

Letters

To the Editor, *Spritsail*

I wonder if it would be possible for you to send a copy of the winter 1990, Vol. 4, Number 1, copy of *Spritsail* to: Mr. Oliver S. Chute, 227 Canton Avenue, Milton, MA 02187.

You may remember Oliver for his "conversations" a few years ago re. Bar Neck Wharf Co. etc. At present he is bedridden and I believe would much appreciate the views of the old houses around the Green. His mother, Mrs. Arthur Chute, owned and lived in what you have called the Captain William Bodfish House for many many years.

I also remember spending winter evenings with my Aunt, Mrs. Chute, in the house around 1947. Falmouth was pretty quiet on a winter evening at that time.

The Swift family history with this house began in 1826 when Elijah Swift's eldest son, Oliver Cromwell Swift, heard that the house was up for sale. Oliver, who was in South Carolina live oaking at the time, wrote his father to buy the house for him and his bride to be. He and Eliza Robinson Jenkins were married on July 4th,

1827; their honeymoon being a buggy ride from the Congregational Church around the green to the house!

The house continued in the family until 1959 when Mrs. Chute, Oliver Cromwell's grand-daughter, died. Her children sold it to the Congregational Church at that time.

Incidentally I wonder if the present minister knows that there are remains of a stone lined well under the room on the first floor to the right of the front door? Workmen found it when doing some floor repairs right after World War II and I, somewhat slimmer at that time, went down to have a look. In all probability at some early time there was a kitchen near this room.

A Trip Around Buzzards Bay Shores republished a few years ago has a picture of the house on Page 367 with my grandfather, Elijah Swift, standing by the fence around 1904-05.

Sincerely,
E. Kent Swift, Jr.
Woods Hole, MA

Welcome

Spritsail would like to welcome a handsome new historical publication on Cape Cod: *The Acorn*, annual journal of the Sandwich Glass Museum, copyright by the Sandwich Historical Society. Volume I, published last summer, contains interesting and well-illustrated articles about glass-making, the lives of the women who worked in the factory and other matters. Volume II is due in the spring of 1991.

The editors of *The Acorn* are Rosemary Cancian, Dorothy Hogan and Kirk Nelson. The journal was beautifully produced by designer Richard C. Bartlett, Crane Typesetting Service Inc. and Rogers Print Inc.