

OLD-TIME NEW ENGLAND

*A Quarterly Magazine Devoted to the Ancient Buildings,
Household Furnishings, Domestic Arts, Manners and Customs,
and Minor Antiquities of the New England People*

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Editor's Edgewise Word

THE Summer Issue of OLD-TIME NEW ENGLAND is necessarily in the nature of a family conference because in it we review some of the Society's own affairs: the reports of the President, the Treasurer, and the Director of the Museum.

The frontispiece, a sketch made in 1903, by the artist C. A. Lawrence, of the façade of our headquarters, the Harrison Gray Otis house, will help to illustrate the basic meaning of the accompanying reports and will serve as a token of the very real progress made by the Society in preserving and maintaining significant houses and antiquities of New England.

This work has been accomplished in spite of great odds: the deaths of Mr. Appleton and some of his most skilled helpers, the interruption of war, the ever present handicaps of too little money, too much to do, and too few people to do it.

In certain specific fields we are particularly in need of help. The Society maintains sixteen seventeenth-century houses, and has not enough seventeenth-century furniture to go around.

Although our records of properties are voluminous and carefully filed, we often need more historical and genealogical data concerning them, in order to

complete a significant picture of the part played by these houses in the past which they represent. In spite of the fact that the centers of such information are near at hand we do not ourselves have time to do as much research as we would like. If any members of the Society could share some of their time and skill to help us in this way, it would in turn add immeasurably to the vividness with which these houses could tell their story to the public.

Certainly today of all times in our history, it is not time misspent to preserve and present to the public such reminders as survive of the vision, the fortitude, and the trials, of the founders of our national way of life.

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Corrections: . . . In the Winter Issue, under illustrations to *The History of the Paper Valentine* by Eugene E. Thurston, page 170, for "late eighteenth century" should be read "circa 1850." On page 175 under left illustration "circa 1820" should read "circa 1850."

. . . In the Spring Issue, illustrations on pages 214 and 240, the second captioned "from New England Museum collection," were very kindly loaned from her distinguished collection by Lura Woodside Watkins, author of the book *Cambridge Glass* and many articles on related subjects.