

**THE FOUNTAIN INN,  
AGNES SURRIAGE AND  
SIR HARRY FRANKLAND**

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The Fountain Inn, Agnes Surriage and Sir Harry Frankland by Nathan P. Sanborn

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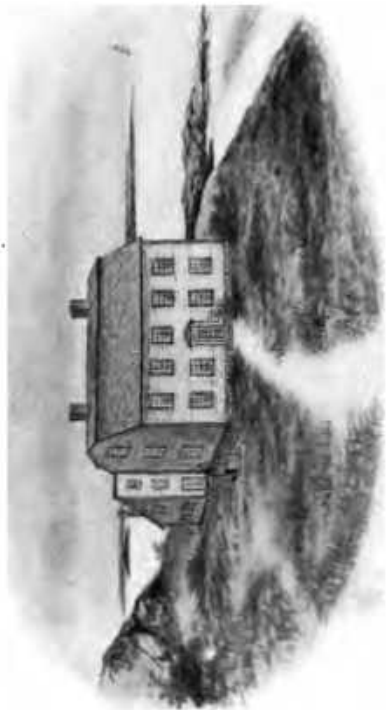
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**NATHAN P. SANBORN**

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FOUNTAIN HES, 1742.  
Printed in 1721; removed previous to 1788.

# THE FOUNTAIN INN

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SIR HARRY FRANKLAND

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A PAPER READ BEFORE THE  
MARBLEHEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER 8, 1904

BY NATHAN P. SANBORN

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY

1905

THE picture of the Fountain Inn opposite the title page was made for the Historical Society by Thomas Pitman, a native artist and a member of the society.

The site, the islands and the distant shore were all sketched with an artist's skill, while standing upon the premises. The house was then drawn where the hidden foundations plainly indicate that it should be; and the various details are made to harmonize with the descriptions of the house as given in the sundry divisions, subdivisions and executions that followed in its brief history after the death of Nathaniel Bartlett, the Innholder.

While we cannot vouch for its entire accuracy, we can say it does not differ in any particular from the description given in the records.





## PREFACE.

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The early history of Marblehead furnishes abundant material for the writer and novelist; in many cases the plain, unvarnished facts read like fiction, and require no embellishment to make them fascinating to the reader. There were houses that were of importance in their day, the location of which is now uncertain. There were families, numerous for several generations, whose names have entirely disappeared from the list of the inhabitants of the town. All serving to make it easy for the novelist to spin and weave a good story, located in Marblehead.

The story of the Fountain Inn and Agnes Surriage has been told in poetry and in prose; notably by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes and Edwin L. Bynner, each drawing upon his imagination for incidents to fill up any

apparent void in the story; each succeeding so well that his book has been widely read by sympathizing and interested readers; and as a result, hundreds of Marblehead visitors annually search out the site of the Fountain Inn, slake their thirst at the Fountain Well, and enquire, "How much of the story is fact, and how much is fiction?" The following paper is intended to give only well authenticated facts.

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**T**HE days of the Fountain Inn have long since passed. No living person remembers of ever hearing it said by any one, not even by grandfather or grandmother, "I remember the old Inn; I saw it when I was a child."

No attempt, as far as I know, was ever made to describe the house, whether it was grand or otherwise. The question is sometimes asked, "Was there ever such a house in Marblehead?"

The question would not be worth answering were it not for the fact that Agnes Sur-