

Church of Salem, March 15, 1642. Their descendants for more than two hundred and fifty years of Salem's history have been useful, respectable citizens, engaged in various vocations, and filling positions of trust and honor. It is one of Salem's best known names. John Ropes, their fifth child, married Lydia, daughter of Dr. Thomas Wells. Their descendant, the late Benjamin Ropes Nichols [44. VII. 218], had two silver spoons marked I. R. & L. R., which are supposed to have been theirs. Samuel Ropes, their son, was a member of the First Church, and one of those who caused the dismissal of its pastor, the Rev. Mr. Fiske. He was an uncle of Judge Nathaniel Ropes (H. C. 1745), and father of the subject of this sketch.

Benjamin Ropes was a son of Samuel and Lydia (Neal) Ropes of Salem. *Joseph Neal* [60-70. IV. 10²] was his uncle. His ancestry includes the following families: Ropes, Wells, Warner, Neal, Lawes, Croade, Hersey. See ANCESTRY TABLES $\frac{V}{II}$.

48. V. 17. **Sarah Pickering** [Timothy 48-59. IV. 9], born in Salem, baptized there, Feb. 1, 1729-30, died in Salem.

Mrs. Clarke lived in the house still standing in Essex Street, Salem, half way between Beckford and Munroe streets, now numbered three hundred and fifty-eight. A heliotype of it is here given. She lived to be nearly ninety-seven years old, and though for several years before her death her step was infirm, her general health was good. Mrs. Clarke told her great-grandson, John Clarke Lee, who lived with her when a child, that she had seen some of the people who were tried for witchcraft in 1692.¹ She was a woman of large features and a strong face.²

Mrs. Clarke wrought in crewel the Pickering coat of arms, with her name and the date 1753 under it. It still hangs in the entry of the old Pickering House in Salem. A heliotype of it is given facing page 11. Other pieces of her needlework are in the possession of her descendants.

Mrs. Clarke made her will July 30, 1822. It was proved May 15, 1827. An abstract of it is here given.

To my grandson Charles Chauncy Clarke \$1000.

To my grandson Frederick Cabot, of Boston, merchant, and my aforesaid grandson Charles Chauncy Clarke, in trust the sum of \$1000 to invest and pay

¹ Francis H. Lee's Record, p. 190.

² Mrs. Thomas Donaldson.