

**STATE STREET; A  
BRIEF ACCOUNT OF  
A BOSTON WAY**

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State Street; a brief account of a Boston way by State Street Trust Company

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A BRIEF ACCOUNT  
OF A BOSTON  
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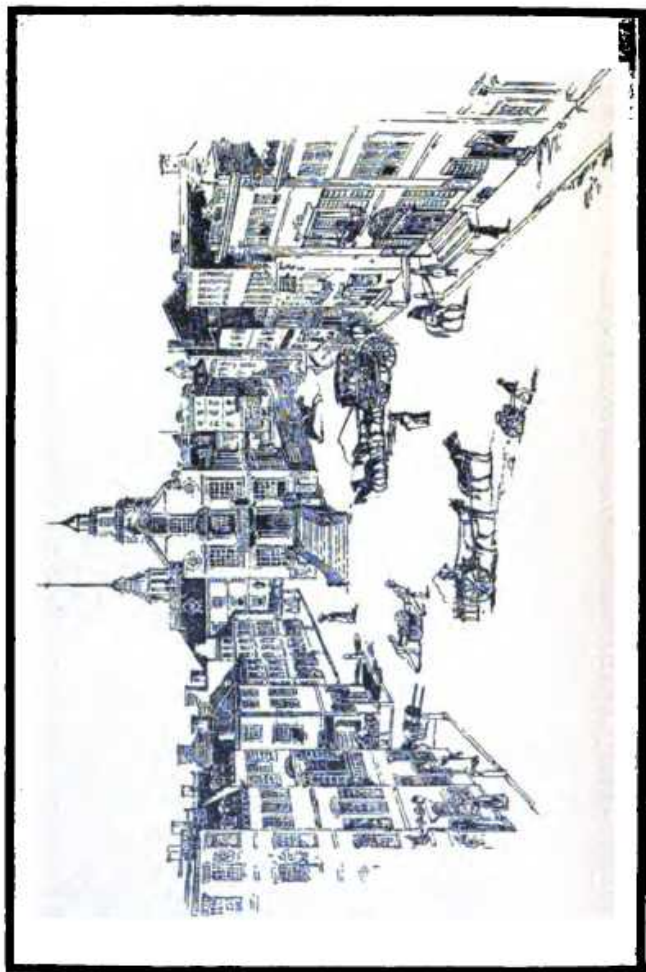
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**THE ORNAMENTS ON PAGES ONE, THIRTY-  
NINE AND FORTY-TWO ARE REPRODUCED  
FROM THE STONES MARKING THE SPOT  
IN STATE STREET WHERE THE BOSTON  
MASSACRE OCCURRED. THE ORNAMENT  
ON PAGE THIRTY-SIX IS A COPY OF THE  
TABLET ON THE BUILDING OPPOSITE  
THE MASSACRE**

**WALTON  
ADVERTISING AND PRINTING COMPANY  
BOSTON, MASS.**

THE ORIGINALS OF THE CUTS  
USED IN THIS PAMPHLET AND  
MANY OTHER QUAIN AND IN-  
TERESTING PICTURES MAY BE  
SEEN ON THE WALLS OF THE  
MAIN OFFICE OF THE STATE  
STREET TRUST COMPANY AT  
38 STATE STREET, BOSTON



State Street in 1801



# STATE STREET

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## THE BEGINNING OF A WAY.

**T**HE street is old,—as old as Boston itself. If one would look for its origin, he must go back to the days before the Puritans of St. Botolph's town set foot upon the hills that run up from Boston Harbor. Even then he is forced to fall upon conjecture, and surmise that it may have been the trail which the Indians followed from their camps on Shawmut Hills to their fisheries in the bay. William Blackstone, the only white inhabitant on Tri-mountain previous to 1630, may have trod the self-same trail on his way along the ridge, which was the principal spur from Century Hill down to the water. State Street, despite the uncertainty of its origin, has been from the very day of Boston's settlement Boston's most important thoroughfare.

The street has written itself large and permanently in the records of an ancient town and on the page of a nation's history. When Eng-

## STATE STREET

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lish ships brought English goods to Puritan homes in the days of the first settlers, it was the mart of trade and the seat of justice. Upon it lived the early settlers and the town's first merchants. Many scenes of Provincial interest and Colonial importance had here their setting, and on its frosty pavement was spilled the first blood of the Revolution. To-day about it throbs the financial interest of a great State, and to it are ever turning for help the industrial projects of a great nation.

### EARLY COLONIAL LANDMARKS.

**O**UR Puritan forbears were men of order and system,—men who believed in metes and bounds to everything. So we find them early setting down their names and lands in the Book of Possessions, and back to this old record go many of the deeds of Boston. This book was a record of a survey, by order of the General Court, April 1, 1634, of the lands and houses of the first inhabitants. On the old map, five by nine feet, is the earliest record of State Street. It appears a short, nameless way from the water up to the hills, and is dotted on either side with the houses of the first settlers.

## STATE STREET

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At its head, where now the Old State House stands, was the first market-place. And so it was that, as early as 1636, when the lines of certain streets were fixed and had by popular consent been named, State Street was known as Market Street.

### THE FIRST CHURCH OF BOSTON.

**A**CROSS the way from the market-place in 1632, on the site since occupied by Brazer's Building, stood the first meeting-house, later dignified as the First Church. It was a rude but substantial building, with walls of mud and thatched roof. Its first pastor, the Rev. John Wilson, lived on his farm, on the opposite side of Market Street; and his colleague was the redoubtable John Cotton, formerly the pastor of old St. Botolph's, Boston, England. Services were held under the trees previous to its erection. The meeting-house had become too small in 1639, and in 1640 a new one was erected on the site of the late Joy Building. The second meeting-house was destroyed in the conflagration of 1711, the greatest of the eight great fires that Boston had then experienced, but was rebuilt. General Washington with all his troops, after the siege of Boston,