MEMORIES OF OLD SALEM: DRAWN FROM THE LETTERS OF A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER

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Memories of Old Salem: Drawn from the Letters of a Great-Grandmother by Mary Harrod Northend

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MARY HARROD NORTHEND

MEMORIES OF OLD SALEM: DRAWN FROM THE LETTERS OF A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER





Governor John Endicott was both revered and feared by the first settlers. He was honest in his judgment, stern in rebuke and a God-fearing man

MEMORIES OF OLD SALEM

DRAWN FROM THE LETTERS OF A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER

BY

MARY HARROD NORTHEND

Author of "Historic Homes of New England," etc.



NEW YORK MOFFATT, YARD AND COMPANY 1917 I DEDICATE THIS BOOK
TO THE MEMORY OF
THE OLD MERCHANTS
THROUGH WHOSE VENTURES
SALEM HAS BECOME FAMOUS

5



FOREWORD

We of to-day, descendants of the merchants of Salem, realize what a power they were in the life of yesterday. Their enterprises seem marvelous even from the stand-point of the twentieth century. They were business men fully aware of the possibilities of trade with other lands—a fearless lot of men with steady brains and iron will.

Salem born myself, my own ancestors, sea captains and supercargoes, sailing from Newburyport, my life has been passed among scenes glowing for me with romance of history. It is a pleasure to revisit the days in which these men flourished, to study the habits and domestic life of that period. Walking through the streets where they once lived we realize as never before what they did to make our city famous. For that we hold them in reverence.

If I am able to tell you of their powers upon sea and land, show you what helpmates to the merchants were their stately wives, take you inside the houses and show you the wonderful furniture and

FOREWORD

decorations that have come from over the sea, I shall do what has been my heart's desire for many years.

I wish to thank my close friend, Mrs. Alice Leach, for her valuable assistance in revising my work. I also wish to extend my thanks to Captain George H. Allen, who, with his valuable assistance, has put me in touch with what he alone knows of Salem, at the time of her commercial prosperity; to the Essex Institute which has thrown open its doors that I might glean from its valuable material facts to be incorporated in my story; and to acknowledge the assistance received from the late Mrs. Silsbie's charming book, "A Half Century in Salem."

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