

4-10 Central Street & 193-195 Essex Street, Salem

According to available evidence, this building was built in 1805 for the merchants B. Herbert Hathorne and W. Shepard Gray, as a brick block that housed stores and a residence.

Before 1805...

Sidney Perley, in the article "A Part of Salem in 1700" (pp.109-110, *Essex Antiquarian*, vol. 11), writes that on the site of this building was the lot, with house, that William Browne sold to Thomas Cromwell, tailor, in 1664. After Cromwell's death (17 March 1686/7), in 1690 his widow, Ann, and two daughters, Mrs. Jonathan (Jane) Pickering and Mrs. David (Ann) Phippen, sold the house and land to Benjamin Browne, merchant (ED 8:170), who had a stable and warehouse farther down the street, and his shipping wharf at its foot. By 1693 he had sold the house and its land to David Phippen, shipwright, son-in-law of the earlier owner Mr. Cromwell. Mr. Phippen died in 1703, leaving his widow Ann, son Thomas Phippen, and daughters Abigail Furneux, Anne Ropes, and Elizabeth Webb. In May, 1714, John Brown, merchant, bought the house and land; and by the time of his death in 1719 the house was evidently gone.

This property was owned by Hon. Benjamin Browne at his death in 1750.

In the 1760s a Scotch sailor, Robert Rantoul, came to Salem and settled here. He prospered as a shipmaster, and sailed against the British in the Revolution, and made money as a privateer; and, toward the end of the Revolutionary War, Capt. Rantoul, on 5 December 1782 for 850 li purchased from the heirs of Hon. Benjamin Browne (John & Martha Browne and Timothy & Eunice Fitch) a lot and buildings at the westerly corner of the "main street" (Essex) and "the lane leading to the water" (Central), about 20 poles of land fronting 50' northerly on the street, and 120' easterly on the lane. There was "a warehouse or small building standing on the northeast corner thereof." Capt. Rantoul intended to build his residence thereon, and on Dec. 20th contracted with Eleazer Lindsey to supply the rocks for a cellar 40' square and 6.5' deep. Unfortunately, Capt. Rantoul was lost at sea on his next voyage (see EIHC 5:147).

At that time, Central Street--"the lane leading to the water," also known as "the street leading from the Sun tavern to the South River"—terminated in a public

landing on the inner harbor (South River), at a point just south of its present intersection with Charter and Front Streets. The "lane" became Market Street as of 1794, when, at the foot of the street, a new market building was erected for the sale of fish, shellfish, meat, and produce from the countryside. Later it would be re-named Central Street, probably c.1816, when a new Market Building was built at Derby Square.

The corner property remained in the ownership of the Rantoul family for many years; and on the land stood at least one house and three shops, one of them being the small warehouse mentioned in the 1782 deed to Capt. Rantoul. The Rantoul family resided on Essex Street, opposite Union. Robert Rantoul (1778-1858), in a memoir of his life and family, mentions his father's ownership of this property and notes that it was sold in November, 1804, to W.S. Gray and B.H. Hathorne for \$8500, and that "Gray and Hathorne build a brick block of stores and houses upon it" (EIHC 5:149). This statement is corroborated by Benjamin F. Browne, in his *Youthful Recollections of Salem*, published in 1869 (EIHC 49:204), in which he wrote that a house had been "removed (to Andrew Street) from Central Street to make room for the Central building, erected by W.S. Gray and Benj. H. Hathorne, in 1805. This house belonged to "Joseph Young, hatter, and organist of St Peter's Church, who died April 21, 1803, aged 46." In another piece, B.F. Browne wrote, "Previous to the erection of the Central Building in 1805, there were several old wooden buildings on this lot of land... The western shop I principally remember as being kept by a Mrs. Baldwin. Nathaniel Weston had a shoemaker's shop in one of them. It (Mrs. Baldwin's) was much resorted to by the boys of that time for the purchase of marbles and other knickknacks. The old lady came to an untimely end (March, 1808) from eating bread in the meal of which some arsenic had been incautiously used in the bread. Joseph Young had a hatter's shop and dwelling house on Central Street. It was moved to Andrew Street..." (EIHC 5:197).

There are other records of the buildings that stood here before 1805. Samuel Webb, silversmith, had a shop here on Central Street, pre-1805 (see B.F. Browne, 1869 *Youthful Recollections of Salem*, EIHC 49:204). And in his 1793 *Account of Houses in Salem* (EIHC 6:94), Benjamin Pickman mentions that, on land owned by the widow "Rental" (Rantoul), stood, on Essex Street, a shop owned by Mr. William King. To the west of that shop had stood two small houses that had burned down in 1792. To the west of those houses, on Essex Street, stood the house of Dr. Edward Augustus Holyoke (1728-1829). East of the King shop, also on land of Mrs. Rantoul, stood a "hatter's shop, owned by Mr. Breck the hatter." Col. Pickman identified the corner property as "formerly owned by the Brownes."

In July, 1792, Edward Breck, Salem hatter, purchased for 15 li the east end of a house that was “standing on the land of Rentall’s heirs” (ED 154:265). The house was the one that was owned by Joseph Young, hatter, who may have resided in its westerly end, and who had mortgaged the easterly end in 1787 and lost it on foreclosure. Mr. Breck mortgaged his new homestead to Mrs. Mary Rantoul for 30 li, and paid off the loan by April, 1795 (ED 154:266).

Rev. William Bentley, in his diary, gives an account of the 1792 fire, on August 30th. The fire broke out at 1 PM in Young’s hatter’s shop, which stood opposite the Sun Tavern (on north side of Essex Street). Next to the shop were the small dwellings of the widows Beckford and Manning. The season had been dry, and the firefighters were disorganized: the fire spread westerly from the shop to the “small house” next door, which could not be saved; and the firefighters quickly demolished the house next westerly, to keep the fire from spreading. Mrs. Manning in particular suffered greatly from her losses in this fire. Mr. Bentley was one of the fire-fighters, and, in order to get the water up to the fire, stood waist-deep in “the dock mud below the Sun Tavern,” meaning next to the wharf at the foot of Market Street.

From this, it would appear that, in the years before the present Hathorne-Gray block was built, there was a hatter’s shop at or near the corner of Essex and Market (Central) in 1793, conducted by both Breck and Young, and that the Breck-Young house on Market Street was removed to Andrew Street in 1805 to make way for the building of this large new business block. Also on or near the corner was the shop of the ill-fated Mrs. Baldwin. On Essex Street, west of the corner, also on the site of this building, was the shop of William King; and to the south, on Market Street, was Samuel Webb’s silversmith shop, along with the shoemaker’s shop of Nathaniel Weston. Too, Samuel Rantoul, son of the deceased owner, kept an apothecary shop here. Samuel died in June, 1802, while away from Salem. Bentley noted in his diary, 13 June 1802, “The father of S. Rantoul sustained an excellent character and died just before I came to Salem. His widow lived in the same house in which I first dwelt. The father left a good interest and to his heirs belongs the western corner of Market Street in Essex Street, at which Samuel kept an apothecary’s shop. Robert keeps an apothecary’s shop in Beverly.” Robert, after whom Rantoul Street in Beverly is named, became a leading man of Essex County.

Before April, 1800, the store at the corner of the two streets was operated by John Dabney, stationer, as a post office and a book store—one of the earliest attempts at a private lending library, which was renowned for the excellence of its volumes. On 29 April 1800 for \$400 Mr. Dabney sold his building, on the Rantouls’ land, to Robert Rantoul (ED 168:69).

1805 and Afterward...

On 3 November 1804 the Rantoul heirs sold the premises here for \$8,500 to William Shepard Gray and Benjamin Herbert Hathorne, Salem merchants (ED 175:108). The property was described as a piece of land containing about 20 poles, bounded northerly on Essex Street, easterly on market Street, and southerly and westerly on land of Dr. Edward A. Holyoke; and it was stipulated that the Rantouls “and others who have placed and have buildings standing on said piece of land,” had “the right to move the same buildings and each of them from the same place of land upon paying the ground rent ... within four months from this day.” Presumably the Rantouls and the others did clear their buildings off the land by February, 1805; certainly the Young house was moved to Andrew Street and perhaps the shops and other buildings also found new sites.

The new owners, Messrs. Gray & Hathorne, on the day of the purchase, took out mortgages from Miss Polly Rantoul of Salem for \$2,833.33 and from her brother, Robert Rantoul, Beverly apothecary, for \$4,666.66 (ED 175:108,109). Thus the merchants had but \$1,000 in equity invested in the property at the time of purchase.

There is little doubt that Messrs. Gray & Hathorne had big plans for the site at the time that they bought it. Perhaps they had gone to Samuel McIntire, the noted Salem architect, for a design for their intended brick business block, which also included at least one residential unit. In his study of the works of McIntire, Fiske Kimball was unable to uncover proof of McIntire’s involvement in the project, but, due to the carving of the eagle for one of the new tenants, the U.S. Custom House, and due to the building’s similarity to a known McIntire composition (the Stearns & Waldo block, now gone, once at the northeast corner of Essex & Washington), he felt that Samuel McIntire was likely the designer (see Kimball’s **Mr. Samuel McIntire, Carver, The Architect of Salem**). Kimball also traces the whereabouts of some of the building’s interior fittings, which were dispersed to various houses over the years.

For Mr. Gray, the building was evidently an investment and an income-producer; for Mr. Hathorne, it was also the new home of his import dry-goods business. Benjamin H. Hathorne (1773-1824) dealt in British textiles—blankets and cloths—in the days when there were virtually no textiles manufactured in America. On Oct. 2, 1805, he submitted an advertisement to the Salem *Register* newspaper. The notice began, “**Benj. H. Hathorne Has Removed to the New Brick STORE, corner of Essex and Market Street, near the Banks, and has ready for sale, a great variety of Fall and Winter Goods,**” which are enumerated. The building was completed and occupied, then, by

September of 1805. It was not at first called the Central Building, but was given that name by 1808.

Another early tenant was the firm of Derby & Cross, tailors, whose store was here by Nov. 28, 1805. Their advertisement (sample: Salem Register, 6 Jan. 1806) ran "Derby & Cross, Tailors, respectfully inform their friends and the public, that they have removed from their former stand to the chamber fronting Market and Essex Streets, of the new brick building, where they will be happy to receive orders in their line, and every favor gratefully acknowledged. Wanted: Two Journeymen at the above."

A major tenant of the new brick building was the U.S. Custom House, for which Samuel McIntire carved the eagle with the date 1805. At that time, Market Street was the major thoroughfare to the waterside of the inner harbor (South River), which ran past the market place; and the area was thick with the masts of vessels tied up alongside wharves and warehouses. From the foot of Market Street, Front Street ran westerly along the waterfront, while Fish Street and Water Streets ran past the buildings whose yards backed against the wall of the Burying Point graveyard. These salty streets had houses, wharves, stores, lofts, shops, and distilleries. Market Street made the transition from the hurly-burly of the waterfront to the residences and stores of Essex Street. On the lower part of Market Street, between the new Hathorne-Gray building and Front Street, were houses; and across the street were fine houses (including some marching up Charter Street), a tavern, and a bank building and insurance office. At the moment that the new building was built, one of the houses across the street was the double residence of Nathaniel Bowditch, the navigator and author (and new president of an insurance company) and Col. William Raymond Lee, formerly of Marblehead, whom Jefferson had in 1802 appointed Collector of the Port of Salem & Beverly, and at whose direction the U.S. Custom House was moved to the new brick building of Hathorne & Gray. Bowditch moved in the year 1805 to Summer Street, but Col. Lee remained a resident of Market Street.

The colonial (royal) Custom House in Salem had been situated in a house on Gedney Court, off High Street, and later on Essex Street in a building that was demolished to prevent the spread of the great fire of October, 1774. In 1776 Warwick Palfrey was appointed the first Collector of U.S. Customs in Salem; and his office was located at or near the Curwen house (now called the "Witch House"), corner of Essex and North Streets. Mr. Palfrey was succeeded in 1784 by Maj. Joseph Hiller. Major Hiller served ably for 18 years, during the last 13 of which the Custom House offices were kept in a building across the street from the site of this one. How many rooms here were devoted to the federal Customs operations in 1805 is not known; certainly not the whole building. In those days, Salem was one of the leading ports of the nation, and the value

of Salem cargoes accounted for about one-twentieth of all federal revenues, which were largely derived from tariffs on foreign imports. At that time, Salem's merchants owned a total of 54 ships, 18 barks, and 72 brigs (there were 86 schooners as well, probably engaged in fishing and coasting for wood).

In 1807, per D.M. Little's article, the Custom House offices were moved to the house of Mr. Bentley's great friend Dr. Moses Little at 131 Essex Street, and in 1811 to the Archer Building (site of Hawthorne Hotel); however, I believe this could not be completely true, for in May, 1809, just after the Embargo was lifted, the Custom House offices were evidently on the second or third floor of the Central (Hathorne-Gray) Building (see 1809 Peter Lander advertisement below). In 1813, per the article, the Custom House offices were moved back into the Central Building here; and evidently Col. William R. Lee, the Collector, also had his residence here. The Central Building here remained the home of the Custom House until the opening of the new building at the head of Derby Wharf, the handsome brick U.S. Custom House, now part of the federal maritime park. (For information about the Custom House and Collectors, see R.S. Rantoul's article, *The Port of Salem*, EIHC 10:62; see also EIHC 67:11, David M. Little's article, *History of the Salem Custom House*)).

Of the owners of the building, their careers were in full swing as of 1805.

Benjamin Herbert Hathorne (1773-1824) was born on 9 Sept 1773, the son of Col. John Hathorne and his wife Susannah Herbert, the daughter of Capt. Benjamin Herbert, after whom Herbert Street was named. His father was a prominent merchant in Salem, with a large brick house built in 1774-1775 in Essex Street west of Washington Street, which is where Benjamin grew up, the eldest of 14 children. In the house was Col. Hathorne's dry-goods store (EIHC 6:108). By early manhood, Benjamin H. was known as Herbert Hathorne. His brothers John and William were merchants as well, and his eccentric younger brother Ebenezer (1789-1858) would become a mariner and adventurer who went west but finally settled down in Salem as a farmer and nurseryman. The Colonel, a prominent local Jeffersonian politician, had his town house and a farmhouse on Salem Neck, around where the power plant complex now is. In 1809 he moved permanently to the farmhouse (where he would die in 1835), and sold the town house to his son William, who rented it to Joshua Dodge in 1809. Like all Salem Hathornes of that time, Benjamin's father was descended from Col. John Hathorne, one of the justices of the witchcraft trials in 1692. The Hathorne family had been prominent in early Salem history, but by 1800 they were of varying fortunes. Col. John's branch was foremost.

One of Benjamin Herbert Hathorne's first cousins was Capt. Nathaniel Hathorne (1775-1808), of Union Street, whose son, Nathaniel Jr., born in 1804, would grow up to

become Hawthorne, the writer. Hawthorne changed the spelling of the name because he did not like the way that “Hathorne” was pronounced, especially in Salem, where it was invariably pronounced “Har-thorne.”

On 31 July 1799, “Herbert Harthorne married Miss Hall”, per the diary of Miss Susanna Holyoke (1779-1860) (see **Holyoke Diaries**, p.175). This is the only record of this marriage. Miss Hall was Rebecca Hall, evidently from Boston. The couple would not have children, but would adopt a daughter, Rebecca Hathorne Hall, born in 1813, evidently a daughter of Mrs. Hall’s brother James. As has been noted, B. Herbert Hathorne went into business as a dry goods merchant, importing English textiles and selling them here in his shop, which faced on Essex Street. In March, 1808, for \$5,000 he mortgaged his half-interest in the land and the “large brick tenement thereon ... known by the name of Central building” (ED 182:233).

Wm. Shepard Gray (1773-1824), the other owner of the building, was born in Salem on 30 July 1773, the son of a house-painter, William Gray, and his wife Susannah Shepard. His father owned a house on the north side of Charter Street, not far from Central Street. The son changed his name by an act of the legislature in 1798, from William to William Shepard Gray, because there were five other William Grays in Salem at the time, including William “Billy” Gray, the eminent merchant, to whom this Gray was not related. Wm. Shepard Gray married Ann Knight Morland in Newburyport in 1798. In August, 1800, he was described as “a scribe” when he purchased a piece of land and a house on upper Federal Street. In 1805 it seems that he worked for the Essex Bank, preparing loan documents and other instruments. He would later become a ship-owner and merchant while maintaining his position with the Essex Bank.

In 1805 a bridge was built across the South River, extending Market Street across the water and connecting it with a new roadway (now known as Lafayette Street) through the South Fields. The new bridge, which was proposed by the Derby family as a convenience and in order to help develop their South Salem holdings, was opposed by the Crowninshields and by William Orne, Joshua Ward, and others who owned wharves west of it on the South River. At the time of the building of the bridge, evidently, the market house was moved away.

On 3 November 1807 William Bentley made his first visit to the Hathorne-Gray building, which now housed the Essex Lodge of Masons. The Lodge, he noted, “has a new hall in the new brick building, corner of Essex & Market Streets, on the west side entering Market Street. It was handsomely decorated, the officers enthroned and the floors spread with carpets and the officers supplied with badges and the apartment with furniture far above the ancient style. I had never seen the place before. We had a full

company, an initiation lecture, and a good supper, and parted apparently well pleased with each other.”

On 12 December 1808, Rev. William Bentley composed a letter to William Logan of Charleston, in which he wrote, “Were you to visit Salem, you would discover great changes in this town, since your last tarry with us. The encouragement given to brick buildings has added much to the appearance of Salem. A large block of buildings forms the corner of Market Street, and the market house is removed, and a bridge passes over South River...” (EIHC 82:381). This was the period of the Embargo, in which all foreign commerce was prohibited by the federal government, in an effort to cut off England from needed supplies, and force the English to stop preying on American shipping. The Embargo, which was a policy failure and which was disastrous in bringing all of Salem’s commerce to a halt, and throwing all of the mariners out of work, was removed early in 1809; and foreign commerce resumed.

In May, 1809, Peter Lander, a financial broker, moved into the building, which was then known as the Central Building. On 10 May 1809 (in the Essex Register newspaper), a notice ran as follows:

“Insurance, Stock & Exchange Office. Peter Lander informs his friends and the public that he has taken an office in Central Building, under the Custom House, and offers his services in the Insurance Stock & Exchange business, where insurance may be made against all risks, a premium always named proportioned to the nature of the risk, and the terms and conditions of insurance known upon application. Likewise, (he) advances money on goods deposited for sale, purchases and sells public stocks, bills of exchange, shares of any bank and insurance companies, and negotiable notes, and transacts any other business in the broker’s line.”

He also noted “8,000 or 10,000 weight heft green Martinique coffee in casks, for sale by said Lander.”

In the same issue William Hathorne, Jr., ran advertisements offering his father’s former brick house and two stores for sale, and hawking

“Cotton Yarn, cheap as can be had at the Manufactory. American, water-spun, cotton warp & filling, directly from the Smithfield Cotton Manufactory, for sale at the sign of the subscriber, William Hathorne, Jr., also a small quantity of first quality knitting yarn.”

From this, it is apparent that William dealt (sometimes, anyway) in the new American-made cotton yarns manufactured in Rhode Island; and he had a store here. In 1810,

another tenant was the Salem Athenaeum, whose library of books and reading rooms were located here.

In June, 1810, Mr. W. Shepard Gray was owner of the 113-ton brig *Mary*, Capt. William Scallon, engaged in foreign trade; and in October, 1810, Mr. Gray and Robert Morland (his brother-in-law perhaps) were owners of the same vessel, now commanded by Capt. William Lander (EIHC 41:144). In December, 1810, he and two others owned the 133-ton schooner *Eliza*, registered for foreign trade under Capt. Nathaniel Archer (EIHC 40:72). In February, 1811, Mr. Gray was one of five owners of the 128-ton schooner *Rising States*, Capt. Samuel Lamson, engaged in foreign trade (EIHC 41:329). In March, 1812, he was sole owner of the *Rising States*, Capt. Peter Lander, registered for overseas trade (EIHC 41:329). And in September, 1812, he was owner of the brig *Mary*, registered for trade under Capt. Benjamin Archer (EIHC 41:144).

Messrs. Hathorne and Gray owned the building jointly until 16 January 1811, when they made a division of the property, with Gray receiving the largest portion (ED 192:198). To Hathorne went \$500 and the northern end of the lot, with the buildings on and cellar under, fronting 33' on Market Street, the running 40' westerly through the northerly partition wall, then running another 10' on a piece of land left in common, then running northerly 29' by land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq., then running easterly 50' on Essex Street, together with a right of the eaves droppings at the south side of the southwesterly corner of the buildings (probably for a supply of fresh water). The partition wall separated the two parts of the building, but did not extend through the roof; if it were to be so extended, the two parties agreed to bear equal expense. To Gray went \$10 and the southern part of the premises, on which stood the "dwelling house, stores, and other buildings, and the cellars under the same," and the land fronting easterly 87' on Market Street, southerly 50' and westerly 82' on land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq., then running easterly 10' on the land left in common, then running northerly 9' to the northerly partition wall, then easterly through the wall to Market Street. From this, it would seem that part of the southerly part of the building was used as a residence. Mr. Gray evidently did not live there, but resided in a new house that he had built on Federal Street. As the son of a house-painter, he had made an extraordinary leap upward in socio-economic rank.

Salem had 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 Salem had opposed the war as being potentially ruinous and primarily for the benefit of the southern and western war-hawk states, yet 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 *Constitution*. Many more

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

Salem erected forts and batteries on its Neck, to discourage the British warships that cruised these waters. In June, 1813, off Marblehead Neck, the British frigate *Shannon* defeated the U.S. Navy frigate *Chesapeake*. Salem's Federalists, some of whom continued to oppose the war bitterly, would not allow their churches to be used for the funeral of the *Chesapeake*'s slain commander, James Lawrence ("Don't give up the ship!").

In the fall of 1813, Cushing & Appleton evidently had a bookstore in the corner store in Mr. Hathorne's part of the building. On 12 October 1813 in the *Salem Gazette*, Cushing & Appleton advertised the sale of Spanish cigars and of Oliver Welch's new book, *American Arithmetic*, "adapted to the currency of the U.S., to which is added a concise treatise on the mensuration of planes and solids..." At the same store was a subscription list for those who wished to sign up for Mr. Vincent Masi's new "school for dancing." John Fenno, broker, probably with offices in the Central Building at the time, placed this ad (*Gazette*, 12 Oct. 1813):

"For Sale. Shares in Mercantile Bank. Shares in Salem Bank. Shares in Beverly Bank. Apply to John W. Fenno, Broker, who buys and sells bills of all incorporated banks in the Union. U.S. Treasury Notes negotiated. Also, approved endorsed Notes, at Bank discount. Wanted: shares in Salem Turnpike, and a Mass. State Note for \$1000 or \$1200. Exchange on Baltimore for sale as above."

In April, 1814, the people gathered along the shores of Salem Neck as three sails appeared on the horizon and came sailing on for Salem Bay. These vessels proved to be the mighty *Constitution* in the lead, pursued by the smaller British frigates *Tenedos* and *Endymion*. The breeze was light, and the British vessels gained, but Old Ironsides made it safely into Marblehead Harbor, to the cheers of thousands.

In June, 1814, at the meeting of the Essex Guards militia company, W. Shepard Gray was elected lieutenant, but he declined to serve (EIHC 57:257). On 4 July 1814 the Essex Guards paraded through Salem, and Mr. Gray served as one of the four Marshals of the Day, with an oration delivered by Leverett Saltonstall (EIHC 57:268).

On land, the war went poorly for the United States, as the British captured Washington, DC, and burned the Capitol and the White House. At sea, as time wore on, Salem's vessels often were captured, and its men imprisoned or killed. After almost three years, the war was bleeding the town dry, and the menfolk were disappearing. Hundreds of Salem men and boys were in British prison-ships and at Dartmoor Prison in England. At the Hartford Convention in 1814, New England Federalist delegates met to consider what they could do to bring the war to a close and to restore the region's commerce. Sen. Timothy Pickering of Salem led the extreme Federalists in proposing an ultimatum threatening 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 more reasonable message to Congress.

At last, in February, 1815, peace was restored. Post-war, the Salem merchants rebuilt their fleets and resumed their worldwide trade, slowly at first, and then to great effect. A new U.S. Custom House would be built in 1819, on the site of the George Crowninshield mansion, at the head of Derby Wharf.

In the spring of 1815, Jonathan P. Saunders, auctioneer, town clerk (later if not then), and map-maker, had his office at the Central Building. On 19 April 1815 in the *Essex Register* he advertised for sale "at J.P. Saunders' Store, Central Building, Market Street, the sale of the library of the late Rev. Thomas Barnard (appended to this report). In 1820 he would publish his "Plan of the Town of Salem," an excellent chart of the city, its streets, and landmarks.

In the fall of 1815, one of the major tenants of the building was R. F. Cloutman, who dealt in glass, crockery, and hard-ware (see appended advertisement, 25 Oct. 1815, *Essex Register*). His stock consisted of everything from fish-hooks to spectacles to shovels to elegant tea-trays, decanters, tumblers, dinner-ware. He was still running his ads in November, 1816: "at his old stand, Central Building," he offered "a full assortment of crockery, china, glass, and hardware," including tea sets, Canton and London dining sets, sickles, cutlery, pins, viol strings, Dutch brushes, coffee mills, English shovels, etc. (appended to this report).

The pre-war partisan politics of the town were not resumed post-war, as the middle-class “mechanics” (artisans) became more powerful and brought about civic harmony, largely through the Salem Charitable Mechanic Association (founded 1817). Salem men continued to hold high places in the federal government: Benjamin W. Crowninshield was formerly Secretary of the Navy, among other things. It was he who arranged for Rev. William Bentley to have his portrait painted by James Frothingham, who was then residing in Salem. In his diary, Bentley noted that on 20 Nov. 1818 Mr. Crowninshield escorted him to “the apartments of a painter named Frothingham, from Charlestown,” where they saw several fine portraits and some paper profiles. Bentley, evidently impressed, agreed to sit for Frothingham. On Nov. 23 he recorded that he went “to Mr. Frothingham’s at the Central buildings ... and had my first sitting” that evening. The result was a famous portrait (now displayed in East India Marine Hall at the Peabody Essex Museum) of Mr. Bentley, one of the most extraordinary men of his time. Later, James Frothingham had his studio on Essex Street; and in 1825 or so he moved to Boston, and then to New York City.

In 1818 there was still good money to be made in Salem’s maritime trade, but it required a higher level of skill and perspicacity than it had in 1805. As Bentley wrote in his diary in 1811, “While we (in Salem) went before the wind, credit was boundless and success followed every adventurer. Since the wind has changed, few have skill enough to navigate the troubled seas.” Evidently Mr. Hathorne had the right stuff; but Mr. Gray’s skills were of a different sort.

W. Shepard Gray, as cashier of the Essex Bank for many years, was in a position of high trust in Salem: he was, in effect, the manager of the Bank, and had access to all of its assets, some of which were in the form of coins and specie put on deposit by merchants and shipmasters. One depositor was Maj. Israel Foster of Marblehead, a prominent merchant and relative of Col. W.R. Lee, the Collector of Customs in Salem (and possibly the inhabitant of the residential part of the central Building). Maj. Foster had deposited a large barrel of specie with the Essex Bank.

In the summer of 1818, W. Shepard Gray took an extended vacation away from Salem. Eventually, the Bank directors became suspicious. Early in September, 1818, they concluded that the Bank had been robbed. At the time, Bentley wrote in his diary (Sept. 5), “every inquiry detects the most fraudulent practices. A deposit of doubloons by Foster of Marblehead has been violated, false contracts made, and fraud practiced not only in its most artful but most shameful forms. Yet not one word has appeared as yet, but (just) a notice that the Cashier, who has long

been away, has been removed. Suspicions rise in every form, and Salem lays under the worst imputations.”

In fact, Shepard Gray, the Bank’s Cashier, and James King, the Bank’s Clerk, had embezzled a great deal of money from the Bank. Gray, who had left Salem, and King, who had resigned but stayed in town, had offered the Bank’s directors \$20,000, when the losses evidently amounted to about \$200,000 (see Bentley, Sept. 11). It would appear that Gray, King, and their partner Capt. Joseph Moseley, a Virginian who had settled in Salem (see B.F. Browne, 1869 *Youthful Recollections of Salem*, EIHC 49:200), had invested in highly speculative ventures, and had lost much of their money, which they replaced with money deposited at the bank. In Foster’s barrel of specie, they had placed ballast stones, leaving an inch or two of coins at the top. All the rest of the Foster money, \$40,000 allegedly, was gone (the matter would later go to court, in a famous case about the liability of banks).

In November, 1818, the Grand Jury found against Gray and King “for a conspiracy to defraud the Bank and for violation of trust and the depredations made on the deposits and bank interest” (per Bentley, Nov. 6). The Essex Bank directors had handled most of the matters in secrecy, including a negotiation with Gray and King, in which terms were given and accepted. The whole matter caused much alarm and discontent in Salem, many of whose people had money deposited there. Some were distraught, and one died of the shock (Bentley, *ibid*): “the widow of Edward Pulling, Esq., was buried this day, an undoubted victim to her feelings upon the loss of her property in the Essex Bank. Most of the stock-holders are widows and orphans.”

In June, 1819, Mr. Bentley reflected on the dissension among the shareholders of the Essex Bank, which was, in fact, about to fold. “The subscribers are disposed to make their richer members pay the loss. The President declined his office repeatedly and undertook not to be obliged to issue any money in his signature. But the offenders had kindred and associates in the board. To whomsoever it may extend, it was one of the most deliberate, persevering, and complete frauds that ever was in any country accomplished--and among a people distinguished by their close attention, we might almost say avarice, in money matters. The business, when it becomes a public investigation, threatens great divisions and warm contentions.”

Mr. W.S. Gray evidently never returned to Salem, but would die in Cambridge, on 27 May 1824, aged about 51 years.

At the time (1819) that Mr. Gray disappeared and the Custom House offices were moved to their new quarters, B.H. Hathorne resided in the brick Hathorne house on Essex Street (evidently 243-5, south side, just west of Washington), probably with a tenant, Dr. Nathaniel Peabody, and family (1820 census, p. 71). Earlier, Dr. Peabody had lived in the house of B.H.H.'s brother William, on Essex Street at the south corner of Cambridge (see EIHC 21:219). Dr. Peabody was then the father of 7 children, of whom one, Sophia, an artist, would grow up and become the wife of Nathaniel Hawthorne (BHH's first cousin, once removed), while another, Elizabeth P. Peabody, a teacher, became one of the most important education theorists and reformers in America. In the household of Mr. B.H. Hathorne in 1820 were himself, a boy, his wife, two girls, and one young woman.

Augustus J. Archer, a dry goods merchant, wrote a series of articles for the *Salem Gazette* in the early months of 1890, on the subject of Essex Street in 1820. In this series, he related the history of "the brick building built by Benjamin H. Hathorne and William Gray, extending into Central Street, and there occupied by the custom house until 1819, when the U. S. Custom House was built. On the corner of Essex Street, Cushing & Appleton, succeeded by James R. Buffum, as a book store, were located. Wm. Hathorne had the western one; he was an Importer of broadcloths and dry goods. The *Salem Register* was then established in its present quarters, Warwick Palfrey, Jr., the sole editor. From this, it would seem that in 1820 the corner store of Hathorne's part of the building was occupied by Cushing & Appleton, the store next westerly was occupied as a dry goods store by William Hathorne, and the upstairs rooms were used as the office of the *Salem Register* newspaper (as they would be for decades).

In 1820 the part of the building that fronted on Central Street, and had belonged to Mr. Gray, was sold to Samuel Tucker, a Salem merchant, for \$5825.75, by John Morland, Roxbury merchant (\$800 in May), who was probably W.S. Gray's brother-in-law and may have held a mortgage on the property, and by Joseph S. Cabot, Salem gentleman (\$5025.75 in September), who had foreclosed a mortgage on W.S. Gray on 2 July 1819 (ED 222:266, 225:114). In Mr. Cabot's deed, it is specified that the property consisted of "the dwelling house in which Samuel Tucker now resides and of the other apartments in Central Building, so-called;" and in Mr. Morland's deed it mentions the "dwelling house, stores, other buildings, and cellar under". So there is little doubt but that Mr. Gray's part of the building contained a portion that had been reserved (perhaps since 1805) as a residence. Samuel Tucker, the new owner, resided here in 1820.

Of this same time (c.1820) Mr. A.J. Archer reminisced as follows. "On Central Street, Dana & Fenno had an office for the sale of lottery tickets and a general brokerage

business, having a Boston connection. E H. Payson had charge of this office and tells me he was the person who built the first coal fire in Salem. Mr. Dana had seen them in Boston and employed John Chamberlain, mason, to set a grate in his office; Mr. Payson built the fire, and says people used to come in by the dozens to see it. One evening he went to bed leaving the blower up, having forgot to remove it; of course it became red hot, and so alarmed the passers-by that they rushed in hot haste to tell him his office was on fire. The Insurance offices next adopted the grate, and it spread rapidly into general use. The first furnace in the city was put in by Mr. Chamberlain at his brother's, B. Porter Chamberlain, who owned and occupied the old assembly house on Federal street. The chambers and offices on Central Street were occupied by the Salem Savings Bank, incorporated 1818; when first organized, Willard Peele was president, and Daniel Bray treasurer. Capt. Peter Lander and his son, Peter Jr., had a private insurance office for underwriters. Henry Pickering Esq. had a law office. The Salem *Courier*, Charles A. Andrew, was started here Sept. 7, 1828; it was short lived. In 1830 the Salem Light Infantry had two rooms in the second story for their armory."

In The Salem *Gazette* of 1 Feb. 1820, Cushing & Appleton advertised "Gold Leaf" and "Almanacks for 1820," and the Salem Brewery announced that "strong and table beer, porter, ale, yeast, porter bottles, corks, hops, malt, bottled cider, and a complete assortment of cordials" were available at the Salem Brewery, and at the store, corner of Essex and Cambridge Streets, also from 11 to half past 1 at the Central Building."

In 1824, B. Herbert Hathorne died (as did W.S. Gray). Mr. Hathorne owned his part of the building outright, and owned a very large stock of dry goods, which were enumerated in the inventory of his estate (appended to this report). By his 1823 last will, he devised to his wife Rebecca cash, personal effects, and lifetime use of some real estate which was to devolve to his nephew B.H. Hathorne (Jr.) after the deaths of his wife and adopted daughter. His "land at the corner of Central Street and Essex Street with the buildings thereon, called the Central building," he devised in trust to his brother William Hathorne for the benefit of his sons; and upon his death it was to go the same nephew, B.H. Hathorne (Jr.). He devised \$1000 in trust for his adopted daughter, and left generous cash bequests to other relatives. The property here would remain in the ownership of Hathornes throughout the rest of the 19th century.

The 1820s was a decade of challenges for Salem. It struggled successfully to maintain its overseas commerce and to open new markets for its shipping, in Madagascar (1820), which supplied tallow and ivory, and Zanzibar (1825), whence came gum copal, used to make varnish. This opened a huge and lucrative trade in which Salem dominated, and its vessels thus gained access to all of the east African ports. From 1827 to 1870, there were 189 arrivals in Salem from

Zanzibar, carrying ivory, gum copal, and coffee. But in the 1820s Salem's national influence slipped, and it was unable to develop a manufacturing base. Salem's general maritime foreign commerce fell off sharply in the late 1820s. Imports, which were the cargoes in Salem ships, were supplanted by American goods, now being produced in great quantities. The interior of the country was being opened for settlement, and many Salemites moved away to these new lands of opportunity. To the north, the falls of the Merrimack River powered large new textile mills (Lowell was founded in 1823), which created great wealth for their investors; and in general it seemed that the tide of opportunity was ebbing away from Salem.

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 focused on damming the North River. The project, which began with much promise, was suspended (before construction began) 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 November, 1826, Joseph H. Prince, counselor at law, advertised in the Salem *Gazette* his "removal" from "from his late office, in Central Building, to the office formerly occupied by Hon. John Pickering, in Court Street." This event, seemingly so obscure, points to a sad fact: John Pickering VI, the ultimate Salem citizen, had decided to take his family and his talents to Boston, where they were settled by the spring of 1827.

In 1830 occurred a horrifying crime that brought disgrace to Salem. Old Capt. Joseph White, a wealthy merchant, owned and 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 local crime-boss who killed himself at the Salem Jail), hired by his friends, Capt. White's own relatives, Capt. Joseph Knapp and his brother Frank (they were executed by hanging). The results of the investigation and trial uncovered much that was lurid about Salem, and more of the respectable families quit the notorious town.

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

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

One inspiration was the Salem Laboratory, Salem’s first science-based manufacturing enterprise, founded in 1813 to produce chemicals. At the plant built in 1818 in North Salem on the North River, the production of alum and blue vitriol was a specialty; and it proved a very successful business. Salem’s whale-fishery, active for many years in the early 1800s, led, in the 1830s, to the manufacturing of high-quality candles at Stage Point, along with machine oils. The candles proved very popular. Lead-manufacturing began in the 1820s, and grew large after 1830, when Wyman’s gristmills on the Forest River were retooled for making high-quality white lead and sheet lead (the approach to Marblehead is still called Lead Mills Hill, although the empty mill buildings burned down in 1960s).

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

The occupants of this building in the 1830s were the Salem Light Infantry (armory here in 1830), newspapers, banks, etc.

Rev. Benjamin Herbert Hathorne (Jr.), a Lynn bachelor clergyman (nephew of the first BHH), the owner of the Hathorne part of the property (worth \$6,000 in 1837), died in 1837, having willed all of his property to his father, William, two sisters, and three brothers, with the survivor to inherit the full ownership.

In 1836 (per the Essex Memorial, published in that year), the “Central Building” tenants included two newspaper offices: that of the *Essex Register* and that of the *Commercial Advertiser*. The *Register* in 1836 was published by Palfray and Chapman twice a week and was Whig in politics; the *Advertiser*, founded in 1832 and edited by Palfray & Cook, was published weekly and was Democrat in politics. In those days, the Whigs and the Democrats maintained their own reading rooms: the former was in Holyoke Place, off Essex Street, while the latter was located here at the “Central Building.”

Also here in 1836 (per the 1837 Salem Directory) were the offices of the Bank of General Interest, 4 Central Street, \$400,000 in capital, William H. Russell, cashier; directors John Russell (President), Putnam I. Farnham, Caleb Foote, John W. Fenno, Jonathan Holman. (p.118). Also headquartered here was the Institution for Savings in the City of Salem and Its Vicinity, 4 Central, Joseph Peabody, President; Daniel Bray, Treasurer; Francis H. Silsbee, Secretary (p.119). The bankers who actually came to work here each day were Daniel Bray (Institution for Savings), of 104 Essex Street, and John Russell (Bank of General Interest), of 22 Lafayette St., and his son Wm. H. Russell (ditto) of 2 Lafayette Street. No doubt there were clerks and tellers too.

In the 1830s, James R. Buffum “kept a book and stationery store for himself on the western corner of Essex and Central Street...(and) then kept a tavern at Orne’s Point, North Salem. He married Susan Mansfield ... and died 14 Feb. 1863, aged 68 years.” (see EIHC 6:212, Benja. F. Browne, *Memorials of the Washington Rangers*).

In the 1840s, Mr. Buffum moved out of the corner store, and Stephen Osborne took it over. He ran a retail business in hats, caps, and furs; and Henry Osborne worked there as a hatter (hat-maker). Stephen resided in 1841-1845 at 17 Oliver Street, while Henry resided on “Mechanic Street” (near the Laboratory in North Salem) in 1841 and in 1845 on Federal (Marlborough) Street, near Washington. In the Salem Directory for 1850 was an advertisement for “Osborne’s Fashionable Hat, Cap & Fur Establishment, 183 Essex Street, corner of Central Street” (p. 221). This store would be operated throughout the 1860s (see ad, p. 88, 1864 Salem Directory).

The Essex *Register* newspaper, which was founded by the Crowninshield-Hathorne-White families to represent the Jeffersonian point of view c.1800, and which had been edited at one point by Rev. William Bentley (a major contributor for years), would be published from this location throughout the rest of its history. In 1842, the co-editor, Charles W. Palfray, resided at 47 Federal Street, while co-editor John Chapman resided at 33 Federal and served on the Board of Advisers of the Salem Children’s Friend Society. In addition, Edward Palfray, of 2 Hamilton Street, was a printer at 4 Central Street in 1842. (info from 1842 Salem Directory).

Samuel Dudley Tucker (1782-1857), the owner of the Central Street part of the Central Building as of 1820, was a merchant. He was born in Salem on 25 January 1782, one of the sons of John and Lydia Tucker. Among his older brothers were Andrew Tucker (born 1773) and Gideon Tucker (b. 1778, married 1804 Martha Goodhue). Mr. Andrew Tucker (1773-1820), who married Martha Mansfield, had several children, including Jonathan, Samuel (2d) and Gideon (2d); he was subject to melancholy, and took his own life in February, 1820, aged 47 years.

In 1830, Samuel D. Tucker added to his holdings hereabouts by purchasing for \$1950 from the heirs of Dr. Holyoke some shops on Central Street, with land, just south of the dwelling house part of the Central Building (ED 258:215). At the same time, the Holyoke heirs sold him, for \$4500, the land to the west of the Hathorne parcel, with a printing office thereon (ED 258:215). By 1836 Mr. Tucker had moved to 293 Essex Street, and later he resided at the Essex House hotel. He died in the 1857 (#55777), having devised the premises by will to Gideon Tucker, who was the president of the Exchange Bank. Gideon Tucker died in or before 1862, leaving many heirs. In July, 1862, some of the Tucker heirs, having purchased the interests of other of the heirs, sold the premises for \$4572.46 to one of their own, Edward Tucker, of Saco, Maine (ED 642:145, also 639:22,24, 638:126, etc.). In September, 1862, Edward Tucker sold half of the property to Jonathan Tucker and half of it to Jonathan's son, James T. Tucker. In September, 1865, Jonathan Tucker for \$3,000 sold his half-interest to his son, James T. Tucker, who granted his father a life estate in the property (ED 688:281,287).

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

Maj. James T. Tucker predeceased his father, whose life estate would come to an end with his death in 1877. Jonathan Tucker (1799-1877) had been a merchant for most of his career. He left business in 1849, became a City Assessor for awhile, and by 1860 he was working as a Measurer at the Custom House. In 1872 he was still at the Custom House, residing at 29 Andrew Street. He purchased 82 Washington

Square East in 1874, and moved in. To the Salem *Gazette* in 1875-6 he contributed an interesting series called "Our Old Houses," in which he jotted down his memories of who had inhabited the buildings of Essex Street 1807-1810. By 1876 he was again working as an assessor at City Hall. On the last day of July, 1877, Mr. Tucker took his own life.

The obituary of Mr. Tucker ran in the *Gazette* on 3 August 1877. "The death of Jonathan Tucker, which took place very suddenly on Tuesday morning last, takes from amongst us one of our most respected citizens... His character was as sturdy as his frame. Upright, conscientious, clear-headed, and intelligent, his services on the board of our City Assessors were never surpassed in value by any who have been called to the office. His independence and plainness of speech undoubtedly made him enemies; but, as an honest man, a good citizen, exemplary in purity of morals and in every relation of life, he will be held in respectful remembrance by all who knew him. Mr. Tucker retired from active mercantile business in 1849, when he was elected one of the Assessors of the City. This office he continued to hold until March 28, 1853. He was again elected Assessor in 1869, and held the office until January 11, 1875, when he retired to private life. During most of his term of service, he was chairman of the board; and there never was a man who paid more strict, scrupulous, and faithful attention to the duties of his office. A native of Salem, and blessed with powers of keen observation and a retentive memory, his knowledge of our local history of the present century—of persons, events, metes and bounds—was unequalled, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to impart from his inexhaustible stores. He leaves a widow (a sister of Prof. Alpheus Packard of Bowdoin College), three sons—Joseph F. and Horace, both holding responsible positions in the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and Rev. William P., who has recently accepted a call to a rectorship in Pawtucket, R.I.; and two daughters, Mrs. J. M. Hagar of Salem, and Mrs. Hanson of Chicago. Two sons, Alpheus Packard and Col. James T., died before their father."

Joseph F. Tucker, the railroad man, became the new owner of the property. As early as 1881, and perhaps before, much of his part of the Central Building was occupied by John J. Perkins' notable furniture and upholstering store (some photographs show the building at that time, with the Perkins signs out front). Mr. Perkins, a resident of Bridge Street, ran the business for many years. The dwelling part of the building, numbered 10 central, was evidently occupied Mrs. Sarah B. Safford, who had a store at 16-18 central. She died before 1900, in which year the premises at 4-6 Central Street were occupied by the Salem Press Company, which had its presses and other machinery there, and by A.N. Webb & Co., printers. At 8-10 were E.F. McClellan, hairdresser, and the offices

of Cawley & Trow, plumbers. Alphonse Bouin and family resided in the end unit. (info from Salem Directory, 1899/1900)

Regarding the Hathorne part of the building, by then known as The Hathorne Building: in 1878 Henry G. Hathorne, of Lynn, sold his interest in the Central Building to William W. Hathorne, of Lynn, his brother (ED 1000:189). On 2 January 1886 William W. Hathorne leased the first floor and cellar of his part of the building to Herebert D. Rice of Boston, who opened The Shawmut Hat Store here. The lease was to run for ten years at \$1500 rent per annum. At the same time, Mr. Rice was to pay the cost of a major remodeling of this part of the building, and agreed not to sell any liquor here. The remodeling involved removing the stone front, removing brick piers and windows, and putting in a new front on Essex Street and part of the building on Central Street. Large new plate glass windows were to be installed, along with iron girders to support the upper stories.

Mr. Wm. W. Hathorne died in 1893, whereupon the property was conveyed to his brothers Henry G. and Charles F. Hathorne (ED1401:109). They continued to lease out the property as commercial space to Herbert D. Rice, who was the proprietor of the Shawmut Hat Store at 191-193 Essex Street (see adv. p.1194 Salem Directory 1897-8; ED 1991:66, etc.).

In 1900, the occupants of "the Hathorne Building" were The Shawmut Hat Store (hats, furs, etc.) at 191-193 Essex Street, and, at 195 Essex Street, J.M. O'Connell and Mrs. Kate F. Dean, hairdressers, dentist John W. Patch, A.C. Mackintire, photographer, and B.L. Pervier, jobber.

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

On June 25, 1914, in the morning, in Blubber Hollow (Boston Street opposite Federal), a fire started in one of Salem's fire-prone wooden tanneries. This fire soon consumed the building and raced out of control, for the west wind was high

and the season had been dry. The next building caught fire, and the next, and out of Blubber Hollow the fire roared easterly, a monstrous front of flame and smoke, wiping out the houses of Boston Street, Essex Street, and upper Broad Street, and then sweeping through Hathorne, Winthrop, Endicott, and other residential streets. Men and machines could not stop it: the enormous fire crossed over into South Salem and destroyed the neighborhoods west of Lafayette Street, then devoured the mansions of Lafayette Street itself, and raged onward into the tenement district. Despite the combined efforts of heroic fire crews from many towns and cities, the fire overwhelmed everything in its path: it smashed into the large factory buildings of the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company (Congress Street), which exploded in an inferno; and it rolled down Lafayette Street and across the water to Derby Street. There, just beyond Union Street, after a 13-hour rampage, the monster died, having consumed 250 acres, 1600 houses, and 41 factories, and leaving three dead and thousands homeless. Some people had insurance, some did not; all received much support and generous donations from all over the country and the world. It was one of the greatest urban disasters in the history of the United States, and the people of Salem would take years to recover from it. Eventually, they did, and many of the former houses and businesses were rebuilt; and several urban-renewal projects (including Hawthorne Boulevard, which involved removing old houses and widening old streets) were put into effect.

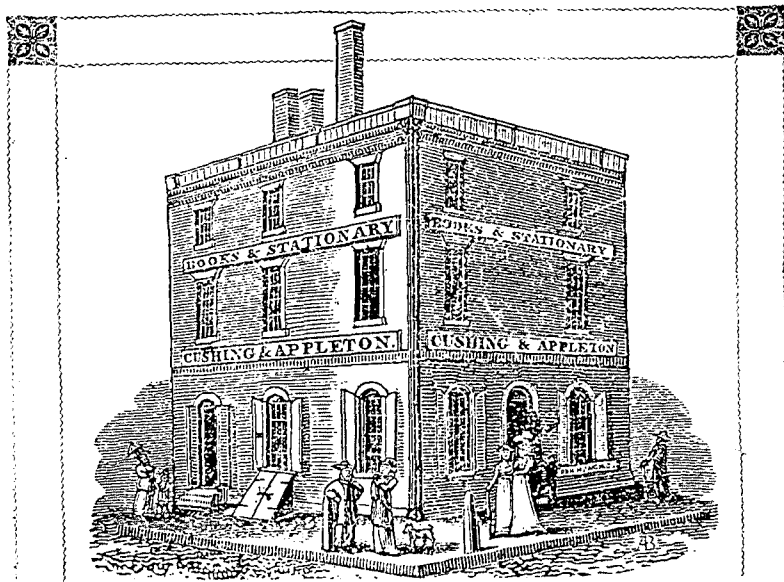
Mr. Herbert D. Rice, owner of The Shawmut Hat Store here, and lessee since 1886, purchased the Hathorne Building from the Hathornes on 1 Nov. 1920 (ED 2469:90). The premises had been in Hathorne ownership for more than 115 years.

By the 1920s, Salem was once again a thriving city; and its tercentenary in 1926 was a time of great celebration. From that time forward, Salem boomed right through to the 1960s, but 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 mill-operatives—and the commercial buildings that Salem's prosperity produced and sustained—are all honored as a large part of what makes Salem different from any other place.

--10 Feb. 2002, Robert Booth for Historic Salem Inc.

From Salem Imprints

This bldg. shown free-standing
from a cut in c. 1820 newspaper,
was really the cor. of the Central Bldg.



BOOKSHOP OF CUSHING AND APPLETON,
Essex Street.

CUSHING AND APPLETON—BIBLE AND HEART BOOK SHOP.

Soon after Dabney established his book shop, Thomas C. Cushing and William Carlton, the latter a young man just reaching his majority, were associated in the 'Bible and Heart' book shop. Carlton's advertisement in 1791 reveals the location of his business as 'opposite Rev. Mr. Prince's meeting house,' where he had for sale all the principal books and pamphlets, as well as mariner's compasses, log books, scales and dividers, backgammon and Hadley's quadrants, and 'Harry VIII and Highlands Playing Cards.'⁶⁷ In 1793 he added a circulating library. Mr. Streeter says: 'The Bible and Heart book-store was in the lower story of the building occupied by the printing office, the same which is now (1856) kept by D. B. Brooks and Brother. There were formerly wooden figures of a Bible and a heart suspended over the door, which during the last war were torn down in the night by some mischievous persons and thrown into the harbor. It was upon the occasion of a list of privateers in our harbor being published in the *Gazette* by the foreman of the office.' In 1794 Carlton's 'new book store' was 'a few doors west of the Sun Tavern, Essex street.'⁶⁸ In 1797 Carlton's connection with Cushing ceased, and in 1801 John S. Appleton associated himself with this book shop, the firm of Cushing and Appleton being a well-known and successful Salem concern, at the 'Sign of the Bible,' until the death of both in 1824.

In 1803 their shop was at the corner of Court and Essex streets, 'lately occupied as an insurance office.'⁶⁹ In 1808 they removed to the store under the *Gazette* office, lately occupied by John Russell, one door west of the Central Building,⁷⁰ having purchased Russell's stock of several thousand volumes, which were sold at auction by Jacob Peabody. A side-light on the importance to trade of court business and attendance at the sittings is manifest in an advertisement which appeared at this time, after the sale had opened, to the effect that 'the

⁶⁷ Salem *Gazette*, November 8, 1791, January 3 and 12, 1793.

⁶⁸ Salem *Gazette*, September, 1794.

⁶⁹ Salem *Gazette*, December 30, 1803.

⁷⁰ Salem *Gazette*, April 5, 1808.

SALEM EVENING

1880.

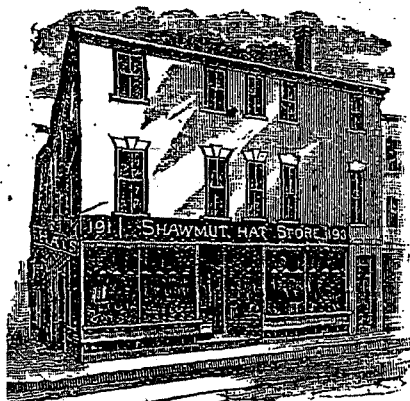
SALEM, MASS., THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1888



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Derby

Tan, Snuff, Maple, Russet, Golden
make represented in large quantities
Hats. A full line of genuine Import-
to suit all requirements as to price

Boys' Hats.

The lowest price for good goods is
shown to buy, poor quality in this
One Price Hat Store in New England.
Hats, Bags, Dress and Working Gloves.

AT STORE, H. D. RICE, Prop.
Hat Store in this Section
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PARILLA.

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She Attempted to Cross
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After the Gates Had Been
Lowered.

Mrs. Lucy H. Estey, wife of William H. Estey of the Boston Herald staff, was struck by the 7 o'clock inward passenger train on the Boston & Albany railroad at the Walnut street crossing, Newtonville, last evening, and instantly killed. The unfortunate lady, in company with her youngest son, attempted to cross the track after the gates had been lowered. She crossed the No. 1 track just ahead of a freight train, and passed over the No. 2 and No. 3 tracks, when she saw the inward passenger train approaching. Hesitating for a moment, she turned as though to go back, taking a few steps, but again turned and stepped in front of the engine of the passenger train, which was then running into the station and moving slowly, and was struck and thrown upon the platform. The boy stood between the tracks and thus escaped injury. The mother and son were on their way to the depot to take the train to Newton, to attend a Bible convention which is being held there. Mr. Estey was just about to start for Waltham to attend a camp fire, to which the members of his post had been invited. He was notified of the accident, and the body was removed to his home on Brooks avenue, where it was viewed by Medical Examiner Meade. The deceased was 41 years of age, and, beside her husband, five sons survive her, the youngest of whom is 12 years of age.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1.

Recruits and Recruiting Officers—Set-
ting-Up Exercises to be Practiced.
Col. F. A. Osgood has issued General Or-
der No. 1 to the Eighth regiment, as fol-
lows: Commanders of companies are au-
thorized to parade their commands for

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Salem Record

Published MONDAYS & THURSDAYS, for the PROPRIETORS, Essex-street, over the

SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1865.

Important Regulation.

IT is obvious, that a great calamity might happen to the town, by having the FIRE-BUCKETS of the inhabitants all left over-night in one place; the FIREWARDS, therefore earnestly recommend to their fellow townsmen, that as soon as a fire is extinguished, they take their buckets home with them; but if, in case of a fire in the night, they cannot find their own, then to take any pair they can find, and return them to the Court-House in the morning for exchange.

By order of the Firewards,

JOHN PUNCHARD, Clerk.

Salem, Sept. 3.

Benj. H. Hathorne

HAS Removed to the New Brick

STORE, corner of Essex and Market street, near the Banks, and has ready for sale, a great variety of

Fall and Winter Goods,

viz. Best superfine cold pressed, Drab, Navy Blue, Black and Bottle green BROADCLOTHS—300 pieces Blue do. from 65 to 90¢, per yard—A fine assortment of COATINGS, KERSEIES, FRIZES, FOREST CLOTHS and SERGES—Bottle green, Drab and Black CASIMERES, from 17 to 15¢, per yard—BAIZES and FLANNELS—7-4, 8-4, 10-4 and 11-4 ROSE BLANKETS—Season's do.—The above and many other articles were imported by the last arrivals from Liverpool—large additions will be shortly made and offered extremely low for CASH or SHORT CREDIT, by Wholesale or Retail.

Reflecting Circles, Sextants, &c.

JUST RECEIVED, AND FOR SALE BY CUSHING & APPELTON,

At the sign of the scales, Essex Street,

A New supply of REFLECTING CIRCLES, SEXTANTS, QUADRANTS, &c.

Nautical Instruments, Pilots, Charts, Books of Navigation, and Books and Stationary, of every kind, at usual prices.

Salem, July 11.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE!

THE public are respectfully informed that a Handsome and Commodious HACKNEY COACH

has been established, and a stand taken in Court street, near Dr. Stearns' Brick Store, where any person, or party, may be accommodated with a passage to any part of the town or its vicinity, at any hour in the day. Good Horses, and a careful, attentive, and civil driver, will be provided, and every favor gratefully acknowledged.

John Fernald.

Amos Hovey

Danvers & Beverly Iron Works.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Proprietors of the Danvers & Beverly Iron Works, that the sum (voted to be assessed at their Annual Meeting) of fifty Dollars on each share, be paid to NATH'L PUTNAM, Treasurer, in two installments, viz. Twenty-five dollars on or before the 28th day of October, and the residue on or before the 30th day of December next.—N. B. Punctual payment will be required.

By order of the Directors,

THOMAS PUTNAM, Pro. Clerk.

Danvers, Sept. 23, 1865.

TWENTY hds. Sugar, suitable

for retailing—27 hds. Clayed do.—15 boxes and 2 casks Havana do.—Pipes of GIN, entitled to Drawback—Coarse Liverpool SALT—NEW FLOUR—Mels No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 BEEF—Hhds. RUM—Tierces RICE—DIPT CANDLES—Hhds. Tierces and Barrels MOLASSES—Black and bright VARNISH—TURPENTINE—PITCH—TAR—ROBIN—SPIRITS OF TURPENTINE—Virginia GOAL—Casks of RAISINS—Lisbon and Port WINE—For sale by

J. Richardson & Co.

Sept. 26.

Cogniac Brandy.

4 pipes, high 4th proof Brandy, from Bordeaux, Entitled to Exemption—3 hals COTTON WOOL, And 12 hds FIG TOBACCO, just received from Virginia, of the first quality.

For Sale by JOHN SAUNDERS.

Sept. 23.

HOTEL TO BE LET.

TO BE leased, for one or more

years—a large, commodious Hotel, situated upon the Newburyport Turnpike Road, ten miles from Boston.—Any person wishing to occupy the same, and can produce ample recommendation for cleanliness, sobriety, and disposition to oblige, may hear of the terms, by applying to the directors, at Boston, Newburyport, or the subscriber.

JONATHAN INGERSOLL,

Agent for Newburyport Turnpike

Danvers, April 18.

THE Subscriber being about closing his business, requests all who have any demands against him to call and receive their dues, and all who are indebted to make immediate payment.

Jonathan Andrews, jun.

Salem, Sept. 26.

THE WIDOW of the late JAMES TYTLER, informs the Gentlemen of the Medical Profession in this and the adjacent towns, that she prepares the following MEDICINES, which she will warrant to be of the first quality, viz.—Ether, Dulcified Spirits of Nitre, Spirits of Vitriol, and Essence of Peppermint—which may be obtained by applying to her in Webb-Street. Orders left at Mr. MACAULTY'S BOOKSTORE, in Essex-street, will be attended to with punctuality.

FOR SALE,

A Piece of Land, situated in the Western part of Wenham, containing 6 Acres, with House and Barn, good Well of Water, and an orchard which will make about seven and a half of Cider a year besides a flourishing young orchard, and one acre of meadow, lying in Wenham meadows.—If not sold private sale, it will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION on Monday, the 28th of November next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

For further particulars apply to

Samuel Pisk,

Wenham, Oct. 11.

A Meeting-house to be Built.

ANY person or persons who would undertake the building of a Wooded or Brick Meeting House, or any part thereof, in the North Part of Danvers, may see a plan of the Building, after Tuesday next, by applying to the subscriber, with whom conditions, sealed, may be delivered, at any time before the 22d. October inst.

In behalf of the Committee,

JOHN FOWLER.

Danvers, Oct. 10.

INSTRUCTION in the English

and French Languages; Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic; Book-keeping, by double and single entry; the principles of Astronomy and Geography, with problems on the Globes; Navigation, with the most approved methods determining the Longitude by lunar observations; Algebra, Solutions, and other branches of the Mathematics.

J. SOUTHWICK'S SCHOOL,

South side of Washington Square, between Newbury and Pleasant Streets. Scholars supplied with Books, Paper, Quills, &c. on reasonable terms.

Salem, Nov. 8, 1864.

BLANKS

Of various kinds, for sale at this Office.

Political.

From the ENQUIRER.

VINDICATION OF MR. JEFFERSON

NO. VI.

TO THOMAS TURNER.

I have pursued you through all the various charges, which you have brought forward against Mr. Jefferson's conduct during the revolution, with all that indignation and pity which ignorance and prejudice so eminently deserve. At each step of my investigation, I find the character of the criminal rising upon me, whilst the character of his persecutor is equally descending below me.

divisional deed
Will^m S. Gray
&
Benj^m H. Hathorne

This Indenture of two parts made and executed this sixteenth day of January in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred & Eleven by and between William Shepard Gray of Salem in the County of Essex Merchant of the one part, and Benjamin Herbert Hathorne of said Salem Merchant, of the other part, Witnesseth That Whereas the said Gray and Hathorne are seized in fee simple as tenants in common, of a certain piece of Estate in said Salem, consisting of a lot of land on the corner of Essex and Market Streets, with the buildings thereon called Central Buildings which Estate is bounded as follows viz. Northerly on Essex Street, Easterly on Market Street Southwesterly on land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq^r and westerly on land of David Holyoke. And the said Gray and Hathorne having settled with each other all the rents, charges and Expenses thereof up to this day have agreed to make partition of said premises in manner following viz. That said Hathorne shall have hold and enjoy in severalty the northern end of said land, with the buildings thereon & cellar under the same, bounded as follows viz. Beginning at the Northeast corner thereof and thence running Southerly on Market Street about thirty three feet to the middle of the northern partition wall thence running Westerly through said partition wall forty feet to a piece of land left in common, and by said land in common ten feet to land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq^r thence running Northerly on said Holyokes land twenty nine feet to Essex Street, and thence running Easterly on Essex Street fifty feet to the bound begun at, to gether with sufficient eaves droppings at the South side of the Southwesterly corner of the buildings as and for his full share and part of said Estate. And that said Gray shall have hold and enjoy in severalty the Southern part of said land, with the dwelling house store and other buildings thereon and cellar under the same bounded as follow viz. beginning at the Southeast corner of said land on Market Street, thence running Westerly fifty feet bounding Southerly on land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq^r thence running Northerly bounding Westerly on said Holyokes land eighty two feet, thence running Easterly ten feet, bounding northerly on land agreed to be left in common, thence running Northerly nine feet to the middle of the northern partition wall, thence running Easterly through the middle of said wall to Market Street thence running Southerly on Market Street eighty seven feet to the bound begun at, as and for his full share and part of the said Estate. And Whereas the said Parties have agreed for equality of partition, that said Gray shall pay to said Hathorne five hundred dollars, and that the northern partition wall

Wall shall be kept in repair and maintained at the equal expense of the parties, and that either party shall see fit to carry said wall up through the roof of the building, the other party shall bear and pay one half of all the expense thereof, and that a piece of the rear land extending nine feet South of the Northern, or said Hathorne's part and ten feet west of the Southern or said Gray's part shall remain forever in common to said Gray and Hathorne their heirs and assigns. Now know all Men that said William S. Gray in consideration of the premises and of Ten dollars paid him by said Benjamin H. Hathorne, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath and hereby doth release sell convey and confirm to the said Hathorne, his heirs and assigns, all his said Grays undivided half part of and all his interest and Estate in the said Northern part of the above described premises bounded as follows viz beginning at the Northeast corner thereof and thence running Southerly on Market Street about thirty three feet to the middle of the Northern partition wall, thence running Westerly through said Partition wall forty feet to a piece of land to be left in common and by said land in common ten feet to land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq. thence running northerly on a Holyokes land twenty nine feet to Essex Street, and thence running Easterly on Essex Street fifty feet to the bound begun at, with all the buildings and stores thereon and cellars under the same, together with sufficient cover droppings at the South side of the Southwesterly corner of the building. To HAVE and to hold the same to the said Hathorne his heirs and assigns to his and their use and benefit forever, and the said Gray for himself his heirs executors and administrators doth covenant with said Hathorne his heirs and assigns, that he is lawfully seized of the aforesaid premises that they are free of all incumbrances, that he hath good right to sell and convey the same to said Hathorne, and that he will and his heirs executors and administrators shall warrant & defend the same to the said Hathorne his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and demands of all Persons. And Ann Knight wife of said Gray, in consideration of one dollar paid by said Hathorne the receipt whereof she doth hereby acknowledge, doth hereby release to said Hathorne and his assigns all right to dower in the above described premises. And said Benjamin H. Hathorne in consideration of the premises and of five hundred dollars paid him by said William S. Gray the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath and hereby doth release sell convey and confirm to the said Gray his heirs and assigns all his said Hathorne's undivided half part of and all his interest and Estate in the said Southern part of the above described premises, bounded as follows viz beginning at the Southeast corner thereof on Market Street thence running Westerly fifty feet bounding Southerly on land of Edward A. Holyoke Esq. thence running northerly bearing westerly on said Holyokes land, eighty two feet, thence running Easterly ten feet bounding Northerly on land owned

to be kept in common, thence running northerly nine feet to the middle of the northern partition wall, thence running easterly through the middle of said wall to market Street, thence running southerly on Market Street eighty seven feet to the bound begun at, with the dwelling house stoves and other buildings thereon, and the cellars under the same. To have and to hold the same to the said Gray his heirs and assigns to his & their use and benefit forever. And the said Hathorne for himself his heirs executors and administrators doth covenant with said Gray his heirs and assigns, that he is lawfully seized of the afore-said premises that they are free of all incumbrances, that he hath good right to sell and convey the same to said Gray, and that he will and his heirs executors and administrators shall warrant and defend the same to the said Gray his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and demands of all Persons. And Rebecca wife of said Hathorne in consideration of one dollar paid by said Gray the receipt whereof she doth hereby acknowledge, doth hereby release to said Gray and his assigns all right to dower in the above described premises.

And it is mutually understood and agreed, and is hereby expressly covenanted by and between the parties hereto, that the northern partition wall shall be kept in repair and maintained at the equal expense of the parties and their assigns, and that if either party shall see fit to carry the same up through the roof of the building, the other party shall bear and pay one half of all the expense thereof, and the said Gray and Hathorne do hereby covenant each with the other and the heirs and assigns of each other, that they will and their respective heirs and assigns shall well and truly pay their full half part of all such costs charges and expenses on demand from time to time as the same may accrue. And further said Gray and Hathorne for themselves and their respective heirs and assigns do covenant with each other and the respective heirs and assigns of each other, that said piece of meadow measuring ten feet on said Hathornes line, and nine feet on said Holyokes land shall forever remain in common to the said Gray and Hathorne their heirs and assigns. In Witness Whereof the Parties aforesaid have hereunto set their hands and seals the day & year above written.

W. Shepard Gray seal

Ann K. Gray seal

Benj. H. Hathorne seal

Rebecca Hathorne seal

signed sealed & delivered in presence of
Joshua Ward Jr. witness to the Execution
John Prince Jr. } by W. S. Gray & B. H. Hathorne

Jere^d. Dolley witness to signing of
Jesse Smith B. H. Hathorne & Ann K. Gray

Essex Co. January 16, 1811.

Then Wm. S. Gray and B. H.

Hathorne severally acknowledged the above Instrument to be their

free act and deed. before me John Prince Jr. Just. of Peace

Essex Co. Dec. January 17, 1811. recorded & examined by Attest Charles P. P.