent witnesses testifying that the past fifty years of peaceful industry and mercantile pursuits did not emasculate the high tone and spirit of our people, and that our common schools have been the nurseries of brave soldiers as well as honest citizens . . . .

I have heard with the deepest regret of the death of Lieut. Colonel Merritt, an officer whose gentle and manly deportment (which I had an opportunity to observe in the camp) satisfied me that he possessed, in a large measure, those qualities which make a soldier admirable in the field."

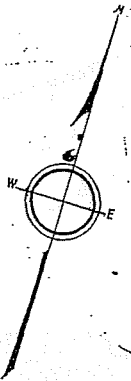
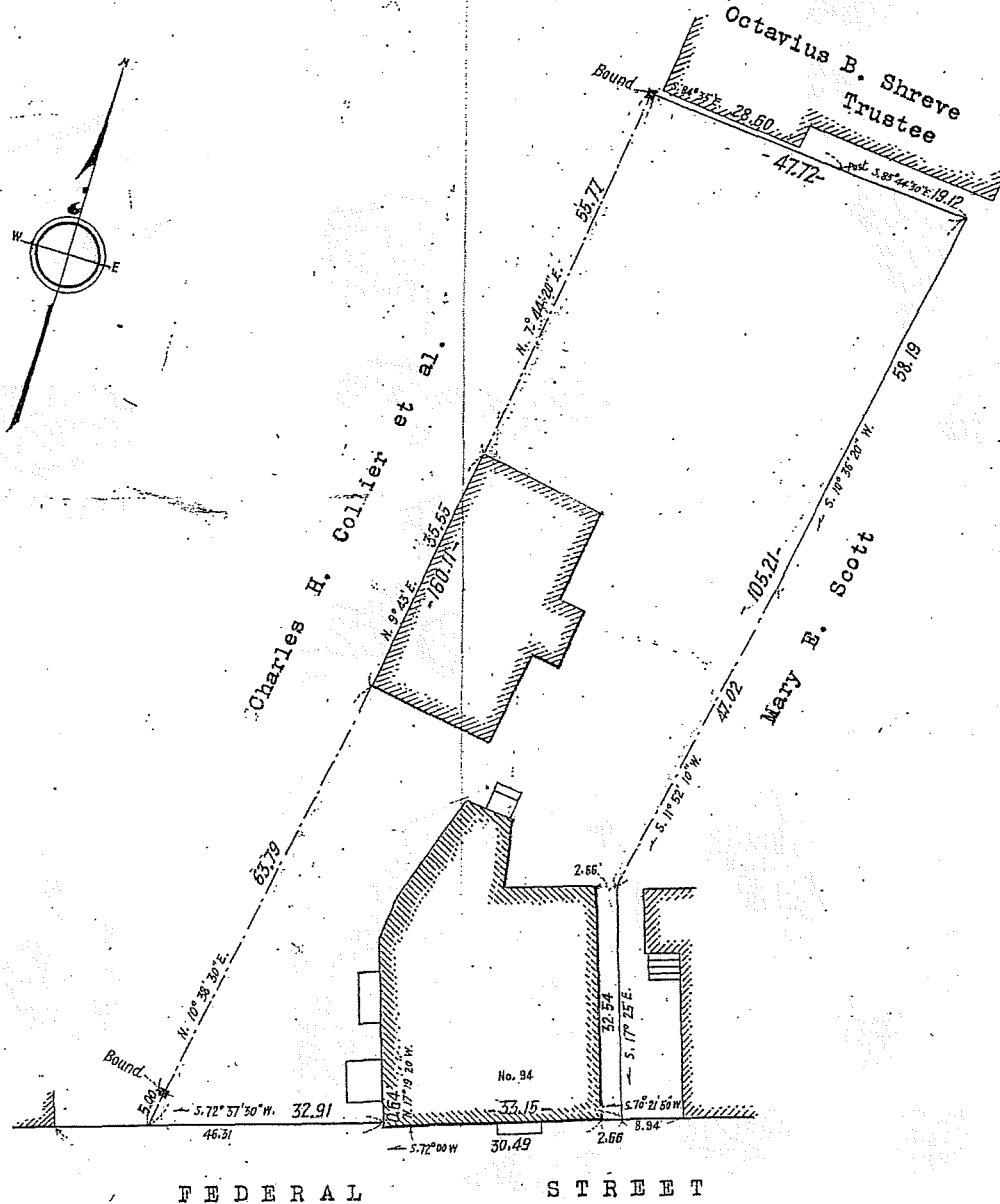
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PLAN OF LAND IN SALEM

Scale 10 feet to an inch

-JANUARY 1924-

Thomas A. Appleton, Surveyor



FEDERAL STREET

Case South Registry District,  
 Nov-24, 1924  
 RECEIVED AND FILED  
 WITH CERTIFICATE No. 5282

Copy of part of plan  
 filed in  
 LAND REGISTRATION OFFICE  
 JAN. 22, 1924  
 Scale of this plan 20 feet to an inch  
 C.B. Humbrey, Engineer for Court



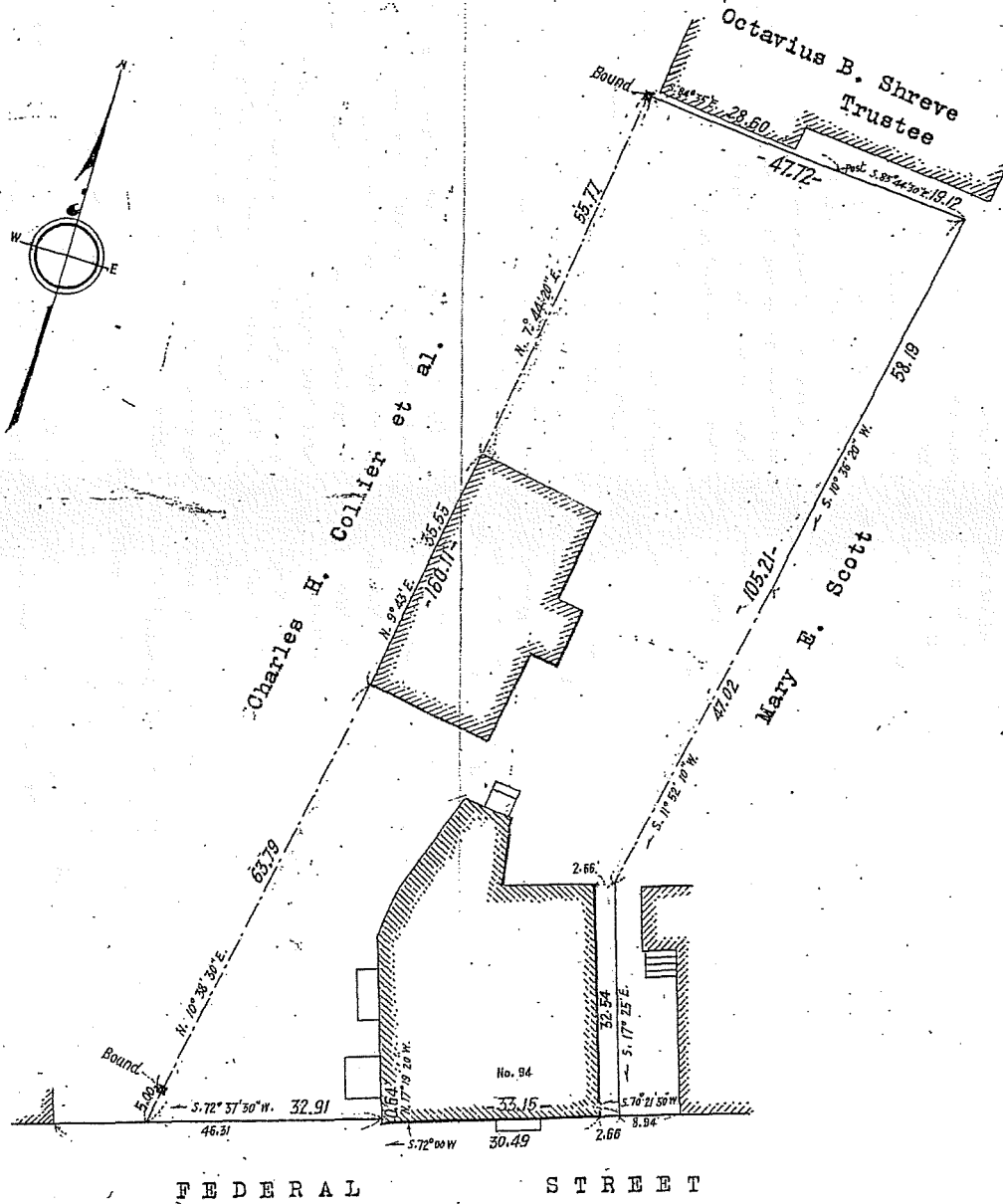
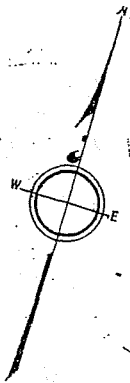
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## PLACE FIRST OCCUPIED BY THE TOWN OF IPSWICH.

From the phraseology used when grants of land were first made to people of Ipswich, it is evident that the town so denominated, by way of distinction, was located on the Neck. This was immediately bounded on the east by what is now known as Jeffrey's Neck. It appears that originally the whole Neck, the western part of which was selected for the town, was called after the same person. It seems that William Jeffrey had given name to this Neck, and also to the Creek, afterwards Manchester, before Agawam was settled, in 1633. To this point the following is adduced:

1628, Jeffry and Burslem are assessed £2 towards the expenses of the expedition against Morton, at Merry Mount. There can be but little doubt that Jeffry was, this year, a resident in the original bounds of Agawam, because no writer or document has shown that he had lived elsewhere, and two places within such territory very early received their names from his.

1634. Winthrop, speaking of Jeffry's handing him a letter from Morton, calls him "an old planter."

1666. William Jeffrey claims the Neck, of his name, in the limits of Ipswich. He is granted, of course, by the Colony of Massachusetts, five hundred acres of land, on the south "of our patent, to be a final issue of all claims, by virtue of any grant heretofore made by any Indians whatsoever."

## EXTRAORDINARY BLEEDERS OF HAMILTON.

There are about four families in this town, in 1834, called bleeders. Three of them are immediately, and the other mediately, related. The number of individuals so denominated, is about five. They are thus named from an

unusual propensity in their arteries and veins to bleed profusely, even from slight wounds. A cut, or other hurt upon them, assumes, at first, the common appearance. But after a week or fortnight, the injured part begins and continues for several days, to send forth almost a steady stream of blood, until the redness of this disappears, and it becomes nearly as colorless as water. A portion of the coagulated blood forms a cone, large or small according to the wound. The bleeding ceases when the cone, which has a minute aperture, and is very fetid, falls off. The persons thus constituted dare not submit to the operation of a lancet. They often bleed abundantly at the nose, and are subject to severe and premature rheumatism. Some of their predecessors have come to their end by wounds which are not considered by any means dangerous for people in general. This hemorrhage first appeared in the Appleton family, who brought it with them from England. None but males are bleeders, whose immediate children are not so, and whose daughters, only, have sons thus disposed. As to the precise proportion of these who may resemble their grandfathers in bleeding of this kind, past observation furnishes no data; it has been found altogether uncertain.

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN IPSWICH.

In 1814, more than 120 persons, about 1-12 of the Ipswich population, were aged 70 years and upwards, of whom 25 individually exceeded 80 years.

From 1785 to 1812 inclusive, there were, in the First Parish of Ipswich, comprising about 1000 souls, 72 deaths of 80 years and over, i. e., eleven of 80, three of 81, six of 82, eight of 83, seven of 84, seven of 85, four of 86, five of 87, five of 89, five of 90,

two of 91, one of 93, one of 95, two of 96, one of 97, three of 99, one of 102.

Of the preceding 72 deaths, there were thirty-four widows, five spinsters, four whose husbands were alive, twenty-eight males; and one whose christian name is not recorded so as to denote the sex. Of 71, then, forty-three were females, and twenty-eight males, making fifteen more females than males.

On the list whence these deaths were taken, there are several instances of aged husbands and wives dying nearly together, which confirms a remark frequently made to this effect, when one of an aged couple is taken away. It has been remarked by writers on longevity, that more women than men become old, but that fewer of the former become very old. This remark does not hold in reference to the seventy-two deaths previously mentioned, so far as their ages go. It is, however, probably correct, when it refers to ages of 110 and upwards.

Dr. Rush observed, that, in the course of his inquiries, he met with only one person above eighty, who had lived unmarried. But of the foregoing seventy-two, there are three exceeding eighty, one of them eighty-five, another eighty-seven, and a third ninety. The proportion of inhabitants dying annually in Ipswich and its offset settlements, is as about 1 to 50. This is considered as denoting a very favourable state of health.

## DAVID MERRITT.

For nearly seventeen years beyond the allotted term of life, this worthy and much respected citizen was seen in our streets, and found at his office, in vigorous transaction of his serviceable business. His life was various and eventful before he came among us, abounding in incidents, some of which would

be truly touching in narration. We can here give but a very brief outline of his experience.

Mr. Merritt was born in Ticehurst, a parish in Sussex County, England, 20th April, 1775, and died at Salem, Mass., on Monday, 28th July, 1862. His father, David Merritt, was born in 1745, in the Parish of Hawkhurst, County of Kent, England, settled at Ticehurst, and followed the trade of shoemaking, and died on the 18th of April, 1795. His mother, Elizabeth Badcock, was born in 1755, at Wilmington, a parish in Sussex County, England, and was, with three of her children and two of her grandchildren, lost at sea in the ship Jupiter, on the 6th of April, 1805, in a passage from London to New York, emigrating to this country. He was a member of a large family,\* whose livelihood was obtained by con-

\* David Merritt (and Elizabeth Badcock) were married at Hoe, Sussex County, England, in 1771, and had the following children:

1. Henry Merritt, born Nov. 1, 1772. Married in Jan'y, 1805, Mary Nye, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent County, England; in March following, embarked at London in the ill-fated ship Jupiter, were rescued from the wreck, heretofore noted, arrived at Marblehead, and settled there; had two children, David Nye Merritt, formerly a settled clergyman at Riga, Monroe County, N. Y., now in the New York Custom House, and a daughter Mary who died young. After the death of his wife, in 1810, he married 2dly, Susanna Powers; removed to Newburyport, where, on the 20th of February, 1821, he died early in the morning, and the same day, in the evening, died Susanna, his wife.
2. David Merritt, the subject of our notice, born April 20, 1775, died July 28, 1862.
3. Mary Merritt, born April 29, 1777, married, about the year 1797, John Penfold, and died early.
4. Elizabeth Merritt, born Sept. 30, 1778; died in London about the year 1816.



stant industry, severe economy, and mutual and most affectionate helpfulness. His educational advantages were limited to the little village school in his childhood, and to a term or two at a distance, when he was ten years of age. He made up, however, for the lack of the school, in an uncommon degree, by industrious self-culture. He loved books, and in his youth saved from very scanty earnings enough to purchase such works as Thompson's seasons, Young's Night Thoughts, and Paradise Lost. He took extraordinary pleasure in letter-writing. He began to correspond with friends when but fifteen years of age; and from this time onward, few persons of his position and advantages have improved the epistolary pen with keener relish to themselves, if not acceptableness to friends. We may here say, that, since his residence in this country, he has kept up a frequent and quite numerous correspondence with friends in the land of his birth. He had a similar intercourse, moreover, with many in this country. Letter-writing with him was no labor, but a delightful pastime. He also kept a journal of the incidents of his life, and the prominent events of the times.

5. Lucy Merritt, born Nov. 5, 1779, married about the year 1798, to Wm. Breach; had two children, who, together with themselves and many others, met an untimely death by the wreck of the ship Jupiter, on the 6th of April, 1805.

6. Thomas Merritt, born Feb. 4, 1781; died at the age of 18 years.

7. Jennima Merritt, born May 19, 1787; emigrated to this country with her brother David; married, at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., 31st Dec., 1805, Edmund Luff, a native of Northiam, Sussex, England. She now resides at Pillar Point, Jefferson County, N. Y.

8. Phebe Merritt, born June, 1790: was lost in the Jupiter, in 1805.

9. William Merritt, born Oct. 5, 1792; was also lost in the above catastrophe.

A circumstance occurred in his early manhood which introduced him to a wide circle of acquaintance, and gave a new impulse to his affections and intellect. He had been brought up in connexion with the Episcopal Church. While working at a mechanical trade\* at Tunbridge Wells, a celebrated watering place in England, he was providentially led to attend the preaching of a society of Dissenters. From that time religion assumed to him a new aspect. It became a living thing.

In addition to this, a severe sickness turned his thoughts in still deeper earnestness towards the concerns of the eternal life. He then became a member of the Dissenting communion. Soon, in connection with three other young men, he began what was then an altogether novel procedure, a course of evening conference meetings. These were held not only in the place of his abode, but in the neighboring villages. These conferences at length grew into Sunday meetings in the daytime, and preaching, at which he performed the services. Thus, for several years, at various places in two counties, he administered the Gospel in the new and living way which he had found. He asked no leave of the powers that were; he had no ordination, but travelled and spoke on the Sabbath as he was invited. During the other days of the week he was industrious at his secular employment with his hands, while his heart and intellect were preparing for the next service. His audiences were among the humblest classes.

\* Mr. Merritt served an apprenticeship, at Tunbridge Wells, county of Kent, to a House Carpenter and Joiner, and continued as a journeyman till his 26th year, when he returned to Ticehurst, and united with his brother Henry in the shoemaking business.

yet mingled among these were some liberal and intelligent persons, whose acquaintance secured aid and precious friendship to the devoted lay-preacher.

In consequence of his earnest activity in these religious associations, Mr. Merritt, in January, 1804, became acquainted with the family of Mr. William Ashby, of the town of Battle, thus named because of the great contest between William the Conqueror and King Harold of England. Mr. Ashby was the son of John Ashby, a native of Cookfield, Sussex County, and was born at Battle 3d April, 1756. He married, at Nye, 12 Nov., 1782, Anne Guy,\* followed the occupation conjointly of farming and shop-keeping; married, secondly, at Salem, on the 23d of December, 1840, Polly Mean,† the widow of Doct. Weekes; died at Salem, 15 Oct., 1848. He was the leader of the Dissenting Society in that place, and though a layman, often performed the preacher's duty. He was well read in political and ecclesiastical history. He loved all that was liberal, with a perfect enthusiasm. He admired and

\* Anne Guy was the second daughter of David Guy, a respectable Ironmonger in the town of Rye, County of Sussex, England, who, by long and industrious application to his business, had acquired a considerable property; a man of integrity and uprightness, a member of the Baptist Church, and was in part the author and compiler of some religious and moral tracts published at that time, and well calculated for usefulness; also the author of an universal index to Dr. Watts's Psalms and Hymns. Lived to a good old age, and died in the faith and hope of the Gospel. She was born at Rye, 3 Aug., 1754, died at Salem 28 Dec., 1831.

† Polly Mean was born in Northiam, England, 24th Dec., 1770; married 1st, in England, a Doct. Weekes. They had a son and a daughter, both of whom died in infancy. Married, 2dly, in Salem, Mass., on the 23d Dec., 1840, William Ashby. Died in Brookline, Mass., 17th Feb., 1860.

longed to enjoy the institutions of the United States. On the marriage of Mr. Merritt, to his eldest daughter Anne, he advised his emigration to our country, and proposed to follow him, with all his family, as soon as his affairs could be arranged. Mr. Merritt, also an earnest lover of freedom, with his youthful wife and her only brother,\* a mere youth, and one sister† from his own family, embarked at London for the United States, in August, 1804, in the ship Iris, Capt. Joseph Skinner, master, and arrived at New York on the 18th of the following October. After various interesting incidents on the ocean, and in the city of New York, the four emigrants established themselves in Utica. After a residence here of three months, they removed to Sackett's Harbor, where they continued for several years. The country, then, all around, was but newly settled, and the English emigrants encountered all the various hardships incident to this half wilderness condition. Here, however, Mr. Merritt at length found one peculiar solace; it became known that he had been a preacher in his na-

\* William Ashby, now residing at Newburyport, Mass. He married in Boston, 6 May, 1818, Elizabeth Terry; she was born in Brighton, England, 3d Oct., 1791, and died in Newburyport, 6th April, 1844. Their children were:

Maria Anna, married James Terry White, both of whom died leaving a son and daughter;  
William;  
Elizabeth Terry;  
Martha Terry, (deceased);  
Mark Terry;  
James Terry;  
Jane, (deceased);  
Annette Burfield.

He married 2dly, in December, 1844, widow Ann Gregory, daughter of Richard Ashby, of Battle, Sussex, England.

† Jennima Merritt, (see ante, note 1.)

tive country, and he was soon invited to perform religious services on the Sabbath in the new settlements of the region. In the absence of a regularly settled clergy, his services, deemed by himself very humble and imperfect, were considered by his hearers a privilege. He received no compensation for his ministrations. As he earned his livelihood by the labor of his hands, he made it a principle from the first, in England, to preach the gospel without pay. He acted on the same principle in this country. With one very trifling exception he received not the least emolument for the Sabbath-day work of many years.

In March, 1805, Mr. William Ashby, the father of Mrs. Merritt, with his family,\* a wife and four daughters, together with Mr. Merritt's mother, two brothers, and two sisters, set sail for the United States, to join the emigrants already here, as had been before arranged by the parties. The ship *Jupiter*, containing these passengers, was struck by an iceberg on the 6th of April, 1805, near the coast of Newfoundland, and sunk in half an hour. All of Mr. Merritt's own family,

\* The children of William and Anne Ashby, born at Battle, Sussex:

1. Anne Ashby, born 26 March, 1784, (Mrs. David Merritt,) now living in Salem.
2. Sarah Ashby, born 14 April, 1785, married in 1804, Henry Metcalf, a native of Robenden, county of Kent, England; lives at Hounsfeld, N. Y.
3. Mary Ashby, born 12 June, 1786; married Joseph Tracey French, of Jefferson County, N. Y. Died at Salem 7 Sept., 1839.
4. William Ashby, born 30 Dec., 1787; resides at Newburyport, Mass.
5. Elizabeth Ashby, born 1 March, 1789; married Joshua Putnam; resides at Brookline.
6. Jane Ashby, born 16 Aug., 1791; died at Marblehead, unmarried.

with the exception of his elder brother and wife, perished. Mr. Ashby and his family, together with others of the ship's company, escaped in the boats. The loss of the ship *Jupiter*, and the various accompanying circumstances, made a very deep impression upon this part of the country at the time, and excited the keenest sympathy for the sufferers. The effect of the distressing intelligence on that portion of the families now settled at Sackett's Harbor, may be imagined. Ever since their arrival in this country, they had been living in the happy anticipation of the coming of beloved relatives, who, together with themselves, were to form a sort of community, in mutual enjoyment of the best privileges of the New World. The disastrous shipwreck utterly blasted these expectations, and eventually changed the destiny of the two families.

Without detailing many interesting particulars, it may be stated that Mr. Merritt, together with his only brother, who escaped from the shipwreck, and a brother-in-law who first came over with him, engaged in trade in Marblehead, where the shipwrecked sufferers first landed, and received heartfelt sympathy and assistance. Here they continued for several years, having a branch of their business at Newburyport, which was superintended by the brothers. At length Mr. Merritt established his main business and residence in Salem, October, 1823.

While at Marblehead, as a matter of economy, the firm transported their goods from Boston in their own private conveyances. The neighboring traders at length asked the convenience of their carriages for their own goods. In this way Mr. Merritt, unexpectedly to himself, commenced a new line of business for the public, on settlement in Sa-

lem; the same was continued in connection with his own mercantile intercourse with Boston. At length, in consequence of severe sickness and other unforeseen circumstances, a failure ensued. Some new course was to be determined on. Mr. Merritt, by the aid of a few earnest friends, especially that of his beloved pastor, the late Rev. Henry Colman, now commenced, as a special avocation, the express and transportation business, which he and his sons, as partners and assistants, have so usefully to the public continued to the present time. It ought to be mentioned, in justice to our departed friend, that he at length discharged, dollar for dollar, his previous liabilities, with but one or two exceptions, considered perfectly honorable. Integrity and honor were the principles with which he set out, and he held fast to them to the end.

It may be added that our venerable friend was a sincere advocate of the great reforms of the day. Slavery and all its concomitants were his utmost aversion. He gave up a beloved son\* to the present demand of the coun-

\* Henry Merritt was born at Marblehead, June 4, 1819. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Hood. She and three children survive, — the oldest son having recently entered the military academy at West Point. He always took a great interest in military affairs. He enlisted in the Salem Mechanic Light Infantry March 14, 1836, and served in that company as Private and First Sergeant, until his promotion to the staff of Gen. Andrews, at that time Col. of the 6th Light Infantry Regiment. He was Adjutant of this Regiment many years, and since 1851 has been Brigade Major and Inspector of the 4th Brigade, under Gen. Andrews. Lieut. Col. Merritt received the commission which he held at the time of his death, upon the organization of the 23d Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, in the autumn of 1861, and he fell at the battle of Newbern, N. C., 14th March, 1862, bravely discharging his duty. Col. Kurtz, in his official report to Gov. Andrew, says,

try with the utmost cheerfulness; and he bore the tidings of his death on the field of battle with heroic fortitude. Surrounded by a family of loving sons and daughters, and their several families, his last long sickness had the most tender alleviations. He has now departed in a good old age, and his works follow him. Blessed are they that die in the Lord.

It is a singular coincidence that the day of Mr. Merritt's funeral commemorated the 58th anniversary of his marriage, which took place July 30th, 1804.

ABSTRACTS FROM WILLS, INVENTORIES, &c. ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF COURTS, SALEM, MASS.

COPIED BY IRA J. PATCH.

Continued from Vol. iv, page 175.

*Sam'l Gardner*, 8 mo., 1689.

Will of Samuel Gardner, of Salem dated 2d Oct. 1689, mentions sons Jonathan and Abel daughter, Hannah Gardner Margaret the daughter of Deliverance Parkman and

"His loss is a severe one to the Regiment and to the service, as well as to myself. He was a gallant officer and a firm friend, and the kindest hearted comrade I ever had, and I am sensibly affected by the casualty."

In early life he served an apprenticeship to the watchmaker's trade, with Jesse Smith, of Salem, and followed this occupation for the period of several years after having arrived at his majority. He afterwards became interested in the Express and Transportation business, in connection with his father and brothers, and continued in this employment until he enlisted in the service of his country, at the call of the Government. As a citizen he was highly esteemed, and enjoyed the friendship of a wide circle of acquaintances, and the general confidence of the whole community.

1 May 1767

Mary Toppin I know all. Men by these Presents I had. Mary Toppin  
of Salem in the County of Essex Widow In Consideration  
James Gould of thirty eight pounds eight shillings & six pence Lawful  
Money, paid me by James Gould of said Salem Housewright  
178:28 The Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge do hereby

give grant, sell and convey unto the said James Gould & to his  
Heirs. A piece of Land in said Salem containing thirty two  
poles & forty four hundredth parts of a pole bounded  
Southernly or Southeastwardly on a New Town Way seven poles  
& one Link of y<sup>e</sup> Chain Westerly or West Southernly on Land  
of John Bullock six poles & fifteen Links of the Chain  
Northerly or Northwesterly on the Beach six poles & seven  
Links of the Chain & Easterly or East Northerly on Land  
late of Sam<sup>r</sup>. Barnard Esq<sup>r</sup>. deceased three & twenty Links  
of the Chain with the privileges & Appurtenances thereof  
To Have & to Hold the same, to the said James Gould &  
to his Heirs, to his & their Use and behoof forever And I do  
Covenant with the said James Gould & his Heirs and  
Assigns, That I am lawfully seized in Fee of the Premises  
That they are free of all Incumbrances, That I have good  
Right to sell and convey the same to the said James Gould  
& to his Heirs to hold as aforesaid And that I will war-  
rant and defend the same to the said James Gould & to his  
Heirs and Assigns forever against the lawful Claims and  
Demands of all Persons In Witness whereof I hereto put my  
Hand & Seal the first Day of May A<sup>d</sup> 1767

Signed Sealed & Del<sup>d</sup> Mary Toppin Seal  
in presence of us - Josephs May 16<sup>th</sup> 1767 Then the within  
Benj<sup>n</sup> Pickman named Mary Toppin Personally  
Sam<sup>r</sup>. Holman. Appeared & acknowledged the within  
written Instrument to be her free deed before  
Joseph Bowditch Just. Of Peace  
Essexs Recd. on Record Feb<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1770 & entered same  
by Mrs. Higginson 12<sup>y</sup>

Know all men by these presents that I James Gould of Salem in the County of Essex State of Massachusetts do hereby give grant sell and convey unto the said Samuel Archer Junr his heirs and assigns a dwelling house in said Salem with the land under and adjoining the same with all other buildings on said land. which bounds as follows westerly on land of Benjamin Bullock five poles fifteen links of the chain this line extending from a street or way to the bank of the north river then bounds southerly or southeasterly on a street sixty five feet six inches then easterly or northeasterly on my own land twenty seven feet this line being six inches distant from the under-pinning of said house and parallel thereto then easterly on my own land till it comes to said bank then northerly by said bank to said Bullocks land the last eastern boundary being parallel with the western boundary and forty five feet distant therefrom measured on a line at right angles with said boundary together with all my interest in the wharf and flats situate northward of the premises which will fall between the eastern & western boundaries when extended to said river. To have and to hold the same to the said Samuel Archer Junr his heirs and assigns to his & their use and behoof forever and I do covenant with the said Samuel his heirs and assigns that I am lawfully seized in fee of the premises that they are free of all incumbrances that I have good right to sell and convey the same to the said Samuel to hold as aforesaid and that I will warrant and defend the same to the said Samuel his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and demands of any persons. In witness whereof the said James Gould & Lydia Gould have hereunto set our hands and seals this third day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety four -

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of  
 William Safford John Adams  
 James Gould Nathaniel  
 Lydia Gould Nathaniel

Essex Co Sept. 5. 1794 Then the above named James Gould acknowledged the above instrument to be his free deed. before me John Pickering Just. Peace  
 Essex Rec. Sept. 5. 1794 Recorded & Exam. by. John Pickering Regr

Inventory by the twenty first day of copure next, and to render an account by the twenty first day of January, 1812. This twenty first day of January, 1811.

Attest. Daniel Noyes Reg.

380  
181

Exam'd. for Daniel Noyes Reg.

An inventory of the estate of deacon James Gould, late of Salem in the county of Goulds Essex, housewright, deceased, appraised upon oath by us the subscribers, duly appointed to that service by the hon. Samuel Holten esquire, judge of probate of said county, viz.

House and lot of land in Federal Street	\$2000
One undivided half of a house and lot of land in South Salem (so called)	600
One new pair of shoes in the rev. Mr. Worcester's mending house	180
	<u>\$2180</u>
One silver watch \$6. - lot of books \$10. - one walnut desk \$3.50	\$19.50
Walnut 4 feet round table \$2.50. mahogany stand table \$2.50	5
Ditto small square table \$2.50. three small maple tables @ \$4.6 ea. \$2.25	11.75
Two kitchen tables and small looking glass \$2. ten joiners chairs @ \$1.5	
One round chair \$1.25. three arm ditto \$2. six kitchen ditto \$1.	11.25
One small looking glass (scratched) 75c. one small ditto 50c.	1.25
No 1. bed, bolster, pillows, bedstead and curtains	20
No 2. bed, bolster, pillows, bedstead and bed clothes on ditto	10
No 3. bed, bolster, pillows, bedstead and bedding	10
Twelve pair sheets \$1.8. - six pair pillow cases \$1.50	19.50
Four quilts and four bed blankets \$1.2. - four table cloths \$1.50	13.50
Twelve napkins \$1.20. one camblet cloak \$5.	6.20
	<u>\$120.95</u>
Three linen shirts \$3. a lot of china, crockery, glass and pottery ware and empty	11
One case of drawers \$3. 1 pair dog andirons, shovel and tongs \$2. <sup>cash \$8</sup>	5
1 pair bellows and a brush 75c. 1 pair dog andirons, shovel and tongs 75c.	1.50
Kitchen andirons, shovel, tongs and tammels \$3. - three chests \$3.50	6.50
One musket \$2. 3 old brass kettles and copper tea kettle \$6.	8
Lot of iron ware and old iron \$8. - 2 lb. tin pewter @ 14c per pound \$3.85	11.85
Hammer, hatch, gridiron and toaster \$1.25. 1 lot of old tools (carpenters) \$4.	5.25

6 small silver tea spoons \$1.50. half a dozen knives and forks \$1. - 2 old do. do.	2.50
Pair brass candle sticks (1 broken) 75c. - case empty bottles 50c.	1.25
1 pair of flat irons 20c. 1 old warming pan 50c.	.70
Salem, December 17, 1810.	<u>\$181.20</u>

William Safford,  
John Punchard,  
Robert Peele, } appraisers sworn.

Josiah Gould, administrator.

Essex, ss. Salem, January 21st, 1811. Then Mr. Josiah Gould, administrator, with the will annexed, presented the above written, and made oath, that it contained a true and perfect inventory of the estate of deacon James Gould, late of Salem aforesaid, housewright, deceased, testate, so far as has come to his hands or knowledge, and that, if any thing further shall hereafter appear, he will cause it to be added.

Before me, S. Holten, J. Probate

Exam'd. for Daniel Noyes Reg.

An inventory of the estate of Mr. Samuel Hazeltan, late of Salem, silk dyer, in the county of Essex, deceased, appraised upon oath by us the subscribers, duly appointed to that service by the hon. Samuel Holten esquire, judge of probate for said county, viz. - Real estate.

One end of a dwelling house, situated in said Salem, for a particular description see John Mackintire's deed to the deceased, recorded book 143, leaf 33	\$90
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(Inventory continued.)

Essex,  
State of  
New  
400  
50  
1450  
11/11  
2239  
2114  
8  
331  
176  
408  
115  
17  
150  
178-94  
170  
325  
41  
90  
105  
112  
1097  
550  
786  
6  
525  
566  
48  
198  
81  
3840  
sworn.  
mistaken  
referred  
widow,  
that, if  
also  
was  
to ex-  
by the  
25 Reg.

# Inventory of estate of Samuel Archer, 2 Jan. 1816 (2 pages)

We the subscribers, committee of a appraisal on the estate of Samuel Archer, junior, appointed to that service by the hon. Daniel S. White esquire, judge of probate for the county of Essex, having been first sworn, do return the following inventory of all the personal and real estate of the said Samuel Archer, junior, late of Essex County, deceased.

1 table, clothed diaper, etc.	3/11		
12 pair sheets 8/ pair	\$10		
7 bed quilts 12/ each	\$84		
7 bed blankets 12/ each	\$84		
12 diaper towels 1/ each	\$12		
1 bed, 1 bolster and 3 pillows	5 0/10		
1 do. 1 do.	3 7/10	}	
1 do. 1 do. 2 pillows	4 8/10		
1 do. 1 do.	5 1/10		
1 do. 1 do.	5 3/10		21 1/10 2/10
1 desk and bookcase \$16 - 1 day clock \$15 -			31 0/10
2 1/2 ounces of silver plate \$23 3/4 - Mahogany frame looking glass \$10 -			33 3/4
Coat of arms with glass and frame			2 -
Mahogany card table \$5 - 1 pair brass andirons \$4 50			9 50
8 writers, 4 large 4 small			8 - 196 1/4
Mahogany light stand 50c. 6 fan back chairs 3/ each \$2 -			5 50
1 arm chair \$1 25 - 6 flay bottom do. \$3 - 1 settee and cushion \$6 -			10 25
2 stools 25c. 3 pair bellows \$2 - 5 hearth and 2 clothes brushes 83c.			3 08
3 pair shovel and tongs			2 - 18 83
70 books 1/6 each \$17 50 - 23 10 quarter \$2 36			19 86 294 20
2 pair brass candlesticks \$2 50 - 2 pair iron do. 67c.			5 17
6 flat wares 2/ each \$2 - 1 pair muffers 60c.			2 60
1/2 dozen knives and forks \$1 - wearing apparel \$30 -			31 - 56 63
2 dining tables \$4 - 9 kitchen chairs 30c. each \$2 70			6 70
2 common light stands 20c. each 40c. 8 common tables 4/ each \$6 -			6 40
4 pieces carpet \$3 - 1 easy chair and cushion \$6 -			9 -
Mahogany bureau \$10 - 1 looking glass 15/ 1 do. 4/6 \$3 25			13 25
1 mahogany bedstead and cornice \$7 - 2 pictures 30c.			7 30 42 65
1 looking chair \$2 - 1 trunk \$3 - 2 sack bottom bedsteads \$7 50			12 30
1 common bureau \$1 - 1 do. \$2 - 5 under beds 40c. each \$2 -			5 -
1 curtain \$1 - 3 arm chairs \$1 25 - 1 bedstead 50c. 1 meal chest \$1 -			3 75
1 cradle, 2 wheels 70c. 1 table 25c. 6 buckets 1/ each \$1 -			1 95
1 water pot 3/ 1 stone 3/			1 - 24 20
3 small scales and weights			1 50 417 68
Printed articles of hard ware goods &c.			20 -
Sundry pieces iron ware \$7 - 3 oven lids and 3 tammels \$1 -			11 -
tin ware \$2 50 - pattern ware \$1 - 2 coffee mills \$1 -			4 50
Woodsen ware \$3 - china, glass, and crockery ware \$16 -			21 - 67 -
Woodsen articles, garden and other utensils			10 -

[Continued.]

[Continued]

Personal estate total amount \$50.18  
 Real estate consisting of house, land and barn and out houses,  
 Situate on Federal street in said Salem. } \$2333.33  
 Ephraim Comberton }  
 Josiah Woodbury } appraisers.  
 Archelaus Fuller }  
 Sarah Archer administratrix of said estate.

In a court of probate at Salem, January 2, 1816. Sarah Archer,  
 administratrix, presents the aforewritten, and makes oath, that it contains a true  
 and correct inventory of the estate of Samuel Archer junior, late of Salem in said  
 county, trader, deceased, intestate, so far as has come to her hands or knowledge,  
 and that if any thing further shall hereafter appear, she will cause it to be of  
 record herewith in the probate office; whereupon the same is accepted, and ordered to  
 be recorded.

D. A. White, J. Prob.

Recorded from the original, and examined by  
 Nath. Lord (registrar)

Essex, ss. At a court of probate holden at Ipswich in and for said County  
 on the first Tuesday in September, AD. 1815.

Ordered, That Sarah Archer, administratrix of the estate of  
 Samuel Archer junior, late of Salem in said county, trader, deceased, advertise her  
 being appointed administratrix as aforesaid, by causing notifications thereof to be posted up,  
 in some publick places in Salem aforesaid, and by publishing it in the Salem Gazette,  
 printed in Salem, within three months.

D. A. White, judge of probate.

Recorded from the original, and examined by  
 Nath. Lord (registrar)

Notice is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed admin-  
 istratrix of the estate of Samuel Archer junior, late of Salem in the county of Essex, trader,  
 deceased, and has taken upon herself that trust, by giving bonds, as the law directs.  
 All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit  
 the same; and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment  
 to  
 Sarah Archer.

The subscriber do testify and declare, that I have caused notifications  
 of my being appointed administratrix of the estate of Samuel Archer junior, late of  
 Salem in the county of Essex, trader, deceased, to be posted at some publick places in  
 Salem aforesaid, to wit, at the court house and Salem hotel, and also gave further  
 notice thereof, by causing the same to be published in the Salem Gazette, published  
 in Salem, within three months from the time of my taking upon myself the trust  
 aforesaid.

Worthy honorable Daniel A. White, esquire, judge of probate for the county of Essex, Archer  
 humbly shews Sarah Archer, of Salem in said county, widow, that she is the widow  
 of Samuel Archer junior, late of Salem aforesaid, trader, deceased, intestate; that said  
 intestate left a little personal estate, but not enough for the payment of his debts. She  
 therefore prays that your honor would make her such allowance for necessaries out  
 of his personal estate, as to law and justice may appertain. Sarah Archer,  
 June 4, 1816.

Essex, ss. At a court of probate holden at Ipswich in and for said county on the first  
 Tuesday in June, A.D. 1816. - Ordered, that Sarah Archer, widow of Samuel Archer  
 junior, late of Salem in said county, trader, deceased, intestate, and administratrix of the  
 estate of said intestate, take to her own use, as an allowance for necessaries, so much  
 of his personal estate, in such articles as she may choose, as shall amount to one  
 hundred dollars, agreeably to the inventory of said estate on record in the probate  
 office; and she shall be allowed therefor on settling her account of administration of said  
 estate.

D. A. White, judge of probate.

Recorded from the original, and examined by Nath. Lord Jr., register.

Essex, ss. A list of debts against the estate of Samuel Archer junior, late of Salem in said Archer  
 county, trader, deceased, intestate, exhibited to the hon<sup>ble</sup> Daniel A. White, esquire, judge of probate  
 for said county, by Sarah Archer, administratrix of said estate, this fourth day of June, A.D. 1816, -  
 viz. - Due to Rebecca Cabot \$880. - to Margaret Symonds \$500. - \$1380. -

To Samuel Bradlee	24.25	to Josiah Woodbury	43.14	-	67.39
To Asa Flanders	29.26	to E. and C. Treadwell	106	-	135.26
To John Scobie	36.79	to Samuel Crane	83.85	-	120.64
To Pyram Dodge	17	to Joseph D. Chandler	22	-	39
To Charles Richardson	8.70	to Mary Felt	20.54	-	29.24
To William Knight	24.61	to B. L. Oliver	6.75	-	31.36
To Benjamin Pittredge	11	to Daniel Lang	50	-	61
To Calphalat Kimball	64.23	to Kimball and Cogswell	142.50	-	206.73
Funeral charges	20	paid William Dean	8	-	28
Charges of administration (say)				-	100
Allowance to widow for necessaries				-	100
					<u>\$2298.62</u>

Sarah Archer, administratrix.

Essex, ss. At a court of probate holden at Ipswich in and for said county on the first Tuesday in  
 June, A.D. 1816. - Sarah Archer, administratrix, makes oath to the truth of the above  
 written list of debts, and the same is accepted, and ordered to be recorded.

D. A. White, J. Prob.

Recorded from the original, and examined by Nath. Lord Jr., register.



Ellis Mansfield inventory 6 July 1821

Be it remembered that an inventory of the estate of the late Mansfield late of Salem in the county of Essex gentleman deceased intestate was taken and taken up by the subscribers duly appointed to that service by the honorable Daniel N. White Esquire judge of probate of wills &c

Personal estate and

1 four feet table mahogany \$2- - card table \$2.50	\$5.00
1 mahogany stand table \$1.50 light stained 75c	2.25
1 looking glass \$7- - 13 far back chairs at 30c pr	10.90
Shovel and tongs \$3- - old carpet \$2-	5.00
Five carpet 75c one tea tray \$1- - No 1 bed bolster and pillows \$16-	17.75
Birch bedstead \$7.50 six joiner's chairs with covers \$1- pr	13.50
Mahogany easy chair and covering \$3- gilt looking glass \$3-	6.00
No 2 bed bolster and pillows \$10- mahogany bedstead \$5-	15.00
No 3 bed \$5- bedstead and under bed \$2- mahogany bureau \$3-	10.00
Dressing glass \$1.25 part of chest of drawers 50c	1.75
Weaving apparel \$28- - round table \$1.50	29.50
2 kitchen tables \$1- small looking glass 30c	1.30
Andirons shovel and tongs \$1.50 - two brass lamps and candlesticks \$1.50	3.00
2 tin candlesticks 20c 5 flat irons \$1.25 bellows and brush 75c	2.20
Folding board and clothes horse \$1- boy knives and forks \$1-	2.00
Set of crockery and glass ware \$5- tin ware \$6- iron ware \$3.50	14.50
3 old walters 25c lot of Danvers ware 50c two tea pots \$1.25	2.00
13 sheets \$6.50 nine pillow cases \$1.50 - three quilts \$3-	11.00
5 blankets \$5- three table cloths \$3- 12 towels \$2-	10.00
Small bible and sundry books \$1.50 plated cream pitcher 75c	2.25
Box silver spoons \$1.10 pr. ave. hoe and 2 rakes \$1.25 - cash on hand \$16-	23.85
	<u>\$189.25</u>

Salem July 6, 1821.  
Jonathan Archer, administrator

Joseph Lambert  
James Adell  
Daniel Sage } committee

Know all Men by these Presents, That we Eliza H. Mansfield singlewoman, Maria Eliza H. Mansfield M. Steyer widow, Harriet Mansfield singlewoman, and Joseph H. Lord trader, with Judith Lord his wife in his right, all of Salem in the County of Essex, in consideration of the sum of nineteen David Merritt hundred and fifty dollars paid us by David Merritt of Salem aforesaid trader, the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge, do hereby grant, bargain, sell, and convey unto from the said David Merritt and his heirs and assigns a certain messuage in Salem aforesaid, consisting of a dwelling house and land under and adjoining, bounded as follows, to wit, northerly by the North river, easterly by land now a title of Joseph Gould, southerly by Federal Street, and westerly by land now a title of John Grant, with the appurtenances. The granted premises being the same real estate which was lately conveyed to us by Edward Southwick by his deed dated the thirtieth day of April now last past. To have and to hold the granted and bargained premises with the appurtenances to him the said David Merritt and his heirs and assigns to his and their use and benefit forever. And the said Eliza H. Mansfield, Maria M. Steyer, Harriet Mansfield for themselves severally and respectively and their respective heirs, executors and administrators, and the said Joseph H. Lord for himself and the said Judith his wife, his and her heirs, executors and administrators do hereby covenant and with the said David Merritt and his heirs and assigns, that they the said Eliza, Maria and Harriet in their own right, and the said Joseph and Judith his wife in her right, are lawfully seized in fee of the premises; that they are free of all incumbrances; that they have good right to sell and convey the same to the said David Merritt in the manner aforesaid, and that they will warrant and defend the same to him the said David Merritt and his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons. All WITNES whereof we the said Eliza H. Mansfield, Maria M. Steyer, Harriet Mansfield, Joseph H. Lord and Judith Lord have hereunto set our hands and seals this fourteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty five

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of us  
 George Fisher      Jno. Pickering  
 Esqrs. May 16<sup>th</sup> 1825. Then the above named  
 Eliza H. Mansfield, Maria M. Steyer and  
 Harriet Mansfield and Judith M. Lord and Joseph H. Lord personally appeared and  
 acknowledged the above instrument by them signed to be their deed  
 before me      Jno. Pickering Justice of the Peace  
 Essex ss. Received May 16. 1825. recorded and examined by Anna Choate Day

Eliza H. Mansfield . . . seal  
 Maria M. Steyer . . . seal  
 Harriet Mansfield . . . seal  
 Judith M. Lord . . . seal  
 Joseph H. Lord . . . seal

David Merritt

Know all Men by these Presents, That I David Merritt of Salem in the County of Essex trader, in consideration of fourteen hundred and fifty dollars paid me by Eliza H. Mansfield M. Steyer widow, Harriet Mansfield singlewoman, and Judith Lord wife of Joseph H. Lord trader, all of Salem aforesaid, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, sell and convey unto the said Eliza H. Mansfield, Maria M. Steyer, Harriet Mansfield and Judith Lord (with the consent of said Joseph H. Lord testified by his signing and reading these presents) and their heirs and assigns a certain messuage in Salem aforesaid consisting of a dwelling house and land under and adjoining, bounded as follows, to wit, northerly by the North river, easterly by land now a title of Joseph Gould, southerly by Federal Street and westerly by land now a title of John Grant, with the appurtenances. The premises being the same real estate which was

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Merrill  
David, Sen.  
carrier test  
Will  
1859

probated 1867

I David Merrill of Salem, in the county of Essex and state of Massachusetts, carrier, being vigorous in body and sound in mind, do on this the thirteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty nine, devise, make and declare this my last will and testament in manner following.

Item I will that all my just debts be first paid, of which is the sum of nine hundred dollars due my son David Merrill junior.

Item I give and bequeath to my wife, Anne (Ashby) Merrill and my daughter Emily Merrill, each one hundred and fifty dollars a year, during their lives.

Item After the decease of the above legatees, I will that the principal be divided equally between my six children, namely; Anne Ashby Buttrick, William Merrill, Jane Ashby Agge, David Merrill junior, Alfred Spencer Merrill and Mary Burston, - Provided the amount so divided shall not exceed six thousand dollars, to them and their heirs and assigns.

Item If the property I may leave shall exceed in value six thousand dollars, I will that all over and above six thousand dollars shall be equally divided between my eight children, namely, Anne Ashby Buttrick, Eliza Lauff, William Merrill, Jane Ashby Agge, Henry Merrill, David Merrill junior, Alfred Spencer Merrill and Mary Burston, to them and their heirs and assigns.

Lastly I do constitute and appoint my sons William Merrill and David Merrill junior, executors of this my last will and testament, and I do hereby authorize and empower them to sell the whole or any part of my real estate and convey the same by sufficient deeds if it shall become necessary for the maintenance of my wife and daughter aforesaid, or if it shall, in their opinion, be for the interest of my said legatees, to sell the same.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this (6) thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty nine.

Witnessed and declared by the above named David Merrill to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator and of each other  
A. H. Burston  
E. A. Burston  
Henry Ashbaugh  
H. H. Burston

David Merrill Seal  
A. Goodell registrar

Attest records

Prob. Act. 334. 117

57  
1881

**SARAH E. SHERMAN, M. D.,**

**94 FEDERAL STREET,**

**SALEM, MASS.**

OFFICE HOURS, from 7 to 8 A.M., 2 to 4 and 7 to 8 P.M.

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DEALER IN  
**BOOTS & SHOES.**  
**CHILDREN'S SHOES**  
Of every description.  
403½ ESSEX ST., SALEM.  
Repairing neatly and promptly  
executed.

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**MRS. BABBOCK,**  
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**TOILET ARTICLES.**  
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Prepares Medicines for all Curable Diseases. Has great practice and gives general  
satisfaction.  
No. 161 BOSTON STREET, SALEM, MASS.

OFFICE HOURS, from 1 to 4 and 7 to 9 P. M.

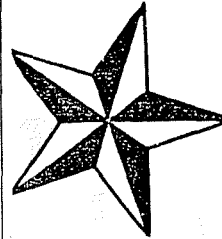
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**BAKER,**  
53½ Summer St., Salem.  
Dinner and Supper Rolls made to  
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**BEANS and BROWN BREAD** every  
Sunday Morning.  
A continuance of your patronage is  
respectfully solicited.

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200½ ESSEX ST.,  
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Orders by mail promptly attended to,  
and customers called on with Samples.

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**PHYSICIAN and SURGEON,**  
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**HENRY POOR,**  
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*Salem, Mass.*

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1 to 3, and 7 to 9 P.M.

Funeral Wreaths and Wedding  
Flowers furnished at short  
notice.

**L. W. SYMONDS,**  
*(Successor to B. F. TURELL.)*  
**CAKE & PASTRY BAKER,**  
KEEPS CONSTANTLY ON HAND CAKE AND PASTRY OF A SUPERIOR  
QUALITY. HOT BISCUIT EVERY AFTERNOON. PARTICULAR  
ATTENTION PAID TO MAKING WEDDING CAKE OF THE  
BEST QUALITY, AND ORNAMENTED IN FIRST  
CLASS STYLE AT SHORT NOTICE.  
**56 CHARTER STREET, SALEM, MASS.**

**MARY E. B. WELCH, M. D.**  
*(Formerly MARY E. BREED.)*  
No. 280½ ESSEX STREET, SALEM, MASS.  
OFFICE HOURS;  
Mondays and Thursdays, from 1½ to 4½ P.M.

**J. PERLEY,**  
**BOOKBINDER,**  
**2 ST. PETER STREET, SALEM.**

**info@historicsalem.org**

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**From:** Elizabeth Gardner [elizabethmgardner@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 18, 2016 5:27 PM  
**To:** info@historicsalem.org  
**Subject:** 94 Federal St history

Hi there,

My fiance and I just moved into an apartment at 94 Federal St in Salem, and since we have a plaque on our house (1770, James Gould, housewright), we were wondering if you have a copy of the house history that we could purchase?

Thanks for any information you might have!

Best,  
Liz

--

[elizabethmgardner@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethmgardner@gmail.com)  
508.828.0003

email w/ HH PDF