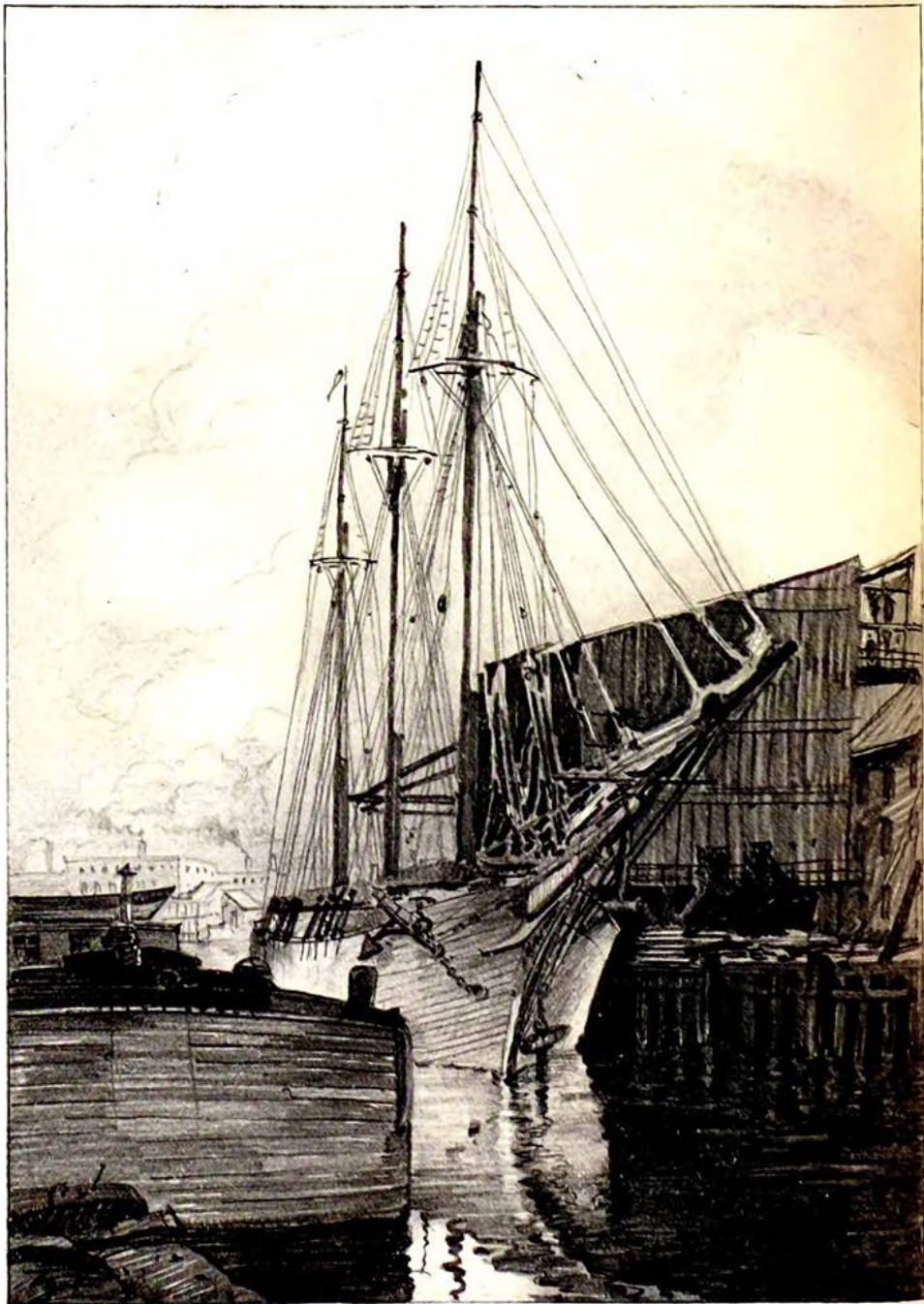


William Bailey



PROVIDENCE

Whitman Bailey (1884-1954)

was the son of the Providence naturalist William Whitman Bailey (1843-1914) of Brown University. The younger Whitman grew up in Providence and then attended the art school of Howard Pyle in Delaware.

From there he went to work as a jobbing portraitist on the streets of Brooklyn before taking a one-year finishing course at the Pratt Institute.

He returned to Providence in 1914 and spent nine years working as an illustrator for Rhode Island newspapers and magazines.

The selection here presented in this new compilation is drawn from the war years, and a single magazine.

As such the pictures probably represent only a small part of his Rhode Island output.

He moved away in 1924 and the bulk of his life's work was instead dedicated to depicting Stamford, where he submitted weekly drawings to the local newspaper for some thirty years. These Stamford pictures are now held by the Marcus Research Library at Stamford.

It is to be hoped that this small insight into his Providence work — created because he depicted many scenes and places known to H.P. Lovecraft — may help to spur local historians to seek out and properly publish much more of his Rhode Island work.

May 2019.



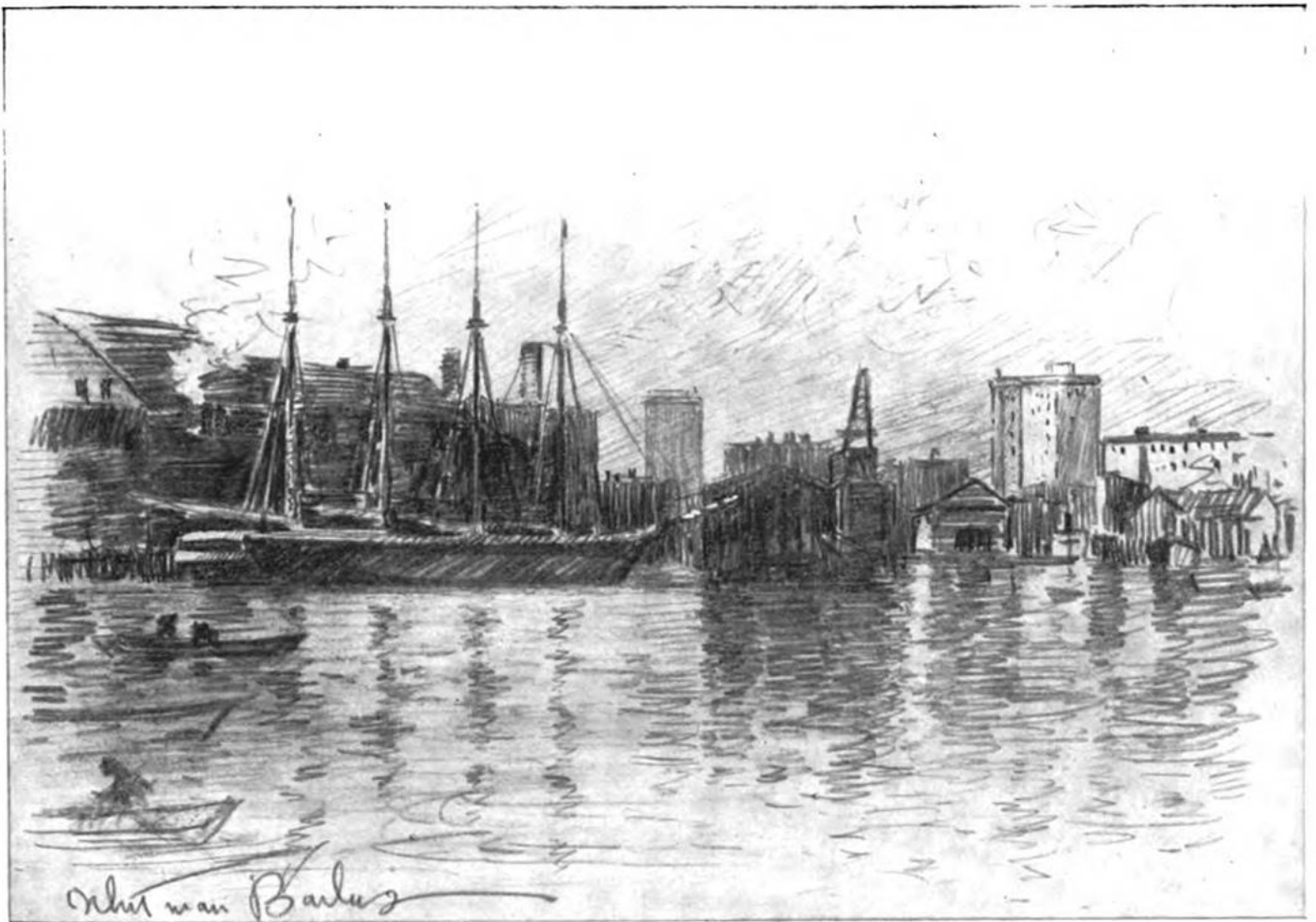


CITY'S OLDEST BURYING GROUND.

Few realize as they pass St. John's Church that back of it rest the dead
of a century ago.



AN ANCIENT DOORWAY—COLLEGE STREET.



AT THE HEAD OF NAVIGATION.



FORMER HOMES OF LEADING PROVIDENCE PEOPLE.

It was here that our pioneer merchants lived and catered to retail trade. Everybody did business on "Cheapside" and many had stores under their dwellings.



PROVIDENCE HARBOR BY MOONLIGHT.

Mr. Bailey made this sketch from a building looking over Wickenden street, and thus gives a new view of an old scene.



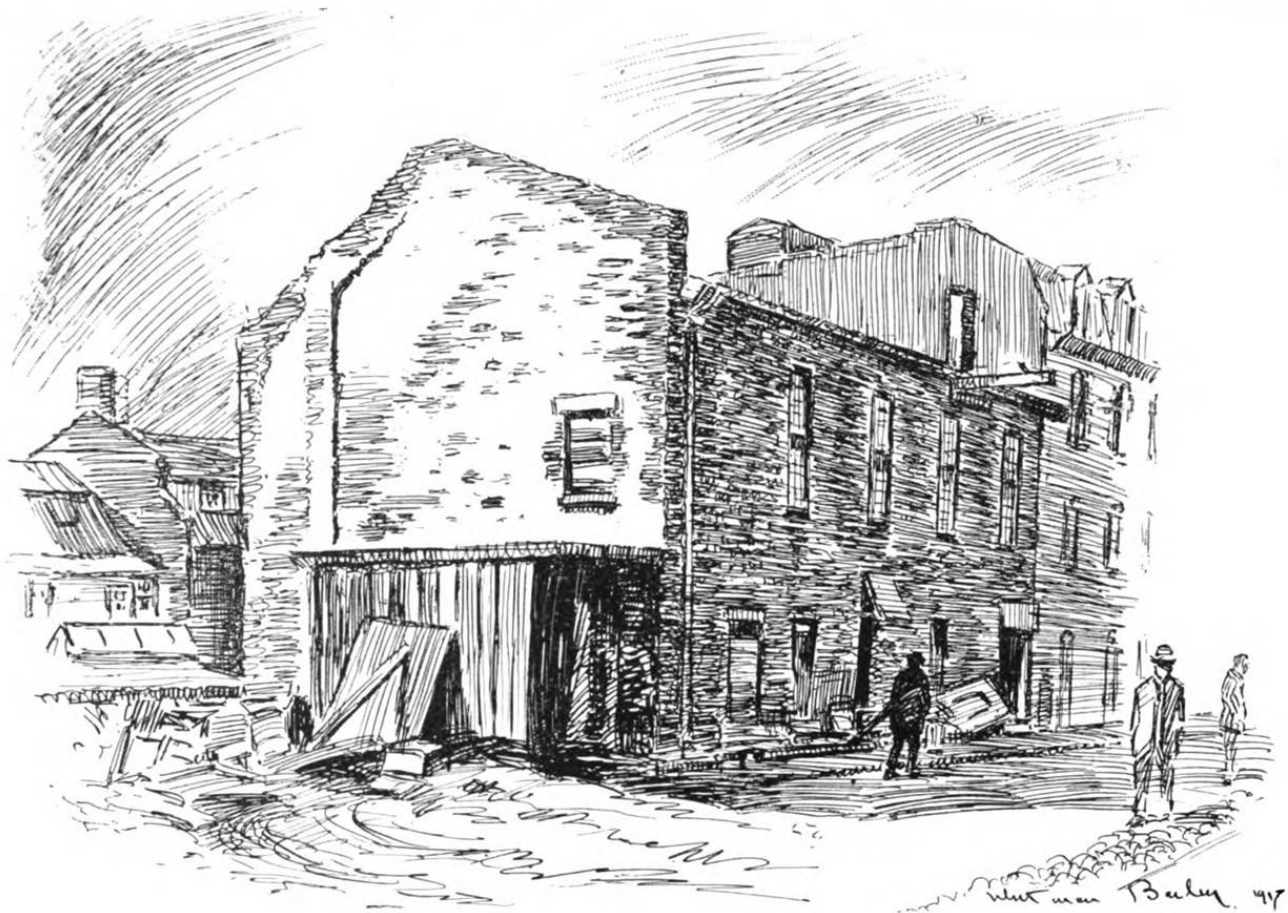
NIGHT VIEW FROM THE POINT STREET BRIDGE.

Drawn by Whitman Bailey.



PROVIDENCE MARINE CORPS OF ARTILLERY ARSENAL—1840.

This building was erected by the members of the organization, but delivered to the state, which paid off an indebtedness and gave the organization a 1000-year lease at the rate of six and one-quarter cents a year. In this arsenal was enlisted the most famous light batteries in the Civil War. The building is designated as the brooder house of the "Mother Battery." It placed men in the field in 1861-65, 1898, and in France as a part of the glorious 26th Division, A. M. E. F.



THE FEDERAL BUILDING OF THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY.

Fronting on South Main street, it extended to the west area of the Providence County Court House. Common Pleas Court sat here dating from about 1872.



THE ONLY SURVIVOR OF OLD PROVIDENCE THEATRES.

"In the summer of 1857 a dramatic company, under the direction of George H. Griffith, endeavored to maintain vaudeville performances in a small wooden building on the corner of Pine and Orange streets, but after a few weeks of experiment the doors were closed, and the company disbanded."—History of the Providence Stage.



THE ANCIENT ROOKERIES OF WELL STREET.

Mellowed by years, decrepid, some falling in, they delight the vis'tor
with their picturesqueness.



THE ROOFS AND CHIMNEYS OF HARDING'S ALLEY AT SOUTH MAIN STREET.



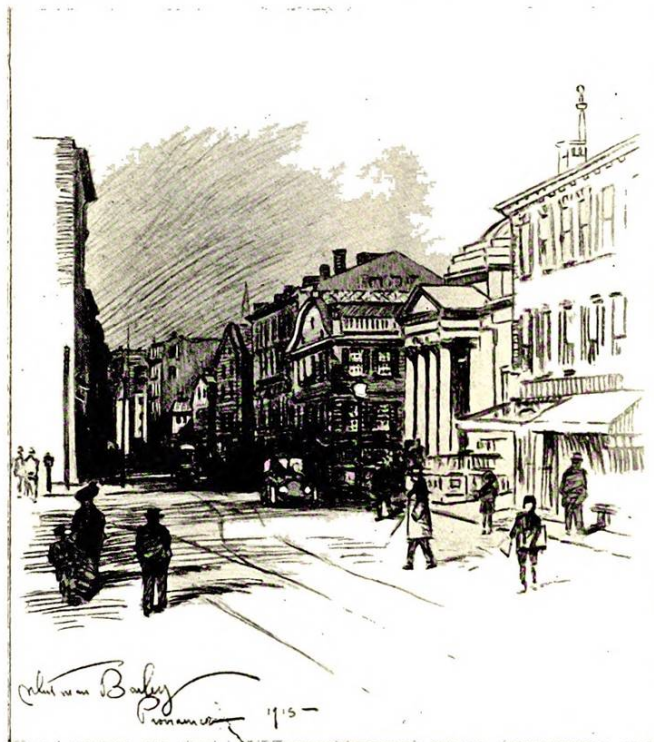
ERSTWHILE JENKINS' LANE, NOW HARDING'S ALLEY.

The building projecting into the passageway was fully as conspicuous and obtrusive a century and a quarter ago.



SOUTH MAIN STREET'S WONDERFUL BACKYARDS.

This group of houses, seen from Power street, presents an Old London aspect. Note the odd architectural features.



OLD SOUTH MAIN STREET.

The Cooke house, Providence Institution for Savings and Providence Bank on the right, near by. Farther along is the house of Revolutionary General Barton. Showing light in the distance are the old Franklin House and new People's Savings Bank building.



LOOKING DOWN FROM PROSPECT TERRACE.

The view from the vantage point of this little park is always fascinating in the contrast of the little group of ancient buildings at its base with the activities of the civic center and the business district just beyond.

Whatman Bailey
1911
From Prospect Terrace



OLD "CHEAPSIDE" AND MARKET SQUARE.

Formerly the retail business center of the town. Mr. Bailey's drawing, looking from the corner of College street, shows the old Franklin House on the right, and the Chamber of Commerce, "Old Market House," on the left. The building in the center, though shockingly disfigured by billboards, is an interesting example of early business architecture.

Whatman Bailey
1911



ONE OF THE QUAIN T CORNERS.
North Main and Cady streets building dates back to Old Towne street
activities.



CRAWFORD STREET BRIDGE.
The head of navigation as seen at South Water street.



MARKET SQUARE AS SEEN FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WINDOWS.

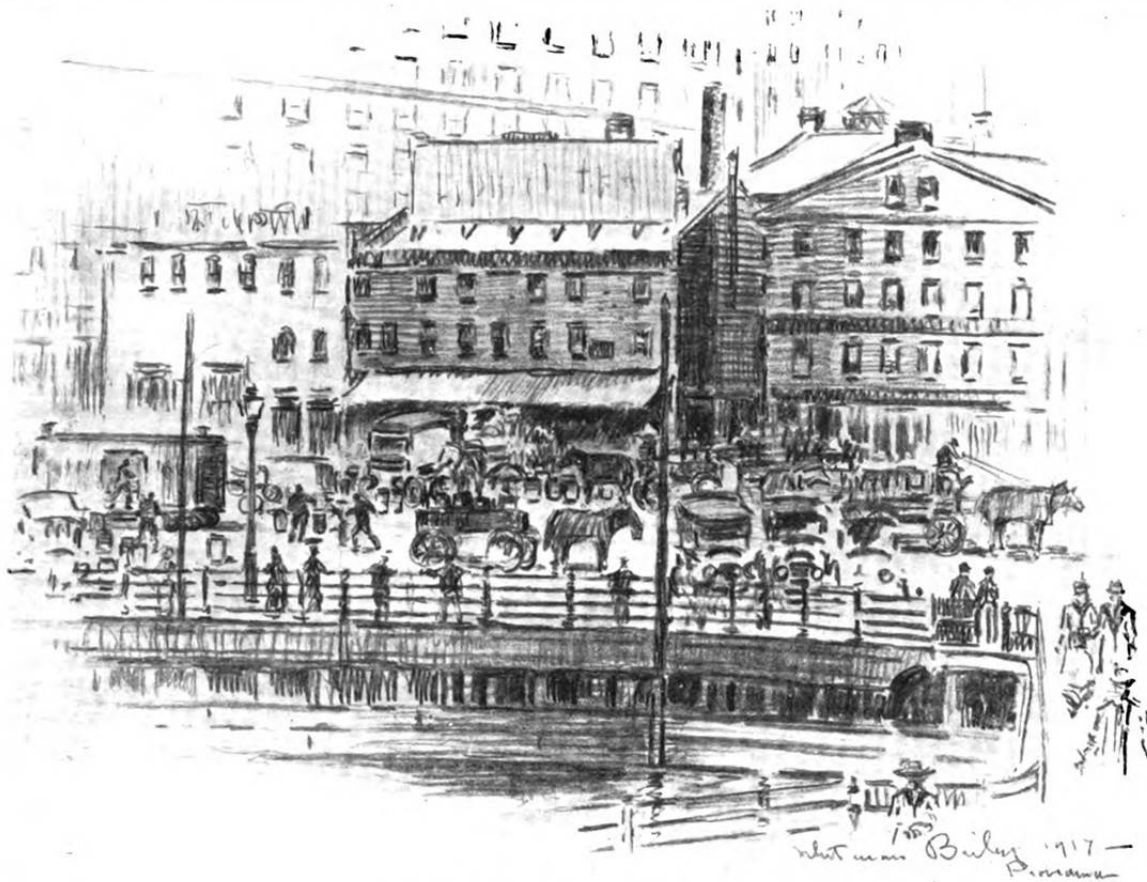
There is an attractive mixture of old and new architecture, with a skyline made by tall office buildings. These apparently block all travel westward, but this is only an optical delusion, for Market square is the front doorway of the banking and retail districts of Providence.



MARKET SQUARE ON A RAINY DAY.



MARKET SQUARE DURING THE DECEMBER SNOW STORM.



DYER STREET, FROM MARKET SQUARE.

Mr. Bailey's drawing gives some suggestion of the condition of this broad thoroughfare during the forenoon of a comparatively quiet day. One or two attempts to drive through the maze of freight cars, motor-trucks and merchandise movers will convince the ordinary citizen that the new market district is necessary for public convenience and the economic handling of all fruit products.



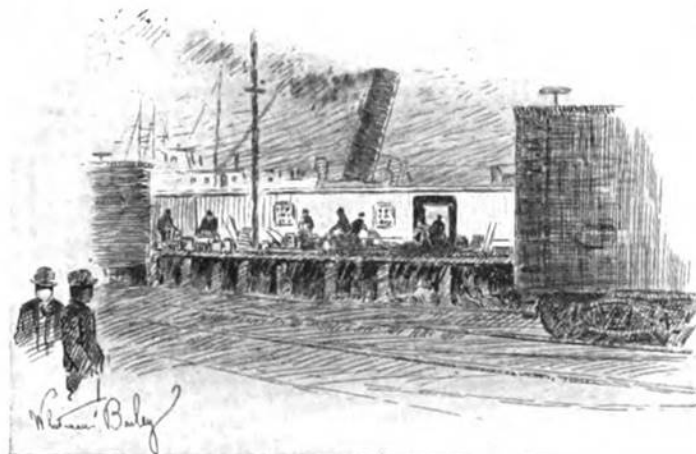
CANAL STREET—CENTER OF THE PRODUCE AND FRUIT TRADE.

As on Dyer and South Water streets, the existing facilities have long been outgrown and the conditions under which business is conducted are most unsatisfactory. The proposed removal of this business to the new location, west of Gaspee street, would be greatly conducive to scientific efficiency and allow use of this street for new purposes more appropriate to its location.



THE "GREAT BRIDGE" AND THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING.

The historic "Market House," built in 1773, rejoices in the recent removal of the mud-colored paint from its fine old brickwork and the restoration of its balustrade and once more presents a distinguished and attractive appearance, alike in keeping with its Colonial origin and present purposes. Originally built from the proceeds of a town lottery as a market building for the village of Providence, it later acquired dignity as a town and city hall. When the city's business had outgrown the accommodations of the second floor, the market was abolished and the city occupied the whole building until 1875. A tablet on the west end commemorates the burning of British taxed tea, March 2, 1775, while another tablet tells of the building of the third story in 1797 by St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F. and A. M., and of the masonic bodies that found a home therein. As the home of the Providence Chamber of Commerce, the structure still maintains its character of civic usefulness.



FOR PANAMA?—OR FOR SOUTH AMERICA?



OYSTER BOATS.

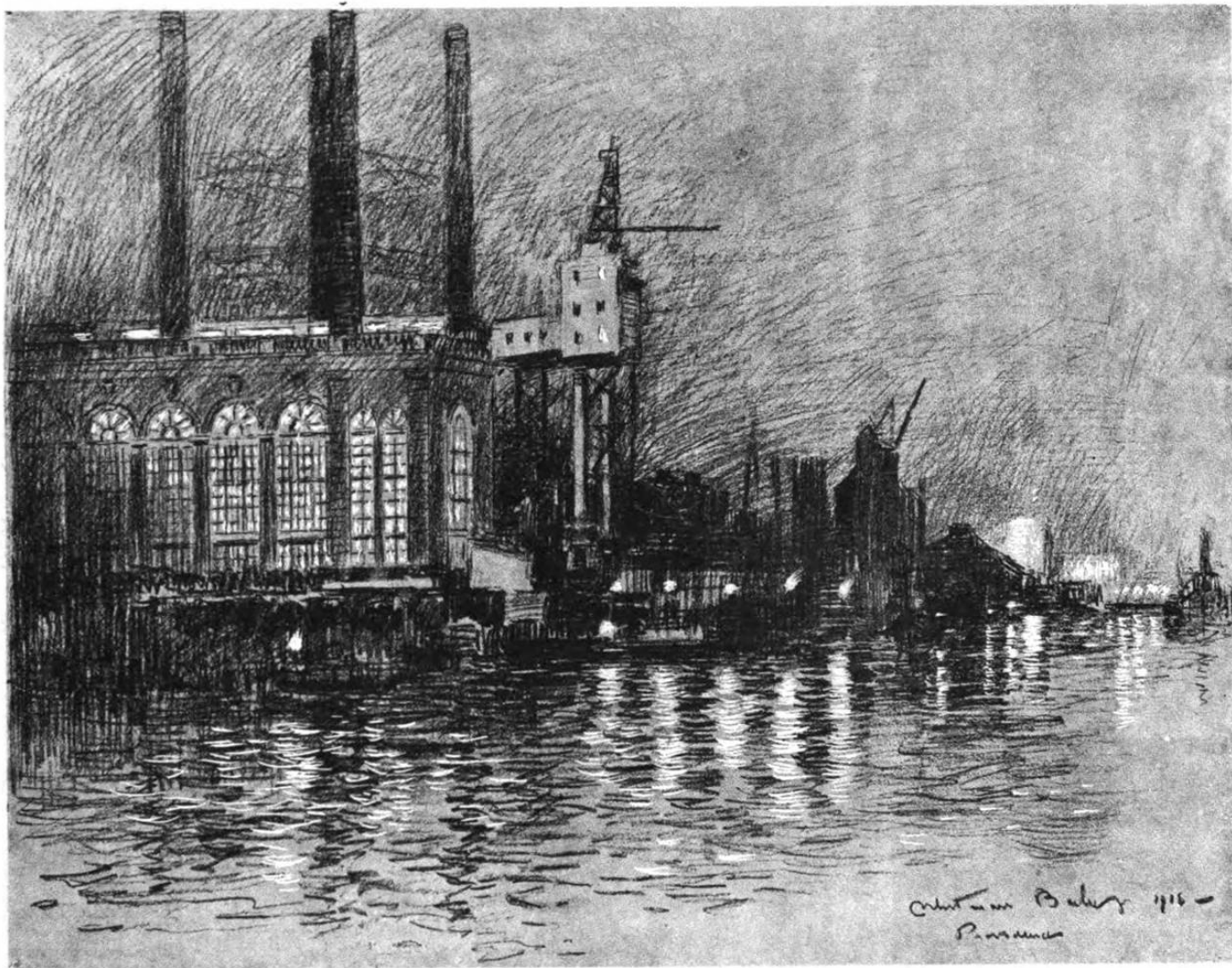


CITY WOOD-YARD IN FRONT OF STATE HOUSE, 1901.

One of the most important enterprises after reorganization of the Park Association was to secure the dedication of this land as a public garden.

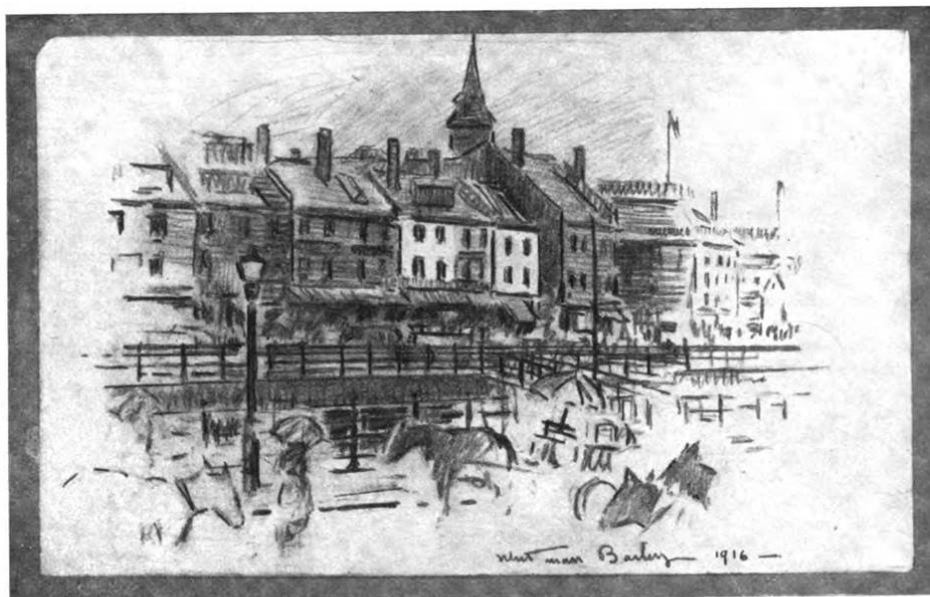


"PORT OF PROVIDENCE, USA."



CENTRAL POWER STATION OF THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC LIGHTING COMPANY AS SEEN FROM POINT STREET BRIDGE.

This great power house, which now develops 57,000 horse-power, and is soon to have its capacity increased by 60,000 horse-power additional, is a conspicuous object on the harbor front, and at night suggests an imposing exposition building. By a reciprocal arrangement with the Connecticut River Power Company, current will be generated at this station, not only for the city of Providence and other places in Rhode Island, but will be carried across Massachusetts and into New Hampshire and Vermont, while power from New England's greatest river may be operated from the opposite direction whenever occasion demands. The lighting capacity of this one station is greater than is required by the whole city of New York except during the very busiest hours, and the power is greater than that developed by most of the famous waterfalls of America.



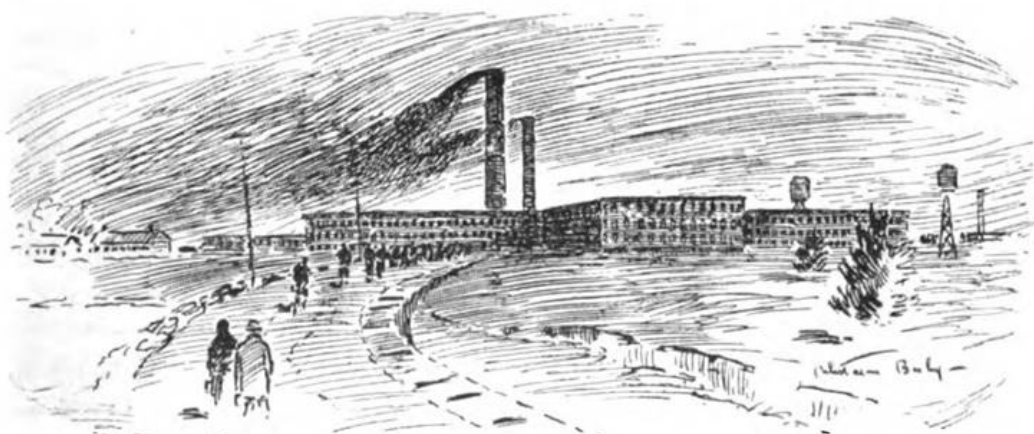
SOUTH WATER STREET AND INFANTRY HALL TOWER.

The interesting row of old East India warehouses furnish some accommodations for the modern produce dealers. The plague of sky signs which afflicted this district several years ago has been very much diminished.



CONSTITUTION HILL.

One of the most picturesque foreign quarters in the city.





AN UNUSUAL VIEW OF CANAL STREET.
Old freight station on the left. The viaduct leading to tunnel just ahead.



THE CANAL STREET FREIGHT STATION.
Not Many Days Like This.



Copyright by Livermore & Knight Co.

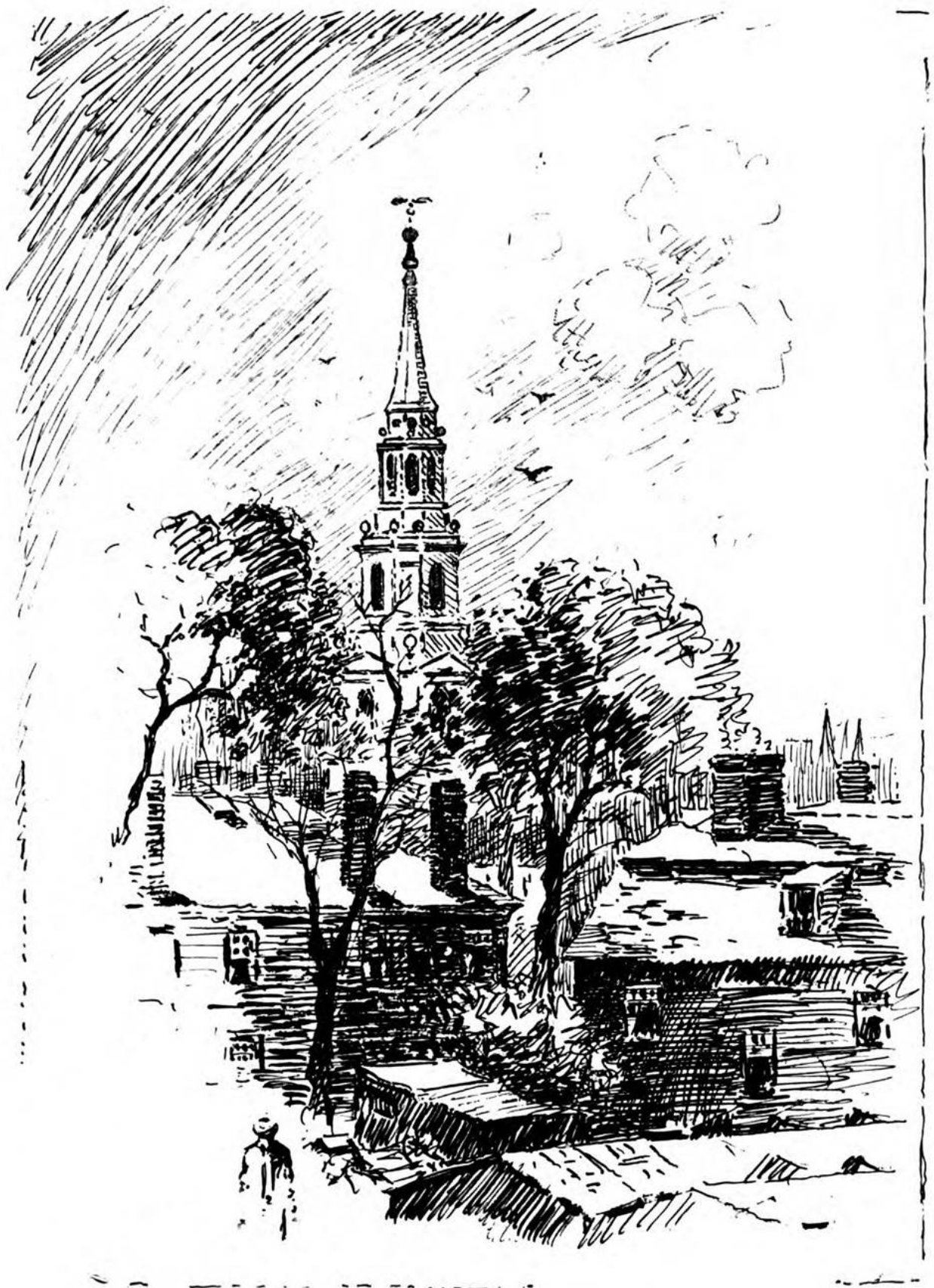
Courtesy of National Exchange Bank.

DEPARTMENT STORE DISTRICT, WESTMINSTER STREET.

"In the retail district, centering in Westminster and Weybosset streets, and within short distances of each other, are some of the largest and best equipped department and specialty stores to be found anywhere outside the two or three largest cities in the country." Part of the Bedell store front is seen at extreme right. The Callender, McAuslan & Troup Co., with the two ornate porticos, extends beyond to Union street. The next block is occupied by the Shepard Company, followed by the Cherry & Webb building and the Gladding Dry Goods Company. In the foreground at the left is the Alice building of the Dimond Company.



THE RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL
A Glimpse from the Edge of the Lake.



"THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL OF AMERICA."

The first Baptist Meeting-House, built in 1774, is one of the noblest works of architecture in America of any period. Its plan was drawn by James Gibbs, as one of three alternate plans for the Church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London. Gibbs was one of Sir Christopher Wren's chief successors. Joseph Brown and James Sumner were the architects who adapted the plans and saw to the execution.



SHAKESPEARE'S HEAD IN GAOL LANE (NOW 21 MEETING STREET).

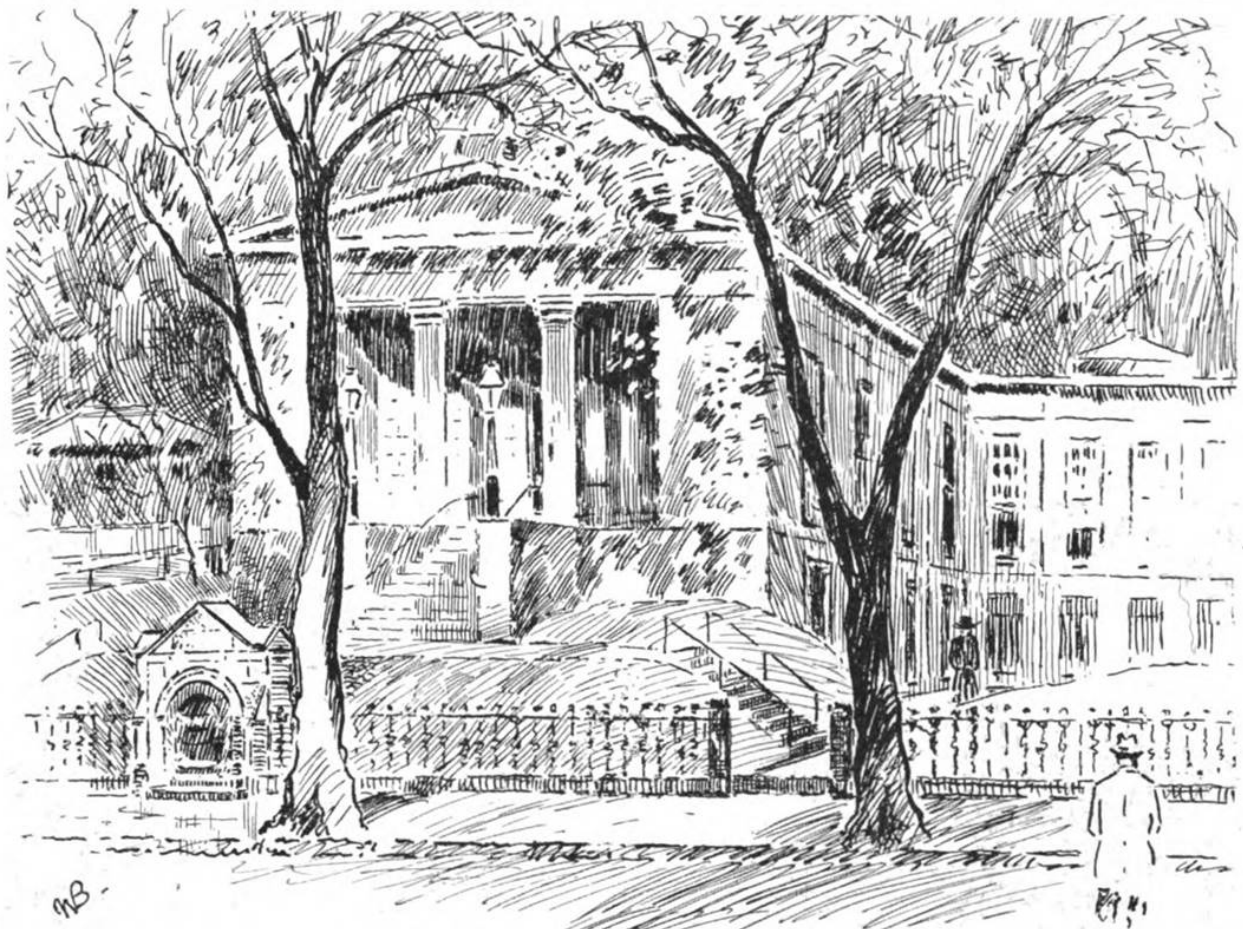
"The printing-office, post-office and residence of John Carter, where the Providence Gazette was printed after 1772. The house beyond is that of his brother-in-law, Captain John Updike. Both men were of that assertive type of character which rather courts than avoids the candid expression of any difference of opinion. It is not surprising, therefore, that when Captain Updike rented his empty shop to a rival printer, Mr. Carter's emphatic protests and the lively rejoinders from the captain resulted in a tempest which made the neighborhood teapot an interesting theme of discussion.

"John Carter's 'Sign of Shakespeare's Head' topped a post some six or eight feet in height, which stood before the house, and symbolized the treasures of literature to be found within."

(From "Providence in Colonial Times.")



THE CARRIE TOWER—BROWN UNIVERSITY.



PROVIDENCE ATHENAEUM—EXCEPTIONALLY FINE LIBRARY WITH RARE ART COLLECTION.



KEITH'S POPULAR THEATRE.

Formerly Low's Opera House. Home of high-grade vaudeville in the winter and of the celebrated Albee Stock Company in the summer season.



The Providence Opera House through all its years, with the exception of the first two, during which the never-to-be-forgotten stock company occupied the boards, has maintained an unchanged policy in the presentation of the highest grades of attractions: and, in spite of its nearly half-century of brilliant history, which already exceeds the lifetime of any other playhouse that ever existed in Providence, it still remains the leading playhouse of the city for such attractions. Like the old Providence Theatre of earlier date, it was built by a company of public-spirited citizens, to satisfy an artistic need of the community. Perfect in acoustics, so that the veriest whisper can be heard throughout the auditorium, and with "sight lines" and seating plan equaled by but few modern theatres, it has retained its place in popular favor, while its ample stage has welcomed most of the notable productions that have dignified the American drama for more than two generations.

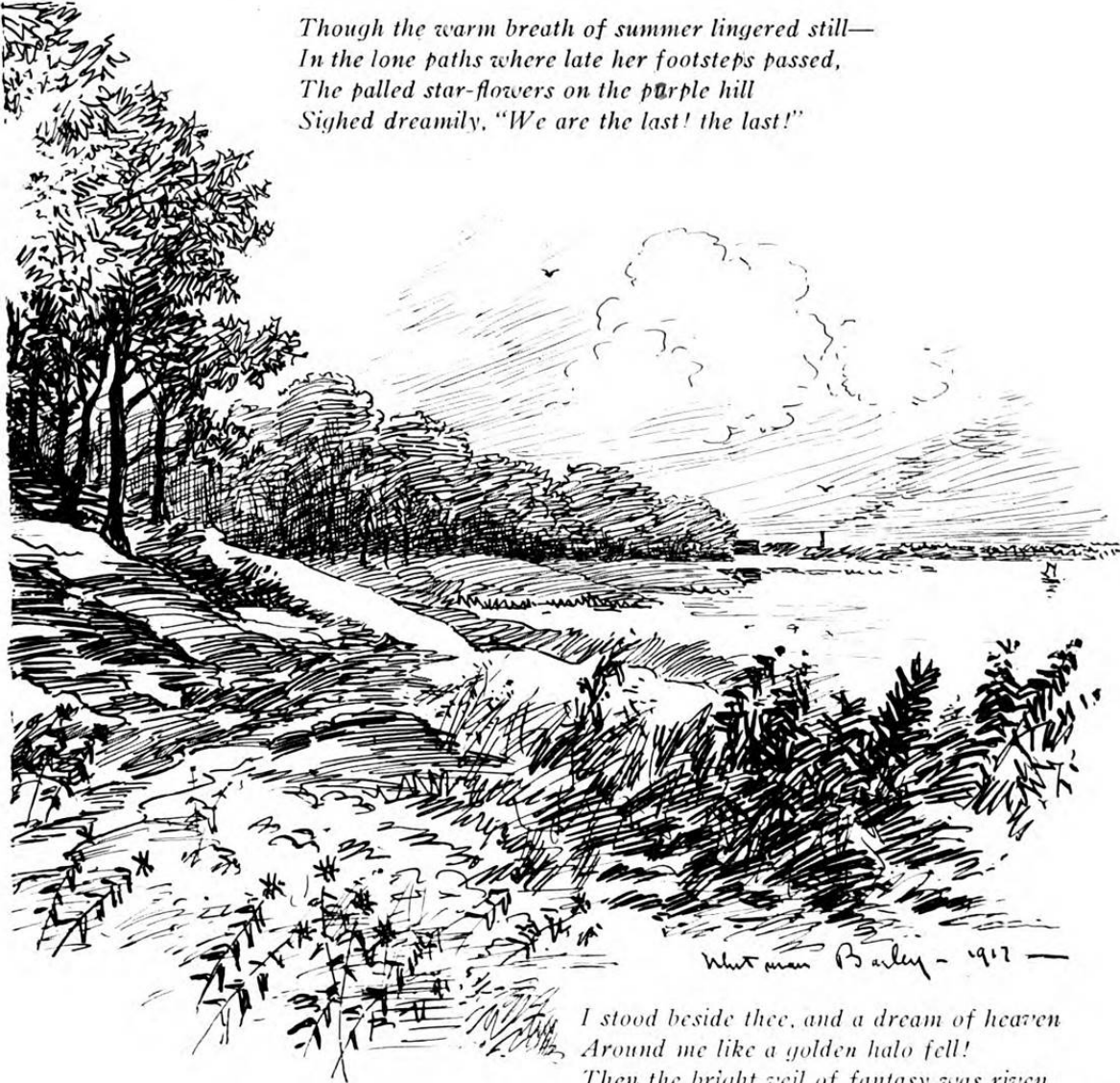


THE GROTTO IN BLACKSTONE PARK.
The Seekonk river is seen in the distance.

*D*OST thou remember that Autumnal day
 When by the Seekonk's lonely wave we stood
 And marked the languor of repose that lay
 Softer than sleep, on valley, wave, and wood?

*A trance of holy sadness seemed to lull
 The charmed earth and circumambient air,—
 And the low murmur of the leaves seemed full
 Of a resigned and passionless despair.*

*Though the warm breath of summer lingered still—
 In the lone paths where late her footsteps passed,
 The palled star-flowers on the purple hill
 Sighed dreamily, "We are the last! the last!"*



Whitman Barley - '97

*I stood beside thee, and a dream of heaven
 Around me like a golden halo fell!
 Then the bright veil of fantasy was riven
 And my lips murmured, "Fare thee well!—farewell!"*

AUTUMN BY THE SEEKONK

A POEM, BY

SARAH HELEN WHITMAN

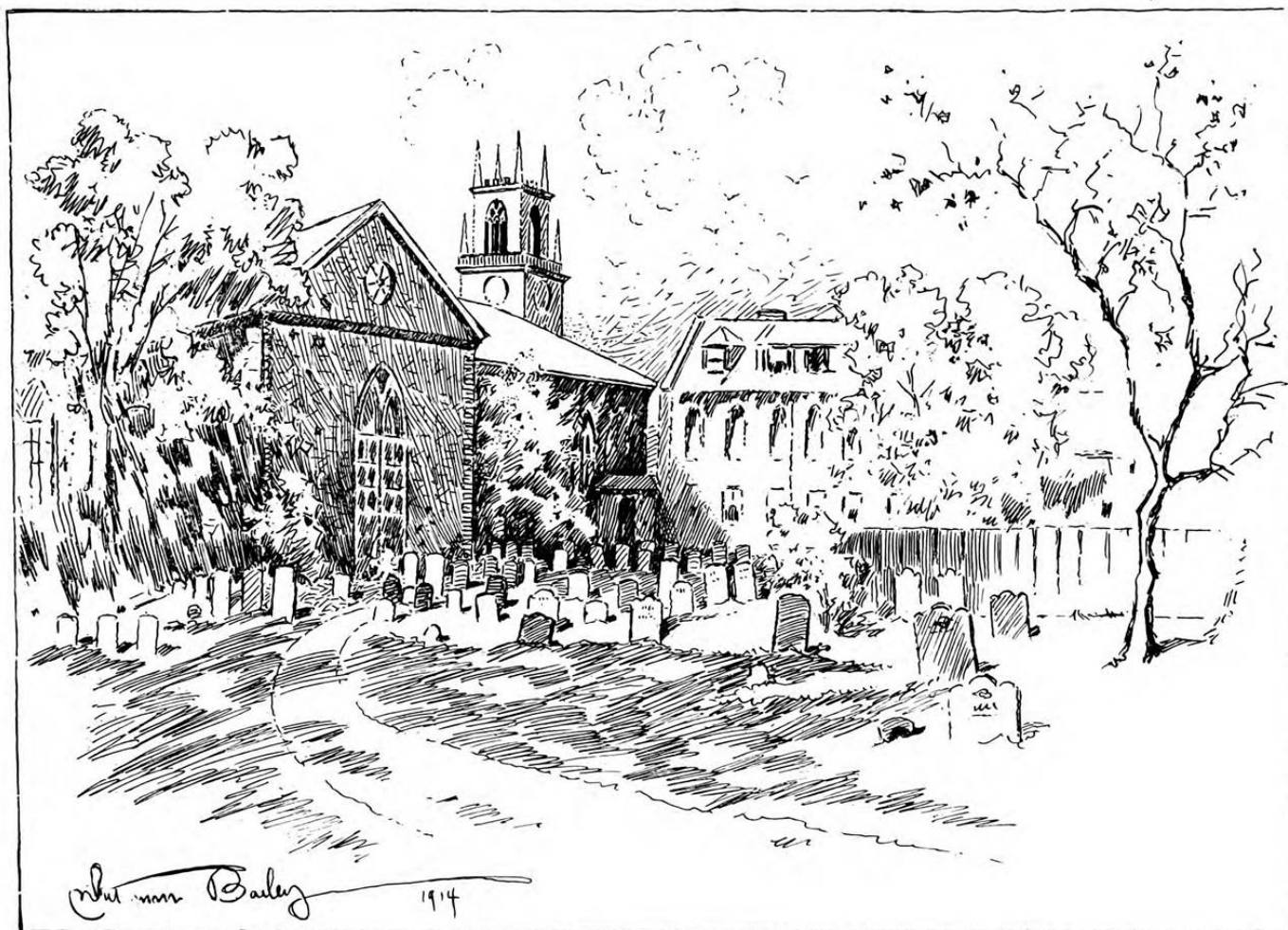
September, 1849

*I dared not listen to thy words, nor turn
 To meet the mystic language of thine eyes,
 I only felt their power, and in the urn
 Of memory, treasured their sweet rhapsodies.*

*We parted then, forever,—and the hours
 Of that bright day were gathered to the past,—
 But, through long wintry nights, I heard the flowers
 Sigh dreamily, "We are the last!—the last!"*

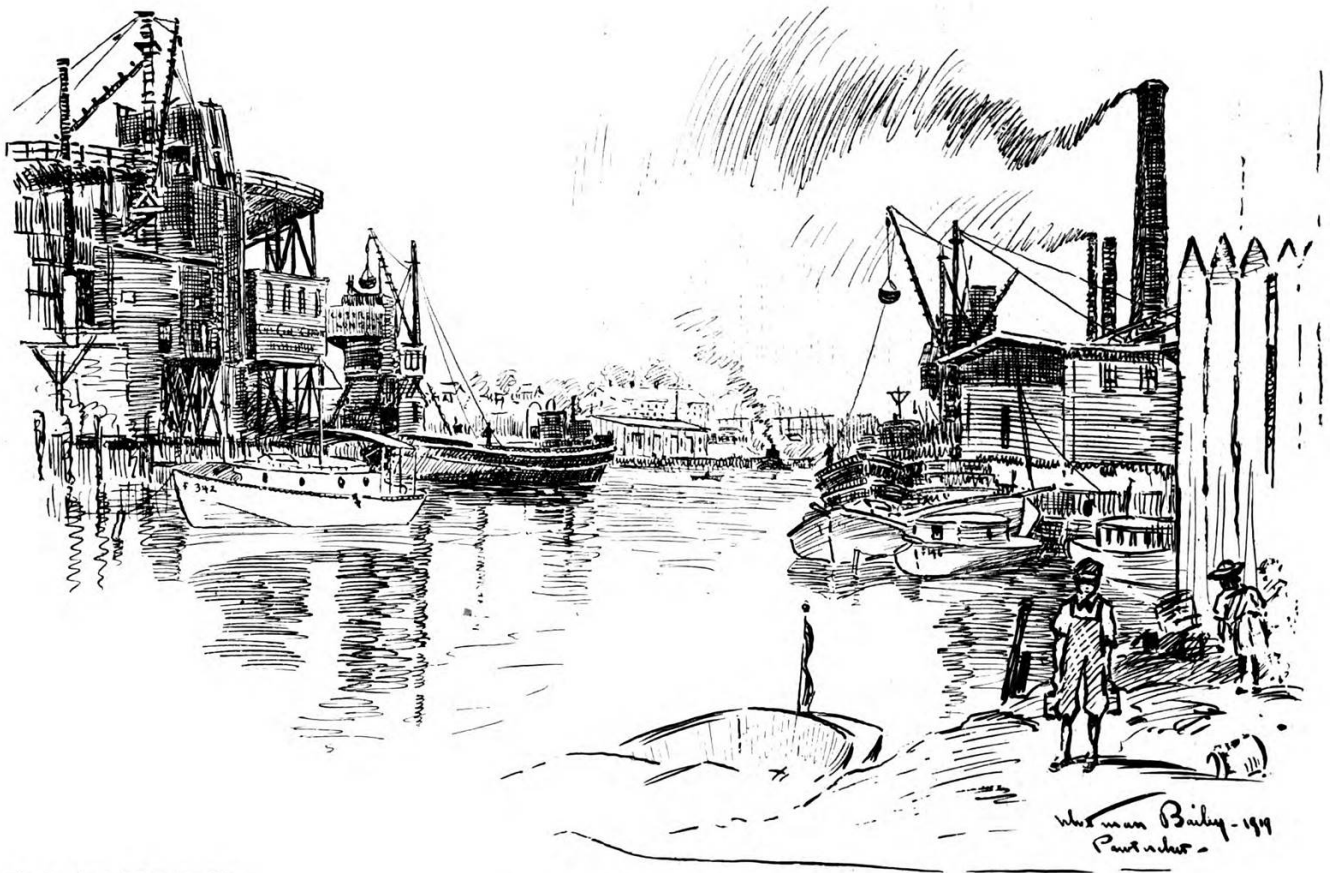


AT THE EDGE OF THE LAKE—ROGER WILLIAMS PARK.
Plenty of seats for the multitude, in all the outlying parks, but curiously
enough, not one for the weary visitor down town.



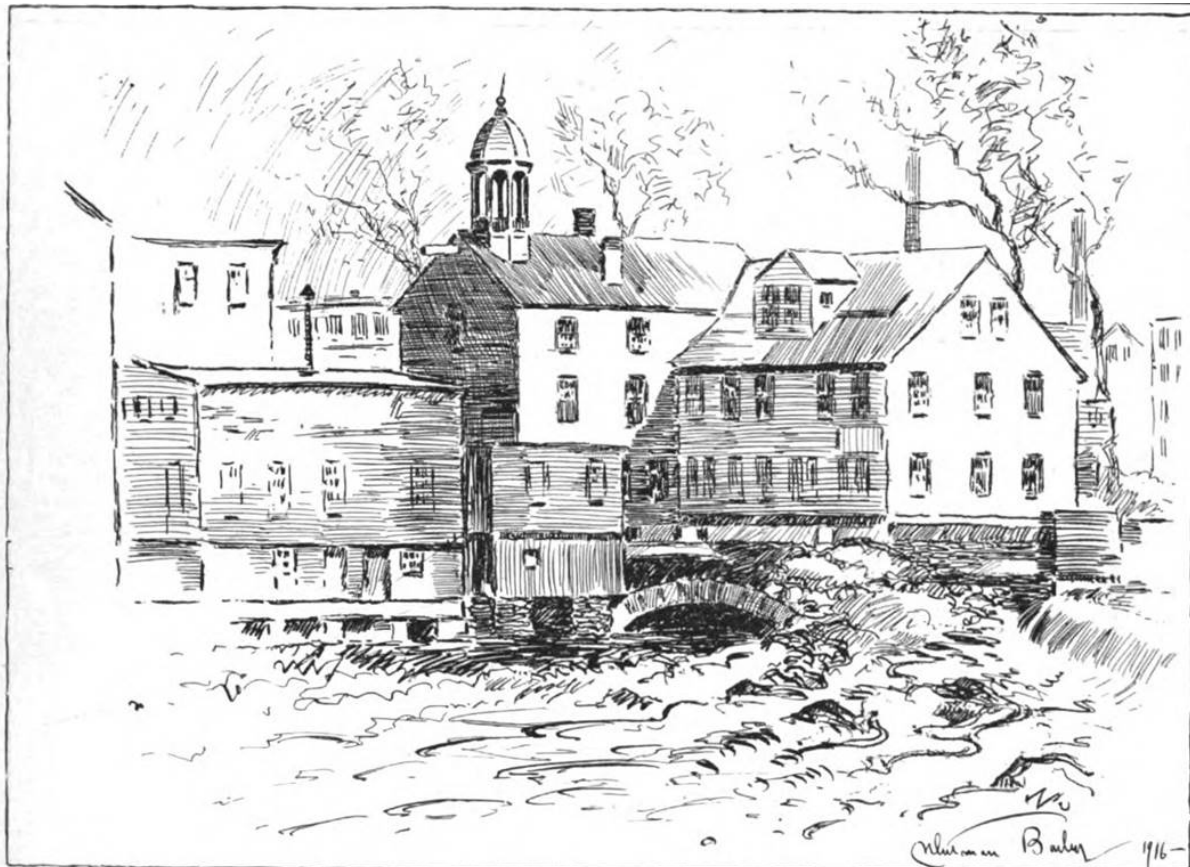
CHURCHYARD OF ST. JOHN'S (FORMERLY KING'S) CHURCH,
BUILT 1810.

As it still exists, in the midst of one of the most congested sections of
Providence.



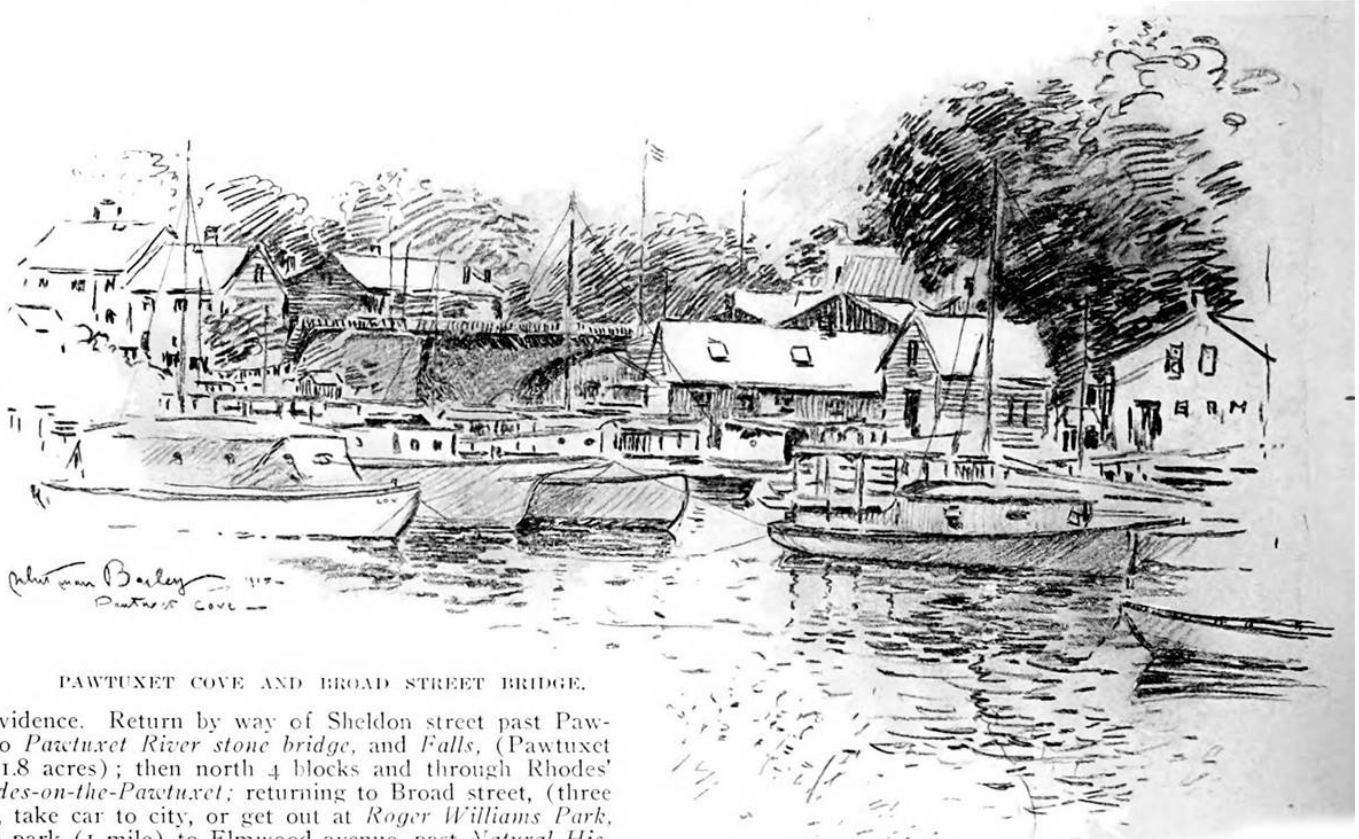
Courtesy Pawtucket Evening Times.

BUSY TIMES ON THE PAWTUCKET RIVER.



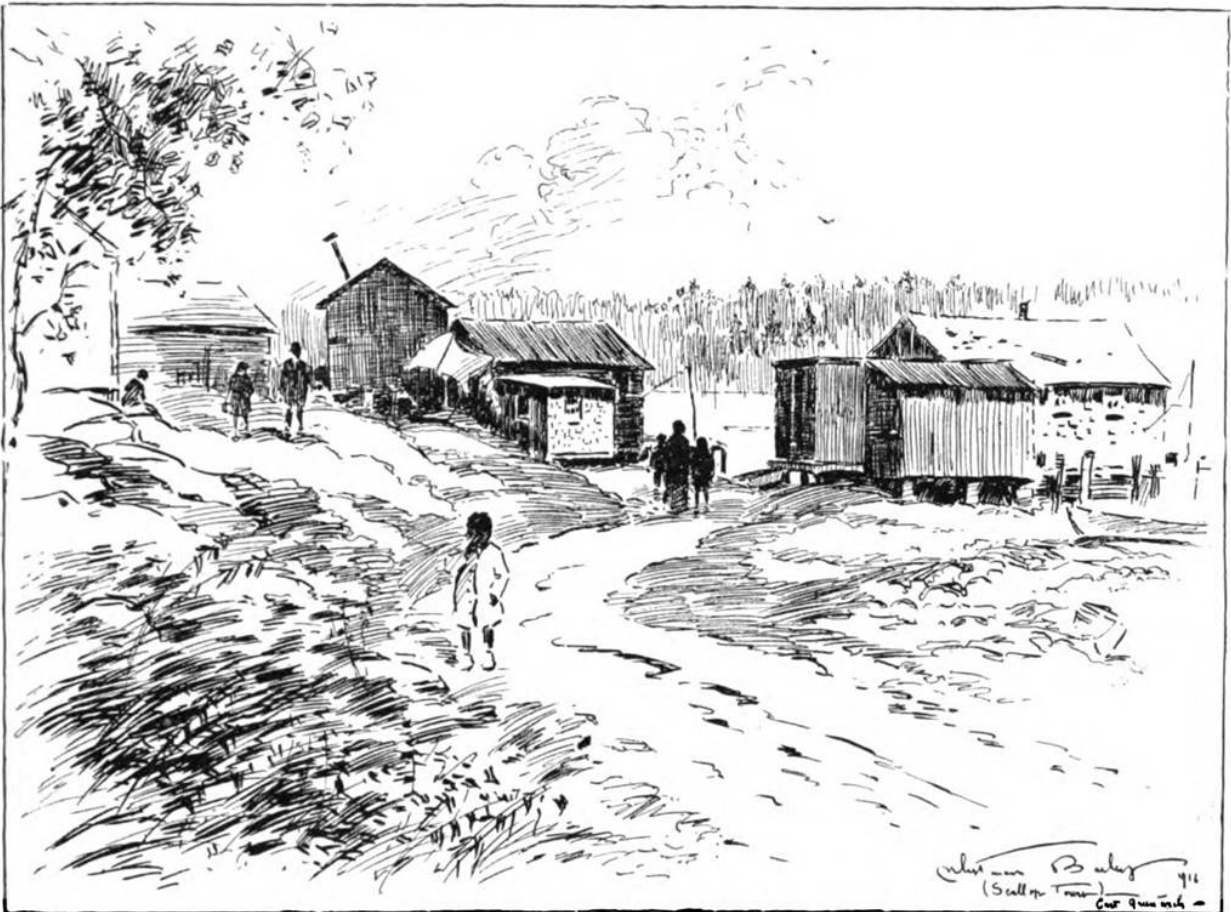
Courtesy of the Pawtucket Times.

THE OLD SLATER MILL AT PAWTUCKET.



PAWTUXET COVE AND BROAD STREET BRIDGE.

town of Providence. Return by way of Sheldon street past Pawtuxet Cove to *Pawtuxet River stone bridge*, and *Falls*, (Pawtuxet Falls Park 11.8 acres); then north 4 blocks and through Rhodes' place to *Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet*; returning to Broad street, (three miles in all), take car to city, or get out at *Roger Williams Park*, walk through park (1 mile) to Elmwood avenue, past *Natural History Museum*, the north lake, *Betsy Williams Cottage*, *Casino*, *Roger Williams Monument*, and take Elmwood avenue car to city. (About 3 hours' trip.)



A VIEW IN "SCALLOP TOWN."

East Greenwich, otherwise a beautiful town, has not yet grasped the possibilities of its water-front.



NOT A JUMPING OFF PLACE.

This is the beach at Sakonnet, and beyond Old Ocean is tumbling to make big surf run in.

William Bailey

