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by David Migliaccio

MUDGE



James Mudge (1638-1675)

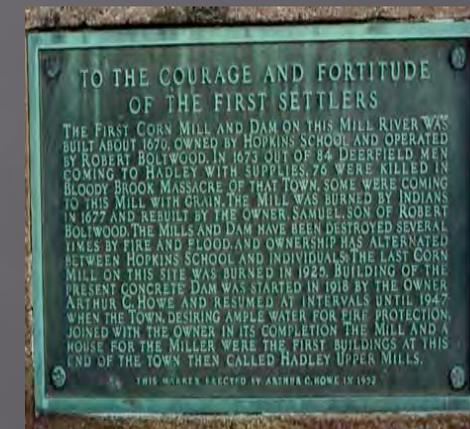
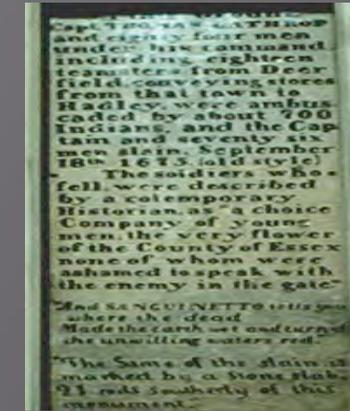
“James Mudge was a member of the company from Essex County, styled in the New England histories, “The Flower of Essex County”, which was commanded by Captain Thomas Lathrop of Beverly, and which was surprised by Indians at Deerfield, at the locality ever since known as “Bloody Creek.” The company numbered eighty four. Seventy Six of them were killed, having been ambuscaded by about seven hundred Indians, said to have been led by King Phillip in person.”

History of Essex County, Mass.
D. Hamilton Hurd

“The memories of those,
Who braved the battle showers,
And shielded with their hearts and hands’
Our nation’s infant hours”.

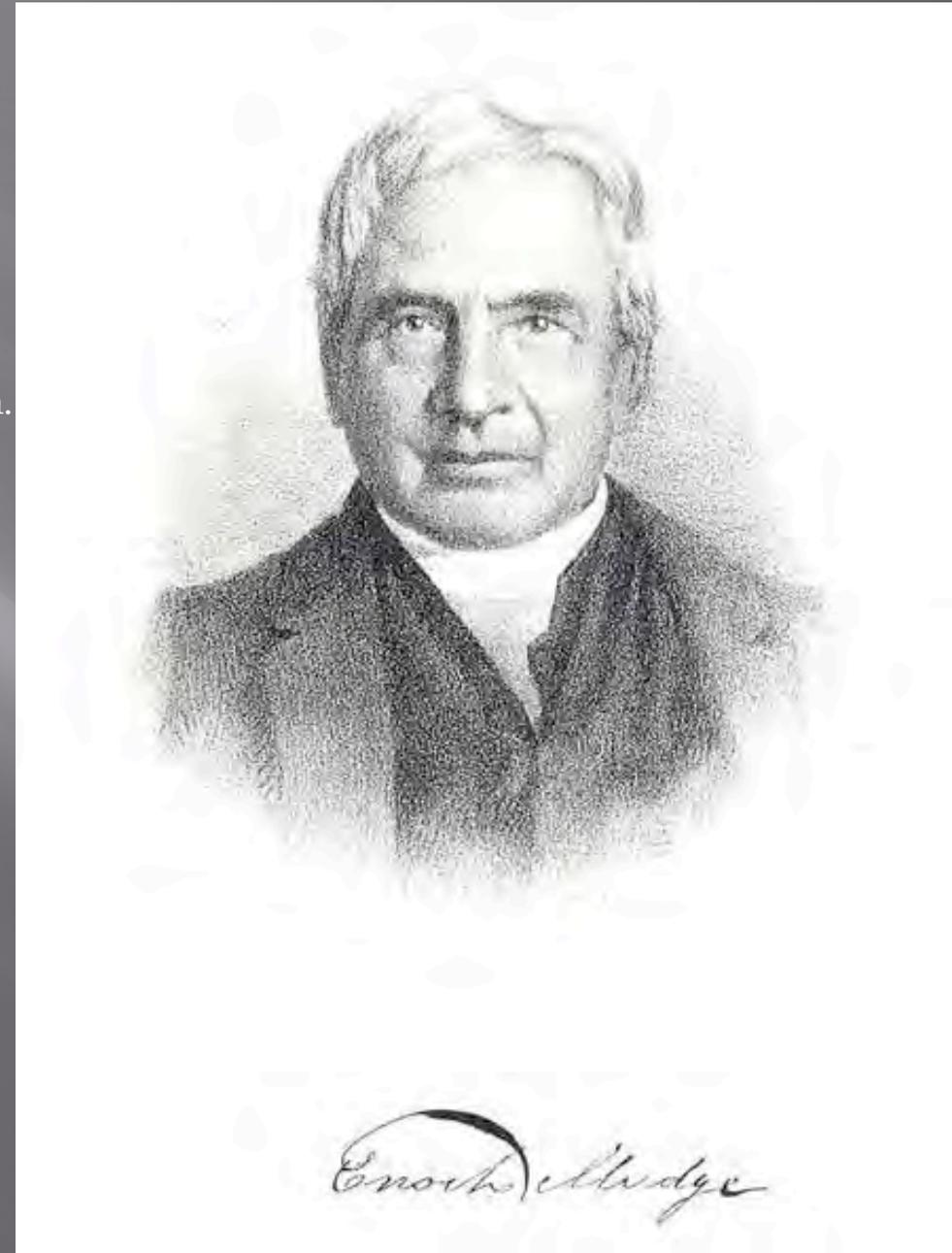
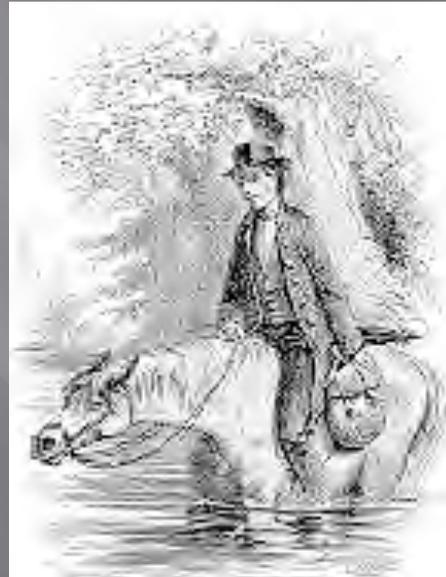
“The trampled vale alone,
The streamlet’s reddened flood,
Bore witness to their gallant strife,
And told the tale of blood.”

Hon. Edward Everett, 1865



Enoch Mudge (1776-1850)

First Methodist minister reared in New England. Born in Lynn, Mass. Converted under Rev. Jesse Lee, pioneer of Methodism in New England, at the age of fifteen during a visit to Lynn . He became an itinerant minister in Maine and eventually settled in Orrington where he established a flourishing church. A veteran of the Battle of Hampden during the War of 1812, Rev. Mudge was author of several books, was a two term State Representative to the Massachusetts Legislature and was instrumental in several legal decisions including the right of Methodist ministers to solemnize a marriage.



“On the 14th day of Dec. 1790, Mr. Lee visited Lynn and preached. He providentially arrived at a most seasonable period, and the word preached was singularly blessed. In a little more than two months, a Methodist society was formed. In the course of the ensuing May, upwards of seventy persons took certificates showing that they attended the Ministry of the Methodists. This was necessary to free them from paying their regular quota to the ministers of the standing order.”

“The society resolved to provide a place for publish worship in the building of which there was more dispatch used than is common on such occasions. It was begun on the 14th of June, raised on the 21st and dedicated on the 25th of the same month. This was the 1st Methodist Meeting House ever built in the state of Massachusetts.”



The Seaman's Bethel New Bedford, Mass. Circa 1841

Rev. Mudge was appointed the first chaplain, (1832-18430) of the Seaman's Chapel in New Bedford, Mass. The reference to "Father Mapple" in Hermann Melville's classic, "Moby Dick" is believed to be a characterization of Rev. Mudge. During this period, New Bedford was a hotbed of the Abolitionist movement. Lucretia Mott of Nantucket was a local leader of the new movement.

In his writings on slavery, Rev. Mudge states, "While humanity weeps, and heaves a sigh at the thought, that fellow heirs to immorality should remain under an institution which reproaches our nation, and our very nature, yet is refreshing to the soul to behold the change the gospel has produced, where it had free course, and is glorified in the salvation of slaves".

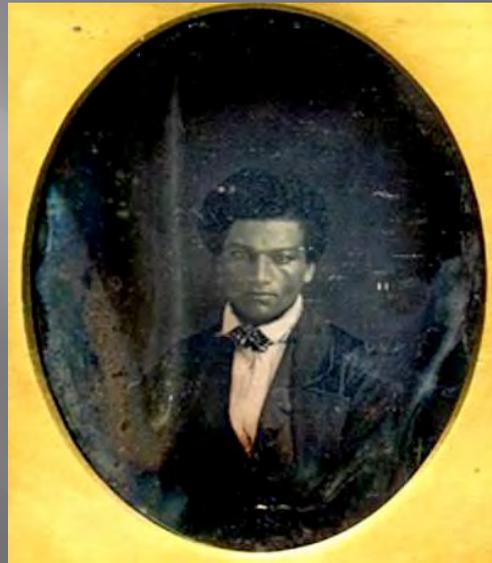


Frederick Douglass in New Bedford, Mass.

At the age of 20, Frederick Douglass escaped slavery and made his way to New Bedford which was a haven for escaped slaves at the time, particularly from Maryland. There was a booming whaling industry and Douglass quickly found work on the bustling docks.

During this time, Douglass was introduced to the early Abolitionist movement. He read copies of William Lloyd Garrison's "The Liberator", attended abolitionist meetings and an anti-slavery convention on Nantucket. Douglas would soon be hired as a lecturer by the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society.

At this time, Rev. Mudge wrote of the Methodist missionaries preaching the gospel to slaves in the South that, "These missions require men dead to the world, and truly alive to God, and the salvation of their fellow men, whose condition is so pitifully degraded and wretched."

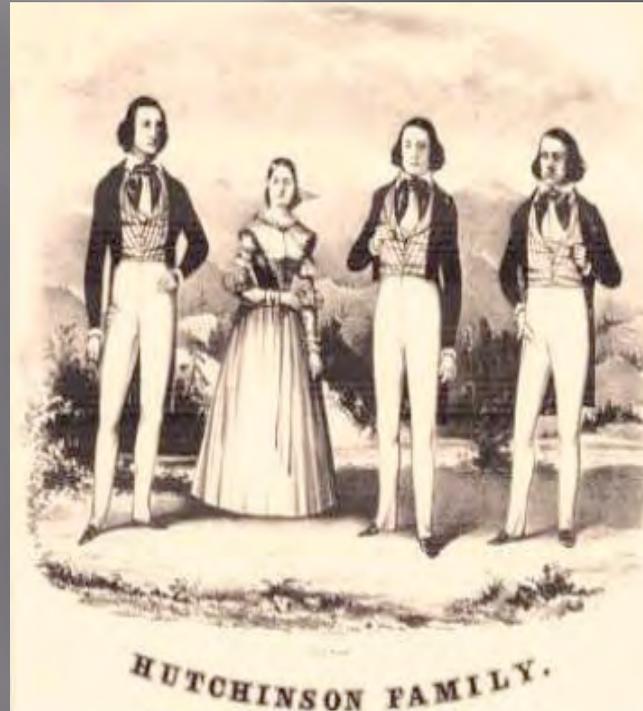
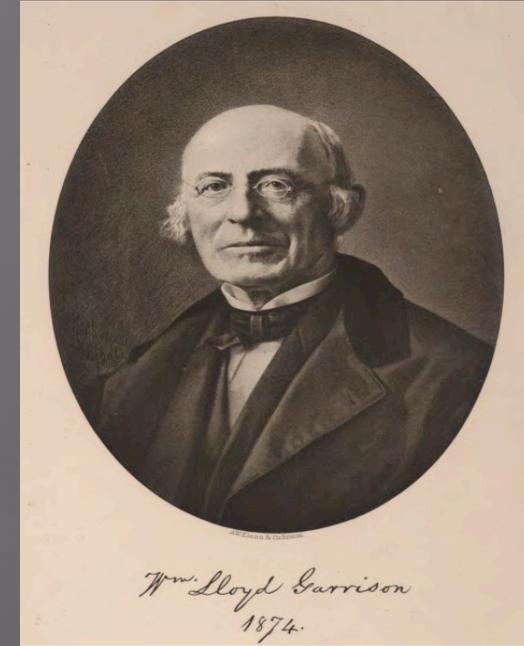


The Movement to Lynn, Mass. (1841)

William Lloyd Garrison persuaded Frederick Douglass to move his family from New Bedford to Lynn, Mass., where there was a growing Abolitionist movement. Douglass was hired by the Mass. Anti-Slavery Society as its principal lecturer and went on its "One Hundred Conventions" tour that included stops in New York, Ohio, Indiana, and Pennsylvania.

Douglass was often accompanied by the "Hutchinson Family Singers" of Lynn, a popular singing group of the day which took up many social causes. They traveled with Douglass to England in 1845 and stayed for almost a year. Garrison said of the Hutchinsons, "Accustomed to roam at freedom among their own hills, they abhorred slavery and pitied the slave. More than this, they nobly resolved to exert their influence on behalf of the captives. To this end they prepared and sang antislavery songs." The Hutchinson Family Singers are often referred to as America's first protest singers.

Rev. Enoch Mudge returned with his family to Lynn in 1844 where he retired. He passed away in 1850. He is buried at the Old Western Burying Ground.



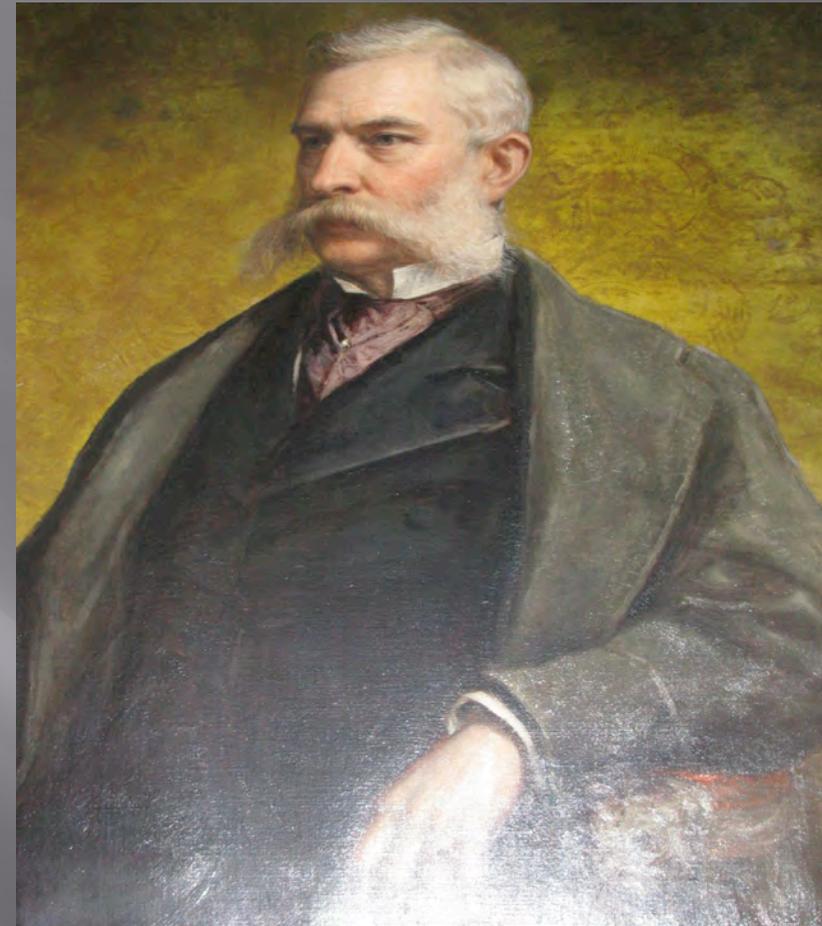
Enoch Reddington Mudge (1812- 1881)

Enoch R. Mudge was the son of Rev. Enoch Mudge. His interests lay more in finance than the clergy. He left home at the age of fifteen and clerked at the banking house of S&M Allen in Portland, Me. However, the firm failed during the Crash of 1837 and he then became engaged in business as a commission merchant. He prospered but made some unfortunate land speculations which resulted in his bankruptcy.

Following these set backs, Mudge went to New York City and became manager of the Astor House, after which he paid his debts. He would later go to New Orleans in 1840 and open the St. Charles Hotel. His new hotel was very profitable and in four years he had made \$150,000.

In 1845 he returned North with his wife Caroline and two children, Fanny Olive and Charles. In Boston he opened the banking house of Fay, Mudge and Atwood.

Enoch Mudge was a State Senator for the 1st district, a trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts and the Mass. Institute of Technology.

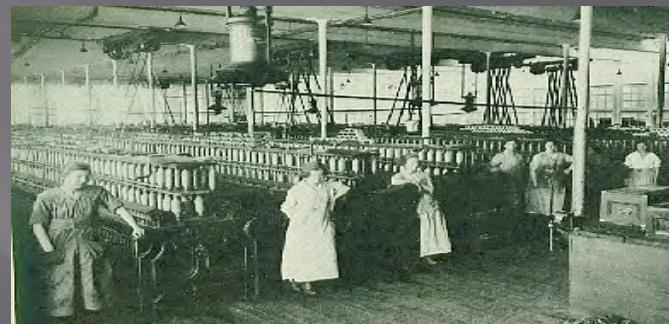


The Return North (1845)

Upon his return North, Enoch R. Mudge entered manufacturing. He bought water power in Cohoes, New York and built the Saratoga Victory Cotton Mills, of which he was treasurer. Mudge later became associated with Nevins & Co. of New York, an importer, and later took charge of the products of several large woolen and cotton mills in New England.

In 1865, the capital stock of the concerns amounted to \$3,000,000, with assets valued at \$8,000,000. He owned 140 sets of woolen machinery, 90,000 spindles and employed 4,000 people. He had become one of the great captains of American industry .

Mudge was highly respected and influential in matters relating to commerce and trade. He was particularly versed in the area of tariffs, which were contentious prior to and after the Civil War. At The National Assoc. of Cotton Manufacturers and Planters meeting in 1868 he said on the issue of tariffs, "When we speak of protection, I think it should be given only at the point where the cotton manufacturer requires it."



Charles Reddington Mudge (1839-1863)

A son of great privilege, Charles entered Harvard in 1856 and would be best remembered as having, "a popularity of an unusual and very flattering nature, and left him perhaps nearly the the only man in the Class who could be sure of a kind word and friendly deed from every member. In his case, this popularity was founded upon a remarkable unvarying kindness of nature. He was a good oarsman, an excellent boxer, and distinguished in the Gymnasium... and a leading "brother" of the Hasty-Pudding Club."

He wrote (Nov.16, 1862), " If you will just look back to that Sunday morning when you and I jumped out of our beds at the news of the capture of Fort. Sumter,-I fully made up my mind to fight, and when I say fight, I mean win or die. I do not wish to stop the thing halfway. I want to establish the government upon a foundation of rock."

Shortly after his graduation from Harvard, Charles enlisted in the Union army as a Captain and returned to Lynn where he was in charge of recruiting for the 2nd Mass. Volunteer regiment.



The 2nd Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment

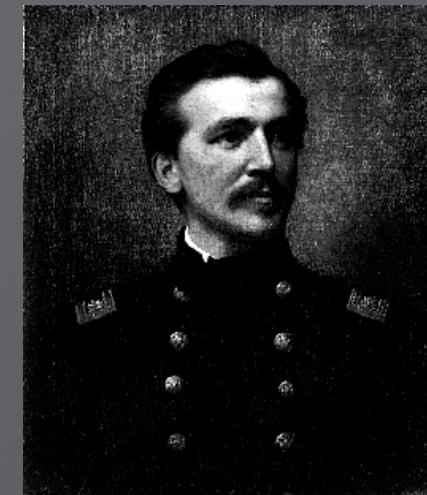
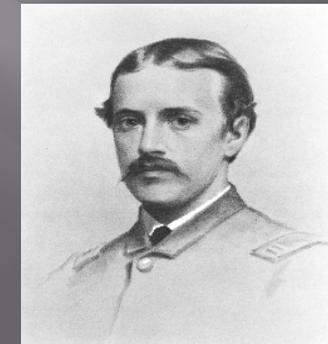
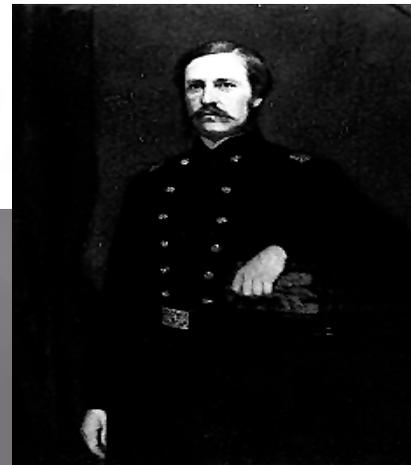
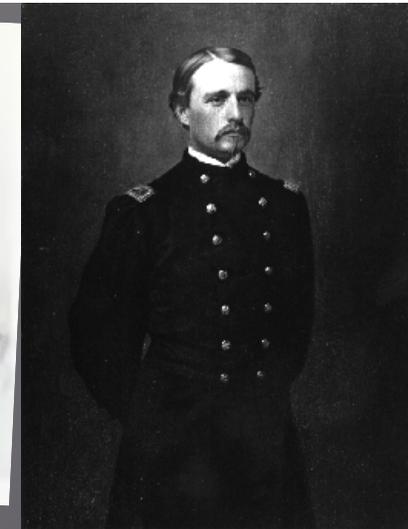
One of the several Harvard Regiments (including the 20th and 44th), during the Civil War whose officer ranks were filled with the cream of the close knit Boston Brahmin society. They were friends and graduates of the Harvard Class of 1860 whose motivations were best expressed by Capt. Thomas B. Fox., "Hereafter, if our lives are spared, should our children's children ask what we did for our country in this great crisis, a blush such as never should be seen on an old man's face would come upon our faces if we were obliged to answer, - Nothing."

Gen Frederick W. Lander wrote of them,

"Old State—some souls are rudely sped—
This record for thy Harvard Corps—
Imprisoned, wounded, dying, dead,
It only asks, "Has Sparta more?"

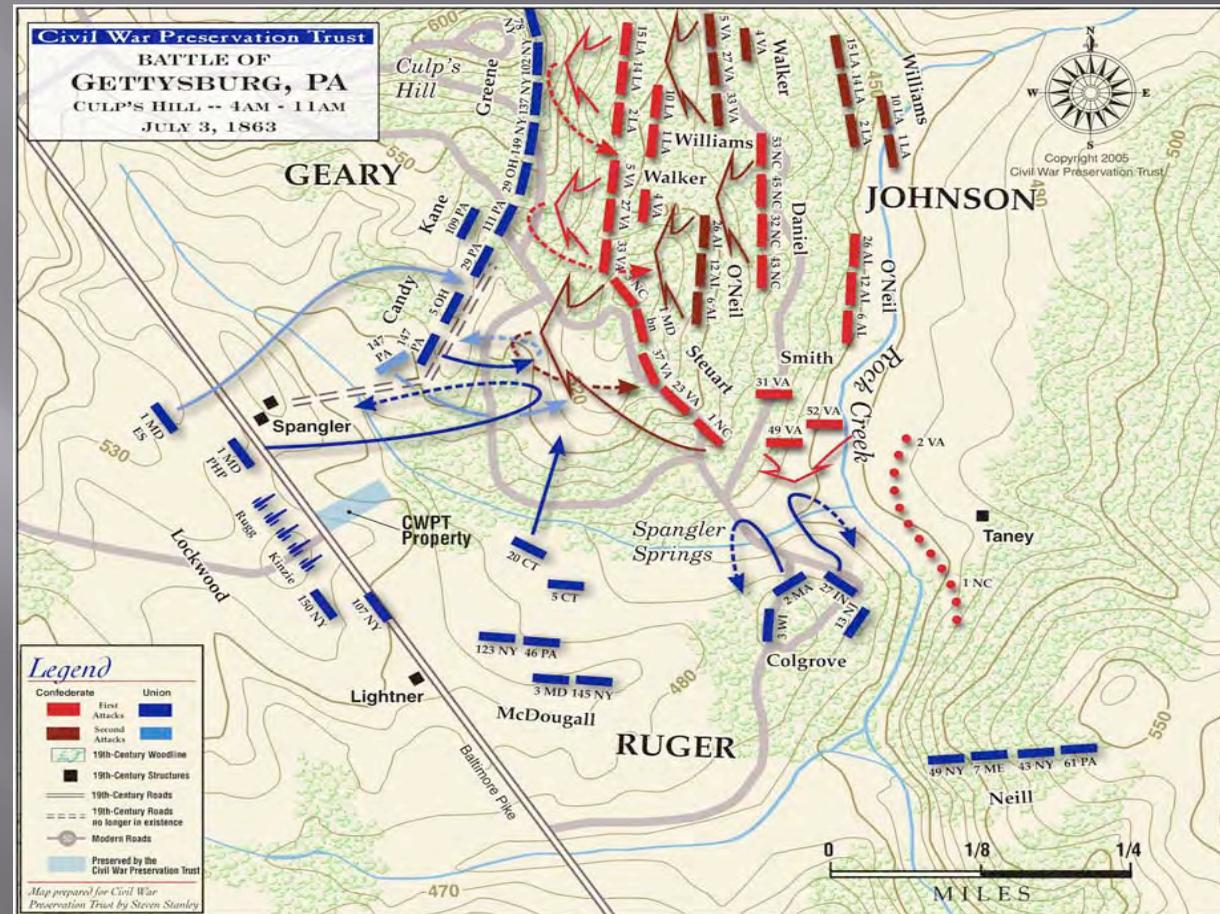
Clockwise Upper Left:

- Lt. Col. Charles F. Morse (1839-1926)
- .Lt. Col. Chas. R. Mudge (1839-1863)
- Col. Robert Gould Shaw (1837-1863)
- Lt. Col. Wilder Dwight (1832-1862)
- Capt. Thomas B. Fox Jr. (1839-1863)
- Lt. Col. James Savage Jr. (1832-1862)



The 2nd Regiment at Gettysburg

On the second day of battle, at the height of the fighting, the 2nd Mass. and 27th Indiana were ordered to attack Confederate positions at the base of Culp's Hill. As the two regiments charged into the meadow south of Spangler's Spring, they were hit on three sides by musket fire. Both regiments lost heavily, including Lt. Col. Mudge who was shot dead during the charge.



Gettysburg July 3, 1863 Spangler's Spring

"I selected the 2nd Mass. And the 27th Indiana for the work." "At the command-our breastworks were cleared, and both regiments, with deafening cheers, sprang forward." "They had scarcely gained the open ground when they were met with one of the most terrible fires I have ever witnessed."

"Exposed as they were to extreme peril; doomed as they were during the latter part of the day on the 3rd to remain inactive under one of the most terrific artillery fires the world has ever witnessed; shell, shot, and missiles bursting over them, around them, and among them for hours, and at the same time sustaining the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, I scarcely witnessed a single instance upon the part of any soldier or officer of flinching from duty."

Colonel Silas Cosgrove, Commanding Brigade Officer



“Among the killed was it’s commander, Lt. Colonel Mudge, who fell while gallantly leading his men in the charge; a most gallant and brave officer, his gallant conduct will be cherished by his brother officers and men.”

Col. Silas Cosgrove



“Are you sure that is the order?” “Well it’s murder, but that is the order.” “Rise up – over the breastworks men – forward double quick!”

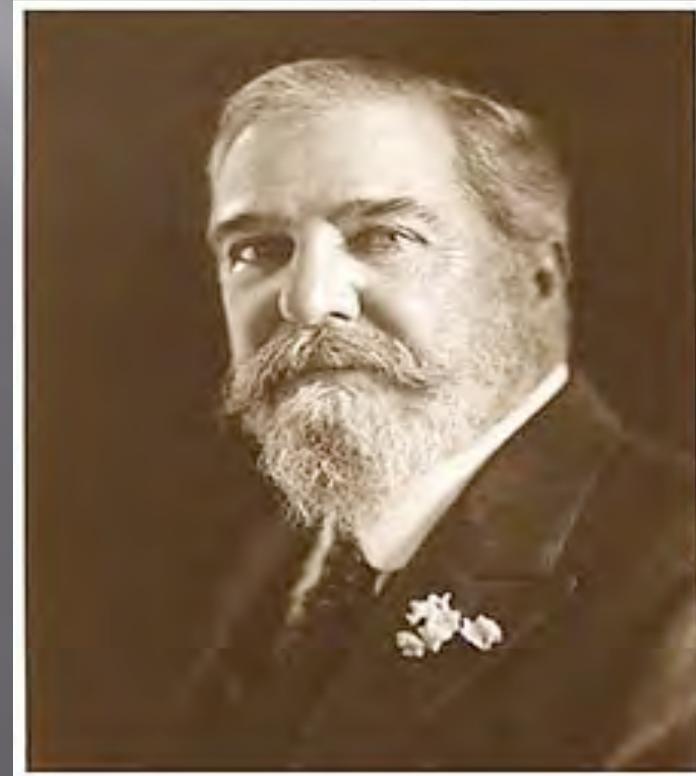
Lt. Col. Charles Reddington Mudge

A Father's Grief.

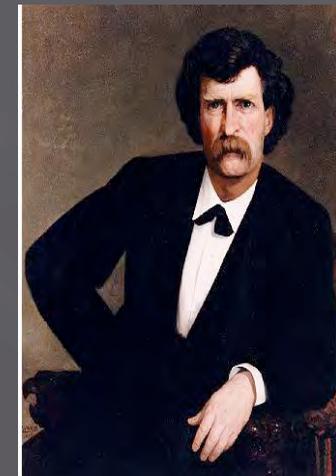
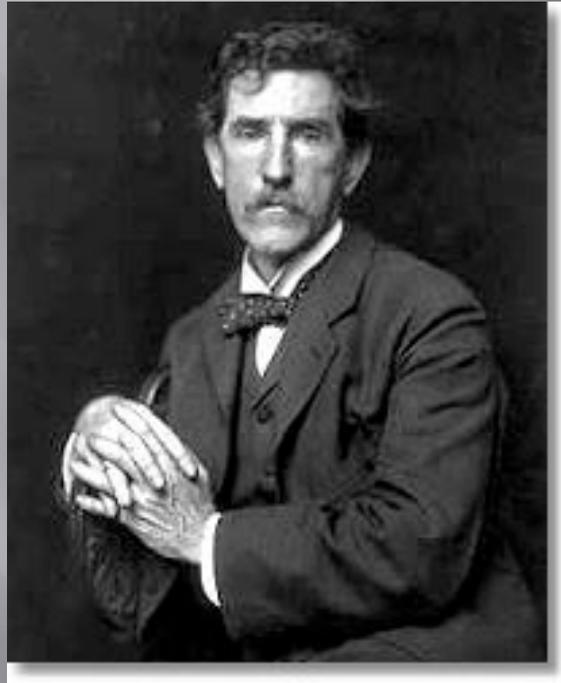
A funeral service was held for Lt. Col. Mudge at the Emmanuel Church in Boston on July 14, 1863.

A grief stricken Enoch R. Mudge set's about building a church as a memorial to his son and as a final resting place for his family. He hires the noted architectural firm of William R. Ware and Henry Van Brunt as architects. Both Harvard graduates, Ware would go on to establish the Schools of Architecture at MIT and Columbia while Van Brunt would travel west with the Union Pacific railroad and design many grand railroad stations along the route.

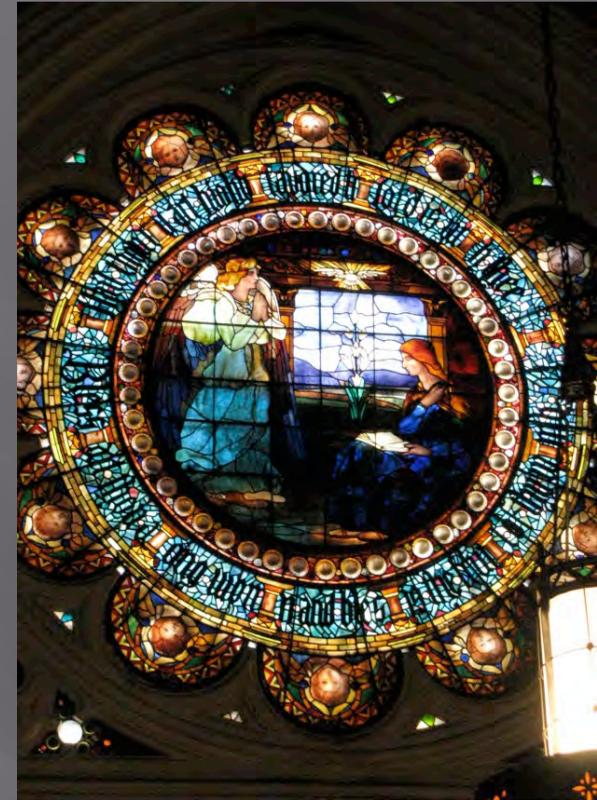
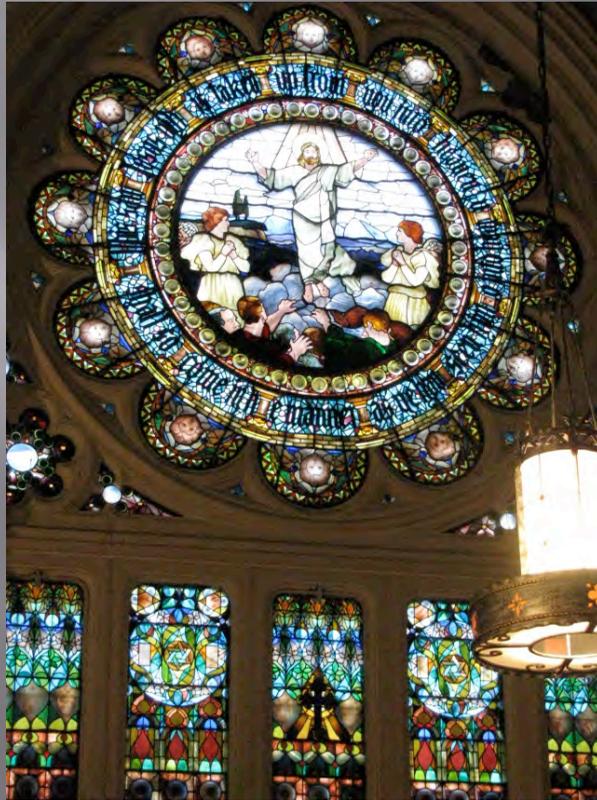
To design the interior of the new church, Mudge will hire the pre-eminent designer of the day, Louis C. Tiffany of New York. Upon completion of the project, Tiffany will go on to design and complete the residence of Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) in Hartford, Conn.

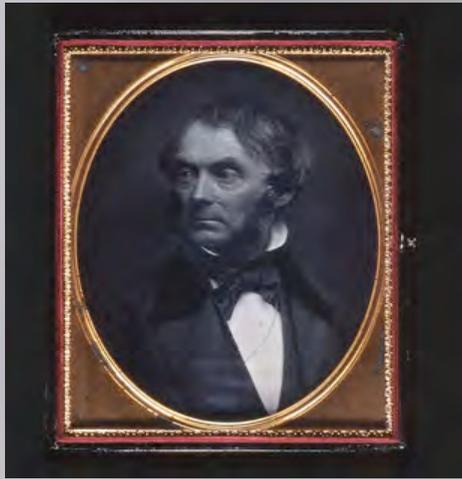


To design the masterpiece stained glass windows for St. Stephen's Memorial Church, Tiffany will hire the famous sculptor, Augustus St. Gaudens and the great artist Francis Millet. Upon completion, St. Gaudens will begin work on the memorial to Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment. Millet, a close friend of St. Gaudens, Twain and artist John Singer Sargent, will continue painting while serving as Trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The National Gallery and founding the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

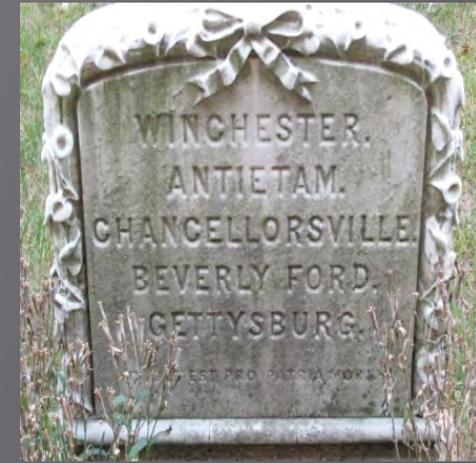


The stained glass windows of St. Stephen's Memorial Church





American sculptor Henry Dexter of Boston was commissioned to complete the memorial to Lt. Col. Mudge which included a marble bust and the markers of Indiana limestone



Memorials to Lt. Col. Charles Reddington Mudge



From upper left:
Portrait by Daniel Huntington
2nd Reg. Memorial at Gettysburg
Mudge family nave
St. Stephen's Memorial Church
Mudge Memorial Monument,
Swampscott, Mass.
Memorial Hall, Harvard College,
Cambridge, Mass.

The cornerstone of St. Stephen's Memorial Church was laid on May 19, 1881. It was on the verge of completion when on October 1, 1881, the Hon. Enoch R. Mudge passed away. Three days later, his funeral mass was the first service of any kind held within the church.

"There is no death:
What seems so is transition,
this life of mortal breath,
Is but the suburb of the life elysian,
Whose portal we call death."

Gov. Alexander Rice, Oct. 1881
Tribute to the memory of Mr. Mudge
Commercial Club of Boston



The End

