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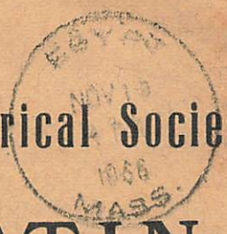


Eighth man

The Scituate Historical Socie

BULLETIN







Mr. Edward Rowe Snow,
Marshfield, R.F.D.
Mass

VOLUME VIII. SCITUATE, MASS. MARCH, 1956. NUMBER 1.

A glance at the above head line will show that the BULLETIN has been prepared and delivered to our members for seven complete years. We believe that our Society was the first to inaugurate a program of this sort, but our example has now been followed by other Societies in Massachusetts, notably the Nantucket Society, which presents a quite elaborate printed issue each quarter, whose example we would be glad to e mulate, but which is entirely beyond our means, the Nantucket Society having a membership of about one thousand, while ours is as you know about two hundred. Another Society, the Old Dartmouth of New Bedford presents a smaller but very interesting issue which is also printed. We do not know how many members the New Bedford Society has, but probably it is a much larger group than ours.

The original concept behind our decision to establish the BULLETIN was that our members should have more information about our Society and what it is doing or trying to do than can be obtained by paying their annual does and attending one or two meetings a year, (although we do have interesting meetings). Our annual dues by the way have not been increased since the formation of the Society in 1917.

We believe that the idea was a sound one, and we have thereby kept many old members and have attracted many new ones. We of course wish to keep the cost of issuing the BULLETIN and maintaining the Cudworth House within our income, which is derived almost entirely from dues paid by our annual members. In this connection y our Editor was greatly cheered the other day by the receipt of a contribution f rom one of our newer members with the comment that the Bulletin was much appreciated and that it must cost consid erable to produce it, and was worth much more than the one dollar paid in dues each year. We extend our thanks to the contributor, and would not objec t if this idea would spread among other members.

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Recent acquisitions at the Cudworth House are a large picture of the old Lincoln House which stood on the Country Way just over the Town line in Cohasset, and was burned near the turn of the century. This house was built by Mordecai Lincoln in 1717 for his son Isaac, and the site is now occupied by the residence of Mr. Harry Lincoln, a direct descendent of Mordecai. The picture is a gift from Mr. Wendell Brown, to whom we extend our thanks.

An antique china doll more than 150 years old complete with costume and ear- rings presented by Mrs. Foye Murphy makes a very acceptable addition to our museum room; thank you Mrs. Murphy.

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On the following pages will be found a continuation of the story of the old Scituate Light House, showing the changes and alterations made after 1811, with the cost of these changes; compare the cost then with the probable cost of like work now.

The Light was abondoned by the Government on the completion of the first Minots Light, and came into the possession of the Town in 1923, it was then without a lantern, but a new lantern was installed by the Town, as near like the one removed by the Government as was possible.

The old Light is now under the care of our Park Department and is visited by many people at all times of the year.

Articles of Agreement entered into this twelfth day of June A.D. 1811, betweeh Henry Dearborn, Collector for the district of Boston and Charleston, in behalf of the United States, on the one part, and Nathal Gill Jr. Joseph Hammond Jr. and Charles Gill all of Hingham, in the county of Plymouth in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Yeamen on the other part. Witnesseth, that the said Nathal Gill Jr. Joseph Hammond Jr and Charles Gill, on their part hereby agrees and engages to erect a light house, Lwelling House & Oil Vault on Cedar Point, at the entrance of the Harbour of Scituate, in the aforesaid county of Plymouth, and to complete the same, together with all the appendages, in a faithful and workmanlike manner, in strict conformity with the advertisement hereunto annexed, and to complete the whole by the first day of December next, for the consideration of the sum of three thousand two hundred dollars, and the said Henry Dearborn in his aforesaid capacity agrees and engages on his part to pay to the said Nathal Gill Jr. Joseph Hammond Jr. and Charles Gill the aforesaid sum of three thousand two hundred dollars as soon as they shall have completed the said buildings and appendages in conformity with their foregoing engagement, provided that no Member of Congress shall be concerned or interested in this contract.

In Witness where of the parties have hereunto interchangeably set their hands & seals the day & date above mentioned.

Signed and Sealed
in presence of

James Lovell
Jn°. Wheelwright

(Signed)

H. Dearborn
Nathaniel Gill Jr.
Joseph Hammond Jr.
Charles Gill

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Articles of agreement entered into this twenty sixth day of June, anno Domini, One thousand eight hundred and twenty seven between Henry A.S. Dearborn, Collector for the District of Boston and Charlestown in behalf of the United States of America, of the one part, and Marshall Lincoln of Hingham in the State of Massachusetts on the other part Witnesseth, that the said Marshall Lincoln on his part agrees and engages to make the alteration in Scituate Light House, of the following material and description.

A superstructure 15 feet high to be raised above the Tower of good hard brick of the same thickness as the top of the present walls. One half of the diameter of this addition to be divided into four openings with five granite pillars five feet high, and 4 caps all 10 inches square: at the bottom of the opening soap-stone sills, 3 inches thick and ten inches wide supported on brick work, nine inches high -- the pillars, caps, and sills to be rabbetted to receive the frames of iron sashes -- on the top of the tower an arch to support a soap-stone deck of sufficient diameter to give nine inch coverings; in one side of the deck a scuttle 20 inches square to enter the lantern -- the scuttle - door and rabbets to be covered with copper - the present lantern and railing to be placed on the deck in complete repair and painted inside and out -- In the brick part of t he tower a window of 12 panes of 7 by 9 glass frame and sash iron - two feet below the bottom of the four openings a deck, double boarded on joist 3 by 6 inches with a scuttle 2 feet by 3.- the deck, scuttle - door and rabbets to be covered with copper - circular stairs to lead from this deck to within 6 feet of the Scuttle of the lantern and from the stairs to the Scuttle an iron ladder - the spaces between the stone pillars to be filled with iron sashes of 12 panes each - rabbets 3/4 of an inch deep - the frames to fit tight in the rabbets and firmly secured to the pillars, caps and sills except one sash which is to be hung with hinges to shut close into the rabbets and secured by two iron turn buttons - the sashes to be glazed with best Boston double glass. On the outside of the tower as far as the sashes extend to be two iron rails supported by iron cranes and Standards and to be painted twice over - in the inside of each opening to be two iron frames with hinges made so that to each frame may be fitted a Patent Lamp with a 16 inch reflector in the same manner as the frame lamps and reflectors are fitted in Boston Light House. The 8 lamps and reflectors to be made

in the same manner and of the same quality of those in the Boston Light House and each lamp to be so fitted as to afford a blood-red light - in each opening a metal tube one inch in diameter to lead from one foot above the top of the tube glasses through the deck of the lantern, the lower end expanding so as to receive the smoke of the two lamps: the lighting apparatus now in the lantern to be put in complete order and replaced in the same manner they now are - the electrical conductor to be lengthened and replaced - the whole Tower to be whitewashed twice over. The whole to be finished in a workmanlike manner by the first day of September next for the consideration of the sum of One thousand and seventy four dollars.

And the said Henry A.S. Dearborn in his capacity aforesaid agrees and engages to pay to said Lincoln the sum of One Thousand and Seventy Four Dollars when the whole of said work shall have been completed in conformity to his foregoing agreement. Provided that no Member of Congress shall be concerned or interested in this Contract.

Signed, Sealed, and delivered in the presence of us
(Signed) Wm A. Wellman
B. M. Gay

John Wheelwright & Son
for Henry A. S. Dearborn

Marshall Lincoln

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Articles of agreement entered into this eighth day of February A.D. Eighteen hundred & forty one, between George Bancroft Collector etc., for the District of Boston and Charlestown, in behalf of the United States of America, on the one part, & Winslow Lewis of Boston in the state of Massachusetts, on the other part, Witnesseth --- That the said Winslow Lewis on his part, agrees & engages to repair & refit the two Lighthouses and lanterns at Thatcher's Island & repair & refit the Lighthouse and lantern at Scituate, in this state, of the following materials, dimensions, & description, Viz: The old lanterns at Thatcher's Island Lighthouses to be taken off & the towers taken down until the diameters are increased to twelve feet, then carried up perpendicular, to their original height; The new walls to be laid with hard brick, & to be carried up the same thickness as the stone walls where they commence, at the top of the new walls a brick arch to be turned on which to be laid soap stone decks fourteen feet diameter, well bedded in Roman cement; the outside circle of stone to be four inches thick & to be long enough to run two inches inside of the lanterns; the lantern floors to be soapstone, on which to be wrought iron lanterns, of sufficient height & diameters to admit in each octagon eight lights, twenty four by twenty inches & two lights twenty four by twelve inches; the posts to be four inches wide & one inch thick, to run down four feet into the walls; Sashes to show one fourth of an inch on the outside rabbets one inch deep. The dome to be formed with sixteen iron rafters one inch iron - concentrating in an iron hoop seven inches wide, & twelve inches diameter; in one of the octagons to be a door four by two feet to shut tight into rabbets, with two strong turn buttons. On top of the domes to be ventilators fifteen inches diameter, twenty seven inches high, an apperture on the sides twelve inches by six inches, the funnel to project out ten inches by 6 inches; the domes & doors to be covered with copper (32 ounce), the vanes, which are to be thirty inches long & twelve inches wide, & the ventilators, covered with twenty eight ounce copper; round the lantern to be an iron railing, railing posts 1½ inch square, two rails 7/8 inch square Lanterns to be glazed with the best French plate glass, suitable thickness, twenty four by twenty inches, the lower sash - twelve by twenty inches, to be fitted in with 30 oz copper, in four of which are to be ventilators. Lantern to be painted two coats, outside black - inside white, & the towers whitewashed; each lighthouse to be fitted up with ten lamps & ten twenty one inch reflectors, on two tiers. The reflectors to be formed on a die, each to be platted with fifteen ounces of pure silver, furnished with brass rims; two spare lamps, stove and funnel, & the lamps fitted with oil heaters.

And the said Winslow Lewis on his part further agrees & engages to perform the following work & furnish the following articles

& materials at and for the Lighthouse at Scituate, Viz: The old lantern deck and arch to be taken off & the walls taken down four feet to admit the lantern posts to run down that length, then built up to their present height, where a new brick arch is to be turned on which is to be laid a new soapstone deck bedded in Roman cement, thirteen feet diameter, outside circle four inches thick & to run inside the lantern two inches; a suitable sized scuttle through the arch and deck. Scuttle door on iron frame covered with copper.

A new lantern to be puton of sufficient height & diameter to admit six lights in each octagon, twenty four by sixteen inches. & two sixteen by fourteen inches; the posts of the lantern to be three inches wide and and one inch thick & to run down four feet into the walls; the lantern to be in every other respect the same as those described herein for Thatchers Island Lighthouse, & to be glazed with the best French plate glass, 16 by 24 inches, the lower tier 14 by 16 inches filled in with copper; the lanterns painted with two coats of paints, & the tower whitewashed; the upper lantern to be fitted with eleven lamps in two tiers, & eleven fourteen inch reflectors, the lower light with four lamps & four fourteen inch reflectots, all fitted to the centre appature, & to reflect directly to the seaboard, the last to be glazed with plate glass, & each reflector to produce a red light; all the lamps to have oil heaters, stove and funnel, & the reflectors to be plated with nine ounces of pure silver.

And the said Lewis agrees and engages that during said repairs there shall be no diminution of light at either Thatchers Island, or Scituate. The whole to be completed on or before the tenth day of May next, in a workmanlike manner, & to be approved by the said George Bancroft, or such persons as he shall appoint for that purpose; for the sum of seven thousand & ninety dollars, including temporary lights during said repairs. And the said George Bancroft in his capacity as aforesaid, agrees & engeges on his part to pay to said Lewis the sum of seven thousand & ninety dollars, when the whole of the work shall have been completed, (provided that no member of Congress shall be concerned in this contract, or interested therein,) in conformity to this foregoing agreement.

Signed sealed & delivered
in presence of
Wm.A.Wellman.
Robt.B.Edey.

George Bancroft,
Superintendent.
Winslow Lewis.

Boston May 21st, 1841.

This is to certify that I have examined & inspected the lanterns & lighting apparatus at Thatchers Island & at Scituate, & to the best of my judgment the work is faithfully performed according to the within contract.

Josiah Sturgis,
U.S. R.S.

Boston, May 22, 1841.

Received of Levi Lincoln, Seven thousand & ninety dollars, in full for the within contract.

Winslow Lewis.

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Our Annual Meeting will be held this year on Saturday, June 16. We had been pondering as to what form of entertainment could be provided. As you know it has been our policy to have the talent for these meet- furnished by our own people, when we were very gratified to receive a suggestion which solves the problem perfectly and will provide a program which has not been presented before and will take us back to the beginnings of Scituate and the occupations of the early settlers, and which will illustrated by exhibits from our collection at the Cudworth House. We are sure it will be well worth hearing and seeing. Don't miss it.