

**PILGRIM ALDEN: THE STORY OF THE LIFE
OF THE FIRST JOHN ALDEN IN AMERICA
WITH THE INTERWOVEN STORY OF THE
LIFE AND DOINGS OF THE PILGRIM
COLONY AND SOME ACCOUNT OF
LATER ALDENS. ILLUSTRATED**

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Pilgrim Alden: The Story of the Life of the First John Alden in America with the Interwoven Story of the Life and Doings of the Pilgrim Colony and Some Account of Later Aldens.
Illustrated by Augustus E. Alden

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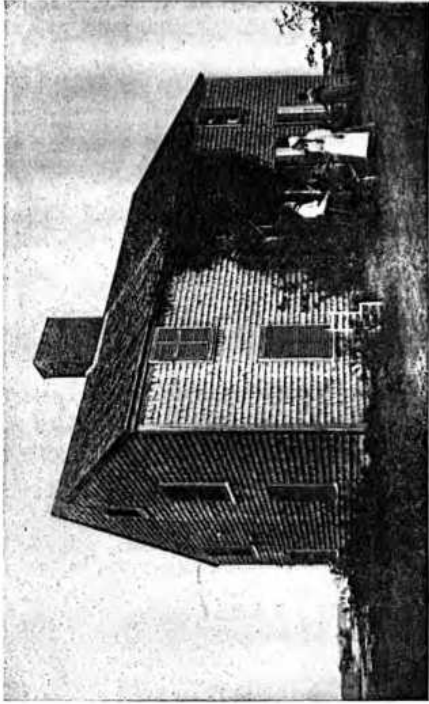
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AUGUSTUS E. ALDEN

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ALDEN HOUSE, DUXBURY.

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ACCOUNT OF LATER ALDENS*



PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
AUGUSTUS E. ALDEN

ILLUSTRATED

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PREFACE.

There is sometimes a tendency on the part of persons who mistake plebeianism for democracy to deride, as savoring of snobbery, all interest in ancestry and family tradition. It requires little reflection to show the shortsightedness of such an attitude. Among the moral forces which go to make civilized man civilized and not savage, there are few more potent than those which have their source in family ties and traditions. We have only to look back upon Mediaeval Europe to see by how narrow a margin the peoples of those days were saved from degenerate barbarism; and that saving margin lay in the restraints imposed by knightly chivalry and knightly devoir—in an ethic code of caste and station which served to make men noble. And even in our own prosaic day, the day of commonplace comfort, as it has been called, there are instances not a few where the child of an ancient house has been saved from erring by the strength of the hearth-ties, where the falling and the faltering have been reinspired by the resonance of old traditions, where the life of the son's son has been rendered noble by the nobility of the sire. Each of us issues from the complex interweaving of the lives of our fathers and mothers, farther back than reaches the memory of man.