THE RIDGEFIELD TAVERN: A ROMANCE OF SARAH BISHOP, HERMITESS, DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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The Ridgefield Tavern: A Romance of Sarah Bishop, Hermitess, During the American Revolution by Maurice Enright

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MAURICE ENRIGHT

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SARAH BISHOP

May -13

THE RIDGEFIELD TAVERN

A ROMANCE OF SARAH BISHOP

DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

MAURICE ENRIGHT, M.D.

With Illustrations by KATHERINE ENRIGHT

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

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1908

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TO MY WIFE,
THIS BOOK IS DEDIGATED

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PROLOGUE

A TIME worn leathern chest or strong box in one corner of the attic was of much curiosity and I had frequently speculated upon its contents. It was of quaint, ancient pattern of strong workmanship, bound at the corners and reinforced in other parts with strong metal clasps. I had always found it securely fastened; I, therefore, allowed some time to elapse before I could break it open and view its contents with leisure.

In rummaging through this old chest I came upon a packet, time stained and bound with a faded ribbon. The mice and ravages of time had made sad havoc with this musty old document as

could be seen by its frayed edges.

This old chest or strong box was a part of mine inheritance, handed down from generation to generation from the time of the original owner of the Ridgefield Tavern during colonial time from one Nathaniel Bishop, my mother's grand uncle.

The direct line of ancestors had been broken by the melancholy events herein narrated and this property was descended to me by a collateral branch.

Although there are many imperfections I will give it as I received it from its long hidden musty receptacle, and I will endeavor to supply what is wanting by those additions that I have gleaned from hearsay.

Much of this perhaps may be conjecture, on