# Salem incorporated

POST OFFICE BOX 865

SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS 01970 / PHONE (617) 745-0799

79 Boston Street
Built by,
ELIPHALET HALL, housewright
in the year 1835

Research by, Joyce King April 1980

<sup>&</sup>quot;to preserve Historic Sites, Buildings and objects, and to work for the education of the community in the true value of the same."

"This main highway, now called Boston street, was the ancient road (from Salem to Salem Village and Boston. It was called a road in 1717; the main road or street in 1721; the country road in 1724; Boston road in 1759; great country road leading to Salem in 1795; Boston street in 1795; road leading to Boston 1797; West street in 1813; road leading from the South meeting-house to Salem in 1814; and since then Boston street." (Essex Antiquarian, vol. 7, page 17)

The lot on which this house stands was purchased by Eliphalet Hall, housewright, from Jonathan Shove, of Danvers for the sum of \$250. (book 283 page 133) This was a portion of the land which formerly belonged to the Buffington family as far back as 1747.

The first mention of a house on this land appears on June 18, 1835 when Eliphalet Hall mortgaged the property to John S. Felton, of Danvers for \$900. (book 281 page 154)

Mr. Hall built this house, in the Greek Revival style, on the top of "Boston Street Hill". This hill was very much steeper than it is today, having been cut down to its present level in many stages. The sill of this house probably shows the original level of the hill. It was so steep infact that the stage drivers could not negotiate it. There was a way that led by an easier grade, by what is now Proctor and Varney streets and so along ancient Prospect street(now Butler street) to come out into Aborn street and then on through South Danvers (now Peabody). The ledge on the property extended some way farther into the street and was cut back several times.

In 1837 Mr. Hall sold a share of all his real estate interests to Aaron T. Low, cordwainer. (book 303 page 234) The street directory of 1837 (the first written for Salem) gives Eliphalet Hall's address as 77 Boston St. and Aaron Low's as 79 Boston St. The tax records for the same year states 79 Boston St. as E. Hall's residence.

On Nov. 7, 1838 Eliphalet Hall and Aaron T. Low sold the property to Nathaniel P. Averill, cordwainer, for the sum of \$500, subject to John S. Felton's mortgage for \$900. (book 309 page 132, also Appendix A)

Nathaniel P. Averill and Aaron T. Low became partners in the boot and shoe business shortly after 1838. Their first store was located at 78 Boston St. In later years the address is given as 76 Boston St.

Mr. Averill added to the lot at 79 Boston St. on Feb. 4, 1840, when he purchased a small piece of land from Jonathan Carlton (book 317 page 230). This lot was described as being bound by Gallow's Hill Pasture 8 feet and by Averill's "garden" as the fence formerly stood.

The Salem street books, which list all males over the age of 21, states that in 1845, living at 79 Boston St. were: Nathaniel P. Averill, Aaron T. Low, Augustus Silver, Henry Cobern and William Griffin.

The federal census of 1850 gives a better insight as to the occupan at that time:

Nathaniel P. Susan	Averill	age	46 50	shoe	manufacturer	born "	Mass.
Nathaniel S.		11	15			<b>1</b> †	†1
Aaron T. Low		age	40	shoe	manufacturer	born	Mass.
Ann T. "		11	40			11	11
Francis A. "		11	13			11	**
Cornelius B.	11	11	10			**	**
George H.	H	11	8			11	11

In 1853 Nathaniel Averill was assessed as having real estate valued at \$1,500 and personal property valued at \$500. Aaron T. Low had personal property valued at \$500.

In 1854 Mr. Averill was granted permission to take up a part of the brick sidewalk in front of his house at #79 Boston St. for the purpose of cleaning out a drain which runs under said sidewalk. "On condition of he putting it in as good order as when he takes it up and also to secure the whole from any damage to the city while he is doing the work." (Salem Street books, Essex Institute)

The 1860 federal census indicates little change as to occupants:

			real est.	personal e	est	- ( 2
N. P. Averill Susan	age 57	shoe dealer	\$3,500	\$1,000	11	Mass "
Nathaniel S. Julius Gwenn	" 25 " 20	currier currier			11	11 11
A. T. Low Anna " Frank A. " Cornelius "	age 50 " 50 " 24 " 20	shoe dealer clerk clerk	\$2,000	<b>\$1,</b> 000	born "	Mass "
George H. "	" 18	Clerk			ii	11

Nathaniel P. Averill died of consumption, on Nov. 7, 1861. Mr. Averill was the son of Nathaniel and Hannah (Wood) Averill. He was born in Topsfield on Oct. 25, 1803 and married Susan S. Silver daughter of William and Jemima Silver of 134 Boston St.

Mr. Averill's probate (#31651) lists the household furniture as:
Kitchen \$30.00 - Sitting room \$150.00 - Parlor \$75 - Bedroom \$100
All the estate was left to his widow, Susan and their only child
Nathaniel S. Averill. (Appendix B)

The tax records for 1862 indicate that the property at 79 Boston St. was the estate of Nathaniel Averill and valued at \$1,800. The land is given as  $105 \times 80$  feet.

Mrs. Susan Averill passed away on May 10, 1867, leaving Nathaniel S. the only heir at law. (probate #31654)

The census records show the changes for the next few years:

1870 Nathaniel Averill Mary J. "	age 35	currier keeps house	born M	lass laine
Aaron Low Ann "	age 60 " 60	shoe store	born M	ass
1880				
Nathaniel S. Averi	ll age 44	currier	born M	ass
Mary "		keeps house	·· M	aine
Nathaniel H. "	" l	son	" M	ass
Stephen Higby	" 48	boarder - keeps fish mrkt.	44	**
Aaron T. Low	age 70	works in boot and shoe shop	11	11
Ann "		wife - keeps house	!!	11
Cornelius B."	11 4C	son - works in morroco	shop	11

The year 1892 brought tragedy to the Low family. Mr. Low died on Jan. 21, 1892. His obituary unfolds the sad story:

"Aaron Low died at his residence on Boston St., last evening. His son, Cornelius, died a little over a week ago, at which time the father was stricken with paralysis. This was the second stroke within a year, and the effect was fatal. Mr. Low was 82 years of age. For many years he had conducted an old fashioned shoe store on Boston St. half way up the hill at Blubber Hollow. The firm was at one time Averill and Low, but Mr. Low was alone in the business for many years. He leaves two sons, George and Frank, who reside in Peabody, and a widow who is also quite sick.

The family has been singularly bereaved of late. Mrs. Low's two brothers Joseph and William Briggs have died within a few weeks. A son died a few days ago and the father followed yesterday."

Another chapter in the unhappy story is found in the Salem News on Jan. 26, 1892:

"Mrs. Aaron T. Low, whose two brothers, son and husband, have all died from pneumonia within a few weeks, herself fell a victim to the same disease on Tuesday. The deceased was 82 years of age. She was an interesting woman, with many noble traits.

Her son Cornelius was married only two weeks before his death. Her twin brothers died this winter since Christmas, making five in the family in one month."

After the death of the Low family, Mr. Averill rented the tenement to Edward Estes. Other tenants were Julia, Margaret and James F. Cullen.

Nathaniel S. Averill died on Nov. 12, 1906. His obituary as written in the Salem News:

"Nathaniel S. Averill, a well known up town resident, died at his home, 79 Boston St., Saturday after a brief illness of pneumonia. He was born in Salem, was educated in the public schools, but finished his education with the late Master Leavitt. He was a currier by trade, and worked at that occupation a great many years. He was a

fine singer, and sang at the First Church for several years under the leadership of Mr. Emilio, and also in churches in Feabody. He was a member of Loyal Americans. He leaves a widow and a son. He (was 71 years 4 months and 7 days at the time of his death. Funeral Wednesday at 2 o'clock at his late home, 79 Boston St."

In Mr. Averill's will (probate #99937) written May 1, 1896, he bequeathed all personal and real property to his wife Mary, "knowing that she will do what is right by my son Nathaniel Herbert Averill after my decease".

In 1917 M. J. Averill and Julia T. Cullen are the occupants of 79 Boston St. (Salem directory).

On Aug. 30, 1920 Mary Averill sold a small portion of the land to the City of Salem. (plan appendix C) (book 2460 page 513).

On Feb. 16, 1924 Mary J. Averill, widow, sold to Tadeusz Szczepandowski and his wife Julia M., of Danvers, the land and buildings at 79 Boston St. "a portion of the premises conveyed to me under the will of my late husband Nathaniel S. Averill" (book 2589 page 487).

The tenants in 1942 were Edmund Blaise and Mrs. Mary Cyr.

On Aug. 22, 1946 Tadeusz and Juila Szczepankowski, husband and wife, sold the property to Louis and Mary Vanikiotis. (book 3476 pag 400)

Mr. and Mrs. Vanikiotis' name was changed in probate court #229896, to Louis and Mary Vanne. Mr. and Mrs. Vanne are the owners and occupants of 79 Boston St. at this time. (1980)

#### Note:

The Essex Institute has in their photo collection a picture of the shoe store at 76 Boston St.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

19

#### JOSEPH CHISHOLM,

Manufacturer of

# LINES, TWINE, CORDS,

ENGINE PACKING, WINDOW LINES, &c.

68 Mill St. (opp. Harbor St.) Salem, Mass.

WM. C. HENDERSON,

Manufacturer of

PLAIN & FANCY

## PAPER BOXES,

Including Cartoons, Wedding Cake, &c.

150 ESSEX STREET,

SALEM, MASS.

HENDERSON & CO.,

Manufacturers of

## INNER SOLES

AND

HEEL STIFFENINGS. 150 ESSEX ST.,

190 ESSEX ST

SALEM, MASS.

AARON T. LOW,

DEALER IN



BOOTS, SHOES,

AND

RUBBERS,

NO. 76 BOSTON STREET, SALEM.

# GEO. P. FARRINGTON,

310 ESSEX STREET,

COR. OF NORTH,

Where may be found a large assortment of

#### PURE DRUCS

AND

#### FAMILY MEDICINES,

Perfumery and Toilet Articles of every variety; PURE WINES AND LIQUOUS for medicinal purposes; ALL THE POPULAR PATENT MEDICINES OF THE DAY; &c.

Particular attention paid to the compounding of Physicians' Prescriptions and the dispensing of Family Medicines. A full assortment of Drugs and Medicines, including all the latest preparations, constantly on hand.

# Vitrified Stone Drain

AND

#### WATER PIPE,

FOR SALE BY

B. R. WHITE, MASON.

ST. PETER COURT,

AND BY

F. P. GOSS, PLUMBER.

7 ST. PETER STREET, SALEM, MASS.

JAMES H. CARTY,

### BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRER,



Also Proprietor and Manufacturer of

CARTY'S VEGETABLE BLACK HEALING SALVE,

Which removes inflammation from Burns, Scalds, Cuts, Bruises, and Wounds

UNION BRIDGE, SOUTH SALEM, MASS.

1866

309 Brow all Pien by these Presents, That We 132. Eliphalet Hall of Solem, and Faron J. Low of Salem - u in consideration of the sum of five hundred dollars to us paid by N. S. Specill. Nathaniel & Averill, of Salem. Cordivainer. the receipt whereof do hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, sell and unto — the said Averill Dwelling house and land situate in Salem, bounded Decining at a point on Boston street 20 feet distant win the water table of Joseph Mr. Dalton's house; thence running northerly to land I said Hall sold to Win. Inallow; thence westerly bounding Northerly and Southwesterly on his land and land of Bux ton & Gallows Hill Pastare 24 feet; thence easterly on land late of said Dalton to the point begun at: - being all, except what said Hall conveyed to Malloon, of the land which Jona Shove converjed to said Hall by deed in Book 283, leaf 133.: Und I Isaac Cushing, of Salem for one dollar haid me by Said Averill, do grant and quit-claim to him all my tille and interest in and to the above described pancel of Real Estate: To Make and to Mold the whome granted premises with the said Aweull his heirs and assigns, to his accomtheir use and behoof forever. And I the said Hall heirs, executors and administrators, do \_\_\_\_\_ covenant the said Aweill. heirs'and assigns, that I lawfully seised in fee of the society premises, that they are free of all incumbrances that Ind Hall have good right to sell and convey the same to the said Avenue and, that I heurs executors, and administrators, shall warrant and defend the same /usericaes heirs and assigns, forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons. except John 8. Felton's mortgage. In witness whereof we the said Hall and Low and our wives who release all claim of Tower in the premises, and said Gushing day of Norember in the year of our Lord have hereunto set our hands and seals this serven the one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight. Signed sealed and delivered Eliphalet Hall . . seal. ancy of Hack 11. Goodhuce Haron J. Low. real. Ann I Low, Esser, ss. Nov. 7th Local Cushing Eliphalet Hall acknowledged the above Instrument, to be his free act and deed,

Justice of the Peace,

1838, 5. m. liefore Je

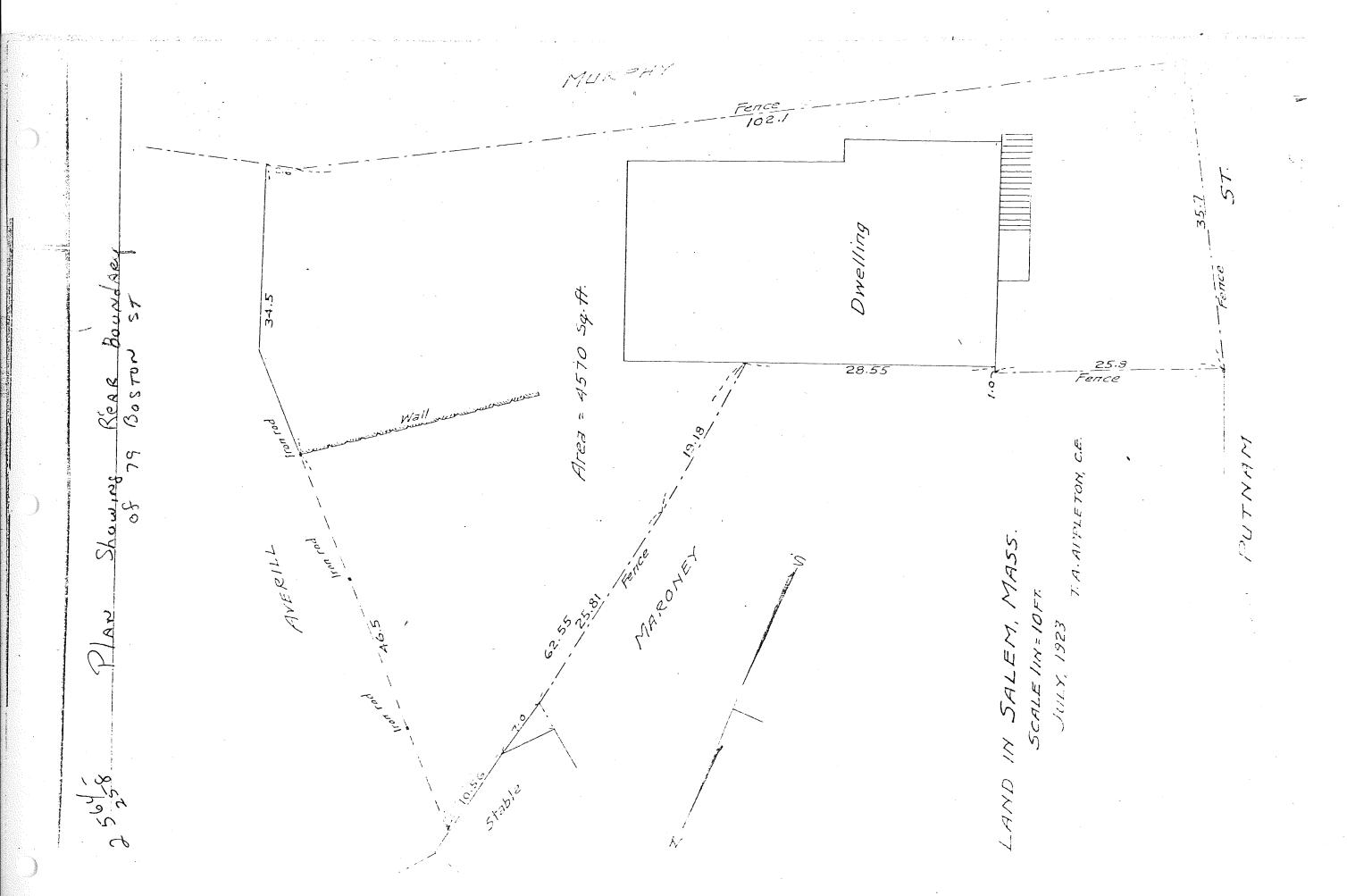
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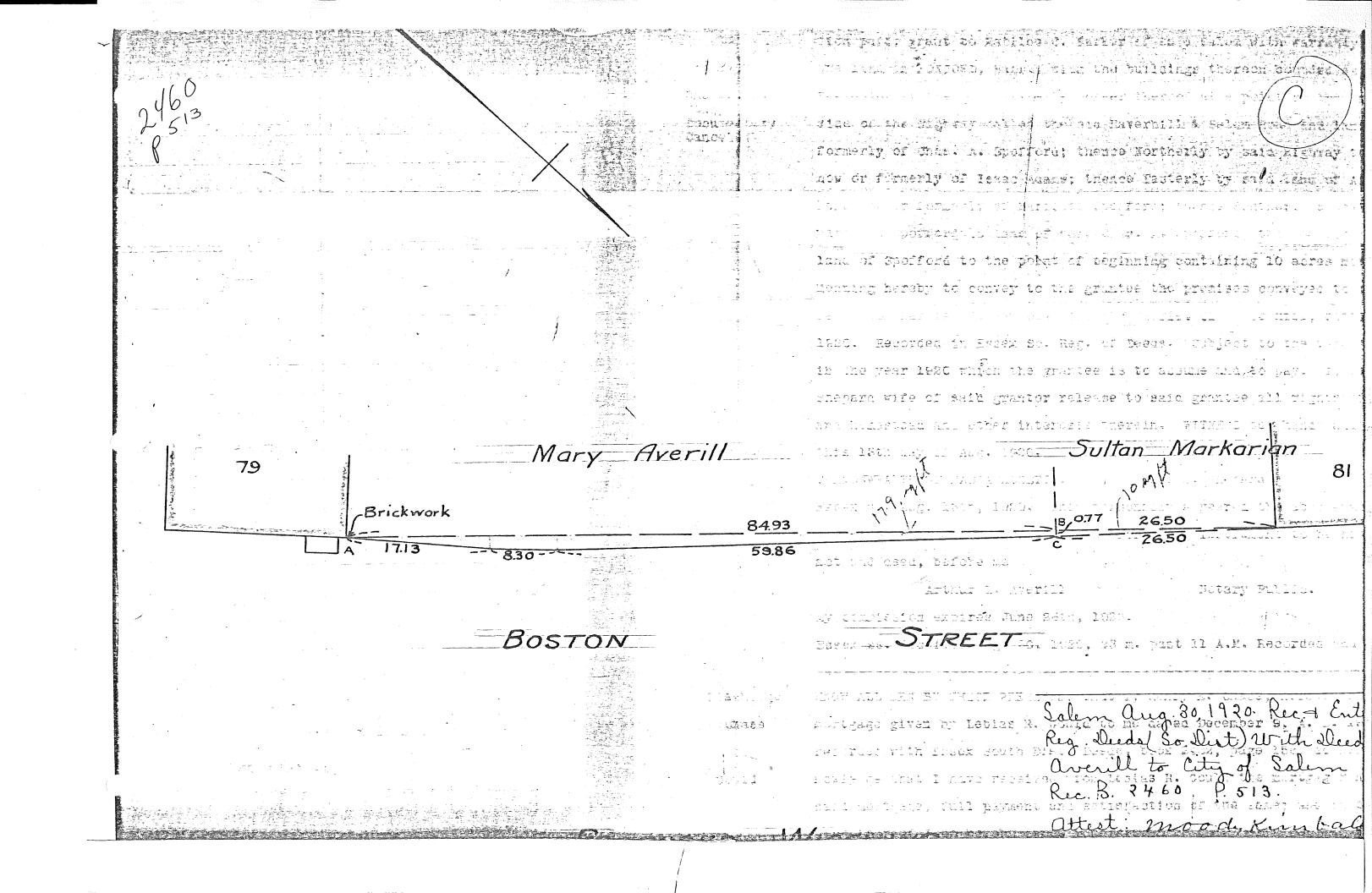
before me, Bry merill

Essex, ss. Received Nov. 8:

1863

Amount of personal estate according to inventory, or Amount paid out and charges, as follows: Balance of former account Buffer tow Interest ou mortgage note to Amount received from gain on sale of personal estate over appraised value, and from other Treaking Stone Water Tayes of 1861. 10.12 Breaking Stone apt 1. Rents received of Mrs aveille 13.45 Water dayes of 1862 8.40 one half interest die on museu mole Hency and Clarks hill 47.36 ES Toward 5.88 D Baylow. 5 Cash received from City of Salery for Stone 28.50 Mr Wallow 3.86 Volter 3.02 Perley & Currier 12.89 J. S. Nichols 2.00 Stent received of a Low Dollate Haven & Whitten 3.87 Mrw Clucille : William Chase 1.62 bity tay of 1862 29.00 Roccools of Sale of one half inhisery trees bash at sundry times of a Thom we settlement of Copartnership of analystow & Proun 5.50 D. M. Mack 1.00 Celetiah Littlefield 3.00 327 32 Trank Curtis 3.00 John & Noah James the Callers note 100.00 Junes I Cutuans note 100,00 Milliam It Habbaids in 100:00 Interest to I Bufferlin on mortgage note to the Bill Salein l'égister Allowance of furniture to Swan Come





### OLD TIMER TELLS OF BOSTON ST. RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS PEOPLE THERE 60 YEARS AGO

Under the caption "Reminiscences of Boston street 60 years or more ago from Buffum's corner, Essex and Boston streets, to and across the South Danvers (now Peabody) line," George Ferguson of 27 Turner street, this city, writes to The News as follows:

We will go up Boston street on the right side to the big tree, Bouth Daners line, on right at that time. On the corner of Boston and Essex streets was a grocery store kept by Cifford & Spear; next was the Pitman house; next, the Bond house and a stable in the rear; next, the house of Jepemiah J. Mahoney; then the Southwick house with a small store in the ensiers end kept by Miss Fowler; next was Fowler On the upper corner were a house and store in front kept by J. Grant; next was the house now owned and occupied by the heirs of Samuel Fairfield; next, the store of John Very; next, the Pignan currying shop; next, the house of Charles Weston; next, the currying shop of Samuel Noah, and the harness shop of John Tuttle, with stable in rear on Federal street, and then Federal street, with store on the other corner kept by James Mann.

Then came the house of S. W. Robertson and soap factory in the rear on Robertson court; on the other corner was a house; next Walden's currying shop, the J. Wilkins tannery, the engine house of Sutton No. Seven and Adams No. 10, then a store occupied by Mr. Perry; next came Coodhue street; on the other corner was a bull towned by H. Turner and oc-cup by a tallor; next the H. Turner cup house, next the house occupied by Charles Higbee, the Averill & Low shoe store; next was William Varney house, next, the Farnum wool shop, ther a house occupied by a man named Chamberlain.: Next was the Wilkins house, the house of J. Hanson, then Grove street, Balem, next the house of E. Popp, next an old house

Old Hundred,

then the house of Isaiah Nichols, hast house in Salem on the right side. We will now go up the left side of Boston street from Essex street. building on the corner belonged to the Watson estate: next was the house of Thomas Nichols, then a store kept by a man named Shaw, next a building used as a paint shop by Joseph Carey, who lived on Fulton street. South Dan-We often saw him riding down Boston street with a big bass viol beside him. Next was the Grant house; next a house occupied by a Tuttle family. Then came May street. On the next corner was Capt. Fiske's house; next the Osborne house, next the N. Tuttle house, then a small currying shop, next was the Bott house, next the William Tuttle currying shop, next the Pope house, and James Stimpson house. The next house was occupied by a family named Osborne; then came Pope's court next was J. Braden's currying shop; then the shop of J. Grant, who made curiers' tables and sold curriers' tools. It was in this building that the boas tanners and curriers used to meet and talk bustd so it was called the senate. Ti axt building was the John Huse currying shop, with M. Arnold's

morocco factory in the rear. Next was the Putnam currying shop. Then came Putnam street. Next was the office and store house of Mr. Putnam, then the house now occupied by ex-Mayor Southwick family. Next was a brick blacksmith shop. Next was the first house occupied by a family named southless, next the house occupied by a family named southless, next the house occupied by N. Averill and A. Low with the big ledge which extended some way farther into the street than at present. Next, the house of John Malloon, next the house of John Malloon, next the house of John Malloon, next the house of Solomon Varnoved on Pierpont street. On the street is a one-slory building next the house occupied by Isaac Winchess ter, next the house occupied by Isaac Winchess ter, next the house occupied by Isaac Winchess ter, next the house occupied by Isaac Winchess to the next was the house occupied by Isaac Winchess to the next house was owned by Edward Fuller, the next house occupied by Isaac Winchess the next house was owned by Edward Fuller, the next house occupied by Isaac Winchess the next house was owned by Edward Fuller, the next house occupied by Isaac Winchess the house occupied by Isaac Winchess the next house was owned by Edward Fuller, the next house occupied by William Sutton to dry wool in, it had the next house was occupied by William Sutton to dry wool in, it had the next house was occupied by William Sutton to dry wool in, it had the next house was occupied by William Sutton to dry wool in, it had the next house was occupied by William Sutton to dry wool in, it had the next house was occupied by William Sutton to dry wool in, it had the next house occupied by Mr. Ward william occupied by Mr. Ward welling and used as baker until his death in December, 1890.

We will stop for the present.

The writer of this article leased the place April, 1891, and occupied it for Stone. Next was

The Old Varney House. then the William Nichols house, then the Matthew Stickney house occupied. by two of his daughters at the present time. Next came Stickney's lane up-to Prospect street, the next building was a seap factory occupied by John Stanton. The soap factory had been previously used by a man, named Goodwin and some unsavory stories were told about him and his making. Next came the Hawes brothers' carpenter shop, next a house occupied by Ephraim Stevens, a clock repairer and others. Next was Josiah Walton's blacksmith shop and John Roberts' slaughter house in the rear. Next was Charles Dearborn's tinemith shop, next was Palmer Tufts harness shop with a stable in the rear. Next the house of Joel Friend, next a house of Joseph Walton, cigar box maker; next a house occupied by Horace Hamblett, next Joseph Walton's cigar box factory and next was an old house owned by Timothy Walton who lived in the next house on Aborn street.

The house on the corner of Aborn and Boston streets was occupied on the first floor by the family of William Reith and family of William Stone, and the second story by Either Marshall and Mrs. Elizabeth Price and family. Next was the carriage house of Thomas Robbins, next the Robbins house, with stable in rear then the Rollins. Merrill house, next the Silver house where the writer was born, Next was the Annable estate, a barn first and a house, the land extending through to Aborn street. Next was the Jacob hill Aborn street level. Next, the wool shop of William Button and factory in rear. At the West of " the shop was Goldthwaite's brook, which was the dividing line at this time between Salem and South Danvers. The line followed the brook to Abarn street near Button street, then took the centre of Aborn street to Washington street, and then followed the centre of Washington and Lynn streets Spring pond at the Lynn line, the left hand side of those streets being in Salem to the Lynn line.

Starting from the line at Sutton's wool shop and the brook on the left hand side of Main street

Toward The Square the first house was owned by the

we will stop for the present. Bancroft, who advertised his shoes the pig skin tannery. Next was house, afterwards occupied by Alonzo O. F. Batchelder, Next was a paint D. Buxton, with a bakery in the rest, shop, also used as a tin shop. The and the next house by Symonds sis large factory of P. Lennox was built by

Who Were Milliners. Horace Hamblett, afterward proprietor have not consulted any person or of the Ocean house, Newburyport directory, There have been

Miss Small kept store on the corner." Next was the house of the next house was occupied by two but not at present. families, the Misses Eustis, school teachers at the Eppes school, Aborn After a construct the freshingham street, and the Eppes school, Aborn ton street a double pump at the enterior perior next the Freshingham street, and line. Lakeman and son trancs to Nichols street and a single house, next the Quaker burying Nathan. The next house was owned one at the blacksmith shop of Josiah ground, next the Treatter house, by William Poor, afterward by Timber and house owned by Oshea The next house set back William Sutton with the Gen from the street and was owned by George P, Ferguson.

William Sutton house on the lease Bullock and mother, and Mrs. Deonard and sons, John and George The next house was occupied by Ersn ces Parara (Portuguese) and the next building by Rollins Merrill, grocery and Thompsohion medicines. After-ward the store was kept by R. O Spiller. The next house was occupied by Joseph A. Warner and Samuel Ferguson. In the rear was a stable kent by the late William Potter. Next came the old cemetery.

Next beyond the cemetery was a

schoolhouse, which when the and Lawrence railroad was built, was used as a boarding house for the borers, Afterwards N. Annable, black-amith, bought the building and made it into a house, which is still on the same spot. Next was N. Annable's

we will stop for the present. place April, 1891, and occupied it for The Bouth Danvers line commenced nine years, until May, 1900. The next at the Big tree on the right side of house was owned by Fitch Pools, and Boston street going from Salem: The next building owned by Fitch Poole and first house was occupied by Charles occupied by E. Hoole and Dearborn, tinsmith, next was the shop. The next building as a cobbling Dearborn, tinsmith, next was the shop. The next building was occupied house and store occupied by Thomas by two families and is now part of and crockery wars fastened to boards house of Pool & Jacobs, the next which were hung on the trees in front house was occupied by W. M. Jacobs which were hung on the trees in front house was occupied by W. M. Jacobe of the store. Next a storehouse and house occupied by Mr. Shillaber, next house occupied by Mr. Shillaber, next candle factory in rear. Next was the next a house by William Burding grocery and dry goods sture of O. P. next a new by Henry Burding Batchelder, now occupied by his son which house set in from the street W. O. The next house was occupied Next was a store occupied by a man house and drug store owned by Dr. by Israel Leavitt and others for mak Joseph Shedd, now occupied by E man before the complex occupied by Alonzo O. F. Batchelder. Next was a paint and occupied by W. M. Jacoba,

Who Were Millings. I wish to state that the foregoing The next building was occupied by is written from memory, and that I Next was Watson street. Then came changes on the streets, new houses an old house occupied by four families and factories built, and some remodeled, and very few of the old families Joseph are left with us! As my boyhood days Searle, next the house of John Frost, were spent on this street and I at-Br., next a long house belonging to the tended the old Eppes school on Aborn Frost estate, occupied by four fam-street, Salem, and the Wallis school, lifes, next was the house of Palmer South Danvers, now Peabody, I could Tuits, pext Beaver street, now Bai-give the names of most of the boys ford street. Joseph Safford lived on and girls who attended these schools, the other corner of Benver street, and and I may do so at some future time,

> There were two town pumps on Bosion, atreet, a double pump at the en-

Balem, Oct. 31.

