

of aiding Paul Revere on that "night much to be remembered" belonged rightfully to a member of our own family, I addressed a letter to the reverend Rector, asking for the authority on which he had made such a statement. In his very kind reply to my inquiry, he told me that he "had received his information from Mr. S. H. Newman, son of the sexton, Robert Newman"; and that his story was supported by the remembrances of, 1st, an elderly woman, "Mrs. Sally Chittenden, now ninety years of age, who is the grand-daughter of John Newman, brother of Robert"; 2d, "of Joshua B. Fowle, living at Lexington, who knew Paul Revere, who often came with the other patriots of his time to his father's house. It was the common talk among them that Robert Newman put up the lanterns." 3d, "William Green, who lives at the North End, is the grandson of Captain Thomas Barnard. His sister, eighty-four years old, remembers Robert Newman." "All these say it was the universally received opinion that Robert Newman displayed the signal lights."

This is all, and I have no occasion to make any remark upon their evidence.

The reverend Rector also writes that "the sexton was arrested, but nothing was proved against him. After giving the signal, he made his way out of a back window of the church into his house, and was found in bed." And he adds: "Our records — that is, the records of Christ Church — fail us in the Revolutionary period, and say nothing about the signal lanterns."

Now, I have a story to tell, which, I think, will give a different aspect to this matter; and I claim "the honor of raising the signal lanterns" for Captain John Pulling, of whom I will relate all that may be necessary to substantiate his claim.

John Pulling, Jr., son of John and Martha Pulling, was born in Boston, February 18, 1737, and was brought up in Christ Church, where his father was a warden in 1752-53, and a vestryman several years subsequently. He received his education in the town schools of that day, and before the period of the Revolution was established as a merchant, in extensive business. He married, first, Annis Lee, daughter of Colonel John Lee of Manchester, Mass., a well-known patriot of that day, and by that marriage was connected with Jeremiah Lee of Marblehead, "who," says a journal of those times, "was one of the most eminent merchants on the Continent; a member of the Committee of Safety, and a resolute asserter and defender of the liberties of his country." Mr. Pulling was also the brother-in-law of John Glover, and Joshua and Azor Orne of Marblehead, of William Raymond Lee and Marston Watson, all officers of the Revolutionary army. I find also in the "Records of the Boston Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety," recently published for the first time,\* that he and Paul Revere are mentioned together as "Captain John Pulling and Major Paul Revere," and as chosen members of that committee; and from the titles given them it may of course be inferred that they both held com-

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\* New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. xxx. p. 382.