

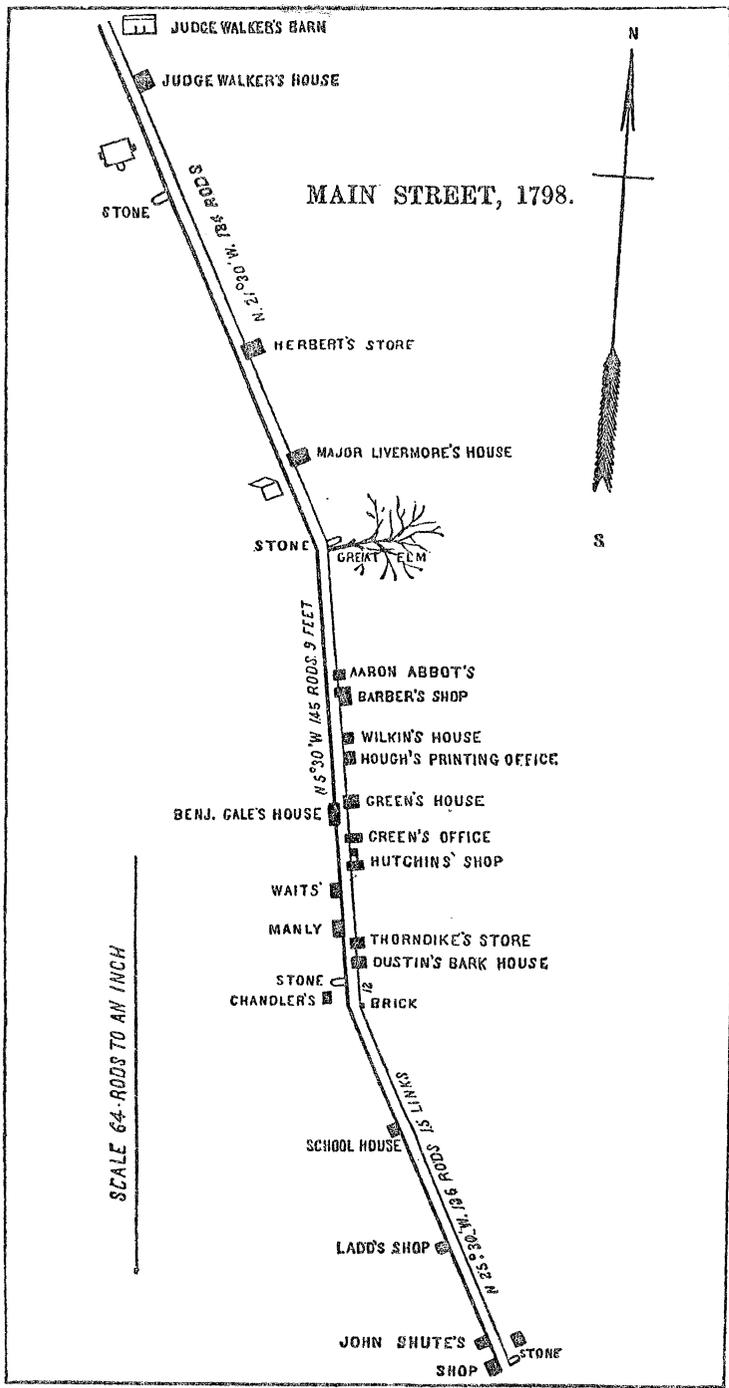
Chapter XXII.

The Town Surveys Its Main Street.

Our ancient town records contain a map prepared in 1798 by "a Committee to lay out Main Street" with the specific purpose of establishing the legal width of six rods. As laid out in the survey of 1726, the highway was to be ten rods wide but, as we have seen, financial stress led to the sale to various abutters, of strips two rods wide from the original line. The accepted width thus became six rods. As new buildings were erected along the street, some of them encroached upon the highway inadvertently; hence this 1798 survey with its record of such trespass in terms of feet and inches.

The map here presented is copied from Bouton's History which represents the buildings involved by small black squares. The original map is much more informative and interesting because each building is sketched in outline to give an idea of relative size and architecture. The map is part of the official report of the committee which consisted of Capt. Benjamin Emery, Lieut. John Bradley, Capt. Reuben Kimball and Mr. Joseph Farnum—illustrating the prevalence of military titles and interest in this post-Revolution generation.

The map introduces us to property owners prominent in the life of Concord as the nineteenth century opened, but only those whose shop or dwellings trespassed over the street line. Its points of reckoning distance on the east side of the street are Judge Walker's barn at the North End, "Great Elm", "opposite Capt. Ayer's tanyard", and the "Corner" at the lower bend in the street at present Fayette St. The "Great Elm" was then standing far below the present grade of Main St. on the present site of 180-182 N. Main St. On the west side of the street the points for reckoning were a "Stone" twenty-six feet from the north east corner of Jacob Abbot, Esq.'s house", a "corner north of Capt. Chandler's", marked with a stone, and "a stone at Shute's corner" (at present West St.)



Jacob Abbot(b.1746) was kin to the other Abbot families but he lived here only from 1797 till 1802 when he moved to Brunswick, Me. His house was probably on the south corner of Franklin St. where John West lived and carried on the smithy after his father's untimely death from small pox.(1775) Parson Walker's diary(Dec. 28,1780)notes:"West shod our oxen",but before 1798 the West family had left this home for a new one near present Chapel St.In 1802,Mr.Abbot was advertising for sale or to let,"the stand for business in front of the meeting-house on the road from Boston to the upper Coos"-perhaps located on the Main St. end of the Meeting-house lot. A son,Jacob,Jr.,married Betsey Abbot, daughter of Capt.Joshua,and they stayed in Concord for some years.In 1830 the church dismissed them to the church in Hallowell,Me.Three of their sons,were well-known authors-Jacob 3rd,John S.C. and Gorham Abbot.

Capt.Chandler was Timothy(b.1762),grandson of pioneer Capt.John Chandler.When he married Sarah Abbot,grand-daughter of Dea.George Abbot he came to live on the Abbot farm at the South End.The young couple had a house north of the old garrison and there,on the site of present 24 S.Main St.,Capt.Chandler made clocks which are now collectors' items.About this time he was busy making a clock to be set on the south side of the Town House- the first public clock in town.In 1809 Chandler suffered the loss of all his buildings by fire which started in his shop.The friendly twonsfolk subscribed funds to help him rebuild and his long and useful life in Concord more than justified the gift.In later years the Abbot farm became the Chandler farm and in addition to clock-making,the Captain developed"a watch and jewel shop".

These were days of fervor in military affairs and young Timothy Chandler held his captain's commission in the famous 11th regiment,advancing to 1st Major in 1800.He was a lover of music and influential in promoting a free singing school maintained by subscription,in the

winter of 1793. Asa McFarland, a young tutor at Dartmouth college, "an able teacher of psalmody", was engaged to conduct the chorus. This singing school limited to "the art and practice of sacred music", found a benefactor in Dea. Joseph Hall of Eleven Lots who made a gift of \$500. as a permanent fund to aid the cause. In 1799 the enterprise incorporated as the Concord Musical Society. Aside from his interest in music, Capt. Chandler's sympathy was ready for the unfortunate and we find him active in such reforms as care for paupers at a comfortable poor farm and the humane treatment of the insane at a state asylum.

At the southern end of the village street, John Shute, the oldtime Indian fighter, was living on the Shute farm where his aged father, Jacob Shute, had died as recently as 1794. The original of our map shows the Shute house two stories in height with a hip roof. Its southeast corner extended into the street. The shop on the premises appears south of the house and may be the same building used in later years as a store and, as already recorded, moved to its present location at 116 S. State St.

The new schoolhouse referred to in Chapter XXI, appears on the map as a medium sized, one story building with hip roof. It stood near present Concord St. About half way between this school and Shute's corner, is a tiny one story building with hip roof, labelled "Ladd's shop". In 1787, Dudley Ladd, "hatter", had purchased the Nathan Kinsman house on the south side of Mill road. This may have been his place of business.

Next north of Capt. Chandler's and in a corner of the original Dea. George Abbot farm, stood the former home and store of Col. Gordon Hutchins, now owned by "Merchant" Robert Harris. North of Mill road William Manley kept store in a fair-sized, one story building with a hip roof and central chimney. Manley at one time lived in the house marked on the map as that of Samuel Green—a large, two story affair on the site of the north end of the present Emmons Store. We know little more of this oldtime merchant than appears on the somewhat defaced stone in the Old Burying Ground: "A native of England and educated there, he brought to

***** the principles of a *****.He died in 1825 at the age of seventy-eight."

Somewhat north of "Parliament Corner" and the Manly place, the map shows a small one-story, pitch roof building with central chimney labeled "Wait's Store". David Wait was a "leather dresser" and evidently carried on his trade here. His wife was Mable Jenners Stevens, daughter of "Merchant" John Stevens who had owned the land and store on this north corner of what is now Pleasant St.

Directly across the highway from Manley's was the store of Maj. William Duncan. Probably he came from Londonderry and in 1781 he had a pew in the Meeting-house. About that time he married Dolly Harris, daughter of Robert Harris. He held his commission in the 2d Regiment Light Horse in 1789 and was Major of the 1st Battalion 11th Regiment 1796-98. Bouton describes the Duncan and Harris families as "reckoned genteel and fashionable" in the Concord of that day, but William Duncan's career was brief. In November 1799, he died in Virginia at the age of thirty-seven. The belated news appeared in the Courier of N.H. April 19, 1800. Dolly Duncan was left a widow with five children under fifteen.

Maj. Duncan was a "trader" and as he prospered he evidently built a rather pretentious three-story house on the James Osgood tavern property (Chapter XVIII), directly south of the old garrison. Mrs. Duncan gallantly continued the store after her husband's death but in 1801 she sold the property to Judge Samuel Green and evidently moved to the Chase farm well down the main street. Her father, Robert Harris, had purchased this farm and ultimately it became her personal property and was known as the "Duncan Estate."

In 1815 "Mrs. Duncan intending soon to leave town" advertised the farm for sale in the Gazette: "30 acres, orchard, handsome dwelling, store adjoining, barn, outhouses; all in good repair; also household furniture and farming utensils." The purchaser was Lewis Downing. Mrs. Duncan died in Ohio.

Among the buildings not shown on the map, was a homestead on the south corner of Mill road. Its north end gable shows in the picture of the first edifice of the South Church (built 1836) which stood in the garden of the old house. At one time Capt. Aaron Kinsman owned this corner lot and he may have built the house which was sold in 1784 to "Thomas Willson, Concord, Sadler" for three hundred pounds. It was bounded on the south by "Mr. Harris Corner of his land nigh his Store on the main road" and by the Abbot-later the Chandler-farm. The Wilson place comprised several acres and extended west on Mill road nearly forty rods. When Wilson bought it there were on the lot, "a Dwelling house & Barn & Shop" and other buildings. On a Sunday evening in 1859, fire swept this corner destroying both the church and the Wilson place.

Proceeding north along the "main road", we come to the site of the Anchor Tavern where the State Capital Bank^x now stands. Our map shows the house about the time Benjamin Gale opened it as an inn—a large two-story building with gambrel roof and two huge chimneys. It stood somewhat diagonally on the street line with its northeast corner ten and a half feet over the line. Daniel Gale and his wife, Ruth Carter, had long made this their home and their son, Benjamin (b. 1769), seeing the advantage of location, decided to conduct a tavern. As the house grew in fame it was enlarged to look as the drawing shows it.

Anchor Tavern was a resort of post riders, a place where auctions were held and the appointed place for many gatherings. It had an assembly room called Union Hall and there, in 1799, Blazing Star Lodge F.A. & A.M. was organized with the host, Benjamin Gale, as one of the grantees of the charter. The innkeeper was a progressive man and in 1800 he advertised that he "had" lately erected a commodious stable with constant water by aqueduct[†] and that "a stage from Boston will arrive every Friday evening and put up here."[†]

In 1834 Sampson Bullard bought the tavern and moved it in order to open up Warren St. in a project for building lots. This old building was

* New Concord, N.H. Bank
† See paper from the springs on Spring Street

vided into two dwellings which were moved to the south side of the new street near present McShane Block. One of these, removed to make way for that block, now stands at 16-18 Monroe St. A young stage driver named Nathaniel White, made his home in one of these dwellings on Warren St. in the early forties, before he became interested in the express business which made him a millionaire.

When war with France threatened in 1797, a company of men volunteered in town and Benjamin Gale was commissioned ^mCommissary. The rendezvous for troops was at "Mother Osgood's tavern" so-called though Hannah Osgood had died some years before- until orders came to march to Oxford, Mass. Mr. Gale made several trips to Oxford with companies of soldiers but the war scare soon passed and somewhat in derision, perhaps, the excitement was dubbed "Oxford War".

When the Gales sold the tavern property they purchased the small farm of David Wait which is now included in the grounds of the State Hospital. The farm house stood near the east entrance to those grounds and Hopkinton road at that time, swung to the south just beyond the house and formed the west boundary of the farm, returning to the present highway through Fruit St. When the State purchased this farm, the Gales moved their house further west on Hopkinton road and there it stands today as pictured at 171 Pleasant St. Our portrait of taverner Gale in his eighty-sixth year is from Bouton's History which remarks: "He retains the manners and habits of former generations-his bald head, snowy locks, with a cue neatly braided and tied with a ribbon; his staff and snuff box render his presence venerable and agreeable."

Benjamin F. Gale, son of the taverner, with whom that aged man lived, did Concord a notable service during the period when he was mayor of our city (1862-64). The State House had become inadequate to the increase of State business and efforts were made to remove the capital from Concord. A resolution passed the legislature to the effect that any city or

town having proper railroad facilities, might make a bid in competition with a generous proposal already made by Concord, toward enlarging the State House. As a matter of fact, Manchester, prosperous with war profits in her mills, was practically the only competitor: but she proved a serious one. Concord felt the drain of the war with less of its profit, but her citizens rallied nobly. Meetings were held and Richard Bradley, then an old man but still famed for his oratorical gifts, made so spirited an appeal that the town was inspired to action. A hundred men pledged themselves to meet the challenge of Manchester, under the name "General Improvement Association."

The surroundings of the State House were unsightly. On the south were the ruins of Hill's Brick Block destroyed by fire a few months before, with stables, sheds, workshops and backyards as far west as State St. all on the very edge of the State House grounds. As her last inducement, Concord proposed to eliminate all this by cutting a new street along the south side of the State House. William E. Chandler, loyal son of Concord, was then Speaker of the House of Representatives and he made so compelling a speech before the committee of the House, that Concord won the victory- but with a proviso.

The legislative act which disposed of the matter made it a condition that the new street (Capitol St.) must be open to travel on or before August 15, 1864- a time limit of about six weeks. Work began with a rush; buildings were condemned and moved away; men worked day and night and Sundays. Men were so scarce in that war time that leading citizens volunteered as laborers. Progress was excellent except for one ominous delay. At the west end of the proposed street stood a dwelling whose owner refused to sell and threatened injunction if force were brought to bear upon him. Time was limited and litigation must not be risked. The problem puzzled and irritated the townsfolk. It was then that Mayor Gale proved himself a worthy son of the pioneers, fearless and resourceful.

The newspapers of that day are discreetly reticent as to what happened but tradition tells the facts. On a Sunday morning in August a squad of men appeared with tools and rollers and with the Mayor's backing; before nightfall the good-sized two-story house had been removed from the line of the new street. Because it was the Sabbath its owner had no recourse to law so the work had gone merrily on; but it was a tense day for Concord and one apprehends that divine service was thinly attended that day. All this took place on August 14 and the time limit was the following Monday morning at nine o'clock. When that time limit arrived, all the city bells rang, all the factory whistles blew and cannon boomed from the hill, for Capitol St. stood wide open to traffic- and the State House remained in Concord. The house which Mayor Gale moved in such summary fashion is now the ell of the house at 46 N. State St.

We return now to the days of the 1798 map. The east side of the street offered more problems to the committee than were found on the west side, probably because the sharply sloping shelf of land tempted to use of the highway. Near present Hill's Ave. a sizeable brook ran across the street and there Ebenezer Dustin found a location favorable for his tannery. His large bark house trespassed on the street. On the north side of the brook from the tannery, was a property which Thomas Wilson purchased when he first came to town^{and} soon after the Revolution, a young man named John Thorndike opened an apothecary shop there. Thomas Wilson had a daughter (b. 1772) and the Concord Herald (March 28, 1792) announced- "Married last Sunday evening by Rev. Israel Evans. M^r. John Thorndike to Miss Polly Wilson, eldest daughter of M^r. Thomas Wilson of this town." In 1805 Thorndike, as he was known, purchased his shop from his father-in-law, probably for use of his business only, since the Thorndikes seem to have been living then on the Joseph Hall farm which henceforth would be known as Thorndike farm. On the 1798 map, John Thorndike's store is shown as a one-story building much smaller than Dustin's bark house.

On land today occupied by Phenix Hotel there stood in 1798 "a large well-finished dwelling house three stories high" thus described by Levi Hutchins who had, with his brother Abel, built it for a home for their families. The brothers had served as apprentices with Simon Willard, famous clockmaker in Roxbury, Mass. and in 1786 they entered business in Concord. Their first clocks were made in a small shop on a half acre lot which they purchased from "Mother Osgood's" son, Richard, and on our map "Hutchins shop" appears as a one-story hip-roofed building. The dwelling next door does not appear having been ~~discreetly~~ placed within proper limits.

Abel Hutchins married Elizabeth Partridge of Roxbury in 1789 and Levi married the daughter of his dead mother's intimate friend - Mrs. Benjamin Hannaford. Both Mrs. Hannaford and Mrs. Gordon Hutchins died during the Revolution: now the boy and girl friends - Levi and Phebe - began a long and happy married life together. The brothers purchased more land and their rather pretentious house was ^{one of} the first three-story house recorded in town, with a wide frontage on the street and a large garden south of the dwelling extending easterly for many rods. In that garden, years later the first railroad station in Concord was built.

Every good citizen owned his pew in the Meeting-house and an old deed bears witness that Abel Hutchins purchased from John Souther, the Revolutionary veteran, one half of Pew 19 in the year of his marriage. The brothers prospered and today their high grade tall clocks are much prized. They held all property in common and in 1793 added to their possessions by purchase from the Col. Paul Rolfe estate, of a farm on the west slope of Rattlesnake hill with a frontage on Long pond. In 1807 they dissolved partnership and Levi took the farm as his share of the property, soon after exchanging it for the Lovejoy Garrison farm in West Parish village. The rest of his long life was passed on this farm while Abel continued the clock business on the main street and later entered the hotel business.

* 44 N. Main St. Upper floors razed 1954.

The property south of the Hutchins home and shop, as far south as Dr. Thorndike's, was long held by the Osgood family and there, on the site of the First National Bank, was the tavern built by Hannah Osgood and run for a time by her youngest son, Richard Hazen. Hazen, as he was commonly known, hardly lived up to the family standard. It is to his credit that he served in Capt. Joshua Abbot's company as sergeant, at Bunker Hill, but in his later years he advertised his differences with his "wife, Sukey" in a local paper and she replied in kind. At that time (1795) he advertised his homestead for sale—a two-story house 44 x 34 with four rooms on each floor: pump, well, barn and nine acres of land in high state of cultivation "next north of Duncan store." Hazen moved to Conway there joining his brothers and his sister, and died there in 1796.

Five rods north of the Hutchins shop was the house of Esq. Samuel Green, younger brother of Esq. Peter Green. Born in Concord in 1770, he attended Phillips Andover, but left college to study law in his brother's office. He began the practice of law in a tiny one-story building south of his home which is sketched on the map as a large two-story building with a pitched roof and gable ends north and south. The house stood on the site of Emmons Store and closely north of it was George Hough's printing office on or near the site of 72 N. Main St. Next north was the Wilkins House ("Mother Osgood's" tavern) on the site of Merchants Exchange Block. This old tavern is the largest building on the map and has a pitched roof and north and south gables. Dea. Wilkins lived at Eleven Lots; if this building were still a tavern we find no record of its proprietor.

Directly north of the old tavern was the Stickney farm and on that section of it now occupied by the Eagle Hotel there may have been two or three small buildings for trade. The barber shop on the map stood about opposite Capitol St, the first one, ^{we} records/know that Aaron Abbot was a brother of the Abbots on Beaver Meadow. A blacksmith by trade, he had purchased for "100 Spanish Milled Dollars" (1757) a half interest in Henry

Lovejoy's iron works on Rattlesnake brook. Now, as he neared three score and ten, we find him living in the village and possibly it was he who ran the little shop. Aaron Abbot and his wife, Lydia, were members of the church from 1760 until their deaths in 1812 and 1811 respectively.

When Daniel Livermore (b. 1749) was a lad of fifteen, he came to Concord from his native place, Watertown, Mass., as apprentice to Dea. John Kimball, the North End joiner. In 1775 he was commissioned ensign and entered service in Col. John Stark's regiment. At the close of the war he had been promoted to rank of Major by brevet, in the U.S. Army. His "Journal of the 1779 Expedition against the Indians of the Six Nations" has been published by the N.H. Historical Society. Returning to Concord after the war, Maj. Livermore built the house indicated on the map and shown in our picture which is copied from Bouton's History. It stood on the vacant lot north of the ~~Old Building of the N.H. Historical Society~~ ^{old Bank Building 214 No. Main St} and its southwest corner was nine inches over the street line. Old Richard Herbert watched its construction and, in his dry fashion, used to remark - "When Maj. Livermore was building his house he was courting one of Judge Walker's daughters at the North End and he wanted it skewed a little so he could look up th at way." The Major must have known Sarah Walker ever since those youthful days when he came to Concord to work for her father's next door neighbor. Now, having won distinction by his patriotic service, and being a prosperous man, he wooed the lady and brought her as his bride to the new house (Dec. 1785 or Jan. 1786). Their wedded life was brief for in 1792 the Major died. His widow whose miniature is here reproduced, lived sometimes in Concord and sometimes in Boston until her death in Cambridge in 1843. The Livermore house had an interesting history in the early nineteenth century, to be recorded in a later chapter. Sadly altered, it stands today at 22-24 Jackson St.

The Herberts next north of the Livermore homestead were a thrifty folk and during the next two or three generations they used the family

property for ventures in trade. Jonathan (b. 1757) son of Richard Herbert, kept store in a building which stood directly north of 226 N. Main St., probably the store noted on the 1798 map. An elder generation remembers it as an ancient two-story building standing gable end to the street. It was finally torn down to enlarge the lawn of the F. S. Streeter home at 234 N. Main St. Jonathan's younger brother, Charles, was a hatter by trade and his little shop stood near the store. He was a zealous Christian and through his influence a Saturday night prayer meeting for men was held at his father's house in Herbert's lane, over a period of years.

Richard Jr. (b. 1761) was farmer, butcher and later a tavern keeper in a house which he built for himself on the southerly end of the family land. His tavern has its place in a later chapter. The Herbert brothers had a sister, Sally (b. 1766) who married in 1791 a young man from Exeter named John Odlin, brother of Mrs. Thomas Stickney Jr. Some years before his marriage he bought from the heirs of Ephraim Farnum, the latter's original house lot which was directly north of the Stickney farm. On the crest of the little hill, it overlooked the deep ravine made by Tanyard brook and there he built a long, low, one-story house with two doorways along its west front and one at each gable end. The house stood on the site of the brick house built by his descendants at 186 N. Main St. and Henry McFarland declares "the fire did not expire on the hearth for twenty-two years"—a record even in those days when extraordinary care was taken to keep live coals through the night in both summer and winter. John Odlin was town clerk from 1794 till 1819 and it is said that it became habitual for the moderator at town meeting to announce—"Gentlemen will you please bring in your votes for John Odlin Town Clerk."

The North End was the center of trade in Concord during these last years of the eighteenth century and many shops and stores were located within a quarter mile radius of the Meeting-house. In the possession of the N. H. Historical Society there is a quaint sign from the hatter

shop of Benjamin Kimball 2d: a single board 7 feet 8 inches long and 2 feet 8 inches wide, painted in three panels. The center panel shows a beaver at work and the end panels picture stylish hats for men. Sometime prior to 1795, this young man, son of Dea. John Kimball, bought a strip of land 31 feet wide off the south edge of taverner Hannaford's homestead, built a shop and began his trade. Shortly he married a Canterbury girl, bought additional land north of his shop and built the beautiful old house which stands high on its terrace shaded by fine old elms. A wall of granite blocks in front of the house is an excellent example of early granite cutting which may have been the product of Kimball's son-in-law, Luther Roby, who opened the first quarry on Rattlesnake hill; or, it may have been built earlier while the prison was under construction, for its blocks seem identical with those used in that structure. A picturesque wooden gate painted green, original with the wall, may be seen in our picture. This wall ends abruptly at the driveway where the hatter shop used to stand, flush with the sidewalk. Years ago the shop was moved to Appletown about a half mile beyond Old Fort Cemetery and there used as a private school.

Benjamin Kimball had a rival in business directly across the highway, in the person of David George, Jr. whose hatter shop stood on the north edge of the lot now occupied by the Rumford Arms. His father, David George, Sr., was born in Haverhill, Oct. 27, 1744, came to Concord as a young man and married Dorothy, daughter of Capt. Nathaniel Abbot in 1766. In 1782 he purchased the 8 acre estate previously the home of Dr. Ebenezer Harnden Goss who had married one of Parson Walker's daughters. The house stood on the site of Rumford Arms.

David George, Jr. was the eldest child and when he was ready to start his trade, his father sold him a strip of land and there a small shop was built. In 1789 the young man married Elizabeth Emery, daughter of Capt. Benjamin Emery. In 1808 he purchased 20½ acres south of the

Burying-ground and there, in a house at the corner of present Church St. the couple made their home. When David George, Jr. died in 1838, the inventory of his estate noted this homestead and also the latter shop on the main street. This was his second shop, however, where as postmaster (1804-15) Mr. George kept the post office. On a January night in 1798, the whole North End was roused by the cry of "Fire!" and the first hatter shop was destroyed and "the store of Messers P. & O. Carrigain" which was "contiguous" was threatened. "The anxiety of the citizens when so much property was exposed was amazing; and by the assistance of some ladies, they happily extinguished the destructive element, with little damage to anything except the building." (Bouton)

The editor of the *Mirror* in his printing shop across the way, looked at the ruins and wrote for his next edition - "Query? Would it not be a good plan for every man to keep a good ladder and one or two proper fire-buckets always ready?" Perhaps this was the seed which sprouted a few years later into Concord's first fire-fighting organization. Meanwhile David George, Jr. rebuilt his shop on a lot on the northwest corner of his father's homestead and that building - the oldtime post office - now stands somewhat altered at 23 Bradley St.

The Carrigain brothers were much in evidence, both as business men and in a social way. In 1797 they advertised a general store - "dry goods, groceries, hardware, drugs: formerly conducted by Luther Fisk." As early as 1791 the store had been carried on by Hazen Kimball, eldest of Dea. John Kimball's family, "opposite the Hannaford tavern, selling European, India and American goods". Presumably the building stood on the Kimball homestead property directly north of the present site of Rumford Arms. In 1796 P. & O. Carrigain were advertising a "New Store" - "Drugs, medicines, surgeons instruments, medical books, Eng. W. I. goods" - shortly afterward, adding "dry goods & shoes". By that time Philip was sole proprietor.

The George property adjoined the Carrigain homestead on the north and was bounded on its north side by the Kimball homestead and Hazen's

~~his~~ store was doubtless near the line between the two properties. This explains how the Carrigain brothers store was "contiguous" to the fire in the latter's shop. Hazen Kimball's store probably stood on the site of the brick building which ~~his~~ sister, Mrs. Anna True, built in later years and which was torn down in 1949 to make way for the bridge approach north of Rumford Arms.

By the year 1800 the Carrigain store was "next door to David George's new coffee house" our first intimation that Mr. George had become an innkeeper. Carrigain's Folly had been built and perhaps the store was there, closely south of the new tavern. That year the partnership dissolved again and the firm is O. Carrigain & Co. David George Jr., competing with Benjamin Kimball across the street "informs the public that he makes Beaver Castor and felt hats at his shop opposite Honeyford's tavern in Concord, N.H. and has them for sale at reasonable prices. He will give cash for Raccoon and Musquash skins."

Following the change in the Carrigain store in 1800, Jonathan Williams opened the "New Book Store" a few rods north of the George inn in 1801 and added "general goods" to his stock. In 1801 a store for English and West India goods and groceries was advertised by Enoch and Charles Emery, sons of Capt. Benjamin Emery, "near the meeting house." Enoch died in 1802 and his brother continued the business until 1810. This store and its location as described in a later deed imply that it stood on the east end of the Meeting-house lot-in the triangular park between present Bouton and Main Sts. In later years a number of shops or stores stood on this lot.

Hannaford's tavern on the south corner of present Church St. was a busy place and on the Davis property next south was the printing office of the *Mirroure*; and until about 1795 John West had his smithy on the south corner of Franklin St. During the next ten years business at the North End would increase and only the building of the State House would

would turn the tide to the southward.

In 1789 the 11th Regiment N.H.Militia had two Concord men among its field officers, in the persons of Col. Aaron Kinsman and Maj. William Duncan. Three years later the two days training of this famous regiment was held on Eastman's plain on the East Side, various companies being quartered in the neighboring barns. "An immense number of spectators- women and children-were on the field. A six pounder fired on the occasion produced the greatest wonder!". On November 1st of the same year, the "Concord Herald" carried this notice:

"Regiment Lecture at the Meeting-house by Israel Evans at 2 p.m. at which Officers of the said Regiment are desired to attend in their Regimentals."

As Concord increased in prosperity her people developed interests in the field of drama-the first play being staged by a group of amateur players(all male) in the Town Hall on April 11, 1793. The play was a tragedy "the Revenge" and it stirred a lively newspaper controversy on the propriety of such entertainment. This, perhaps, marks the time when the traditional Puritanism of the town began to wane because of the influx of young men of alien ideas, since the war. In 1798 our first library was incorporated with a list of Proprietors which included the conservative names of Judge Walker, Hon. John Bradley, Jonathan Eastman and others of the old tradition. Authorized to hold property to the amount of \$1,000. these Proprietors of Concord Library raised funds by subscription and collected a valuable lot of books. The enterprise was successfully carried on for about twenty-five years.

The "Oxford War" gave fresh opportunity for Concord men to express their patriotism. Aside from those who volunteered for service, a long list of older men, including some Revolutionary veterans, organized as minute men for home defence. Happily there was never a need for such defence; indeed, the most exciting event locally in connection with the "Oxford War"

was the discovery just as a company of troops was ready to march away, that Dr. Thorndike's store had been entered and ten dollars stolen: also that a pair of saddlebags containing valuable jewelry had been stolen from a traveller lodging at Anchor tavern. When the company was ready to depart, Commissary Gale reported the thefts to the captain who ordered each soldier's equipment to be searched. A man from Salisbury was revealed as the thief and "he fell on his knees with hat in hand, made humble confession to the captain, to Dr. Thorndike, Mr. Gale and to all the soldiers; and humbly begged for mercy." He was allowed to go without punishment. Crime was so unusual in Concord that this episode was sensational.

The most important social event at the close of the century was the ball held in honor of the ordination of Rev. Asa McFarland as the new Minister of the town. It took place at Stickney's tavern which stood on the north corner of present Court St. in favorable proximity to the Town House. The affair was in the evening after the ceremonies in the Meeting-house had ended, and while the town was still thronged with people who had come from miles around to attend the ceremony and attendant festivities.

There had been a procession from the Town House to the Meeting-house headed by a band and, as customary on all public occasions, the approach to the edifice was lined with stands where food and strong drink was sold to the crowd. It was a crowd indeed, for taverner Gale estimated that at least twelve hundred sleighs drove into our main street that day. The town paid the expense of the celebration, for the Minister was a town official as well as an ecclesiastic. Among all the taverns of Concord, Stickney's was the most famous. Opened in 1791 by William Stickney, son of Col. Thomas Stickney, its sign was an Indian said to be King Philip, and that sign is now in possession of the N.H. Historical Society. Stickney's was a favorite place for dancing parties and this ordination ball was the peak of such balls and parties. According to Henry McFarland, Stickney's was "an eminently respectable inn, where a judge of the superior court might stay and not be ashamed of either his quarters or the company he met."

As the new century dawned, Concord faced a bright future.