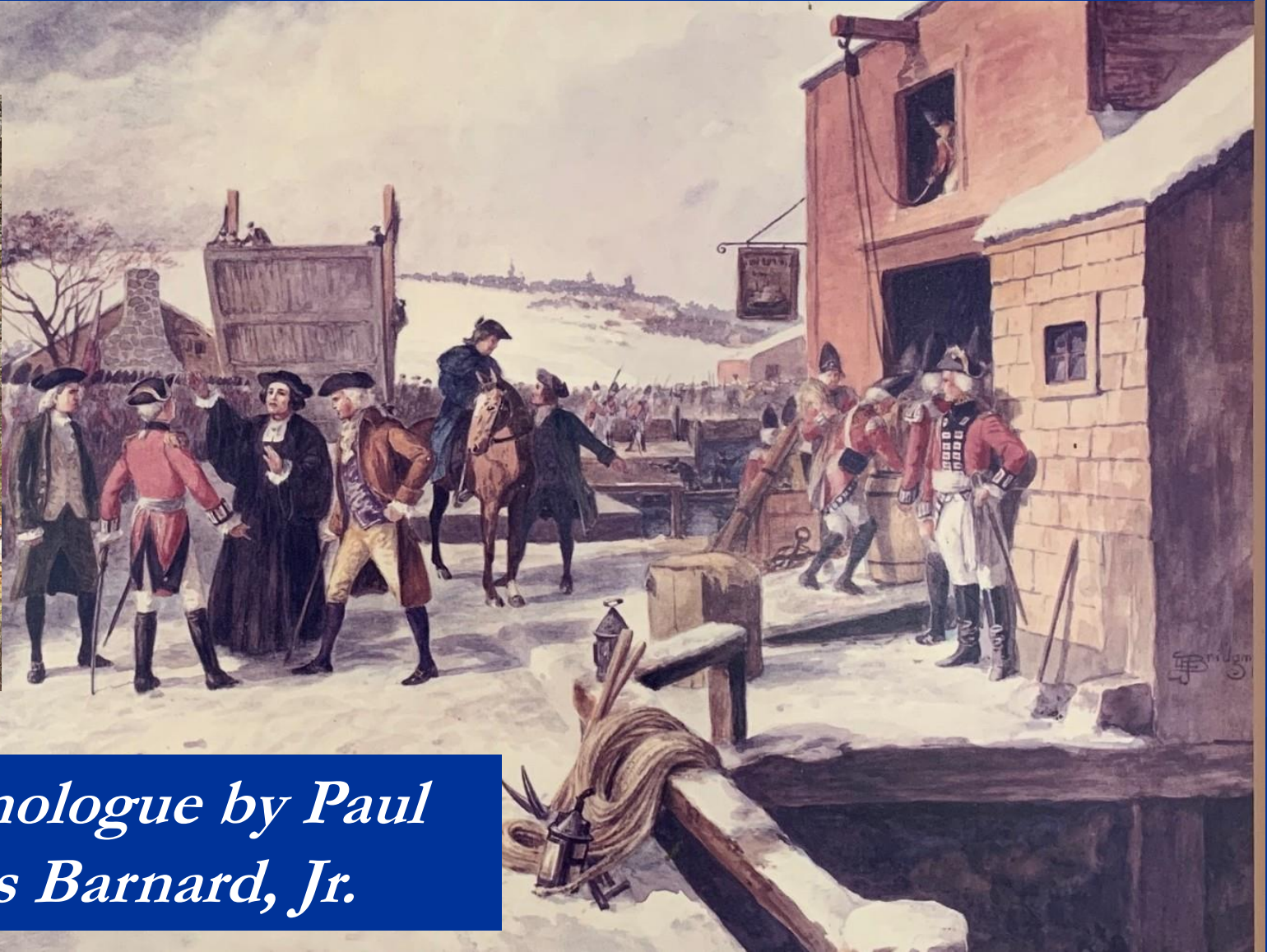


The 250th Anniversary of Pastor Barnard and Col. Leslie in Salem - February 26, 1775



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

The 250th Anniversary of Pastor Barnard and Col. Leslie in Salem - February 26, 1775



A first-person monologue by Paul Jehle as Thomas Barnard, Jr.

John Adams to Hezekiah Niles, Feb. 13, 1818

- When and where did the American Revolution begin?
- John Adams wrote: *But what do We mean by the American Revolution? Do We mean the American War? The Revolution was effected before the War commenced. The Revolution was in the Minds and Hearts of the People. A Change in their Religious Sentiments of their Duties and Obligations.*

What was the vehicle God used to do this?

- It was the clergy, the pastor, who taught the Word...
- *The reformed theology of all three denominations at the time – Congregational, Presbyterian and Episcopalian was virtually the same...*
- *The change of heart occurred as the tyranny of the British Empire increased, which led to bold actions*



August 6, 1629

We covenant with the Lord and one with another, and do bind ourselves together in the presence of God, to walk together in all His ways, according as he is pleased to reveal himself unto us, in his Blessed word of truth

Rev. Francis Higginson, chosen teacher in the year 1629, was having his devotions from Psalm 76, and when he read verse 2 –
In Salem also is His tabernacle, and His dwelling place in Zion, he suggested that the village of Naumkeag (native word meaning “comfort and haven”) be re-named Salem (for peace).

Rev. John White – “father of Massachusetts”

Reasons for the Plantation in New England 1628 - 1. *It will be a service to the Church of great consequence to carry the Gospel into those parts of the world, to help on the fullness of the coming of the Gentiles, and to raise a bulwark against the kingdom of Anti-Christ, which the Jesuits labor to rear up in those parts.*

The 1629 Charter of Massachusetts:

Whereby our said People, Inhabitants there, may be so religiously, peaceably, and civilly governed, as their good life and conversation may win and incite the Natives of the Country, to the knowledge and obedience of the only true God and Savior of Mankind, and the Christian Faith... which is... the principal end of this Plantation.

Roger Conant (1592-1667)

Sent by Pastor John White to Plimoth/Salem



John White called Conant a *‘pious, sober and prudent gentleman’*

Arrived in Plimoth in 1623

Settled in Naumkeag in 1626

“through grace assisting me... stayed to the hazard of our lives.”

John Higginson (1616-1708)

Pastor of the Salem Church from 1660-1708

Site of the Salem Church where
John Higginson served 1660-1708



Sermon in 1663...

*New-England is originally a
plantation of Religion, not a
plantation of Trade*

Compiled Church records from
1660-1708 – 1st 31 years!

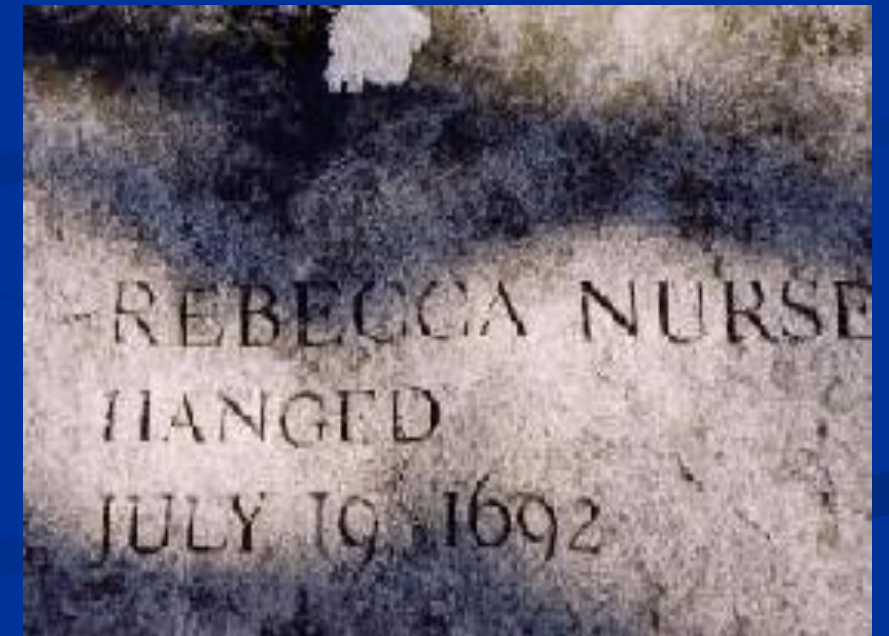
Took no part in supporting the
Witch Trials of 1692...

The Trial of Rebecca Nurse 1692



One of the lead intercessors of the Salem Church

- Guilty until proven innocent;
- Acceptance of spectral evidence – dreams, visions
- Use of pagan methods



Prayer and Fast Day of Repentance for
the Salem Witch Trials - 1697



Samuel Sewall's Repentance for the
Salem Witch Trials of 1692



On This Day in History

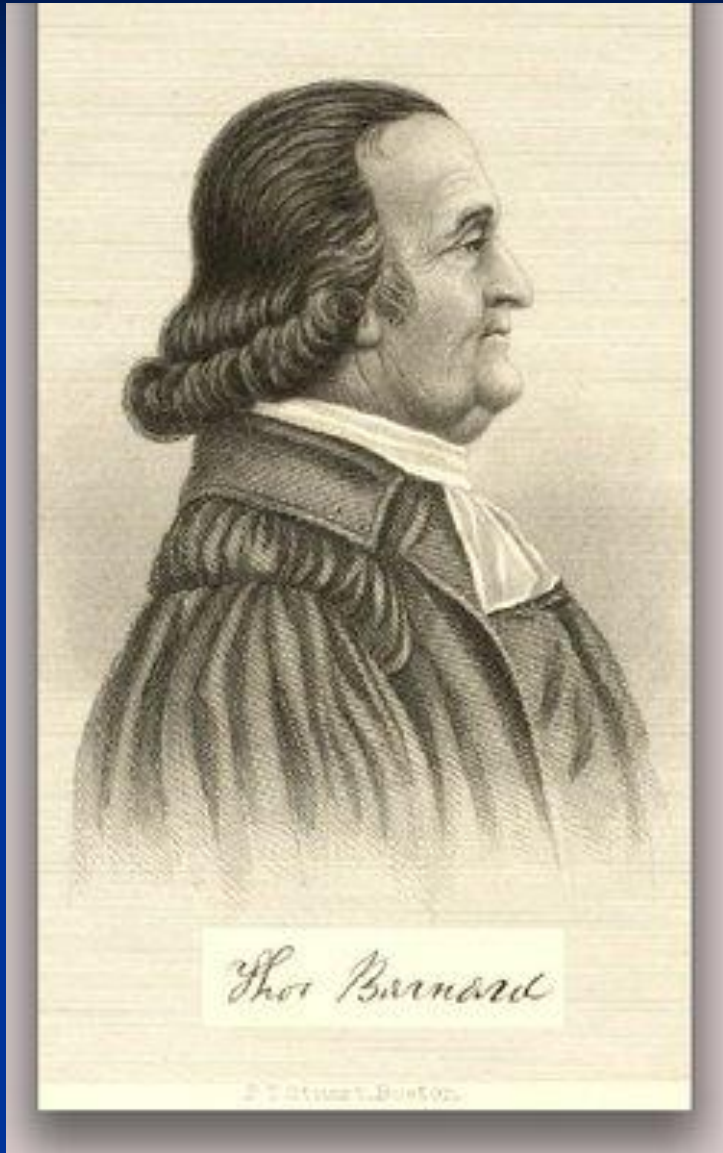
Aug 25, 1706

Afflicted girl, Ann
Putnam, Jr, publicly
apologizes for her
role in the Salem
Witch Trials

WWW.HISTORYOFMASSACHUSETTS.ORG

*Every spiritual battle must be fought
with God's weapons, not our own!*

Thomas Barnard, Jr. (1748-1814)



- George Whitefield preached in Salem in the fall of 1740... revival comes from repentance
- Born February 5, 1748; quite a legacy
- His great grand-father Thomas Barnard (1656-1718); classmate of Cotton Mather
- His grand-father John Barnard (1690-1757); pastored until his death...
- His father; Thomas, Sr. began pastoring the North Parish Church in 1757

Thomas Barnard, Sr. (1716-1776)



1758 - *A sermon preached to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co. in Boston*

...when a community in general, forsakes God and virtue, they fall into those errors and sins, which either draw them the just resentments of their neighbors or invite some hardy invader to attack them

If the church forsakes God; the town/nation suffers

Thomas Barnard, Sr. (1716-1776)



1758 - *A sermon preached to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co. in Boston*

... (A) religious soldier, inspired to diligence in accomplishing himself in the Art of War, not by the Hope of a plume of feathers... but that he may be an instrument in the Hand of God, of breaking the teeth of the oppressor.

I learned that force is justified as a last resort in defense of rights of conscience

Thomas Barnard, Sr. (1716-1776)



1758 - *A sermon preached in Boston...*

Jesus the Mediator who is higher than the kings of the Earth, sits enthroned on the right Hand of God, there exerting his exalted Power, in subduing his and our Enemies, by the Sword of the Spirit the Word of Truth... promoting the inward disposition of Love and Peace, which establishes these blessings in a better foundation than terror or policy

Love and peace establish His blessings better than terror of force or political policy alone

Thomas Barnard, Sr. (1716-1776)



1763 - *A Sermon preached before His Excellency Francis Bernard, Governor*

...tranquility and order are not the effects of chance.... For wise rulers... will enter their offices with great sobriety of mind... they shall need the steadiest application, unwearied efforts to approve themselves to Him, by whom the welfare of the People is entrusted to them

A wise magistrate administers the rule of law

The Stamp Act 1765



BOSTONIANS READING THE STAMP ACT.

The Salem town assembly wrote in opposition that it was “burdensome” – measured words

- First direct internal tax on the Colonies by Parliament – on all paper documents
- Violated the written charter that their right to their own “parliaments”
- Resistance was both by lawful interposition and mob intimidation

The Townshend Acts of 1767

I had learned that spiritual awakening leads to civil awakening

- The revived hearts among the people and the clergy from the Great Awakening made us sensitive to tyrannical action
- Yet, some citizens did not have much self-control... reacting with protests in the streets rather than on principle...
- The Declaratory Act of 1766 and Townshend Acts of 1767 made it worse, but letters of appeal and lawful interposition of the Stamp Act Congress were positive steps for peaceful resolution – and we were Loyalists... that was our goal...

Thomas Barnard, Sr. (1716-1776)



1768 – Lecture at Harvard; *The Power of God is the Proof of Christianity.*

...let us aim at a just apprehension of the nature and evidence of Christianity... that we may be able to defend it successfully against gain-sayers; and that it may become the power of God unto salvation to us. Let us... search the Scriptures; especially... the gospel of Christ; and... add constant prayers to the Father of lights, to enlighten and direct us...

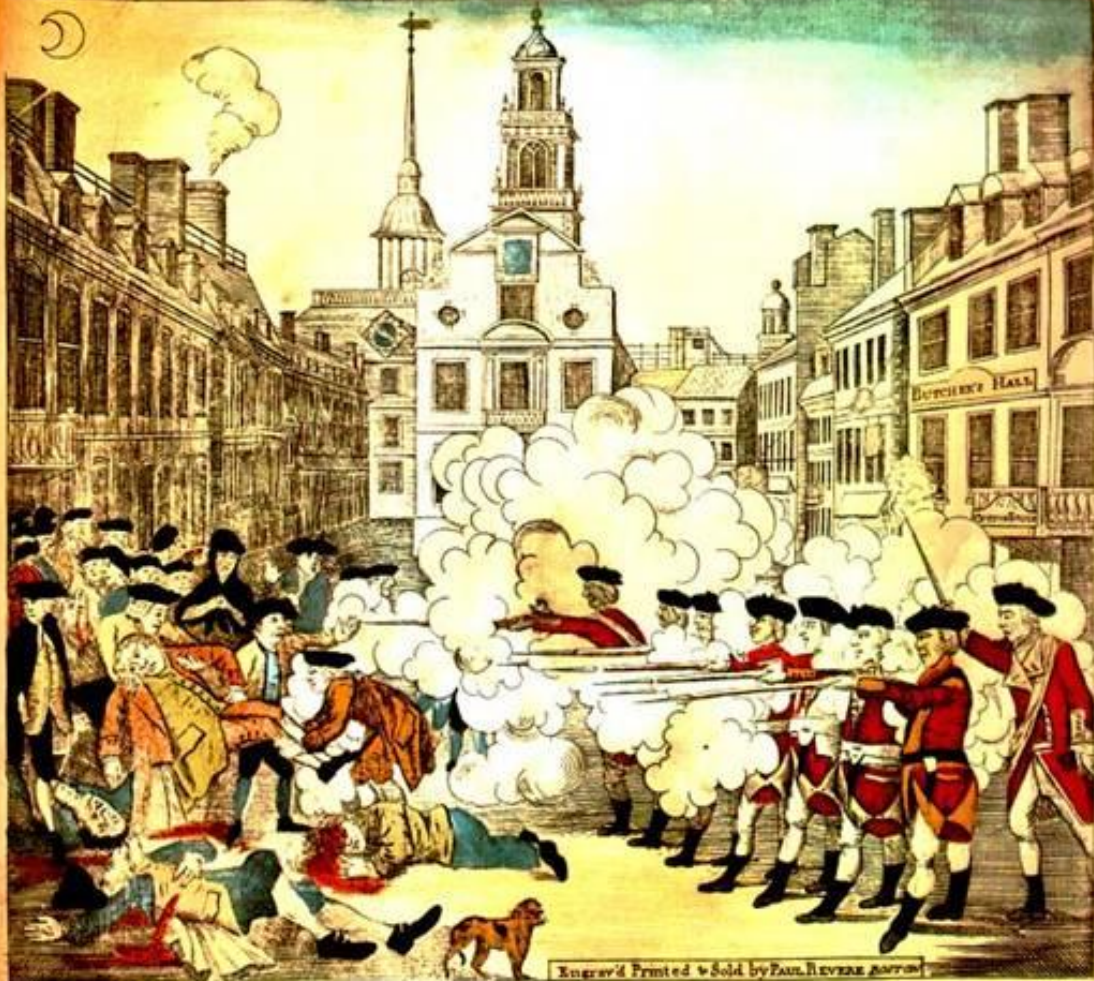
The power of God, not man, changes hearts

I signed the 1768 address to Gage hoping for “deference rather than submission” – for peace



British soldiers on streets, camped on Boston Common, quartered in homes, but not in Salem...

The BLOODY MASSACRE perpetrated in King-Street BOSTON on March 5th 1770 by a party of the 29th REGT



Unhappy Boston! see the Sons deplore,
Thy hallow'd Walls be mourn'd with galled Corn,
Wile faithless P—n and his savage Bands,
With murder's Rancour stretch their bloody Hands,
Like fierce Barbarians grinning o'er their Prey,
Approve the Carnage, and enjoy the Day.

If falling drops from Rage from Anguish Weep,
If speechless Sorrows 'tis 't'ing for a Tongue,
O'er a weeping World can ought appease
The plaintive Ghosts of Victims such as these,
The Patriot's copious Tears for each are shed,
A glorious Tribute which embalms the Dead.

But know! Ev'n summons to that awful Goal,
where Justice strikes the Mand'ry of his Soul,
Should vent C— to the funeral of the Land,
Snatch the released Victim from her Hand,
Keen Execrations on this Plate inscrib'd,
Shall reach a JUDGE who never can be brib'd.

The unhappy sufferers were Messrs SAM^l GRAY SAM^l MAVERICK, JAM^s CALDWELL, CHAS^s ATTUCKS & PAT^r CARE
Killed Six wounded; two of them (CHRIST^o MONK & JOHN CLARK) Mortally

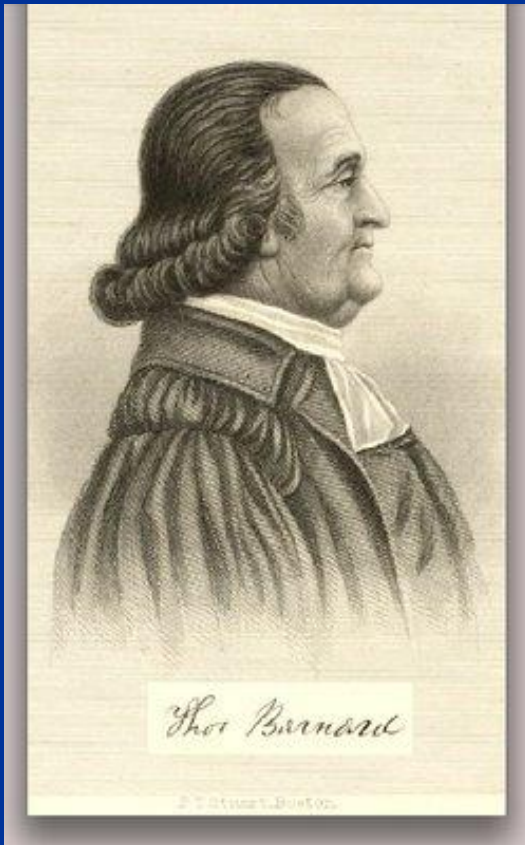
Engraving of Boston Massacre - Paul Revere March 5, 1770

Josiah Quincy wrote - *"...these criminals... are entitled, by the laws of God and man, to all legal counsel and aid."*

John Adams wrote - *"facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes... they cannot alter the... evidence... it was... one of the most gallant, generous, manly, and disinterested actions of my whole life, and one of the best pieces of service I ever rendered my Country"*



**Thomas Barnard, Sr. paralyzed in Spring 1770;
Barnard, Jr. fulfills pastoral duties until the
annual business meeting...**

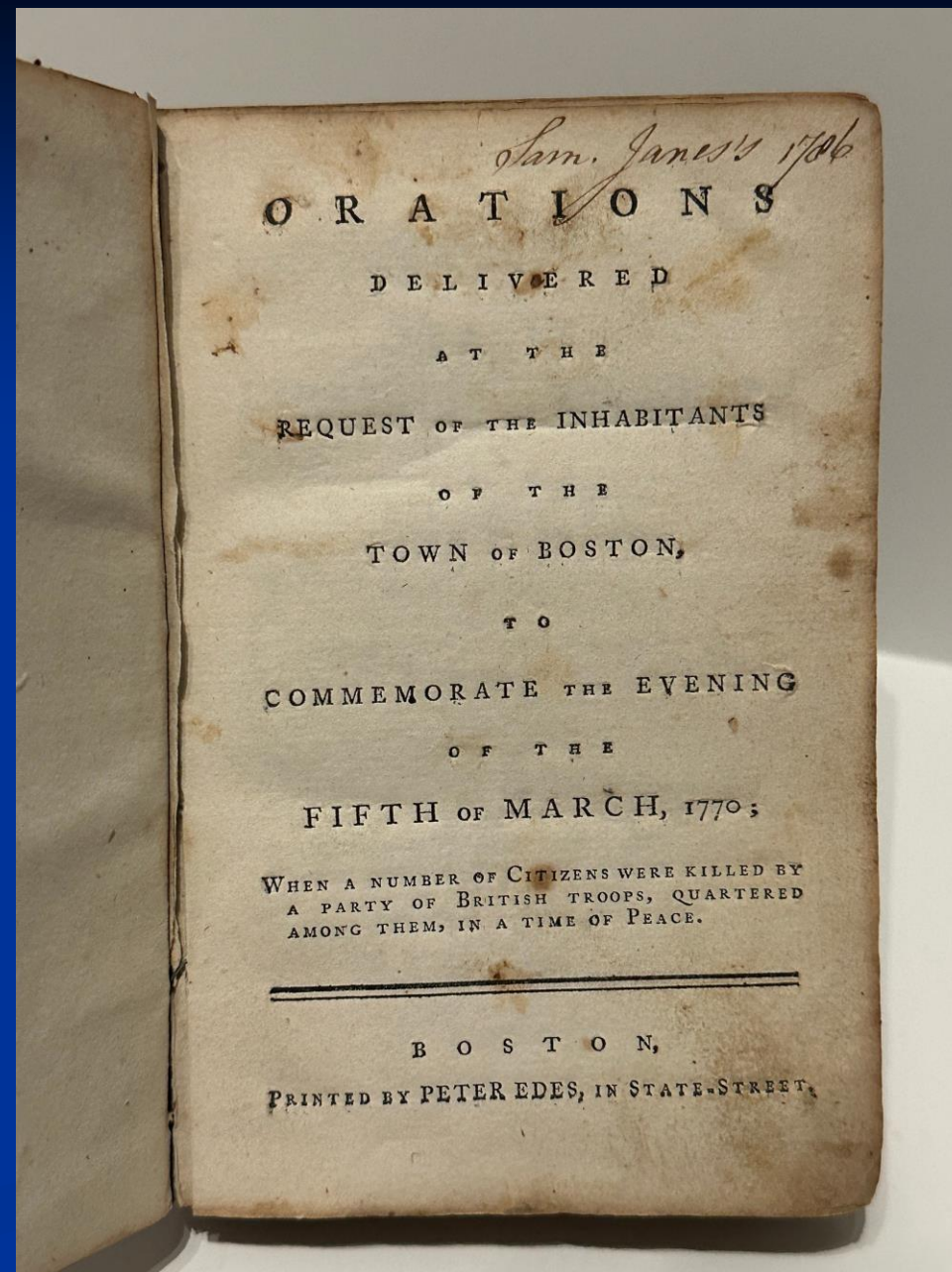


**Due to being unable to choose a
minister; First Church chose
Asa Dunbar, and the new
North Church chose Thomas
Barnard, Jr.**

**52 new members who were
mostly Loyalists**



**Boston Massacre Orations at Old
South Church – 1771-1775**



The Boston Tea Party December 16, 1773



Constitutional Boycott, voted unanimously Boston's City Council, protected owner, kept tea in port 20 days, public protest, and only destroyed the tea when it was "liable for seizure."



Thomas Barnard, Jr.
Pastor of North Church
in Salem 1772-1814

Site of the new North Church in 1772
(now the Wesley United Methodist Church
on the corner of Lynde and North Streets)

*Preaching the gospel of the kingdom is the
priority, avoiding political divisiveness*



*If it is possible, as much as depends on you,
live peaceably with all men. – Romans 12:18*

Gov. Gage Comes to Salem
June 2, 1774



Both political and religious leaders called for a day of fasting and prayer due to the Boston Port Bill, June 1, 1774

Gov. Gage was greeted by dueling addresses signed by 48 of Salem's Royalists and 125 of the Whigs. The addresses exhibit contrasting political ideologies... On one hand, Royalists supported a polity that promoted order, stability, and the rule of law... on the other hand, Whigs demanded a government that protected people's rights, especially their property rights.

October 1774

- **General Gage dissolved the Massachusetts General Court in an attempt to lessen the power of the colonists and increase the power of the king in Massachusetts**



Pastor Thomas Barnard, Jr.'s views on politics was catching up to his theology

Providential for Salem to see the royalty and pride of the British

The Provincial Congress met in Salem's Court House in the fall of 1774 with John Hancock and Samuel Adams making proposals for a Continental Congress



General Gage shut down all assemblies to cut off popular communication

David Mason, member of Barnard's church and the Committee of Safety, had purchased 19 French cannons, and had Captain Robert Foster begin mounting them on carriages for land use... Mason had previously overseen keeping tea out of Salem in 1773, and was asked to *"make private preparations for war."*

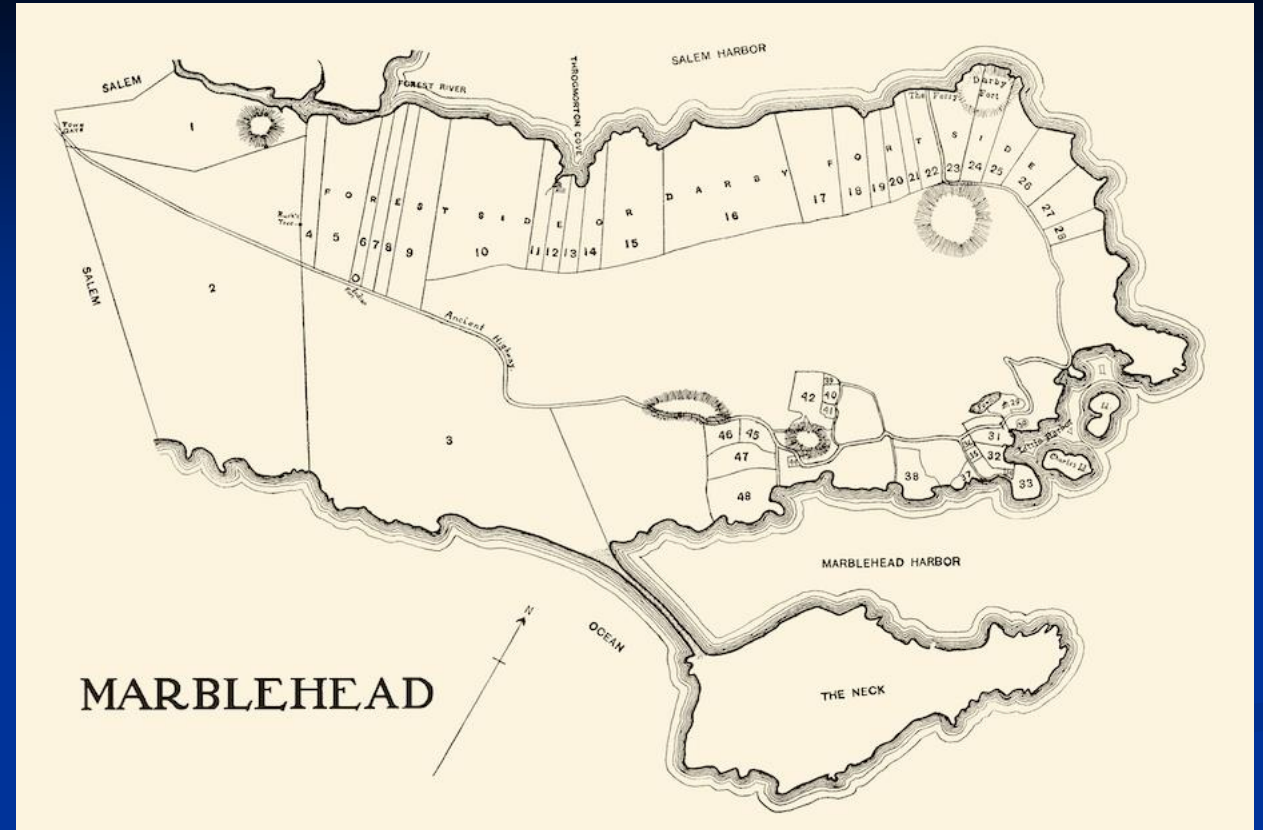


They were secretly held in Foster's blacksmith shop on the North Side of the Bridge... Leslie brought the 64th to Salem in 1774 while all this was going on "under his nose."
Mason was constantly watching the British for any suspicious movement

Salem Trained Band in 1637



Ancient
Israel; birth
of the right
of individual
self-defense



*The Grand Union for the Salvation
of American Liberty in Marblehead,
1774 – an unstoppable movement!*

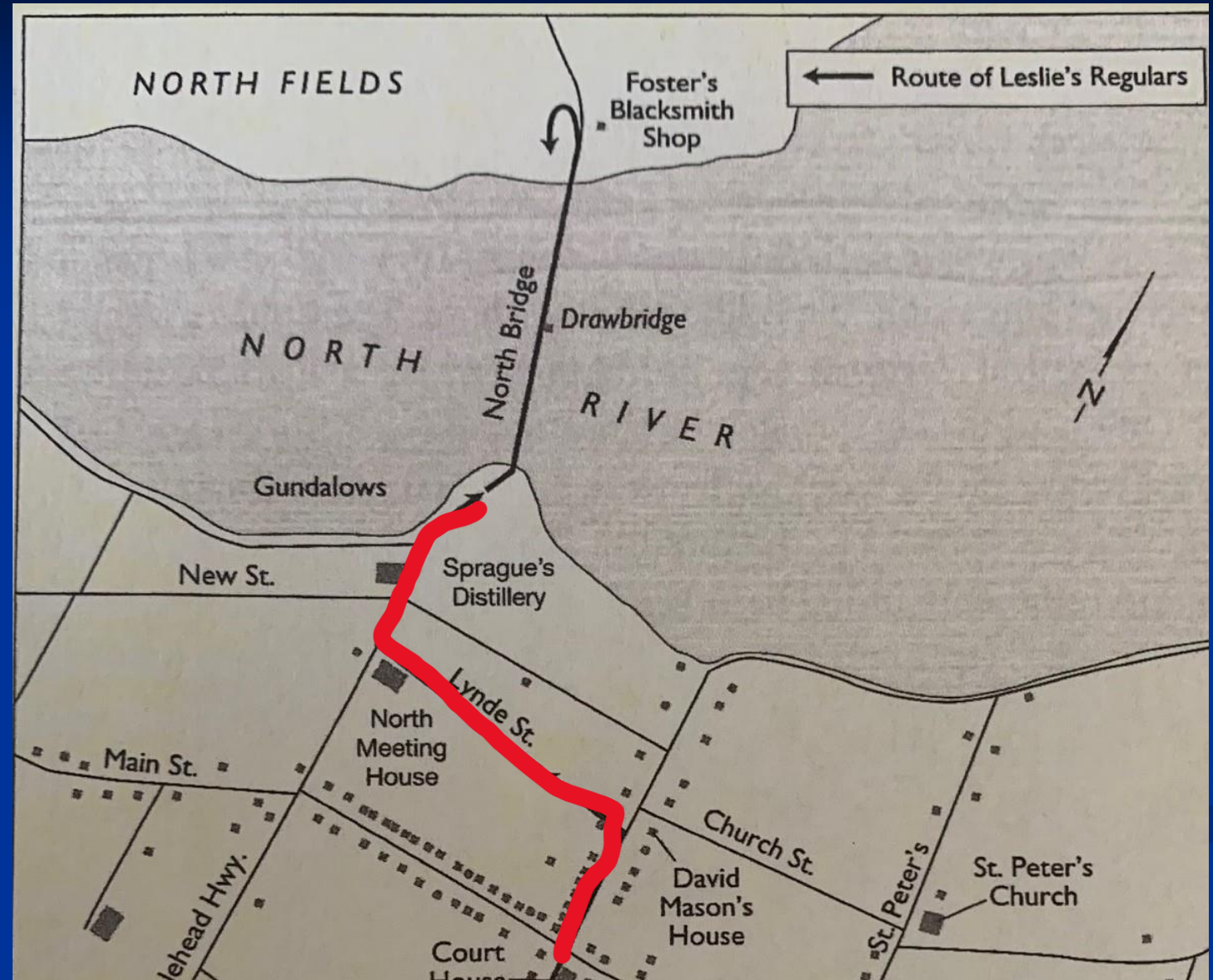


- Cold, Sunday morning, Feb. 26; the 64th lands early morning
- A secret march 5 miles to Salem?
- Drummer boy alerts church
- Major Pedrick to alert Salem
- Marching while in church –
“double-quick time while playing Yankee Doodle” in mockery of us

- Pedrick overtakes Leslie, who thinks he is a Tory...
- British Major McGrath pursuing Pedrick's daughter – he mocks the colonial Militia, and she tells him *“When you draw your sword against my countrymen, I hope it is the last day of your life!”*

The 64th Regiment arrivces in Salem during their afternoon Service

- Pedrick arrived at Mason's home, and met with a town selectman, then interrupted the afternoon service, "*the regulars are coming and are now near...*"
- The troops stopped and had *lanterns, hatchets, pickaxes, spades, handspikes and coils of rope*" - to spike cannon

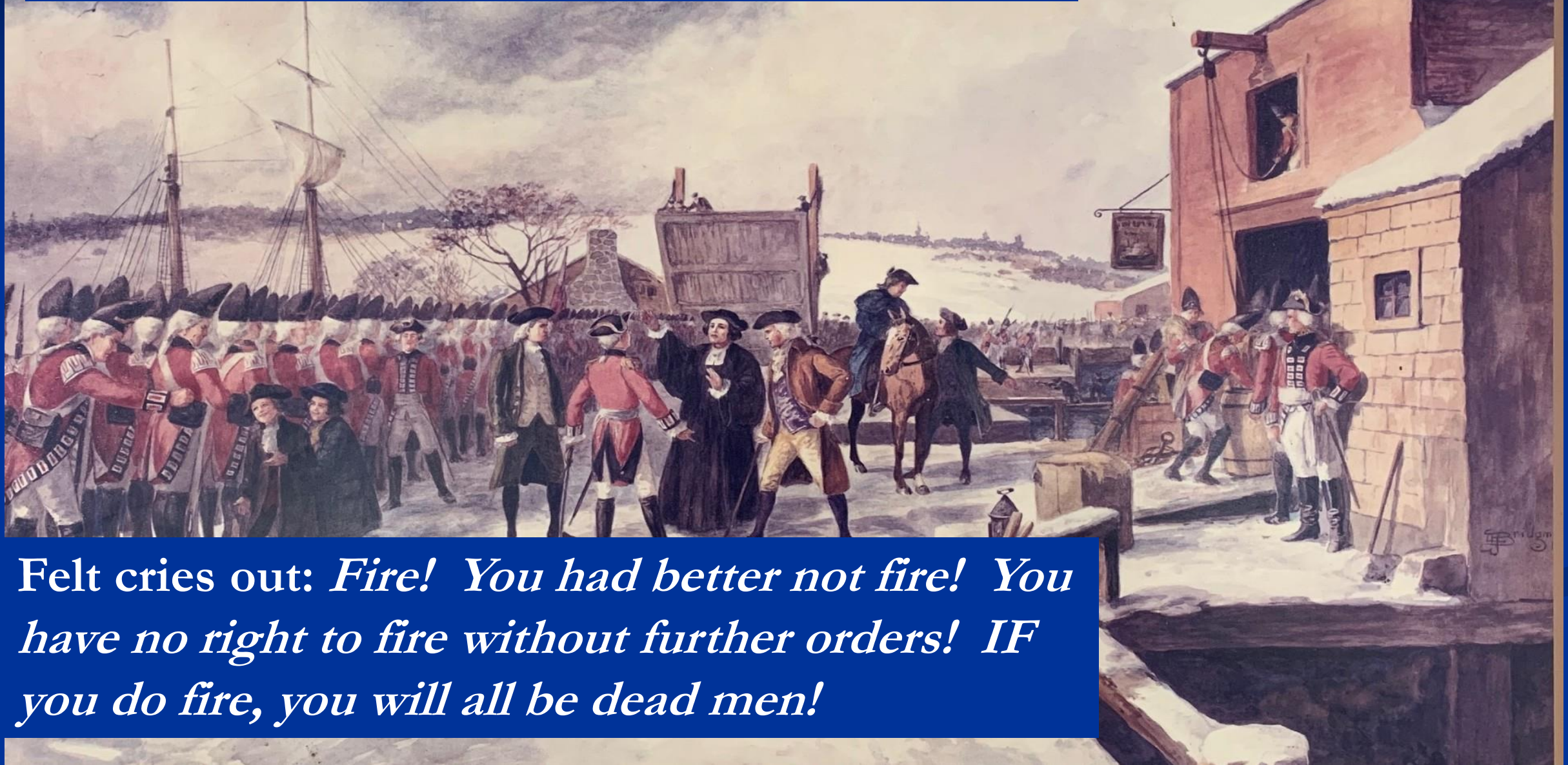


Barnard, Gavett, Felt, Pickering, all confer with Leslie after the draw bridge is raised...



Leslie: Lower that draw! I have my orders to cross and will do so if it costs me my life and all the lives of my men!

Leslie was heard saying... *you must face about
and fire upon these people...*



Felt cries out: *Fire! You had better not fire! You
have no right to fire without further orders! IF
you do fire, you will all be dead men!*

Those on top of the leaf of the bridge yelled:
Soldiers, red jackets, lobster coats, cowards!
Others saw the soldier freezing in the cold:
I should think you were all fiddlers, you shake so!



A soldier yells back: *If they don't stop jeering,
we should fire!* They reply – *go ahead then, fire!*

Both the British and Patriots noticed the three boats by the river and rushed toward them...

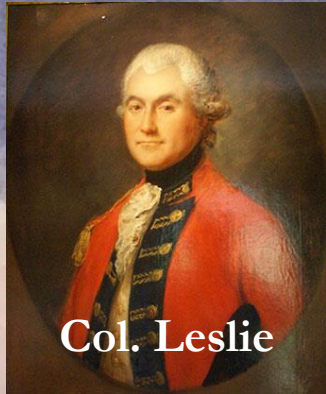


The Gundalows

Leslie sent troops down to the river to commandeer two large gundalows—flat bottomed river barges—that were on the shore. Capt. Felt in response sent men to scuttle the boats, so they couldn't be used.

A party of soldiers tried to drive the men off the boats with their bayonets, slightly wounding one man in the process. The soldiers were unsuccessful, and the gundalows were destroyed.

Picture from the National
Park Service panel of Leslie's
Retreat – Salem, MA



*I am determined to cross this
bridge before I return to Boston,
even I stay here to Autumn!...
By God I will not be defeated!*

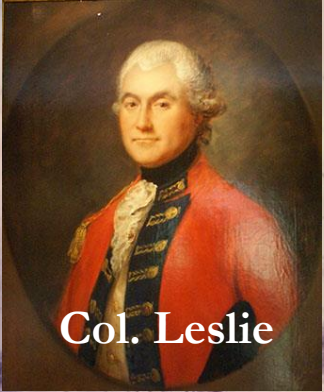


*Felt replied: ...you must acknowledge that you
have already been baffled!*

Rev. Thomas Barnard



I desire you will not fire upon these innocent people. Pray restrain your troops from pushing with their bayonets



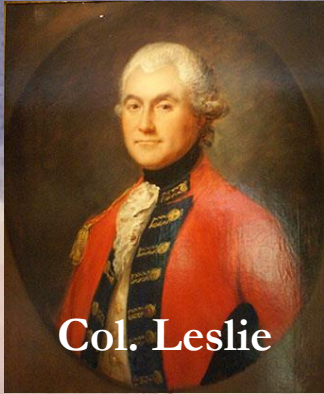
Col. Leslie

Who are you, Sir?

I am Thomas Barnard, a minister of the Gospel, and my mission is peace...

You cannot commit this violation against innocent men, here, on this holy day, without sinning against God and humanity. The blood of every murdered man will cry from the ground for vengeance upon yourself, and the Nation which you represent. Let me entreat you to return.





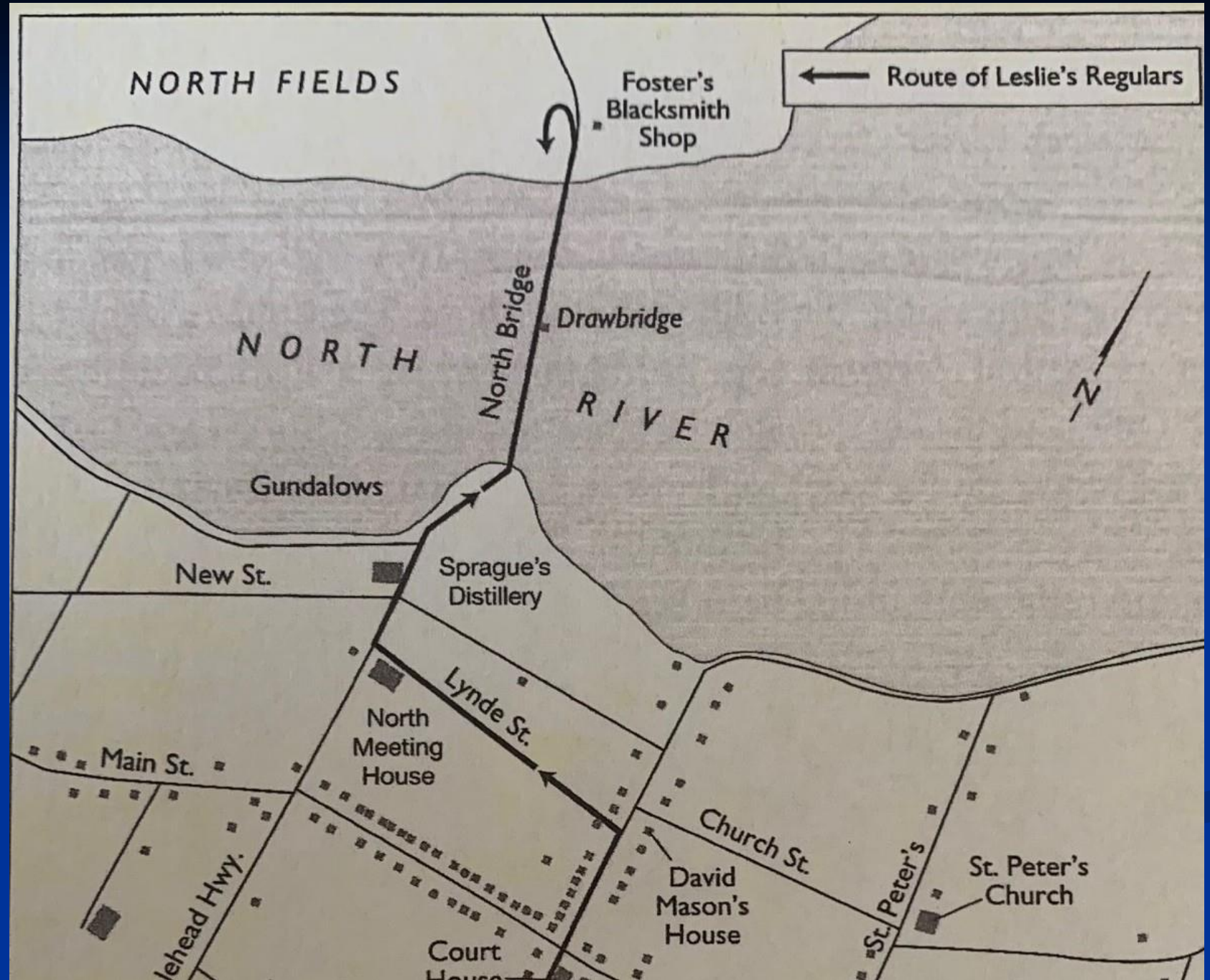
*My troops have been insulted...
and we are on the King's highway,
so lower that draw!*



*James Barr replied: ...it is not the King's highway, it is a road
built by the owners of the lots on the other side, and no king,
country or town has any control over it.*

Barnard, Felt, Pickering, and Mason on the draw leaf decided to propose that they lower the bridge, Leslie march across and no more than 30 rods (500 ft), about face, and return to Boston

(The British keep their pride, patriots their principles!)





*Go home and tell your master he
has sent you on a fool's errand,
and broken the peace of our
Sabbath, — what! do you think we
were born in the woods to be
frightened by owls?*

A soldier pointed his musket as if
to fire at her – she said, *“fire if you
have the courage, but I doubt it!*

Picture from the National
Park Service panel of Leslie's
Retreat – Salem, MA

As the town watched the British depart, Barnard said it was a time for prayer... and he led all those in town in an appropriate prayer...



Captain Felt and Pastor Barnard, and the Militia
from several towns that had then arrived, followed
the British out of town



The Legacy of Leslie's Retreat

William Cowper's poem recounted Barnard's legacy:

There stands the messenger of truth; there stands the legate of the skies! Whose heart is warm, whose hands are pure, whose doctrine and whose life coincident, exhibit lucid proofs, that he is honest in a sacred cause.



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

The Legacy of Leslie's Retreat

The Gentleman's Magazine proved visionary on April 29, 1775: *The Americans have hoisted their standard of liberty at Salem, there is no doubt that the next news will be an account of a bloody engagement between the two armies.*



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

The Legacy of Leslie's Retreat

Historian Peter Hoffer wrote that Leslie's Retreat was *“the first incidence of the gathering of a republican citizenry asserting the right of self-government of their own land and the unforced recession of British might... in Salem, on Sunday, February 26, 1775.”*



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

The Legacy of Leslie's Retreat

Edmund Burke told Parliament: *“Thus ended their first expedition, without effect and happily without mischief. Enough appeared to show on what a slender thread the peace of the Empire hung, and that the least exertion of military power would certainly bring things to extremities.”*



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

The Legacy of Leslie's Retreat

Pastor Barnard's attitude and emphasis on sound theology made him respected on both sides of the political spectrum - Loyalist and Patriot. It cemented a greater level of unity in the people, allowing him to be respected to negotiate peace when it was needed the most. It curbed the spirit of vengeance where God would be their adversary.



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

The Legacy of Leslie's Retreat

Thomas Barnard, Jr., set the context for the “black robed regiment,” to shepherd both Loyalist and Patriot with the highest vision of the gospel, and in the timing of God allow others, like Jonas Clark, William Emerson, and Samuel Cooper to give spiritual leadership so that *bold actions follow convictions but don't lead them* so this legacy can affect generations.



“Blessed are the Peacemakers”