

**START**



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Marine Society**

**September 2003**

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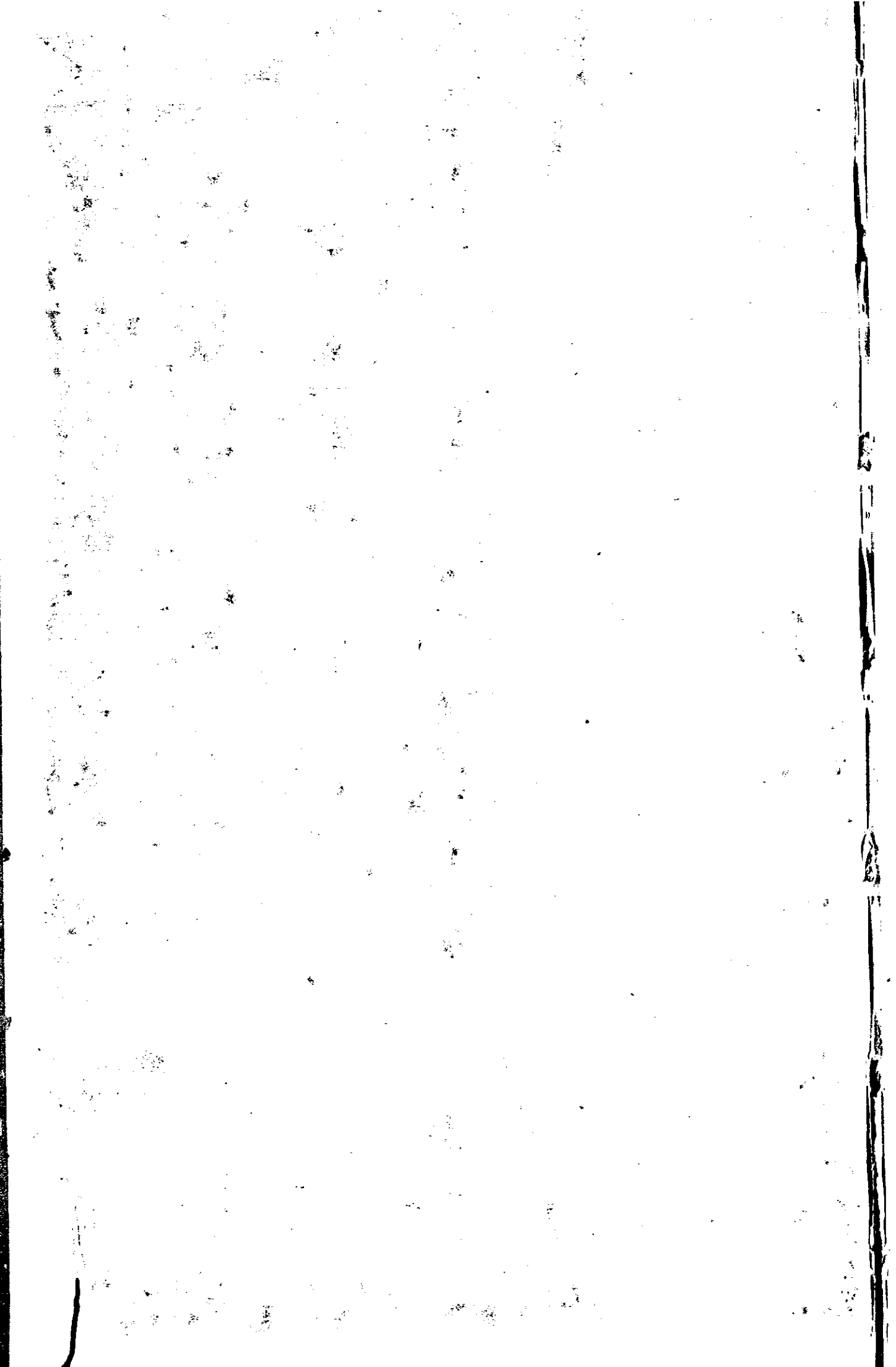
**MARINE SOCIETY**

**LETTER BOOK**

**1771 - 1872**

**TIGHT BINDING  
MAY RESULT IN  
GUTTER SHADOW**

*Marine Society*  
*Letter Book.*



2004



Wilmington, Dec. 24, 1860.

To the Members of the Masonic Society.

Gent.

It has been said that I was in the way as to the Society obtaining a subscription to replace a building, in place of the Franklin Building just destroyed by fire; nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see a three story Brick Building placed on the foundation of the one just destroyed; the income of it to be distributed among the members of the Society, as was desired by my Uncle, Thomas Perkins, late of Topsfield, and I shall ever hold myself ready to do anything I can to aid in promoting what was his wish in the matter.

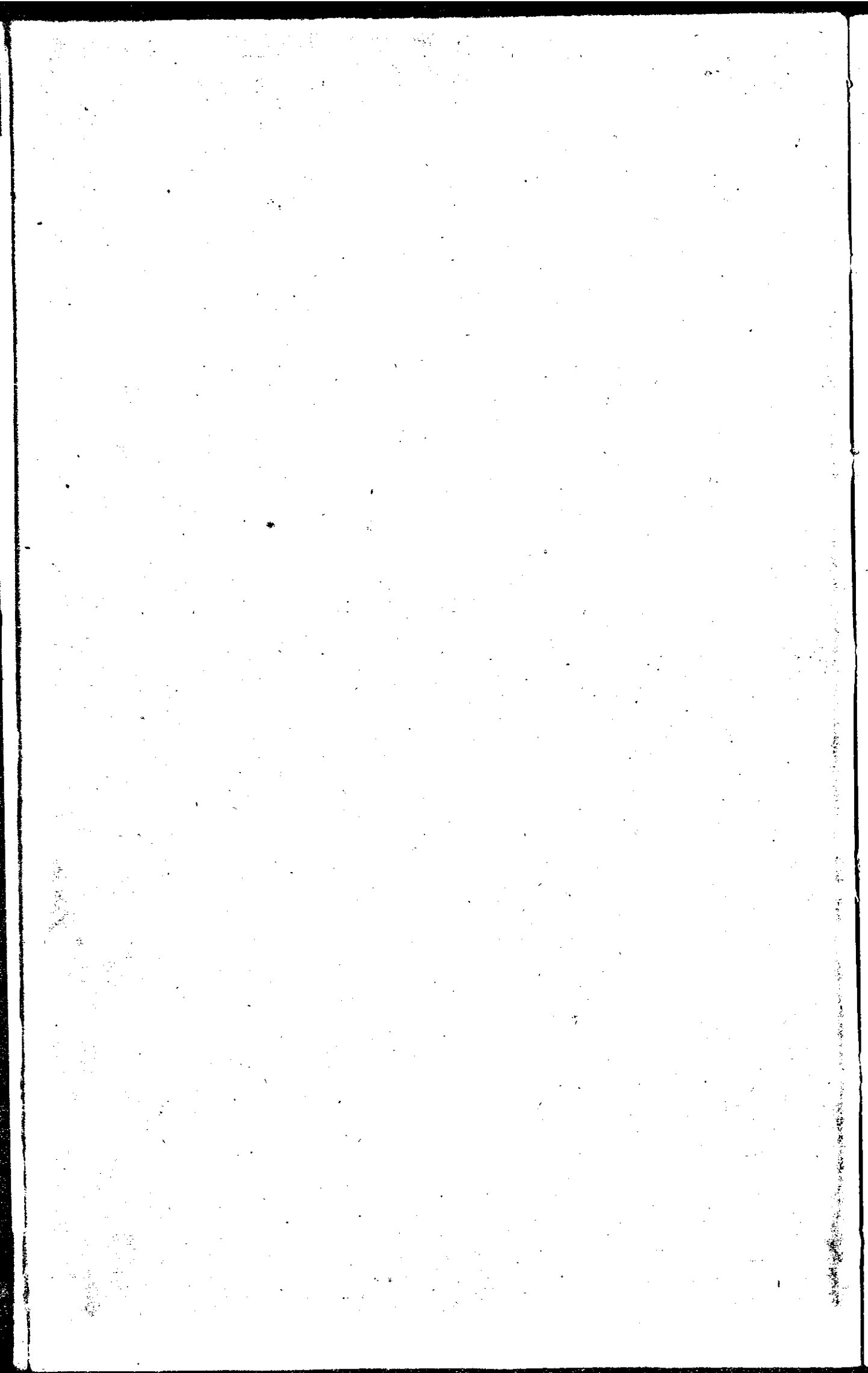
Respectfully  
 Daniel Pringle

Wilmington, Oct. 24, 1860.  
 To the Members of the Miami Society.

Gent.

It has been said that I was in the way as to the Society obtaining a subscription to replace a building, in place of the Franklin Building just destroyed by fire; nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see a three story Brick Building placed on the foundation of the one just destroyed, the income of it to be distributed among the members of the Society, as was desired by my Uncle, Thomas Perkins, late of Ipsfield, and I shall ever hold myself ready to do anything I can to aid in promoting what was his wish in the matter.

Respectfully  
 David Prigree



Sir

1. Salem February 28. 1771.

Please to have me excused, if my Brethren think proper, my reason for it is, my Schooner is to sail to morrow, as soon as she heels, & I have to settle with Cap<sup>t</sup> Proctor this evening, as we could not do it sooner, from tis with respect

Your most humble Servant  
Samuel Williams

To Cap<sup>t</sup> Jon<sup>s</sup> Gardner  
President of the Marine Society  
Salem.

To the President & Brethren  
of the Marine Society } Salem February 28. 1771.

Sirs

The last time I attended the Meeting, I think we were but few in number, the smallness, I think was the reason some matters was left undetermined, respecting times &c.

I then promised myself the pleasure of attending this evening in order to give my sentiments as a Member, & also to obviate some doubts respecting my (neglect as it is called) & non attendance.

And am sorry I cannot come, being not well enough to go abroad, — Therefore as a well wisher to the Society, whom we'd aim at nothing, but what might tend to promote unanimity, & brotherly love, begs leave to take this method to communicate some remarks to your consideration. —

And first, when the Society was first formed, I was one of its members, we then had eighteen, whom studied, with some pains

2.

pains on Rules or Cashes (Laws) thought the most conducive to  
promote harmony thro' the whole; & I'm sorry to find the  
alteration of them, must be disagreeable to many of its members  
for we see daily instances where infringements are made, there  
is opposition & its my opinion, that no Law can be made in  
the Society respecting times, without at least the unanimous consent  
of at least eighteen, the number that first constituted the Society.  
I am quite willing to conform to all rules intended for the  
good of the Body, nor shall I ever be backward in paying such  
times as was intended at the first Institution of the Laws, which  
were not meant to deprive me of the company of my friend,  
whom might happen to come some miles that day or purpose  
to see me, & many other circumstances that might not be  
convenient to mention, so that all compulsory measures,  
are more or less offensive to every son of Liberty & also if by  
adhering to the present Rules, a person must not belong to  
any other Society, except he pays his time here, much might  
be said on this matter which I must at present omit, with  
respect to my times, if at the next meeting I shall have the  
pleasure to be there, & cannot give sufficient reasons for my  
non attendance, shall pay them with pleasure, I beg none may  
take offence at these remarks as there is none intended, & if  
they will be in any wise of the least service I shall have my  
whole Deans. — Who am with due respect —

Sir

Your obed<sup>t</sup> & whole Serv<sup>t</sup> =  
W. Linty

At an Annual March Meeting of the Marine Society  
of Salem Anno Domini 1771. —

Having under consideration an affair relative to  
Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Berry's conduct in changing of a small Boat belonging  
to the Snow Fortune on his Voyage to the Mediterranean with  
Cap<sup>t</sup>. William Barb in a Brigantine belonging to Marblehead,  
that the said Berry denying & wishing all the judgements of  
Heaven might be afflicted upon him, if that he received any  
more than four current Dollars, which is equal to three hard  
Dollars. upon examination of M<sup>r</sup>. Nathan Brown Mate of  
said Snow & his own declaration at his arrival — says he saw the  
Money paid which was four hard Dollars, having maturely  
consider'd of the same, & are of opinion that the said Berry  
not only fraudulently concealed from his owner his just due  
but to invoke his makers displeasure against himself in such  
a notorious manner — We think it necessary for the well being  
of this Society to take notice of the same — therefore that the  
said Berry hath scandalously forfeited his Trust, therefore we  
do ~~not~~ look on said Berry as not a fit Member of this Society  
without a due repentance of the same, this being presented at every  
monthly meeting, till the major part of the Society has sign'd  
it, then to have it read in the presence of said Berry, but if said  
Berry can bring sufficient evidence to prove the above assertion  
to be false, then this to be void, if not to remain in full force  
& to be excluded from the benefit of this Society. —

Jon <sup>a</sup> . Gardner Jr.	Stephen Cleveland	George Cabot
W <sup>m</sup> . Sully	Samuel Grant	William Bartlett
Samuel Williams	Daniel Hathorne	Edward Allen
Nath <sup>l</sup> . Knight	John Browditch	Jon <sup>a</sup> . Webb
Amos Mansfield	Henry Higginson	Joseph Lee
Robert H. Hock	Josiah Orne	John & Francis Jacob

Jacob Crowninshield Robert Waller  
Ellen Ward Jun<sup>r</sup> William Newman  
William Morgan - Lathan Dodge  
Joseph Lambert -

Sir

Salem June 10. 1779

As we find by the Act of Incorporation that we are obliged to assemble on the second Tuesday in June 1779 to appoint our first Master, Deputy Master, Treasurer, & Clerk &c. as shall be thought proper, & all other matters which may arise agreeable to our Laws & can be done at said Meeting, we your Petitioners pray you would call said Meeting by Ticket agreeable to said Act -

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jon<sup>n</sup>. Gardner  
President of the Marine  
Society - Salem

Samuel Williams  
David Masury  
Daniel Hathorne  
Amos Mansfield  
Eden, & Needham -

The Humble Petition of Nathaniel Knight, -

To his beloved Brethren of the Marine Society -

Gentlemen

I have met with misfortunes on the 27<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> last, & lost most part of Interest (Chest, Cloths & Books) Instruments Humbly ask your consideration under my hard Fortune -

Salem January 27. 1775 -

To the Master & Brethern of the Marine Society  
Gentlemen

My circumstances is such which obliges me to crave your assistance, as I am now in good health & able to do business, but having none presented for this two years past, & not being able to help myself without selling my House, which at this present time would not fetch half the value & having a large Family to maintain without some sort of business, it dont lay in my power to do —

I have offerd several times to go Mate of a Vessel but have been refused, I have been to Boston to try there, they say something is the matter, such a Man as that to leave Salem, that abounds in Trade, to come here for business it seems as if he had been guilty of some misdemeanor or they would have employed him in Salem. —

Now Gentlemen my request to you is this, if there is Money enough in Stock, to let me have One hundred pounds & take my place for Security, you would oblige me very much or if there should not be that sum, if the Brethern be so kind as to contribute each of them, what they think proper, & place it in the Masters hands, setting each Gentlemens name with the sum they advance, so as to enable to purchase some small Craft to get my living in, I will give Cap<sup>l</sup> Gardner my place as security paying each man accordingly, to what he shall please to subscribe, & in so doing it will enable me with Gods blessing to get a living & maintain my Family, & shall always be in duty bound to thank both the Master & Brethern



O.

of the Society for the favour granted to your ever honoured  
Servant George Southward  
one of your Honoured Members —

Sir

Salom Monday 21. 1765.

You are desired to notify the Members of the Marine  
Society to attend the Funeral of Cap<sup>t</sup>. William Gray to-  
morrow at 3 O'Clock P.M.

Jonathan Gardner Mas<sup>r</sup>

To Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jon<sup>n</sup>. Mason  
(Clerk of the Marine Society)

Gentlemen

Beverly March 27. 1769

Yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> Instant being laid before the  
Members at a Meeting called for the purpose, was duly examined  
& fully approved off, each Member paying their Arrears &  
agreeable to your resolve, which money am<sup>t</sup> to £4. 6. 2.  
together with 11/6 that was in my hands before, which sum  
awaits your orders. In the interim remain

Brethren Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>. Hum<sup>l</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>  
William Bartlett

To the Brethren of the  
Marine Society  
Salom

M<sup>r</sup> President & Brethern of the Marine Society  
Salem Decem<sup>r</sup>, 25. 1788

I wish you a happy Christmas & a new Year. I have been lately told that some of the Members wonder'd that I had not Petitioned to the Society for some help as well as others after my losses every way, & sickness for almost two Years, & nothing to support upon, only as I once in a great while pick up a Shilling or two, & every one must know how hard it is to collect in old Debts & to depend on them for support, leaves him very needy if not suffering at times, I cannot pretend to say if I could get in my lawful Debts, so as to put me in a small way of business to support myself, it is not very likely to me I should be a burden to any body, I had engag'd a House for that purpose but have no Stock, even to support upon from day to day, I have lately sued as many People as amounts to between thirty or forty pounds, but dont expect to get it or any part of it till next Summer, tho' I have attached a small sum as a part of it. Gentlemen I am in great want of about twelve or fifteen pounds for the above purpose & but a small part of it in money, & you may be as sure of being repaid the next Summer in Cash as any person could be assure. — let their circumstances be ever so good, I suppose you cannot let the money according to the old articles without land security, that I have none of in this State, tho' I have some in a neighbouring State; but I have been thinking that if a few of the members will be so good as to join together, it might easily be done, & help a poor & unfortunate petitioner to have a being again, & shall ever  
I think

8.  
think of it with gratitude & give thanks, I should write more  
but the cold weather & the nature of my disorder, wont permit  
me. I am Gentlemen your sincere well wishes &

Humble Servant  
David Masury

At a meeting of the Marine Society at Salem in the County  
of Essex in New England on the last Thursday of October  
A D 1789 being the twenty ninth day of said Month & being  
the Annual Meeting; —

Voted: — That a Committee of three be chosen to present  
to the General Court of this Commonwealth a Memorial praying  
that the Act for Incorporating said Society, & the Act made  
in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & eighty  
four in addition to said Act of Incorporation, may be so  
altered & amended, as that the meeting of the said Society  
may be again Monthly & that at such Monthly Meetings, they  
may be empowered to choose & admit Members, provided two  
thirds of the Members present Vote for said Admission at  
such Monthly Meetings it may be by a Major Vote. —

Voted  
That John Fish Esq<sup>r</sup>, Jonathan Gardner Esq<sup>r</sup>, & Cap<sup>t</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup>  
West be of this Committee. —

A true Copy attested —

Voted

That the Clerk of this Society be directed to make out his Notifications for the next monthly Meeting to meet at the House of Cap<sup>t</sup> Samuel Robinson in Salem, & continue so to do, untill the further orders of this Society, & the said Clerk inform Cap<sup>t</sup> Webb, that the inconcommodity of the smallness of his Room is the occasion of this removal. —

March 25. 1790. —

Gentlemen & Brethern Salem Decem<sup>r</sup> 11. 1790

I am much obliged to you, for your favour granted me, & still wish you to continue your favour to me, but in another way; as I am now going Eastward, should it be a greater favour, if any, or all the Brethern of the Society would speak to the Officers of the Revenue, for any small place for me, your charity for me in that way, by getting me employment will exceed your other Charity, I have the promise of the first vacancy from Major Keller; but as I shall be gone untill the last of March or the first of April I am afraid it will be out of sight - out of mind, unless I have some one to speak for me. —

I am Brethern Yours &c. —  
 Nath<sup>l</sup> Bowditch

Sir

Newburyport July 30. 1791.

Your favour of the 14<sup>th</sup> Instant, together with Sermons, which accompanied it, were duly received, & laid before the Society at their next Meeting, which was on the 28<sup>th</sup> Instant. — I am directed Sir, to return the thanks of the Marine Society of this Town, to the Gentlemen composing the Marine Society at Salem, for their friendly communications & agreeable present.

I am Sir Your most obedient & very  
Humble Servant —  
Will<sup>m</sup>. Combs —

Cap<sup>t</sup> Jon<sup>n</sup>, Mason  
Clerk of Marine Society  
Salem

To be commu-  
nicated —

Boston Aug<sup>1</sup>. 12. 1791.

Gentlemen of the Marine Society at Salem. —

Your much esteem'd fav<sup>r</sup> of the 14<sup>th</sup> July last, accompanying a number of Sermons, was handed me by Cap<sup>t</sup> Athorne. —

I presented them to the Marine Society here, to which I have the Honour to represent. — They voted their particular thanks for your polite attention, & do sincerely condole with you on the loss of so good a Member & so good a Citizen; & further add they shall be exceedingly happy on all occasions to keep up a friendly correspondence as

an

11.  
an association of the Marine Society, must be for the General  
good. — With esteem & respect

Yours most Obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup> —  
Mungo Mackay  
John Tisk Esq<sup>r</sup>

Sir

Salem February 2. 1792

You will give me leave to transmit to you a Vote  
of the Marine Society in this Town, at their Monthly meeting  
on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 1792. —

Voted that the corresponding Committee of this  
Society, be desired to write to the Marine Societies of Boston  
& Newbury Port, inviting them to join this Society in a  
Petition to the Congress of the United States, for a Light  
House on Cape Cod. —

Yours &c — J<sup>n</sup>. Tisk  
Mungo Mackay Esq<sup>r</sup>  
William Coombs Esq<sup>r</sup>

John Tisk Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Master of the Marine Society  
Salem

Boston February 25. 1792.

Sir  
A few days before your much esteemed favour  
of the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant came to hand, the Boston Marine Society  
had their quarterly Meeting, at which time a Committee of  
the Humane Society waited on them, with a Vote of that  
Society

Society, desiring their opinion respecting a Light House on Cape Cod. — In consequence of which request, a Committee of both Societys have waited on the Governor with a Petition setting forth the Public Utility of erecting a Light House upon the High land adjacent to Cape Harbours & praying his Excellency to take such Steps, as to procure from Congress an order to have a Light House placed there, which we thought would be a more ready way than to petition Congress ourselves. I should think this mode meet your approbation, should be happy you would join us, as it would be of great advantage, many valuable lives may be preserved & much property saved — With sentiments of esteem & regard —

I am Sir Your very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>,  
Mungo Mackay —

Capt<sup>l</sup> & Benj<sup>n</sup> West

Sir

As you are a Member of the Marine Society, beg this favour of you Sir, to inform the Society at the next meeting, that I will esteem it a favour, if they will please to help me a little. —

Lydia Crowel

Salem, February 28. 1792. —

Sir Salem July 27. 1792.

With pleasure I transmit to you a Vote of the  
Marine Society in Salem. —

At a Monthly Meeting of the Marine Society  
in Salem Thursday Evening 25. July 1792. —

Voted The thanks of this Society to M<sup>r</sup> John Lutney for  
his polite attention to the Society by presenting them with a  
Volume of the Institution & remarks of the Marine Society  
in London. — I am with esteem & in behalf of the  
Marine Society in Salem

Your most humble Servant

Gentlemen & Brethren of the Marine Society at Salem —

I have wrote this small Petition, hoping that  
you will not think amiss, for begging for some relief from  
you, for I have worked as long as I had strength, & at this  
time I am in great want

I am

Salem August 30. 1792. Gent<sup>l</sup> Your most humble Serv<sup>t</sup> —  
S<sup>r</sup> Henry Warren

The Petition of Rebecca Fairfield —

Humbly sheweth

That being deprived of her Husband & surrounded  
with a young family of six children, not one of which is able  
to provide for itself, except the eldest, & tho' assisted by very  
kind relations, whose utmost bounty distributed to many in  
need



need, could not be adequate to her relief, not being supported  
but of humble means of support, & yet anxious to give a  
sober education to her children, she hopes that the Character  
of her Husband, her former deportment, & her most careful  
attention to her Family, will plead in her behalf, for a share  
in the bounty of the Marine Society, & she doubts not that the  
happiness of herself & Family, will be to such generous minds  
an ample reward. — Rebecca Turfield

Salem January 25. 1792.

To the Marine Society to be communicated. —

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Perry, West

Salem Decem<sup>r</sup>. 3. 1792

Sir,

Through your aid I have received a  
favour of the Marine Society, for which I am much &  
obliged to you, & to them, & now his being in need I  
would again request your aid, that I may receive some  
timely relief. — Lydia Crowl

Sir \* —

Salem Decem<sup>r</sup>. 17. 1792

At a meeting of the Marine Society of Salem  
on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Decem<sup>r</sup>. a motion was renewed, to make  
application to Authority, to reimburse the expences that  
have arisen in erecting a Beacon on Putnam's Island and  
affixing sundry buoys at the entrance of the Harbour of  
Salem, Beverly, & Merrichew, & to solicit such further  
establishments, as the safety of navigation in general &

This

This with the Neighbouring Harbours in particular may require  
 The Society being informed that you were at present,  
 officially engaged, in attending to establishments of this kind,  
 appointed the Committee, who have the honour to address you, to  
 represent the expences, that have arisen, & the improvements  
 they conceive may still be made, & to ask your aid & advice  
 on the subject. —

The expence of erecting the Beacon & affixing the  
 Buoys has amounted to 401 Dollars, which has been paid &  
 principally by individuals of this Society, & as the benefit arising  
 from, are public & general, they conceive that the expence of  
 affixing them, would with propriety be so also, they therefore  
 request your assistance to procure measure to repay the monies  
 that have been advanced, & provide for future expence. —

The Beacon erected on Baker's Island is an octagon  
 of wood 22 feet at the Base, 11 feet at the Top & 57 feet in  
 height, the annual expence of supporting it together with  
 the buoys, is estimated at 30 Dollars. — It is seen at a  
 considerable distance by day, & has already been found of  
 essential utility, & evinces the increased advantages that would  
 result from its being equally visible in the night by the addition  
 of a lantern in which the Lights, one over another, might  
 be contained with a small expence. —

The buoys, five in number, are fixed upon sunken  
 rocks, & other places to render the Navigation, still more secure  
 but an additional number still would be useful. —

The Committee ask leave further to observe that  
 a Light house upon Cape Cod, is an object that has long &  
 zealously engaged the attention & wishes of the Gentlemen  
 in

in Trade in this Town, & of the Marine Society in particular they have communicated with other Marine Societies upon the subject, who have appeared equally desirous of an establishment by which so many lives, & so much property, would probably be annually saved. — Active efforts to obtain it have been delayed from information that representation had been made to authority, & that means were in train to effect it, your advice whether the information has ground, & in what mode this Society can promote a design, so greatly benevolent & beneficial, will afford them singular satisfaction. —

We are

Sir In behalf of the Marine Society  
of Salem

With great respect

Your Humble Servants

Honble. Benj<sup>l</sup>. Lincoln Esq<sup>r</sup> — }  
Collector of Customs }  
J<sup>r</sup>. Fish }  
Joseph Miller }  
W<sup>m</sup>. Gray Jun<sup>r</sup> } Committee

Sir \*

Salem January 10. 1793

The Beacon erected on Prakers Island, & the Buoys affixed at the entrance of the Harbour of Salem, being of general utility, the Marine Society conceive a propriety in desiring that the expence of establishing & supporting them may be general also, that the money which has been advanced for the purpose by individuals, may be repaid by Government & provision made for such further establishments, as may promote the safety & Interest of Navigation. — With a view to obtain these objects, & agreeable to intimation that

This

This was a proper season, application has been made to General Lincoln, by letter, a copy of which is inclosed for your perusal.

The Society, knowing your thorough acquaintance with the Navigation of this & the Neighbouring Harbours, & the importance of the objects in view, request your aid & influence to obtain them. — A personal representation to the Commissioners of the Revenue, under whose direction General Lincoln has been engaged, would perhaps be essentially useful, but your acquaintance with the business & circumstances will best suggest the mode by which your fellow Citizens & the community may thus be benefited. — We are

Sir with great respect  
Your humble Servants

Gerry  
George Cabot  
Beny. Goodhue

Jn. Tisk  
Wm. Gray Junr  
Joseph Miller

Dear Sir

Philadelphia January 30. 1793

I have yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> & propose with the other Gent<sup>l</sup> of Congress, whom you have address'd on the subject of the Breach & Buoy, provided by the Marine Society of Salem to confer with the Commissioners of the Revenue, the result of which will be communicated to you by Mr Goodhue.

Mr Gerry joins me in affectionate regard to yourself, Sister, Tisk & Family, & be assured I remain

General Tisk

Yours Sincerely  
& Gerry

Sir

18.

Philadelphia Janry 31. 1793

The Letter with which you have honored me in behalf of the Marine Society, was put into my hands the day before yesterday & this morning I met the Commissioners of Revenue with W. Goodhue & M. Gerry, to confer upon the expediency of establishing Lights & Buoys, at the entrance of the harbours of Salem, Marblehead & Beverly. — The utility of such an establishment is sufficiently obvious, to engage in its favour the efforts of all commercial men, who have any knowledge of the local circumstances, but it is our united & opinion, that the success of your wishes, would be promoted by a Petition of the Merchants of those Towns, addressed to the Senate & Representatives of the United States. —

Should the idea be adopted permit me to request that the Petition be forwarded as soon as possible, in order that it may be considered before the close of the Session. it may be sufficient to state generally, that a large portion of all the Vessels belonging to Massachusetts, would be benefited by the proposed measure, & that for the want of it, there has been a succession of losses to a great amount — perhaps it may be well enough to mention the intention of applying to the State Legislature at the time when the Constitution of the United States was forming, & also what has been done by your Society & by individuals. It is usual to sign two Copies of petitions & send one to each House — I pray you Sir to assure the Marine Society of my unfeigned good wishes & respect, & believe me with great personal esteem. Your m. o. Serv<sup>t</sup> —

George Cabot

General Fish

My Dear Sir Philadelphia Feby 2. 1793

\* John Furber Esq. Secy. of the Marine Society

I received yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> with the inclosures & wish Mess<sup>rs</sup> Cabot, Gerry & Gen<sup>l</sup> Lincoln waited on Mr<sup>r</sup> Case who officially has the subject of Light Houses, Beacons &c under his department, who soon satisfied us, the Law respecting these subjects did not embrace the objects you have in view; & in order to have it effected there must be a new Law passed

We were therefore of opinion, it would be best the subject should come before Congress by way of petition from you in behalf of the Marine Society, stating the expences you have already been at, & praying for a reimbursement of the same, & that they would cause such other Buoys & a Light House &c as you may think proper may be executed, & the expences of maintaining the same be paid by the United States, & it would not be amiss to show the importance of doing it; to mention the probable number of Vessels that pass & repass in the course of a Year; & to state also the probable expence, which I conceive will be but small, may induce Congress the more readily to grant it; but I need not dictate to you, your own discretion will suggest to you the terms, & arguments best to be made use of in your petition, that it may have its due impression.

The petition ought to be forwarded as soon as possible in order that if it cannot be wholly effected this Session it may be referred to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be in train for an early decision in the next Session. — The Law now being is confined wholly to the maintainance of such as were erected at the time of passing the Law, & does not authorise any person

to

to erect new ones, or maintain any, or reimburse the  
 expences of such, as any individuals may erect afterwards  
 Mr. Cabot was desired by us to write on the subject  
 to you, but my respect for you & the Society over which you  
 preside, constrained me to acknowledge the receipt of  
 your application altho, it may be but a repetition of his  
 Letter. — Be assured Sir that no endeavours of mine  
 shall be wanting in giving aid to the accomplishment of  
 your laudable purposes. — I am with great respect to the  
 Marines Society & to its President

Your Friend & Servant  
 P. Goodhue

John Tust, Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 President of the Marines Society in Salem —

\* To the Honorable Senate and Honorable  
 House of Representatives of the United States of America  
 in Congress assembled. —

The Memorial of the Subscribers, for and  
 in behalf of the Marines Society in the State of Massachusetts  
 being a Committee duly appointed for this purpose. —

Sheweth. —

That the said Society, was duly incorporated  
 by an Act of the Legislature of Massachusetts, in the year  
 one thousand seven hundred and seventy two; that one of  
 the principal objects of granting it a charter, was to  
 improve the knowledge of the Sea Coast in and about Salem  
 and for rendering the Navigation more safe. — That  
 said Salem has at the Bottom of a small Bay with the  
 Harbours —

Harbours of Marblehead & Beverly on each side, between wch Harbours & the Ocean, there are a number of small Islands or Rocks, & a larger Island called Bakers Island, that without and at each end of said Island, are many sunken breakers or Shoals; that the only channel for large Vessels, is at the northern end of said Island for navigating Vessels, which it is difficult at all times more especially so, in dark & tempestuous weather; that within said Island, there is good anchoring ground, wch is generally safe for Vessels — that all said Vessels which are intended for either of said Harbours, must pass through this Channel, that a Light House on Bakers Island, has been long desired & the want of it, has often proved fatal to many Citizens of the United States, & has occasioned the loss of large property, that it has for years past been in contemplation, to petition the Legislature of Massachusetts for such an establishment, more particularly so about the commencement of the present happy Government of the United States, since which that measure, has been laid aside; that the said Society steadily attending to, and constantly keeping in view, the principal object of their Institution, did about two years past, for the purpose of rendering the Navigation along those shores, more safe & easy, & at their own expence, erect a Beacon at the North end of Bakers Island & place six Buoys on as many rocks within the said Island, that the said Beacon is an Octagon, built of wood, twenty two feet at the base, eleven feet at the top & fifty seven feet high. the whole expence of which amounting to four hundred & one Dollars & one Cent has been paid by said Society — that said Beacon has in clear nights, & in the day time, proved of great use to the Mariner, & served to direct him to avoid the Ledges

and —



and should, & to guide him in safety to port — but as some of the breakers lie three miles or more distant without that Island the said Beacon from that distance & without a light is found to fall far short of the advantages, which would arise from it, was the same lighted — that almost all the coasting & other Vessels coming from the Eastward part of the said State, & many from foreign Voyages, bound to Boston, come within sight of said Island; that was a Light House erected there, not only the Navigation owned by Inhabitants of Salem Marblehead & Beverly, in particular, but almost all belonging to said State would receive advantage thereby — and that the said Beacon is so constructed, that by a small additional expence, suitable lights might be made there to. —

Your Memorialists do therefore pray that this high Court of Congress, would take the premises into their wise consideration & would take such measures that a Light House may be constructed at the North end of said Island, & due provision made for the maintaining, and supporting the same, that the Buoys already placed in and about the same, may be hereafter maintained by the public & that the monies already expended by said Society as aforesaid may be repaid. —

And as in duty bound shall ever pray —

February 14. 1793. —

Sir \*

Salem February 14. 1793 —

Yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Instant come to hand, inclosed you have the proceedings of the Committee in behalf of the Marine Society on the subject, which you'll please to lay before the Honble House of Representatives of the United States, we wish to get the matter in train this Session, any thing further may be in readings the next Year &c. — John Bisk

Honble  
B. Goodhue  
Esq<sup>r</sup>

Sir

Salem February 14. 1793

Yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> came to hand. Inclosed you have the proceedings of the Committee, in behalf of the Marine Society on the subject, which you will please to lay before the Senate of the United States, your observation & respecting the trade of three Towns petitioning, we thought woud take up, so much time, before it could be completed that we have taken this mode, in order to get the subject in train before the Congress completes this Session, the other & petition may be sent on thoneext Session. —

I am with respect &amp; esteem

Your most humble Serv<sup>t</sup> —Honble George Cabot Esq<sup>r</sup>Jn<sup>o</sup>. Fisk

Gentlemen &amp; Brethern of the Marine Society. —

I present this petition to let you know, my situation of my poor state of Health, for I am at this present, in a weak & low body of Health, I am not able to do any hard Labour, & as for light none will ask me to do, I am in hopes Gentlemen you will think of me, to give me relief, or else I must apply to the Town, for I cannot stand it much longer, this one thing, I do not eat one meal of meat in seven days, Small Fish & Clams, is the chief of my Diet — I hope Gentlemen you'll think of my poor situation, & hope God will never let any of you be in the same situation, as I am at present. — I am —

Gent<sup>l</sup> Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> & humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Salem May 28. 1793 —

Benj<sup>n</sup> Warren

To the Gentlemen Members of the Marines Society  
Salem. — The Humble Memorial of Benjamin Warren  
of the same Salem Mariner. — Shews.

That your Memorialist has had the Honour  
of being a Member of your Society for a number of years, and  
that your Memorialist & his Wife, are now reduced to the  
lowest ebb, having these few years laboured under vast and  
unnumerable difficulties, having neither friends or relations.  
That himself & Wife can hope for no relief from any individual  
without laying a severe Tax on the humanity of the neighbours.

Under these disagreeable circumstances, Memorialist  
hopes, that you will please to take his situation into consideration  
& apply such Relief, as to you shall seem meet. — And  
Memorialist will always pray.

Benj<sup>a</sup> Warren

Sir

Salem Septem<sup>r</sup>, 7. 1793.

You will warn the Members of the Marines Society  
to attend the Burial of Cap<sup>t</sup>, William Patterson. —

Yours &c  
Jm<sup>s</sup> Fisk

Cap<sup>t</sup> Jon<sup>a</sup> Mason

Gentlemen & Brethern of the Marine Society —

I have sent to you Gentlemen these few lines  
hoping that you will read them, as they come from one of  
your distressed Brethern, which I am in at this present time  
in need. — I have no Wood & I owe 2½ Dollars House Rent  
and —

and I hope Gentlemen & Brethern, as I am in a very low state of Health, that you will think of me, I have received some favours from my Brethern, which I heartily thank them for & hope God will reward them, If Gentlemen you think you can't nor will not, I must apply to the Town. I am

Yours most humble Petitioner

Beny<sup>d</sup> Warren

I hope you'll excuse a bad handwriting  
Septem<sup>r</sup> 27. Relieved with a load of Wood —

Sir

Beverly Nov<sup>r</sup> 28. 1793.

I am called upon by the Commissioners of Revenue for a complete return of the present state of the establishments of the Light Houses, Beacons Buoys &c in this state, & to report on the improvements additions & amendments of which these establishments are capable, or which they appear to require. —

This I think is the favorable moment, if we wish for any new Light Houses or other establishment auxiliary to Navigation to have them mention'd. —

The Society of which you are the head, are good judges of the subject, I therefore wish for your opinion, whether new Light Houses, Buoys or Beacons are necessary — If necessary where — If you shall think proper to give me your opinion, on the interesting projects the sooner the better. —

I am Sir Your humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

President of the Marine Society  
Salem

B Lincoln

Encouraged with the hope of receiving some assistance from the Gentlemen of the Marine Society. - I have been advised to inform them that I am a Native of Windham in the State of Connecticut. that the 1<sup>st</sup> May I sailed from Norwich on a fishing Voyage to Cape Sable & on the 25<sup>th</sup> I was cast away on the Seal Islands, & unfortunately had my left knee bruised in such a manner that 13 pieces of Bone were taken from it; which has left me very lame - far from home & destitute of both money & Friends - I wish to return to Windham to my family & Friends. - any assistance enabling me to depay the expence of the journey will be received with gratitude, by Gentlemen

Salem August 28. Your very humble Servant  
John Hubbard

Gave a sum of Money as private Gentlemen. —

Gentlemen of the Marine Society Salem October 30. 1794

Your Humble Petitioner prays to you for your Relief, at this present time, for which I am destitute at this present time both for wood & Raiment. If you & Gentlemen think proper to relieve me, one of your old members that is not able to do Labour because my infirmity is not able, therefore Gentlemen I cannot help writing these few lines, praying you will think on me, one of your distressed Brothers I hope you'll excuse my hand writing. - I am Gentlemen. your humble petitioner & most humble Servant  
Benj<sup>n</sup> Warren

27.  
Gentlemen of the Marine Society, Salem July 30. 1795

Gentlemen I send to you for Charity, if you think to bestow some on me, for I am very weak & low in Health at this present, neither do I expect to be any stronger. —

Gentlemen I am in great want of Relief — look at the Articles I am Gentlemen one of your Members &c.

My Brothers I have belonged to this Society twenty seven years —

Benj<sup>a</sup> Warren

Sir

Boston January 18. 1790

The importance of having a Light House, erected on the high Lands of Cape Cod, has always been admitted, not only as desirable in a Mercantile View, but in the more & interesting one of preserving the lives of our Seamen. The frequent Shipwrecks during the winter months, on that shore, calls for the attention of the humane, & it is surely a Business not unworthy the consideration of the Merchant & Insurer. —

On these grounds, the Boston, Marine Society has come to a unanimous determination, to make an immediate application to Congress, that a Light House may by their order be erected at the above place, & they also voted that information of this intension should be communicated to the Marine Society of Salem & their cooperation be solicited to affect the object. & you will therefore Sir, be pleased to communicate this Letter to that Association & if consistent with your own Ideas, urge their

their assistance, to obtain a purpose so beneficial to the commerce of this State. —

In behalf of the Marine Society  
I am, with sentiments of respect

Your most humble Servant

Thomas Jennie & Master

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jon. Herndon }  
Master of Marine Society }

Salem —

1793 — The Petition of the Boston Marine Society, will be forwarded to Mr. Sedgwick, & should your Society think proper to forward one, it may be advisable to acquaint the Member yours is sent to, of this circumstance. —

Mr Benjamin Goodhue  
Representative at Congress at Philadelphia Salem Feby 1794

\* Accompanied with this you have a petition to Congress from the Salem Marine Society, praying for a Light House on Bakers Island — We as their Committee would express to you, their wish that you would be good enough to present the petition & use your influence, to have it carried into effect. — As the advantage accruing to Mariners from such a direction to Mariners, both to the inhabitants of this Town, & to those of our Neighbourhoods, must be sufficiently known to you, we shall not go into the particulars. —

We would remark that the revenue arising from the Towns of Salem, Marblehead & Beverly, together with the difficulty of the entrance into our Harbour, authorize to expect that attention from Government which we request. — A Light  
on this

on this Island, we suppose wou'd have prevented several losses, we have recently experienced, it wou'd likewise <sup>be</sup> of great assistance to Vessels coming into the Bay bound to other ports, as by this, they cou'd determine their proper course. — The Society have already been at an expence of 500 Dollars, in placing Buoys & erecting a Beacon on Baker's Island, for the direction of Vessels which we find quite inadequate to the business. — We wou'd further observe that Newbury Port, have a Light House granted to them, & we suppose the revenue arising from that Port, is not more than one quarter part, of the amount of that from Salem.

We have written to the Towns of Marblehead Beverly & Manchester, who fully approve of our doings & will send on similar petitions. — from the readiness of Congress, to encourage the Commerce of their Country, & to remove every obstacle that shall prevent its increase, we have no doubt of their assistance in this particular. — We subscribe ourselves in behalf of the +  
Marine Society. —

Sir

Boston February 3. 1796

I wou'd have earlier replied to your favour of the 29<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup>, but waited untill the Meeting of the Marine Society in order to have their approbation of the petition that was drafted, they met last evening, & I now enclose you a copy of the petition to be forwarded to Congress, the Chamber of Commerce have chose a very respectable Committee to forward a similar one, & to cooperate with the Marine Society, the Petition is short but we shall endeavour to furnish Mr Sedgwick with such circumstances as may occur. — Mr Ames is now gone



gone on to Congress to whom we shall write also. — We wrote to the Marine Society of Newbury Port; who have also chose a Committee, to forward a Petition & we think the earlier the business is attended to the better. —

In behalf of the Boston Marine Society,

I am with respect  
 Benjamin Pickman Esq<sup>r</sup>      Your very humble Servant  
 Thomas Dennis, Master

To the Senate & to the House of Representatives of the  
 United States in Congress Assembled at Philadelphia  
 February 1796. —

The Boston Marine Society beg leave  
 most respectfully to represent. —

That the frequent Shipwrecks which take place on Cape Cod, within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, render every attempt to prevent such melancholy accidents interesting & important. — The erection of a Light House on the high lands of that Cape, is perhaps the only measure, that could aid the Navigation, in this respect, upon that dangerous Winter Coast. —

Your Memorialists beg leave to call the attention of Congress, as the protectors of the Commerce & Guardians of the lives of the Seamen of our common Country, — to this subject & to solicit in behalf of our exposed meritorious marine brethren that an enquiry, maybe made into the expediency  
 of the

of the measure, & if found necessary that a Light House may be erected on the High Lands of Cape Cod, under such Regulations as Congress shall think proper to establish —

By order & in behalf of the Boston Marine Society. —

To the Honble the Senate & the Honble the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. —

The Memorial of the Marine Society at Salem in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, respectfully shews. —

That much of the property & many of the lives of their Fellow Citizens, are almost every year lost in coming into the Harbour of Salem for want of proper lights to direct their course. — That no less than three Vessels with their cargoes & sixteen seamen have perished the present season. — This calamity can, in the opinion of this Society be prevented only by erecting a Light House on the Northern End of Baker's Island, which would lessen, if not entirely remove, the peculiar dangers of the Navigation into this Harbour. —

That the utility & importance of having a Light House in this place, may appear more evident to Congress, their Memorialist beg leave to observe, that Vessels coming in from Sea are directed in their course by a small Light on Thatcher's Island; after passing this they have  
as

as much as five leagues to run in which they are obliged to pass between Breakers Island and the Misery, where the distance between them is not more than three quarters of a Mile, & if they happen to miss the opening between these 7 Islands, they run upon the Breakers & are inevitably lost.

The place which this Society think most eligible for erecting a Light House is just by the aforementioned Strait or narrow passage way, upon the Southern side <sup>of</sup> it. — And your Memorialists beg leave further to observe, that they have heretofore expended five hundred Dollars, in erecting a Beacon on said Island, hoping that it might answer the purpose, but on experiment this is found to be of little or no advantage in those difficult cases, where its assistance is most needed.

Under these circumstances, seeing our Marine Brethren daily exposed to, & often perishing by dangers, which an expence inconsiderable to the Nation might remove or greatly diminish, your Memorialists feel it their duty to make this representation to Congress & to solicit them as they regard the lives of our Seamen, & the safety of our Commerce, to make enquiry into the expediency, of erecting a Light House in the place proposed, & if they should find it expedient, as your Memorialist are confident they must, that they will cause the same to be built, in such time & manner and under such Regulations, as they shall think proper to prescribe.

And your Memorialists beg leave further to add, that they fully agree in opinion, with the Boston Marine Society

Society, that the most effectual means of preventing the shipwrecks, which so frequently happen upon Cape Cod, would be to erect a Light House upon that Cape. — The safety of our Seamen — the interests of humanity & our commerce, would in our opinion, ~~could~~ be greatly promoted by the measure, and from a strong sense of this, your Memorialists join their Boston Brethren, in earnestly soliciting the attention of Congress to it.

Col<sup>l</sup>, Sec & Watson Marblehead  
 Mess<sup>rs</sup>, Israel Thorndike & Beverly Salem Feby 1796.  
 B. Lovett Jun<sup>r</sup>,

We as a Committee chosen from the Marine Society of this Town, would inform you that it is the wish of that Society that a Light House should be erected, on the Northern part of Bakers Island, & they likewise wish that you should join us in a petition to Congress to that effect. —

As they conceive the benefit accruing would be a mutual advantage to both Towns, they have therefore no doubt of your assistance to accomplish it — if the Trade of your Town esteem it proper, we would thank you to exert yourselves in forwarding a petition to Congress to that purpose. —

Yours &c

William Gray Jun<sup>r</sup>,  
 Benj<sup>n</sup> Pickman  
 Benj<sup>n</sup> West  
 William Orne  
 John Derby Jun<sup>r</sup>,

Gentlemen

Philadelphia March 2. 1796

I received yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup>; covering a petition from the Marines Society of Salem, for having a Light House erected on Bakers Island, which I immediately presented, & which is referred to the Committee of Commerce &c. of which I am Chairman, I wish you to present my best respects to the Society, & assure them that no endeavours of mine shall be wanting, to accomplish so benevolent & useful a design and that I see no reason to doubt of succeeding. — let me observe however that a cession of Jurisdiction by our State conformably to the Act of Congress of March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1795, must be made over the land on which it is to be erected, also the Land must be Vested in the United States, the first of these had better be done if possible before the General Court rises, the latter as soon as may be, I expect however if these things cannot be done in time, the Act may be passed by Congress, depending on their being done as a condition. —

I am with great respect  
Your Friend & Servant  
PB Goodhue —

Benj<sup>o</sup> Pickman Esq<sup>r</sup>  
& the others of the Committee  
of the Marines Society in Salem

To Cap<sup>t</sup> Benjamin West Master of the Marines Society of  
Salem to be communicated. — Salem March 30. 1797 —

When the fabrication of a Marine Society was contemplated in this Town, I was not inactive in the most & vigilant exertions that were called for to procure its establishment. Succeeding circumstances prevented me from continuing a member

Member of a community so humane in its design & so +  
 beneficent in its effects. — But it is no small alluvation  
 in distress to reflect, that I had some share in building the  
 Ship, that has lent aid to the woe worn Mariner. By  
 untoward events & inevitable maladies I have myself become  
 an object, for the benevolent to cast a commiserating eye upon,  
 & extend their liberal hand to. — Permit me to throw myself  
 thus before you, & ask your aid, A confinement to my Bed  
 & almost total debility, prevents me from doing it in person.  
 I accept this mode of application which divine providence  
 has confin'd me to, & may the relief you shall afford me,  
 may be followed by an unceasing reward. —

With much respect

I am Gent<sup>n</sup> Your humb. Servant  
 Sam. Williams

Gentlemen

Boston Nov<sup>r</sup> 23. 1797

\* Your kind attention to the business of placing the  
 Light Houses on Prokers Island, so as to render it in the highest  
 degree beneficial to the public, demand my most cordial thanks,  
 which please to accept. —

One favour more I beg leave to ask, in behalf of  
 our nautical Brethren &c that you would favour me with such  
 remarks respecting their approaching to & leaving the Light Houses  
 as may give safety & confidence to all interested. — As soon as  
 that can be received & a publication thereof made, I see nothing  
 now which shall prevent the Lamps being lighted — Your  
 attention to this request, will add new obligations on. —

The Marine Society  
 Salem

Gent<sup>n</sup>,

Your Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant  
 P<sup>r</sup> Lincoln Superintendent  
 of Light Houses Massachusetts

Sir

36.

Salem Decem<sup>r</sup> 1797

The Marine Society of this Town, erected on  
Prakers Island a Beacon, & placed several Buoys at the entrance  
of the Harbour, the expence incurred on these objects, was mostly  
from the funds of the Marine Society, such expenditure of the  
funds was not the original design of the Institution, & the fund  
has thereby been lessened; & in consequence thereof they cannot  
distribute so much to the necessities of poor Widows & Fatherless  
Children, as otherwise they would be able to do - The United  
States having passed an Act, relative to Buoys & Beacons being  
placed at the entrance of large Commercial Harbours &c. - The  
Marine Society entertain an Idea, that upon a proper Representation  
of the humane principals, upon which the Society is formed, &  
the appropriation of the income of their funds, to so benevolent  
a purpose, that the Monies they have expended on those objects  
would be refunded to the Society by the United States -  
Accordingly a Committee was chosen for petitioning for a refund  
as before mentioned. - As you are acquainted with the circumstances  
& know every thing relative to the business, before the Committee  
took any step in the affair, they thought best to take your  
opinion, upon the propriety of such an application, whether it  
can be done with Honour & Credit, & of the probability of its  
obtaining. - Your opinion & answer, to the request, will much  
oblige. -

Your Friends & Humble Servants  
Benj<sup>n</sup> Pickman }  
Schubert Nichols } Committee  
John Jenkes - }

Honble Benj<sup>n</sup> Goodhue Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Philadelphia

Gentlemen

Philadelphia Decem<sup>r</sup> 26. 1797.

I have waited upon the Secretary of the Treasury with your Letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> Instant, his reply was that the subject of Beacons & Buoys, had as yet been imperfectly provided for by Congress, & still more imperfectly managed by the Commissioner of the Revenue Tenche Case; under whose charge subordinate to the Secretary of the Treasury, this business has been placed. — Tenche Case has lately been removed by the President, & the vacancy has not yet been filled — as soon as it is, he will endeavour to have the business sistimatical — under these circumstances his opinion was, that I had better advise you, to postpone your application to the next session. —

I am with great respect  
Your friend & Servant  
B Goodhue

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Benj<sup>l</sup> Pickman  
Ichabod Nichols  
John Jenks  
a Committee of the Marine Society of  
Salem.



Salem Dec: 24<sup>th</sup> 1799

Gentlemen

The Salem Military Society impressed with the deepest Sorrow, on the melancholly event of the Sudden Death of General Washington, and desirous of testifying in some public manner, their sincere and most affectionate Regard and Esteeme and Veneration for that most Excellent Character - at a meeting convened for the purpose, have advised that application should be made to some suitable person, to prepare a funeral oration, to be delivered at one of the Houses of public worship. The Society have chosen a committee to make the arrangements necessary to accomplish the object & with all due consideration they do now address the respectable Marine Society of the Town of Salem and request that they would concur and unite with them in the measure provided it meets with their approbation the concurrence and assistance of the Society is peculiarly requisite on the occasion, countenance and support of so respectable a body will add that dignity and consequence worthy the object we wish to commemorate and will be a tribute of gratitude justly due to such Distinguished Merit -

with the most respectfull sentiments, we take leave to subscribe in the name of the Military Society -

The Marine Society } at the Marine } Hall - }	John Page } John Cuthbert } Committe Jon <sup>o</sup> Saldo - }
---	---

Treasury Department. April 4<sup>th</sup> 1807

Sir,

\* Congress have passed an Act, authorizing a sufficient number of Buoys and Beacons to be placed on or near the Rocks and Shoals in the Channel leading into the harbour of Salem, in the State of Massachusetts, and appropriated fifteen hundred Dollars therefor. I have therefore to request, that you will cause an examination to be made, and report to me the kind & number of Buoys & Beacons, that will be necessary, & the probable expense thereof.

I have the honor to be  
respectfully

your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Albert Gallatin

Benjamin Lincoln Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Supt. of Light Houses  
in Massachusetts

At a Special meeting of the Marine Society May 5<sup>th</sup> 1808  
Voted - that a Committee be chosen from this Society to  
\* to act in conjunction with one from the East India  
Marine Society upon the object of the appropriations  
of \$1500 & \$5000 in all \$6500. made by Congress  
to refund the expense of placing Buoys & Beacons  
at and near the rocks and Shoals in the Channel  
leading into the harbour of Salem agreeable to  
letter received by collector Col<sup>l</sup> J<sup>m</sup> Lee from  
Gen<sup>l</sup> Lincoln collector of the port of Boston

voted - That Capt<sup>l</sup> Benj<sup>n</sup> West  
Jen<sup>l</sup> Osgood  
Jen<sup>l</sup> Endicoll  
Benj<sup>n</sup> Carpenter } be that  
Committee

No. 4

At a Meeting of the Officers of the Marine and East-India  
Marine Society on Friday July 7<sup>th</sup> 1814 at the Hall of  
the East India Marine Society - viz.  
Col Benj<sup>r</sup> Dickman was Chosen Moderator and  
George Cleveland Secy -

Voted that a Committee of three Persons be Chosen  
to examine the Law relative to Pilotage in and out  
of the Harbour of Salem and make a Report at an  
Adjournment of this Meeting whereupon the following  
Gentlemen were Chosen a Committee -

Jerathon<sup>r</sup> Peirce  
Joseph Beabody  
Nash<sup>r</sup> Silsbee

Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Monday 18 July  
1814 at 11 A.M. to meet at the Hall of the East-India  
Marine Society to receive the Report of their -  
Committee Monday 18 July 1814 at an adjourn-  
ment of the above meeting the following Report of  
the Committee was submitted and accepted -  
George Cleveland Secy Benj<sup>r</sup> Dickman Mod<sup>r</sup>

The Sub Committee of the Marine & East India Marine  
Society who have been requested to Report on the expediency  
of an established Pilot for the Port of Salem and the rate  
of Pilotage which such Pilot as may be deemed Necessary  
ought to be allowed to Charge are of opinion that a Pilot  
for outward bound Vessels is unnecessary and therefore  
that such Vessels ought to be exempt from the Involuntary  
Payment of Pilotage they think however that the Commercial  
Interest of the Town may be promoted Especially During the  
War by the establishment of a Pilot for inward bound  
Vessels and that the Services of such Pilot should be.

Justly rewarded by the <sup>Act</sup> Following rate of Pilotage or fees on  
 all such vessels as he may board to the Eastward of a NNE  
 Line from Halfwayrock to the Northern shore or to the Southern  
 of a West line from said Halfwayrock to the Westward of  
 Marblehead shore - <sup>100</sup>  
 on vessels of from 9 to 11 Feet Draft -- 67 Per foot -  
 Ditto -- 12 to 14 d<sup>o</sup> d<sup>o</sup> -- 90 -- Ditto --  
 Ditto -- 15 to 17 d<sup>o</sup> d<sup>o</sup> -- 120 -- Ditto --  
 18 & upwards -- 160 --

Which rate to be increased thirty three & a third per  
 cent on American and one hundred per cent on all  
 Foreign & Brize vessels During the War

Salem 16 July 1814

Copy - Boston 25 July 1815

Captain Jon<sup>g</sup> Gardner Treasurer of Salem Marine Society

Sir - Enclosed you will please to receive a  
 Certificate for one thousand Dollars of U. States Six  
 percent Stock, which I have taken the Liberty to  
 ask the President & officers of that Benevolent  
 Society of which you are the Treasurer to accept for  
 the Use of said Society from Sir

Your obt Serv<sup>t</sup>  
 William Gray

Salem 27 July 1815

Copy A Knight Secy

A<sup>o</sup> 42

Salem Marine Society

Salem November 7<sup>th</sup> 1821 Received of John Good  
Nath<sup>l</sup> Bowditch & Willard Pele a Committee appointed  
to examine the late Treasurers Accounts the sum of three  
hundred forty two <sup>71</sup>/<sub>100</sub> Dollars being the amount they  
received of W<sup>m</sup> F<sup>r</sup> Gardner Son of the late Treasurer  
& as balance of his the deceaseds account with the  
Salem Marine Society

\$ 342<sup>71</sup>/<sub>100</sub>

Gideon Tucker Treas<sup>r</sup>

*(Signature)*

Salem June 8<sup>th</sup> 1819

W<sup>m</sup> Gardner Esq  
Treasurer of Salem Marine Society

Sir

we shall enclose a check for two hundred dollars  
it being for a Legacy left by our deceased Father  
to the Marine Society at Salem for which you will  
be pleased to sign & return enclosed receipt

Your obt serv<sup>t</sup>

Benj<sup>n</sup> Pickman }  
J<sup>m</sup> Pickman } Etc. &c.

at a meeting of the Marine Society at Salem  
 in New England, on the twenty second day of February  
 A.D. 1827. notice having been given to the members -  
 that the question of the expediency of harbor lights  
 being erected in Ipswich harbor - would then  
 be submitted to them - it was voted as  
 the sense of this Society that it is expedient  
 that harbor lights should be erected in the  
 harbor of Ipswich - Edward Park, master

Wright - Clerk

Abstract from the Will of Thomas Perkins Esq.  
 dated January 18<sup>th</sup> 1825. who Died Nov 24<sup>th</sup> 1830

I give and devise to the Marine Society  
 at Salem in Essex County in the province of Massachusetts  
 in New England and their successors and assigns all that  
 my Brick Building and land with the appurtenances known  
 by the name of Franklin Place in Salem aforesaid;  
 being the same which I bought of Josiah Dow.

On condition, that the said Marine Soc shall annually  
 apply the nett rents and profits thereof to the relief of their  
 poor and indigent members of said Society who may not  
 be given to Excessive drinking, as shall be annually designated  
 by the officers of said Society for the time being

Marblehead 16 Feb 1820

Dear Sir

A Town meeting was held in this town 7<sup>th</sup> Inst by request of sundry of the inhabitants - respecting the derangement of Bakers Island light, since the alteration from two to one - the present which is complain'd of by all our people - who pass It - without mentioning the losses that have been, and may be expected, at which meeting the subscribers were appointed a Committee - to make inquiry into the subject. And to collect such information as may be in their power, and that the committee be fully authorized. To act in any particulars on the subject, that they may think will be for the general Interest -

It is our opinion - from the general complaint against the present light - the subject is of great importance -

Therefore have taken the liberty to suggest It thus far to you - that we may have the opinion of your Town or Society -

Signed

John Prince

W. Elliot

Nathan Martin

Nathl. Hooper

Respectfully we are yours

Salem 25 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1820

John Prince Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 W<sup>m</sup> Elliot  
 Nathan Martin  
 Nathl Hooper Esquires

Gentlemen

The President of the Salem  
 Marine Society - recd yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. suggesting the  
 importance of having Bakers Island light. duly attended to -  
 And viewing it as one object - of our society, to render  
 assistance to our seafaring brethren -

last evening the society met - your letter was before us -  
 We have appointed - Joseph Peabody Esq & Willard Peck Esq -  
 Members of this society - a committee to cooperate with you in  
 this important object - the first week in March, the East  
 India society meets, and your letter will be laid before  
 their society - We are Gentlemen Respectfully yours

P<sup>r</sup> Louder president  
 Nathl Knight Sec<sup>y</sup>

Salem July 3 67

C C Dellugle Esq,

Gloverton,

My Dear Sir

Your offer of 500 acres,  
 for the 4 stores, is received, and accepted, to be  
 vacated, 1<sup>st</sup> Sept.

John Storer



48.

We the subscribers Members of the Marine Society  
 understanding that the Clerk of said Society has  
 let the Franklin Hall belonging to the Society  
 to a set of men from a Neighbouring town, for the  
 purpose of creating an excitement of the inhabitants  
 of this town against the masonic Society —

We now request a meeting of  
 the Members of the Marine Society may be  
 call on Monday evening the 25<sup>th</sup> inst — for the  
 Purpose of taking the sense of the members on the  
 Subject —

Salem 23 April 1831

Stephen Field  
 John W. Andrews  
 Henry King  
 Jesse Smith  
 Robert W. Gould  
 Edward Barnard  
 Thos Bowditch

Wm N. Knightly. Clerk

Salem 3 August 1834 the following  
is copy of a letter sent to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Ezra Smith  
Sol<sup>r</sup> Town George Ferguson Mark Woodbury —

Capt Ezra Smith

New York

Dear Sir

agreeable to a vote of the  
Salem Marine Society on the 31 July last  
— I am ordered to give notice to each member  
— that their dues to the Society must be paid  
the Present month, otherwise they will be  
considered no longer members and their  
names will be erased —

Respectfully yours  
A. Knight, Secy

Salem Oct<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1834

To the Members of the Marine Society &c

Gentlemen

As it is extremely incon-  
venient for me constantly to attend the meetings  
of the Society, as I intimated last year, I wish  
not to be considered a candidate for the office  
of Master at the election this evening. —

I am, Gen<sup>l</sup> with great respect

Your obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

(signed) Willard Peck

Boston April 11<sup>th</sup> 1838

Gentlemen

We enclose you a copy of the last will & testament of our late Father Nathaniel Bowditch containing a bequest of one thousand dollars to your Institution. He told us and all our children, at the time of executing it, that his father Habbakkuk Bowditch for nearly twenty years received from your charity fund the annual sum of fifteen dollars or thereabouts = so that his own food & clothing, when a boy, were in part derived from this source. Under these circumstances, we all felt, with him, that he had incurred a debt of gratitude toward your Society which justified and indeed required from him an affectionate acknowledgement in return = and the legacy in question was given with the full consent and approbation of all his family.

We remain, Gentlemen, very respectfully

signed { N. P. Bowditch }  
J. Tagersoll Bowditch } Executors.

The money will be paid by us immediately to any Officer whom you may authorize to receive it.

a true copy Thomas West, Clerk



To Benj<sup>n</sup> Upton Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Master of the Salem Marine Society

Sir

The Children of Nathaniel Knight take the liberty, respectfully to return the amount given on the 1<sup>st</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> to their father, and beg it may be used for the benefit of Capt B Chapman, who as they understand is in feeble health & indigent circumstances. They would observe (as you are aware) their <sup>parents</sup> are very aged & as they yearly <sup>donation</sup> is extremely pleasing to them; they did not communicate to them this their intention. —

While they tender to you, & through you to the members of the Society their sincere gratitude for this & past kindnesses. They cannot but feel, that through the blessings of Providence & the patronage of kind friends, they have been enabled to render their Parents comfortable while another aged & worthy member is wanting precisely what they are enjoying — they do not feel under these circumstances, like keeping it the present year.

Salem Jun<sup>y</sup> 2 1842

(Copy)

## City of Boston

Sir

Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> 1848

The City Government of Boston intend to celebrate the introduction of Pure Water from Lake Cochituate into the City, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, by a Public Procession, and other ceremonies suited to the occasion.

You are respectfully invited to join in the same, with the Members of your Society. — An answer addressed to R. B. Forbes will be acceptable.

Sign'd } Joseph Quincy jun.  
Benjamin Seaver, } Committee  
John P. Ober, } on  
William D. Coolidge, } Invitations.  
John P. Putnam, }

To Benj<sup>l</sup> Upton,Master of Salem Marine Society. —

A true Copy — Echu Bernard — Clerk

Salem, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> 1848.

R. B. Forbes Esq.

Marshall

Boston.

D<sup>r</sup> Sir,

The undersigned, on behalf of the Salem Marine Society acknowledges the receipt of an invitation from the City of Boston, to unite in the proposed celebration of the introduction of "Pure Water" into said City. —

The Marine Society of Salem have voted to accept the invitation, and will be present on that occasion, uniting in the procession with the Brethren of the East India Marine Society — the two Societies combining together, as one, for mutual convenience.

Respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant  
(sign'd) Benj<sup>l</sup> Upton  
Master of the Salem Marine Society.

A true Copy —  
Echu Bernard — Clerk

City of Boston.

To Benj<sup>l</sup>. Upton Esq. - Pres<sup>t</sup>. Salem Marine Society.  
Sir,

The joint Committee appointed by the City Council of Boston, to make arrangements for the Funeral Ceremonies of Zachary Taylor, late President of the United States, have selected Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup> day August next, for a Public Procession and other Services, suited to the occasion.

You, with the members of your Society are respectfully invited to join the same.

Sign'd { John P. Bigelow,  
Henry B. Rogers,  
Willard H. Harrington,  
Abel B. Munroe,  
Ebenezer Dale,  
Henry J. Gardner. } Committee  
on  
Invitations.

City Hall,

Boston, August 1<sup>st</sup>. 1850.

The undersigned respectfully requests as a Member of the Boston Marine Society, that your Ancient Society may be present on this occasion. -

(Sign'd)

Genl. W. Sever -

Chief Marshal -

A true Copy. Edw. Burnard - Clerk.

Salem, Aug<sup>t</sup>. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1850 -

Col. James W. Sever

Chief Marshal of Funeral Ceremonies in Boston. -

Dear Sir,

Your invitation for the Salem Marine Society to join in the Procession & services in honor of the late President of the United States was received upon the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. - At a Meeting of the Society last evening it was voted "to respectfully decline the invitation. -

Very respectfully  
(Sign'd) Benj<sup>l</sup>. Upton

Master of S. M. S. -

A true Copy -

Edw. Burnard - Clerk.

To the Master of the Marine Society in Salem and the  
President of the Salem East India Marine Society -

Respectfully represents  
The undersigned, Pilots of the Port of Salem -  
that they are anxious for and need all the encouragement that they can  
lawfully have to secure for themselves & families reasonable support -  
That their whole income does not exceed Twenty eight Hundred Dollars  
that there <sup>are</sup> four of them in number - that they <sup>are</sup> obliged to maintain  
one good Deck Boat and four Dory Boats; pay for the services of a Man  
and Boy as Boat keepers - and that <sup>it</sup> is impossible for either of the Undersigned to realise more than Four or Five Hundred Dollars a Year.  
They therefore request that the limits called the Chops of  
the Harbour may be properly defined, and that their Fees may be  
revised and enlarged. -

Salem, June 5<sup>th</sup> 1851 -

Signed -

Joseph Perkins -  
Attaui Perry -  
Francis F. Wallis -  
Stephen W. Powers -

A true Copy - Edw Barnard, Clerk of S. M. Society -

"Copy" -

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To Francis F. Wallis of Salem in our County of Essex  
Greeting -

Whereas in and by the thirty second Chapter of the  
Revised Statutes of the Commonwealth it is provided that the  
Governor with the advice and consent of the Council, may appoint  
one or more suitable persons to be Pilots for the several Harbors  
and Coasts of this State. Now therefore confiding in your judgment,  
skill and fidelity; We do by these presents constitute and appoint  
you the said Francis F. Wallis to be a Branch Pilot for the  
Port of Salem in this Commonwealth, with all the powers, and  
to discharge all the duties incident to said Office, or which may

be incumbent upon You - with right to demand, and receive the fees specified in this Warrant; and You are to conform to all such regulations respecting the Pilotage of the Port aforesaid, as may by the proper authority, from time to time be ordained - And You shall take and receive as fees for Pilotage of all such Vessels coming into said Port as You may board or speak to the Southward of a line running North by East from half way Rock to the Northern Shore - or to Southward of a line running North westerly from said Half way Rock to Marblehead Fort - and of all Vessels liable to Pilotage going out of said Port, the following sums Viz -

For Vessels drawing from seven to nine feet, eighty seven Cents ft. Foot -  
 For Vessels drawing from nine to eleven feet of water, one Dollar ft. Foot -  
 For Vessels drawing from eleven to thirteen feet of Water, one Dollar and twenty cents ft. Foot. - For Vessels drawing from thirteen to fifteen feet of Water, one Dollar and thirty five cents ft. Foot. - For Vessels drawing from fifteen to seventeen feet of Water, one Dollar and sixty cents ft. Foot -  
 And for all Vessels drawing seventeen feet and upwards, one Dollar and eighty five cents ft. Foot, and no more. - You are to exhibit this Warrant,

when called on properly so to do - And You are strictly to observe the rules and orders expressed in any Laws and regulations, which are or may be established appertaining to Your Office aforesaid; and before entering upon the same, You will take care thoroughly to inform Yourself of all the Provisions of Law relating thereto, and of the duties which particularly devolve upon You -

Witness His Excellency George S. Boutwell, our Governour, and the Seal of the Commonwealth affixed, this sixteenth day of June, in the Year One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty one - and of the Independence of the United States the Seventy fifth. -

By His Excellency, the Governour with the advice and consent of the Council - (Signed) Amasa Walker - Secretary

(Signed by Geo. S. Boutwell -

of the Commonwealth. -

A true Copy -

Edw Barnard - Clerk of S. M. Society -



## Memorial -

To the Honorable,

The Senate & House of Representatives  
in Congress assembled -

The Salem Marine Society of the City of Salem, in the State of Massachusetts, beg leave to call the attention of Your Honorable Body to the condition of American Seamen at Home and Abroad, in cases of Sickness and Poverty. -

From the want of adequate provision for them in Public Hospitals, and from the heavy expence incident to the proper care of them in private Houses, they suffer and die in great Numbers -

The benefits of Medical aid and comfort in Foreign Ports, enjoyed by others, are hardly ever obtained by them, and, in consequence after obtaining such comforts and attention, as the Ships they are attached to, and the Officers can give - they are frequently brought home and placed in our Marine Hospitals, where, from the laws regulating these Institutions, their stay is limited, and they are often dismissed, not sufficiently restored to fit them for active service, and from necessity become Paupers, or Tenants of Public Alms Houses; Many of them preferring Death rather than this degradation -

In view of their condition Your Memorialists beg leave to Solicit from your Honorable Body that measures may be taken to ascertain the Amount, in the Public Treasury accrued from the Seamen's Monthly Contribution as Hospital Money, as well as from unclaimed sums due deceased Seamen, and uncalled for Prize Money, and that therefrom, provision may be made in such manner as Your Honorable Body may deem best, for the Maintenance of American Seamen who are infirm and unfit for service, from sickness, Age or any other cause. -

As in duty bound will ever Pray -

Salem, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 1851.True Copy  
Edw. Burman.

To the Honorable Senate & House of Representatives  
of Massachusetts in General Court assembled -

The petition of the Salem Marine Society,  
humbly shows, that the late Nathaniel West, Esquire of Salem by his last  
Will and Testament, bequeathed and devised, to said Society, certain shares  
in the Derby Wharf Corporation, a Corporation duly established by Law, & having  
its place of business in Salem, in the County of Essex - and also certain Stores  
on said Wharf; upon the condition that they should keep said property in good  
condition, and apply the Income thereof for the support of the indigent mem-  
bers of said Society - That the said Property cannot be managed profitably  
and conveniently by a Charitable Society such as the Salem Marine Society;

Wherefore your petitioners pray that they may be allowed to sell said property  
and invest the proceeds thereof in some safe and profitable securities, the  
income whereof shall be applied to carry out the intention of said Testator -

And in duty bound will ever Pray -

The Salem Marine Society, by  
(signed) Benj<sup>o</sup>. Winton Master -

Salem, Feb. 5. 1853 -

True copy  
Edw. Barnard

Coast Survey Office,

Washington, D. C. - Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> 1853 -

Sir,

The name of your Institution having been placed on the list for the distribution of the Reports of the Coast Survey, should You desire for this Institution a copy of the Report for 1851, now nearly ready, You are respectfully requested to fill the blanks of place, date &c. in the note upon the opposite page, adding Your signature and title, to return this paper by Mail, folded with the printed address outside, and placed in an envelope, addressed as follows,

Hon. James Guthrie,

Secretary of the Treasury.  
Washington, D. C.

And should the number of copies of the Report available be sufficient, as it is hoped they may, it will be forwarded at an early

Day -

Respectfully Yours -  
(Signed) A. D. Buche -Copy  
of 13 returnedSalem March 26<sup>th</sup> 1851

Capt Bayn Upton

Master of Marine Society Salem

Dear Sir,

Please notify the Society at their next meeting that the Treasurer has received Five Hundred dollars from the Executors of the will of the late Abbridge Kimball Esq. being amount bequeathed by him to the Soc. to be added to its permanent fund and the income there of, devoted to the purposes of the Society. I have duly acknowledged to the Executors the above receipt.

Yours Respectfully  
James Upton Treasurer,Abbridge G. Kimball No 456 joined Apr 27<sup>th</sup> 1849 died July 5<sup>th</sup> 1849 age 32 yrs

Salem (Mass.) March 31<sup>st</sup> 1854 -

To Geo. Jenks Esq.  
St. Louis - (Missouri)

Sir,

At a Meeting of the Salem Marine Society held last evening, I was instructed to give you notice, that the fines standing against you amount to seven Dollars & twenty five Cents - You being absent 4 Years & 10 Months since the last payment -

If you will please to attend to this

notice you will oblige

Yours respectfully

Elias Barnard - Clerk of S. M. S. -

Copy

Salem, March 31<sup>st</sup> 1854 -

Sent a letter this day nearly similar to the above, to Capt. J. Shepard of Middleton - (Mass.) -

Elias Barnard -

Salem, Dec: 16<sup>th</sup> 1854 -

A. D. Bache Esq. - (Washington)

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of a copy of the U. S. C. coast survey of 1852, which you was pleased to present to the Salem Marine Society -

Herewith is a copy of the vote by the Society - "That the thanks of the Marine Society be presented to Professor A. D. Bache for the splendid copy of the U. S. C. coast survey for 1852. which he has been pleased to present to the Society. -"

I am Yours truly  
(signed) John Dwyer  
Master of the

Salem, Marine Society.

Copy

Salem, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 1854.

To the Master, Officers &amp; Brethren of the Marine Society,

Brethren

It is now three years since I became the Agent of the Franklin Building, at that period there was not any Money on hand, and almost the first thing necessary to be done was to place the Gas pipes and Chandeliers into the Perkins Hall, and some other Rooms, at an expence of over Three Hundred Dollars -

The Building had completely run down, and almost every Room in it required repairs, and some of them a good deal of Money had to be laid out on them - and the Slate on the Roof has been repaired at a heavy expence -

Thus during the three Years a good deal of Money has been laid out upon the Building in addition to the expence of Gas Pipes &c, together with numerous other charges of various kinds, and during this period, Two Members have each been supplied with nearly Four Hundred Dollars *ft. Annum* while they lived; and one other member has been supplied with One Hundred Dollars *ft. Annum* during the last three Years -

The Building is now in good condition, and all with the exception of one Store is occupied -

At the end of the two first Years it became necessary to borrow Money from the funds of the Marine Society, in order to settle the accounts of those Years, which was paid back as soon as Money enough was received to do it; but the present Year a small balance remains after paying some heavy expences, which will not be required another Year. - From the commencement of the burning the Gas, the gain received on it amounts to one Hundred and thirty one Dollars after paying the Company for the Gas burned - so that the Gas lights have actually operated as Income, which during <sup>the</sup> three Years has averaged Forty four Dollars *ft. Annum*. - The occupants of the building, each pay for what Gas they use to the Gas Company, and they pay the Owners of the Building Eight *ft. C<sup>ts</sup>* in addition, on the cost of the pipes and other Gas fixtures. -

My Salary as Agent the first year was Fifty Dollars, and for the two last years has been a Hundred Dollars each year, yet the Salary is inadequate to the time, and labour performed, and necessary attention and care to the income of the Building. -

From the time I commenced my agency, I have used the utmost economy in my power, yet I find myself deficient Two Hundred Dollars of what I had at the time I took charge of the Agency -

It does not appear to me that I ought to spend my last

Dollar in the service of the Society, neither do I expect that it is the wish of the Members that I should do so, and as the Income of the Building the coming Year must much exceed all the expences; I wish the Society to refund me what I am deficient, it can be done from the income of the Building the coming Year -

I am willing to continue the Agency the same as the last year, with the hope that I may be enabled to earn more by other means than I have been able to earn the last Years. ~

Respectfully Your humble servant

Jonathan P. Felt - Agent of the Franklin Building -

(Sign'd)

Copy

Boston, Jan<sup>y</sup>. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1855 ~

The Boston Board of Trade at the Annual Meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> inst. appointed a Committee, of which I have the honor to be Chairman, to confer with other similar Associations in the United States, & endeavor to induce them, to elect Committees for the purpose, conjointly of petitioning Congress, that a Commission may be appointed to sit during the recess, and examine into the workings of the present laws regulating Seamen: as also into all that concerns their education & Personal comfort & the necessary discipline to make Ships safer -

It is proposed the Committees which may be appointed, shall meet at Washington and there take measures to secure the object desired. -

I hope to hear from You at your earliest convenience, & meanwhile beg leave to send you a Copy of my Report to the Board of Trade of this City upon the Subjects -

I am Sir, respectfully

Your obedient Serv<sup>t</sup>.

Rob<sup>t</sup>. B. Forbes

Chairman of the Committee of the Board of Trade

To the President of the Salem Marine Society,  
Salem, Mass<sup>t</sup>. ~

A true Copy -

(Sign'd)  
J. M. Bates, Sec<sup>y</sup>.  
of Board of Trade. -

Copy

Salem Marine Society - Feb. 22. 1855.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of R. B. Forbes Esq. in behalf of the "Boston Marine Society" & the "Boston Board of Trade" respectfully Report,

That they recommend that the Officers of the Society be authorized to cooperate with the "Boston Marine Society" & the "Boston Board of Trade" in any measures which they may deem expedient, with a view to lessen the destruction of Life and Property on the Sea, increasing the efficiency, & improving the general character of the Mercantile Marine of the United States.

(Signed) W. B. Parker,

in behalf of the Committee.

Salem, Mass. Feb. 24. 1855.

To Geo. Jerks Esq.

St. Louis (Missouri)

Sir,

I wrote to you the 31. of March last informing that I had been instructed to give you notice of the amt. of Fines due the Salem Marine Society from you - not having received any thing from you, I have been again instructed to write to you, to state the amount of Fines now due, & send a copy of a Vote passed by the Society, March 30. 1854.

Am't. of Fines for 69 Months @ 12 1/2 cts. = \$ 8.62 1/2 (Eight Doll. & sixty two & a half cents) at the Monthly Meeting, M<sup>ch</sup> 30. 1854 - it was

Voted - "That any Member of this Society who has <sup>not</sup> paid the amount due from him to the Society for seven years, at the expiration of the said time, his name shall be struck from the Roll of the Society, and be no longer considered a Member thereof."

I remain yours

Respectfully

Edw Barnard - Clerk of S. M. S.

Sent a letter to J<sup>rs</sup> Shepard of Middleton, similar to the above.

March 2. 1855.

Edw Barnard -

Salem, March 5<sup>th</sup> 1855

To R. B. Forbes Esq. (Boston)

My Dear Sir,

Your esteemed favour of the 18<sup>th</sup> Jan.

also your favours in behalf of the Boston Marine Society were duly received & laid before the Salem Marine Society at these <sup>Monthly</sup> meetings.

Herewith is a copy of a vote passed at the Monthly Meeting

(Here follows a copy of the vote, as pt. for going page)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 Edw. S. Superior Justice Court. April term 1853.  
 May 1<sup>st</sup> 1855

on the petition of record, it being suggested that  
 the Salem Marine Society is interested therein,  
 ordered, that the petition or your notices to said  
 Marine Society be appear ~~before the Court~~  
 now holden at said Salem on Monday the

Society



Salem Marine Society - Feb<sup>22</sup>. 1855 -

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of R. B. Forbes Esq:  
in behalf of the "Boston Marine Society," & the "Boston Board of Trade"  
respectfully Report,

That they recommend that the Officers of the Society be authorized to cooperate  
with the "Boston Marine Society" & the "Boston Board of Trade," in any measures  
which they may deem expedient, with a view to lessen the destruction of Life and  
Property on the Sea, increasing the efficiency, & improving the general char-  
acter of the Mercantile Marine of the United States ~

(signed) W<sup>m</sup> B. Parkes,  
in behalf of the Committee. ~

Salem, Mass<sup>t</sup>. - Feb<sup>24</sup>. 1855 -

To Geo. Jenks Esq:

St. Louis (Missouri)

Sir,

I wrote to you the 31<sup>st</sup> of March last informing  
that I had been instructed to give you notice of the amt<sup>o</sup> of Fines due the Salem  
Marine Society from you - not having received any thing from you, I have been  
again instructed to write to you, to state the amount of Fines now due, & send a copy  
of a Vote passed by the Society, March 30<sup>th</sup>. 1854 ~

Am<sup>o</sup> of Fines for 69 Months @ 12<sup>cts</sup> - \$ 8.62<sup>1/2</sup> - (Eight Doll<sup>rs</sup> & sixty two & a half Cents)  
at the Monthly Meeting, M<sup>ch</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>. 1854 - it was

Voted - "That any Member of this Society  
who has <sup>not</sup> paid the amount due from him to the Society for seven years, at the  
expiration of the said time, his name shall be struck from the Roll of the  
Society, and be no longer considered a Member thereof." -

I remain Yours

Respectfully

Edw Barnard - Clerk of S. M. S.

Sent a letter to Jon<sup>o</sup> Shepard of Middleton, similar to the above.  
March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1855 -  
Edw Barnard -

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Eddy S.S. Superior Justice Court. April term 1853.

May 1st 1855

on the petition of one, it being suggested that  
the Salem Masonic Society is interested therein,  
Ordered, that the petition or your notice to said  
Masonic Society to appear ~~be~~  
now holden at said Salem on Monday the  
12th day of May Current, then and there to  
show cause why said petition should not be  
granted, by causing an attested copy of the  
foregoing petition and of the order of Court  
thereon to be served on said Society seven  
days at least before said 12th day of May  
now Current,

A true copy of petition and of the  
Order of the Court thereon

Wm. Attingham Clerk

A true copy attested  
John Dwyer Deput Sheriff



To the Honorable the Justices of the  
Supreme Judicial Court now holdin at Salem  
within and for the County of Essex,

Respectfully Represents Gilbert G. Newhall  
Trustee under the will of Henry Ban, late of Salem, in  
said County, that he holds in trust, for the purposes  
and uses named in said will, certain Real Estate  
formerly owned by said Henry Ban, said Real Estate  
is one undivided third part of a lot of Land, containing  
about half an acre, and may be valued at  
seven hundred dollars - that it would be beneficial  
to all parties interested in said trust, and is neces-  
sary and expedient, that said estate, being unpro-  
ductive, should be sold and the proceeds thereof invest-  
ed under the direction of the Court, in such secu-  
rities, as the Court shall order - Wherefore said Trustee  
prays, that he may be authorized to sell at public  
or private sale, and convey said Real Estate, and  
invest the proceeds thereof upon said security, and  
in such manner as shall best effect the object of  
the Trust, and be most safe and beneficial for  
all interested therein.

G. G. Newhall

Shunter in Salem, Mass.

Salem Marine Society - Feb<sup>22</sup>. 1855.

The Committee to whom was refered the communication of R. B. Forbes Esq<sup>r</sup> in behalf of the "Boston Marine Society," & the Boston Board of Trade" respectfully Report,

That they recommend that the Officers of the Society be authorised to cooperate with the "Boston Marine Society" & the "Boston Board of Trade" in any measures which they may deem expedient, with a view to lessen the destruction of life and Property on the Sea, increasing the efficiency, & improving the general character of the Mercantile Marine of the United States

Copy

Newell Printer  
New York

To Geo  
Agent to the Petition  
to secure an Estate

John Dwyer  
Master of the Marine  
Society

that I have  
Marine Society  
again in  
of a Note  
Amo

at the M

who has  
expired  
Society,

Copy

To G  
also  
receiv  
Here

Copy

Salem, March 5<sup>th</sup> 1855 ~  
 To R. B. Forbes Esq. (Boston)

My Dear Sir,

Your esteemed favour of the 18<sup>th</sup> Jan. <sup>1855</sup> also your favours in behalf of the Boston Marine Society were duly received & laid before the Salem Marine Society at their <sup>Monthly</sup> meeting -

Herewith is a copy of a vote passed at the Monthly Meeting -

(Here follows a copy of the vote, as pt. foregoing page)

(Signed) John Dwyer - Master of Salem Marine Society

Salisbury May 27. 1859

Commander M. F. Maury

Dear Sir at a regular meeting of the Salisbry Marine Society held at the Room Franklin Building last Evening. it was voted unanimously that the thanks of the Society should be sent to you for the 2<sup>d</sup> Volume of your Sailing Directions; this Volume, as also those previously received from you contain abundant valuable material for, and will no doubt prove of much service to navigators of the present day, and to whom we would strongly recommend it.

And Whereas: From the great length of time Lieut Maury has been Connected with the Observatory in His present Capacity the many useful calculations made and promulgated by Him and the necessary labour performed by Him in placing it in so readable shape, denote that He is eminently fitted to perform the various duties pertaining to his Office and that the Nation is fortunate in having so Competent a Person to fill the situation He now holds,

Therefore Resolved that this Society as a mark of their respect and esteem of His character and abilities have this Evening unanimously voted that Commander M. F. Maury be made an Honorary Member of this Society which was accordingly done.

A Diploma of Membership  
accompanies this —

Samuel Benson Clerk  
of Salisbry Marine Society

55  
Observatory Washington  
May 30<sup>th</sup> 1859

Gentlemen

I have this morning received your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> inst. inclosing Diploma Number One and informing me that moved by the services rendered at this Office to the cause of Navigation, the Salem Marine Society have as a mark of their respect and esteem for his character and ability unanimously voted that Commander M. F. Maury be made an honorary member. These are flattering terms they convey much distinction; they confer distinguished honor. The value of which I set upon them is greatly enhanced when I call to mind the history of the Marine Society of Salem and remember me who are and have been Yellows of it. It is older than the Nation; among its founders and early friends are the names of such men as Gardner, Hopes, Brettell, Crowninshield, Allen, Southard, Bowditch, Webb, West, Perkins, Mason, Cleveland and Warren with a long list of many illustrious in New England annals of Commerce and Navigation, and were but Ship Masters and Ship Owners could be Members of it — There are the men who have the deepest interest in the hydrographical labours of this Office — These are the men who above and beyond —



- all others are best qualified to pass upon these labours, and they have chosen to utter their 'Well done' in the most pleasing and emphatic terms that it is in the power of the Society to use. Pray make my acknowledgments to you associate for this honorable mark of their distinguished Consideration, and believe me to be

Respectfully &c

M. G. Maury

Salem August 26/59.

Pipley & Ropes Esq

My dear Sir

The Potograph.

Likness of Lieut Com<sup>d</sup> Maury, for the Marine Society was received by me which you were so kindly to procure —

At a meeting of the Society on the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst the following Vote was passed —

Resolved that the Thanks of the Society be presented to R. W. Ropes Esq for Potograph Likness of Lieut M. G. Maury presented to them by Him

57  
Salem April 25<sup>th</sup> 1860

Copy of a Letter -  
to Mrs J. C. Huffington

Brookline  
New York Madam.

Your note to Capt. Timothy Bryant was  
handed to me by that Gentleman. And  
I regret to hear that your husband is  
losing his mind (see letter of Mrs H. to  
Capt Bryant dated Brookline N.Y. - April 23. 1860)  
I hope he will soon recover. In reply  
to your application. I send you a check  
for \$25 - on the Phoenix Bank New York  
on the receipt of the same. Please reply  
in about 3 months more we shall have  
funds to divide and shall remit you  
if you require need

I am your truly,  
John Dwyer  
Master of Salem Marine  
Society

Salem August 8<sup>th</sup> 1860

Copy -  
Mrs Eliza A. Huffington

Brookline N York Madam - your esteemed  
favor of the 5<sup>th</sup> is received. asking assistance  
of the Marine Society, which will be cheer-  
fully made. Herewith is a check for \$25  
to your order on Phoenix Bank New York -  
and I shall consider you as one of the app-  
licants in our next dividend Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1861  
Please acknowledge receipt of the same

I am your truly  
John Dwyer  
Master of Marine Society  
Salem

The *Franklin* was burnt up on the 21 Oct  
1860. For particulars, refer to the Old or New  
Records.

Salem Nov 11 - 1860

Samuel Binsong  
Clerk, Salem Marine Society

N.B. After the following correspondence took place

S Binsong

Salem October 23 1860

J. Longwell Bowditch Esq.

My Dear Sir

It is as you may be aware the Agent of the Salem Marine Society through whose unfortunate mistake that Society has been deprived of a large portion of its funds, and its means of usefulness by the Burning of the Franklin Building.

The fault in relation to this matter is simply mine. I had recently (within a week) renewed the Policy of Insurance and had it impressed on my mind that the Policy did not expire until the 26 day of October and as you had before then been kind enough to notify me of the expiration of the Policy, and as up to the time of the fire I had not received the usual notification from your Office, I felt perfectly in my own mind. After the fire, I learned that the notification had failed to reach me, until the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. until then I had no knowledge of its existence. Had I received the notification I most assuredly have asked you to renew the policy. It is therefore entirely owing to this mistake of mine and to the fact that I had not received the usual notice or notification that our association which was founded for a charitable purpose, and which has been the means of sustaining in comfort

The last Year of money. worthy Citizens  
is depressed by this Year a large portion of its  
income. I write to you in great distress of  
of mind. I hardly know how to make the appeal  
to the Company of which you are the trusted

President which my sympathies for those who will  
suffer by this loss compels me to make.

The recipients of this Charity are all worthy men  
some of them the Apeanty, and all of them the  
Brethren of your Honored Father - whose mem-  
ory is held in dear remembrance by them all, as  
well as Multitudes in this City the home of his  
earlier days. Who himself took a deep interest in the  
welfare of our Association and contributed most  
generously to its support. Where the loss a personal  
one or had the means to atone for my mistake  
and to the Unfortunate Circumstance which  
prevented the renewal of the Policy. I should  
not have a word to say. I should be slow to  
appeal to your Charity, or even to your sense  
of Justice. But when I think of these Men  
and their Families, upon whom Fortune has not  
smiled, who were looking to the coming Winter  
to have their wants relieved by a Charity which  
they could accept without loss of self respect I cannot  
forbear to ask of you the President of a Company  
abundantly rich in resources, to consider the  
peculiar hardships of the case, and to consider  
whether in view of the facts in the case and the

purpose for which our Association was instituted - our Society has not a claim upon a prosperous and generous Company. whether for the circumstance which I have named would have been call upon to make good in part, the loss we have sustained and who I know would cheerfully have done so. I know that in such a case as this, any service which you could render will be gladly performed. May I wish that in such form as you may seem to you best you will lay this matter before your Directors

Very truly & Respectfully  
Your Obedt Servant

Allen Putnam, Agent  
of Franklin Building

Office of the American Insurance Co  
Boston Nov 2 1860

Allen Putnam Esq  
Agent of the Franklin Building

Dear Sir

At a meeting of the Directors of the American Ins Co held this day, I was authorized to use my own discretion in fixing the amount to be paid the Salem Marine Society in consequence of the heavy loss lately sustained by them

by the total destruction of the Franklin  
Building by Fire - It would have given  
the board of directors great pleasure to have  
paid the whole amount intended to have  
been insured by you, but as this cannot  
be done, I feel confident I shall carry  
out their wishes by asking the Society to  
accept four thousand dollars, which I  
shall be most happy to pay on demand,

Very respectfully

J. Ingersal Bowditch Pres

Copy

Salem Nov 5 1860

J. Ingersal Bowditch Esq  
Pres<sup>t</sup> of the American Ins<sup>r</sup> Co

Dear Sir

I have the  
pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your  
letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst informing me of the action  
of the board of Directors of the Am<sup>r</sup> Ins<sup>r</sup> Co namely  
authorising you to use your own discretion  
in fixing the amount to be paid the Salem  
Marine Society in consequence of the heavy loss  
sustained by them, by the total destruc-  
tion of the Franklin Building, and that  
you have been pleased to allow the liberal sum  
of \$4000 dollars - I assure you that the sum  
tendered is gratefully accepted by me for

No. 3.

for the Society as its agent and I also feel well  
assured that the Society will pass a hearty unani-  
mous Vote of Thanks for this generous donation

Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant  
Allen B. Stearns

Stephen J. Whittane Esq. wrote a note to  
N. J. Bowditch Esq. of Brookline, and received the  
following answer

Brookline Nov 2 1860

Dear Sir

I received a day or two ago: your letter  
asking aid for the Salem Marine Society on the  
occasion of the destruction of the Franklin Building  
by Fire - On looking at the list of members of  
that Society, I found that both of my Grandfathers  
(Theobaldus Bowditch & Jonathan Ingersoll) joined  
more than 90 years ago. The former was for several  
years was one of its benefactors, a circumstance  
that my Father always gratefully remembered -  
and which he mentions in a bequest to the  
Society in his last will & testament - Under  
these circumstances, I feel it to be no less a  
duty than a privilege to accede to your request  
I enclose a check for five hundred dollars, and  
I would suggest that it be applied not to the  
Building fund, but that it be expended during

— over —



Among those among those who would have  
 received the income of the building which has  
 been destroyed, this is all that I can at present  
 but it will be my hope at a future day  
 three or four months hence, to be able to send  
 you a check for the like amount -

Yours Truly W. J. Bowditch

S. Edmund Peabody Esq. Salem Aug 13  
 and Executors of the late Francis Peabody 1868

Gent, your letter contg check for \$1000  
 bequeathed to the Marine Society, is read  
 the annual income to be applied to the  
 indigent men and their families.  
 I thank you for this large and  
 noble request, which shall be appropriated  
 as requested by the donor,

I am yours truly

John Dwyer  
 for himself & Society

S. Edmund Peabody Esq. Salem Aug 27, 68  
 My Dear Sir Resolved is a vote  
 passed at a monthly meeting Aug 27.

Yours truly  
 John Dwyer  
 Master,

3

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67  
Salem June 27<sup>th</sup> 1870

Capt Wm B. Bates

Clk of Salem Marine Society

Dear Sir

State of my health I hereby resign the office of Master of the Salem Marine Society at Salem. you will herewith please find my check on the Merchants Bank Salem for the sum of Five hundred dollars payable to the order of Daniel H. Mansfield Treasurer which I owe to said Society upon this trust viz that they shall invest the same and apply the income thereof for the relief of indigent members of said Society

I have the honor to be  
most respectfully your obt servant  
John Dwyer

Resolutions passed July 28<sup>th</sup> 1870

Whereas our Heavenly Father has been pleased to remove by death our late brother Capt John Dwyer who for a long series of years officiated as Master of the Society Therefore Resolved That we

tender to the Widow and her dear children the deep sorrow felt for her, and them, in their bereavement, and although it is not for us feeble mortals to call in question or scrutinize the doings of a Gracious Providence Still we are encouraged by our Holy religion on occasions like this, to record the Virtue and Worth of departed friends

Resolved That we shall ever entertain a high sense of the Honesty and promptness in business, the strict fidelity to duty the cheerfulness and the constant aim to do right which characterized the brother now departed





iii. Salem Marine Society. iii.

Dear Sir,

The pleasure of your company is requested by the Salem Marine Society, at a dinner to be given on the occasion of their One Hundredth Anniversary, at the Essex House, Salem, Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 o'clock P. M.

Nathl. Brown,

Chairman, Com. of Arrangements.

Salem, June 1<sup>st</sup> 1871.

BILL OF FARE.

- SOUP.**  
Turkey and Oysters. Capon and Egg Sauce.  
Tomato.
- BOTTLED.**  
Turkey Stuffed. Lamb, Hind Sauce. Pease.  
Chicken. Ham.
- ROAST.**  
Pigeons. Oyster Patties. Rice Fritters. Chicken Pie. Lobster, Palm.
- ENTREES.**  
Currant Jelly. Apple Sauce. Pickled Onions. Pickled Peppers.  
Mixed Pickles. Olives. Holland's Sauce.
- RELISHES.**
- GAMME.**  
Wild Pigeons. Plover. Ducks. Grouse. Quails.
- VEGETABLES.**  
Boiled Potatoes. Bermuda Onions. Asparagus. Radishes. Lettuce.  
Spinach. Rhubarb. Beets. Tomato Sauce. Friedered Corn.  
Lima Beans. Green Peas.
- PUDDINGS AND PASTRY.**  
Apple Pie. Custard Pie. Peach Pie. Lemon Pie.  
English Flum Pudding. Brand's Sauce. Plum buff. Dandelion. Lob-Sauce.
- DESSERT.**  
Strawberries and Cream. Ice Cream. Quarters. Rais. Raisins.
- TEA AND COFFEE.**
- LIQUORS AND CIGARS.**



(Copy)

Salem Mass Jan. 27/72<sup>#1</sup>

Sir

I have been handed by Genl. Cogswell, the communication of Mr. Jenkins, Naval Secretary under date of the 19<sup>th</sup> ult. and addressed to yourself, relative to appropriations made by Congress in the years 1808 and 1809. - for placing Buoys, & Beacons, in the channel leading to Salem Harbor. The investigation made by Mr. Jenkins, must be conclusive, so far as any action, having been taken to reimburse the Marine Society, at that time. The Society cannot prove that reimbursement was intended by Congress, and the only documentary evidence they have in hand, is their own Record, of a vote passed at a Special Meeting May 5<sup>th</sup> 1808 (a copy of which you have).

This failure however to prove that no appropriation, for refunding was made at that time, will not it appears to me affect the ~~the~~ validity of the Claim.

That the Society of itself; and as individuals, expended



Certain sums for the Beacombe -  
that they considered they  
were entitled to be paid back  
these sums - that Petitions were  
before Congress to that Effect,  
and that nothing was ever  
received, I think can be well  
Established.

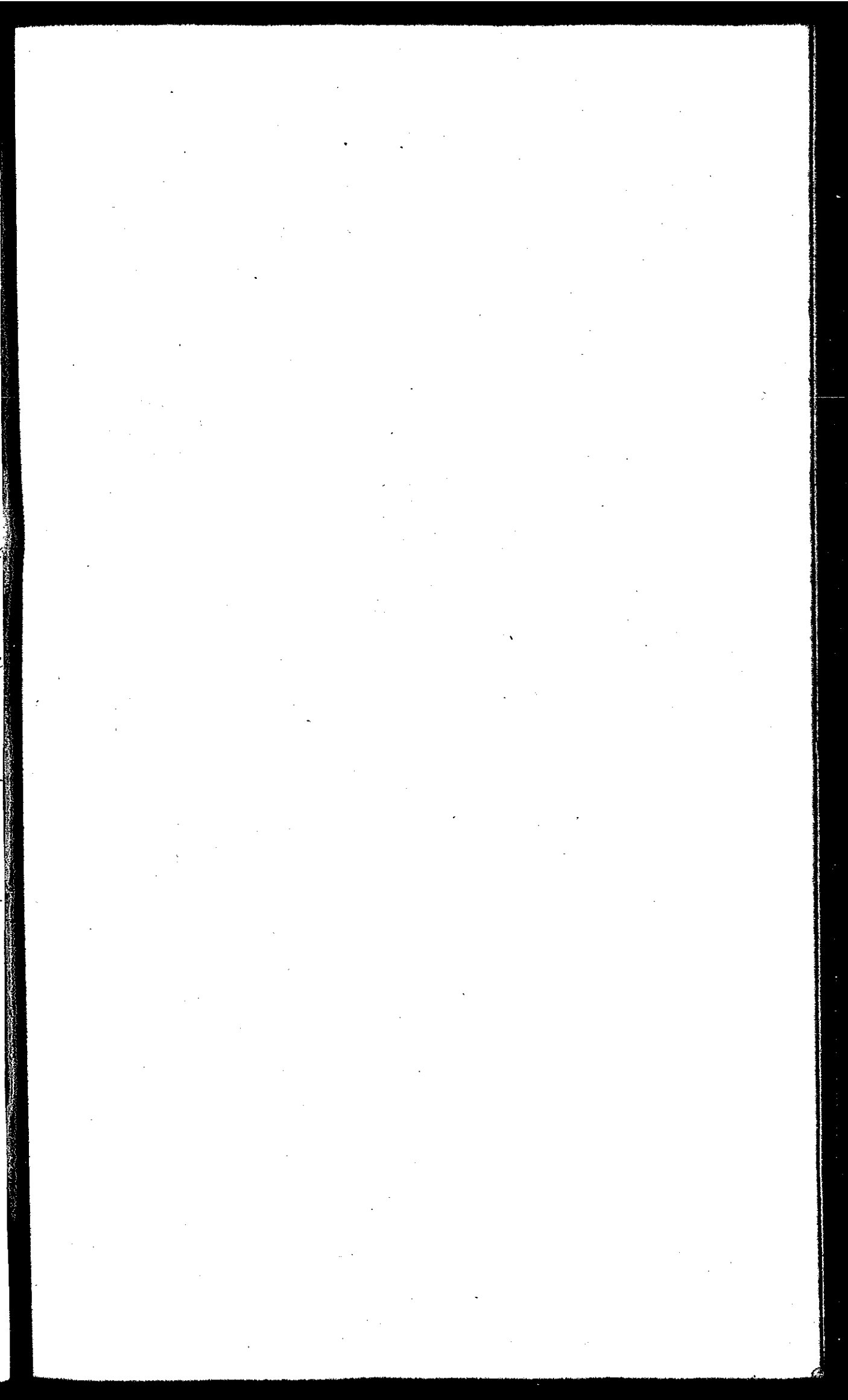
I may add that our Society  
only submit their Petition,  
believing it to be, but an act  
of justice, that they should  
be allowed something by the  
General Government, for what  
they did for the general good.

Should it appear to you  
in any other light, do not urge  
the Claim, and in any event  
the Society, with the income  
from its funds, devoted en-  
tirely to Charitable purposes,  
has nothing to spare for legal  
prosecution, and would not  
desire it pushed in the  
Court of Claims.

I have the honor to be  
Very Respectfully

Nath. Brown  
Master  
Salem Maine Co.

To Hon. Benj. F. Butler  
et. c. c.  
Washington D. C.





Salem Aug<sup>22</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1872.

Dear Sir

In answer to your enquiry whether the Salem Marine Society can be taxed by the City for its Real and Personal Estate, I have to say that it is not liable to be taxed for personal property, but is liable to be taxed on what Real Estate it rents, what real estate is used by the Soc for its own use is not subject to taxation, and such part is subject to abatement

with Respect—George Wheatlands

Nathl Brown Esq<sup>r</sup>

Master of Salem Marine Soc.



1872

**END OF TITLE**