


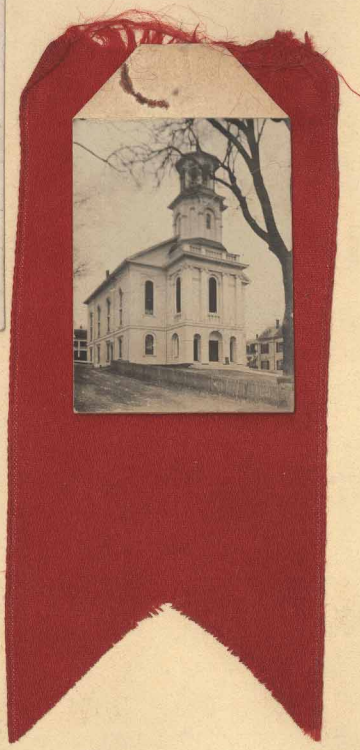
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SUPPER
SERVED BY THE MEN
AT
CENTER M. E. CHURCH
WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 11, 1922 6 P. M.

Supper Ticket & Tag of Aunt Mertie's ...



On June 19, 1717 the Massachusetts house of representatives resolved that the sum of 150 pounds be allowed and paid of the public treasury towards the building of a meeting house for the precinct of Cape Cod (now Provincetown) and that Thomas Paine Esq., Captain Ebenezer Doane, and Mr. John Snow be a committee to receive and lay out the said sum, and build the house of the dimensions of 32 feet long, 28 feet wide, and 15 feet stud, with galleries on three sides. And the inhabitants of said precinct are obliged to keep the said house in repair, and supply such further sum as may be needful to finish the house, if may be, which the assessors of the town of Truro for the time being are empowered and directed to assess, and gather in such manner as the law directs, for the raising of money in the said precinct, to make up their minister's salary, and deliver to the said committee.

From the Methodist Church records, being an account of an event which caused serious dissension among the members of the South Truro Station: L. Pierce reports "up to the 22 of February 1845, we were enjoying a good revival, and many . . . were getting religion. The members were all united and the meetings were spiritual and interesting, but on that evening some of our brethren, through great excitement and want of better knowledge, took a boy by the name of Perez Bangs, son of Soloman Bangs of Provincetown, who had that day cut down the remaining part of the fence that stood around the school house in the North part of our Society which he had commenced upon some week or more before: his father claiming that said school house stood on his land—said brethren in company with some young men took said boy out of the house of Samuel Rich and carried him to the school house, where they got his wheelbarrow onto which they put said young man and carried him to Brother Uriah R. Mayo's house, where he took good care of him through the night and gave him his breakfast the next morning and, as his father had arrived from Provincetown and requesting the boy, Mr. Uriah readily released him. They thus took him and kept him without any officer or warrant and took him from the house where he was against the command of the man of said house.

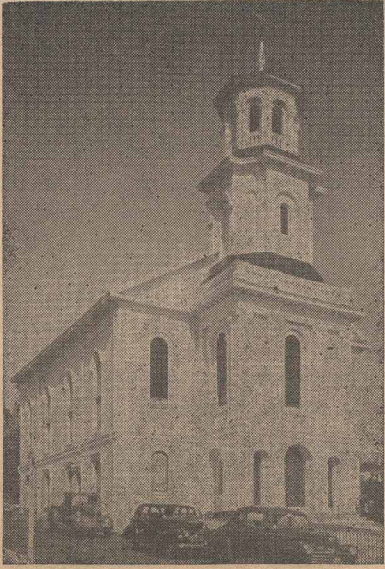
Their intention in taking was not to hurt him in any way shape or manner, but to keep him from doing further damage to said school house during the night as he had threatened that he would. This unhappy circumstance has caused division and hardness and lawsuit after lawsuit till it has taken in cash from the brethren and the young men almost \$500, and taken, as he says, \$50 from the pocket of Soloman Bangs, their prosecutor's prosecutor. But at the present time we are rather rising and advancing in the good way though the above circumstance has caused some divisions in the Church, I am happy to say that the official brethren are all well united and although some of the members have neglected . . . I think the society will recover from the shock."

Ah, them P-Towners . . . tsk tsk tsk.
(Written 1955 by Tom Kane in Truro)

September 1955

Provincetown Methodist Church

NOTED LANDMARK FOR SHIPS AT SEA



Active the Year-Round

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:45 a. m. Church School
11:00 a. m. Morning Worship

Guest Soloist, John Mette,
Baritone, final season appearance
Sermon: "Great Moments In
The Life of Christ—Baptism",
7:00 p. m. Church Vespers
Praise Service — Forum Study

OPEN DAILY TO THE PUBLIC

Meditation and Fellowship
Information — Counselling
All Are Welcome

REV. ARTHUR O. DEWEY
Minister

Do You Know?

HOW PROVINCEOWN GOT ITS REPUTATION FOR HIGH-SPIRITED FUN

Long before the town was incorporated it was, according to historian Shebna Rich, "the resort of a wild, undisciplined and unprincipled crew of traders, and fishermen from nearly all parts of Europe. Drinking, gambling, and bacchanalian carousals were continued sometimes for weeks with unrestrained license." The early settlers in every Cape town no sooner had organized their communities than they set aside choice lands for a minister of the Gospel. Provincetown seems to have been an exception. In 1715 the General Court "served notice on the people here to show cause why they did not entertain a learned orthodox minister of the Gospel to dispense the word of God to them as required by law." Two years later the first church opened its doors. Its pews hung on hinges; during prayer the seats were turned up. It is recorded that incorrigible boys loved to "throw the seats down with a bang that startled the congregation." The fun was stopped not through the minister's exhortations but by nailing the seats down. The third minister, Reverend Nathaniel Stone, often preached the evils of rum to the Indian members of his congregation, but with doubtful success. One of them said, "Mr. Stone one very good preacher, but he preach too much about rum. When he no preach about rum, Injun think nothing 'bout it; but when he tells how Injun love rum, then I think how good it is, and think no more 'bout the sermon, my mouth waters all the time so much for rum." Provincetown's reputation will undoubtedly survive as long as fishermen wrest their living from the sea, for every difficult and dangerous calling breeds men "who work hard and play hard". Should it be otherwise?

J. D. B.