

Woman's Friend

Society

of

Salem

Founded 1876

G. J. BENTLEY

FOR ENTRIES IN THE MEMORY BOOK OF THE WOMAN'S FRIEND SOCIETY

- 1) The entries in the MEMORY BOOK seem to fall into five categories:
 - a) the charter
 - b) the list of presidents
 - c) the story of donors
 - d) a list of gifts (other than financial) and loans to the Society
 - e) a list of financial donors and the year in which the donation was received.Try and fit further entries into one of these categories.
- 2) Before writing new entries, make yourself familiar with the contents of this book and try to harmonize with previous entries.
- 3) Keep each entry short (have pity on the poor recorder!).
- 4) mention donor by proper name and title, if at all known. (There seems to be a lack of uniformity in the last section).
- 5) Submit all material to be copied
 - a) typewritten
 - b) with all spelling correct
 - c) with proper punctuation.know that the recorder will COPY ONLY! No changes will be made by the recorder.
- 6) Check for repetitions. There is one already.

CHARTER

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Be it known that, whereas Ellen C. Putnam, Lucy H. Bowdoin, Abby R. Knight, Mary E. Chipman, Lydia A. Decker, Mary A. Swasey, Margaret A. Bolles, Mary A. Pitman, Lucy A. Lander, and others, have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of the Woman's Friend Society for the purpose of extending sympathy and help to girls and women of any nationality and of any class, from the highest to the most lowly, and by that sympathy and help to inspire and encourage habits of industry and self reliance, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer, and Directors of said corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and recorded in this office:

Now therefore I, Henry B. Pierce, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that said E. C. Putnam, L. H. Bowdoin, A. R. Knight, M. E. Chipman, L. A. Decker, M. A. Swasey, M. A. Bolles, M. A. Pitman, L. A. Lander and others, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as and are hereby made an existing corporation under the name of the Woman's Friend Society, with the powers, rights and privileges, and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions, which by law appertain thereto.

Witness my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed, this thirty-first day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and eighty-four.

Signed,

HENRY B. PIERCE,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.



Past Presidents

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mrs. E. G. Valentine | January 27 - February 7, 1876 |
| Mrs. L. P. Ward | 1876 - 1877 |
| Unknown | 1877 - 1878 |
| Miss M. A. Porter | 1878 - 1879 |
| Mrs. George Putnam | 1879 - 1888 |
| Miss Lucy Lander | 1889 - 1900 |
| Mrs. Arthur Kemble | 1900 - 1903 |
| Mrs. Horatio D. Pierson | 1903 - 1906 |
| Mrs. Henry M. Batchelder | 1906 - 1909 |
| Mrs. Edward C. Browne | 1909 - 1910 |
| Miss Edith Rantoul | 1910 - 1915 |
| Mrs. Francis A. Seamans | 1915 - 1918 |
| Mrs. John Frederick Hussey | 1918 - 1921 |
| Mrs. Josiah G. Sifford | 1921 - 1924 |
| Mrs. William G. Merrill | 1924 - 1927 |





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|------------------------------|-----------|
| Miss Annie L. Warner | 1927-1930 |
| Mrs. William E. Der Planck | 1930-1933 |
| Miss Edith Bantoul | 1933-1936 |
| Mrs. Alfred F. Shatswell | 1936-1939 |
| Mrs. Wilfred B. Shrigley | 1939-1942 |
| Miss Luella Turner | 1942-1945 |
| Mrs. Alfred F. Shatswell | 1945-1946 |
| Mrs. Charles L. Curtis | 1946-1948 |
| Miss Nellie S. Messer | 1948-1951 |
| Mrs. William Russell Burns | 1951-1954 |
| Mrs. Paul D. Giles | 1954-1957 |
| Mrs. A. Waldo Martin | 1957-1960 |
| Mrs. Harry M. Lowd, Jr. | 1960-1961 |
| Mrs. C. H. B. Galvorson, Jr. | 1961-1965 |
| Mrs. William B. Murroe | 1965-1968 |
| Mrs. James F. Boulger, Jr. | 1968-1970 |



Dr. Mary Lakeman

Dr. Lakeman, ^{grand} daughter of Eben K. Lakeman, the silversmith who owned and lived in the north side of Emmerton House until his death in 1856, was one of the first woman physicians. A graduate of the Boston University Medical School, she was one of the founders of the American Cancer Society and helped to write the "Cancer's Seven Danger Signals".

Because of her interest in health she was at one time the Assistant State Head of Hygiene in the Massachusetts Department of Health; her concern extended to the rehabilitation of women prisoners in Framingham, a program in which she personally involved herself. The League of Women Voters was another of her many interests, and she was an enthusiastic member of the Woman's Friend Society.

Her gift to the Society was her mother's bag-bottom sewing table which now stands in the north parlor of Emmerton House.

Mary Tatila Saunders

Miss Mary Tatila Saunders, the donor of eight "fancy Sherton" chairs to the Woman's Friend Society, was born in the Fiji Islands. Her father was a sea captain from Salem, and her mother was a native of the islands.

Captain Saunders brought his daughter to Salem when she was two years old. Records show that early in the twentieth century she was living with the Misses Cleveland who were members of the Saunders family, so it is presumed that they were responsible for her upbringing.

She is known to have been a beautiful and gracious lady who was highly regarded by all who knew her.

Gifts to the Woman's Friend Society

Eight "Fancy" Sheraton Chairs

were given by Miss Mary Saunders. Miss Saunders was born in the Fiji Islands. Her father was a sea captain from Salem and her mother a native of the islands. Captain Saunders brought his daughter to Salem when she was two years old. Records show that early in the 20th century she was living with the Misses Cleveland of 182 Lafayette Street in Salem, who were members of the Saunders family and were presumably responsible for her bringing up. She is known to have been a beautiful and gracious lady, who was highly regarded by all who knew her.

The chairs were restored by the following members of the Society in 1958:

Mrs. Mildred Munroe

Mrs. Grace Parler

Mrs. Mary Mason

Mrs. Noah P. Thompson

Mrs. Josiah F. Gifford

Mrs. Mary J. Greenway

Mrs. J. Barnes

Mrs. Beatrice Brown

Clock and Candlesticks

on the Southeast Mantel, called a "Mantel Set", were loaned to the Society by Mrs. John Robinson when she was president. After her death, the set became the property of Emmerton House. It is said to be English with French works in the clock. The design is Egyptian and of the Victorian era.

A letter to the Society in 1957 from W. G. Harding of Washington D. C., who was a collector of clocks and a member of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, said that he had seen a picture of the clock in Yantee Magazine and that in all his travels he had never seen an identical clock except for one in his collection about which he knew nothing, and he inquired if we could tell him the history of the clock. On the dial appears the name "Shreve Stanwood and Co.". Except for this he would have thought the clock was French made but the works are typical of a good grade of French clocks of that era. He further commented on the bronze statue on top, with the brass base, on which is inscribed "G. Picault" and noted that the detail is "fine and exacting", with an Egyptian motif,

"judging from the decorations, lotus-blossom style of hands, etc.". He did not have the candlesticks with his clock.

A well known expert repair man in Salem also stated that the movement is French and was most enthusiastic about the clock.

Sewing Table with Cloth Bag

was left to the Society by Dr. Mary Cateman. It belonged to her mother and used to stand in the north window of the room above the parlor.

Wallpaper Panel in the TD Room

was given by Mrs. Charles L. Ward. Mr. Ward was a grandson of Eben H. Cateman, silversmith, who owned the north side of Emmerton House.

The panel is a French wallpaper from the house of Dufour in the early 1800's and is a type much used and valued during the *Stc Antire* period. It depicts the 'Adventures of Telemachus' and was originally on the wall of the front room. The panel had been at the Essex Institute but Mrs. Ward retrieved it and gave it to the Society.

McIntire Mantels, North and South Parlors

When the Society, being poor, decided to sell the mantels, Mrs. Emmerton paid the price offered by an antique dealer in order to keep them for the House. The mantel in the South Parlor had originally been moved from a house on Chestnut Street. Mr. Fiske Kimball and Dr. Merrill of the Essex Institute have both stated that the mantels are the authentic work of Samuel Field McIntire.

Two Oval Mirrors

located in the Dining Room were donated by Miss Alice Endicott.

Oriental Rug (Pers)

in the North Parlor was purchased with money left to the Society by Miss Christensen.

Silver Bread Basket and Spoon

made by Eben H. Lateman are in the Secretary at Emmerton House on loan by Col. John M. Raymond, Washington, D.C., until the organization or the Lateman Room shall cease to exist,

at which time they are to be given to his cousin,
Mrs. C. Carleton Kimball, residing at 50 School
Street, Andover, Mass., or to her heirs.

Upholstered Chair

was a gift from Mrs. Charles M. Philbrick.

Upholstered Chair

was bequeathed to the Society by Mrs.
Samuel Beane.

Mirror

in the North Parlor was redone at the expense
of Mrs. George Parker.

Five White Pine Trees

planted along the back fence were a gift from
Mrs. George Parker.

Gavel and Block

marked "Woman's Friend Society" was a gift
from Mrs. J. Waldo Martin in 1975.

Portrait of Eben H. Cateman.

loaned to the Society for two years by Charles Cateman Ward, Cousin of Dr. Mary Cateman who gave him the portrait, was returned to him in 1958.

Zanzibar Cabinet

on loan from Charles Cateman Ward was returned to Mrs. E. Carleton Kimball, sister of Mr. Ward, in the same year.

Legacies

Through almost a century, women of Salem have given of themselves for the benefit of Emmerton House. Because they believed in the work being accomplished over the years, they have contributed in many ways - some with their talents, others with their financial support.

Legacies, ranging from fifty dollars to ten thousand dollars and totaling \$96,418.41, have enabled the Woman's Friend Society to continue to grow and be a valuable asset to the citizens of Salem.

As the older records become available to us, we shall continue in our backward search for the complete list of donors. Following is a partial listing of our benefactors since 1928.

- 1928 Miss Helen Lander
- 1929 Miss S. Adele Decker
- 1929 Miss Lydia J. Decker
- 1930 Mrs. Ada Curwen
- 1930 Miss Lucy W. Stickney
- 1930 Mrs. Annie C. Johnson
- 1931 Mrs. Lucy Gill

- 1931 Mrs. Sophia E. Lee
 1931 Annie E. Spinney
 1932 E. Adelaide Towle
 1933 Mrs. Abby C. West
 1934 Mrs. Ida E. Smith
 1934 Mr. Eben B. Symonds
 1935 Sarah E. Sherman
 1937 Jenney Brooks
 1937 Miss Lucy Willson
 Miss Alice Willson
 1940 Mrs. Sophie H. West
 1941 Eleanor Fassam
 1946 Clara L. Gilbert
 1948 Wilhelmina W. Christison
 1949 Susan C. Choate
 1949 Lena C. Emery
 1951 Esther G. Stoddard
 1954 Anna G. Endicott
 1956 Luella Turner
 1959 Mabel F. Knowles
 1961 Bessie C. F. Russey
 1962 M. Florence Salisbury
 1962 Nellie S. Messer

1964 Mrs. Ethel Goodell
1964 Mrs. George Parker
1965 Mrs. Annie E. Johnson
1965 Mrs. Louise B. Gifford
1968 Mrs. Mary Ellen Beane
1969 Miss Anzella Richardson
1972 Ada L. Kember
1973 Florence B. Cruttenden
1976 Miss Harriet Rantoul