

The Boston Daily Globe

Thursday Morning,

September 10, 1874.

A LOCAL CENTENNIAL.

Observance of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the "Suffolk Resolves," at Milton, Mass.—Sketch of the Building and Reminiscences of the Place Where the Patriot Convention was Held.

The epoch of patriotic centennial anniversaries is now fairly entered upon. The Philadelphians have just celebrated the 100th anniversary of the assembling of the Continental Congress, and, last evening, the patriotic citizens of Milton, together with their neighbors of the Lower Mills Village of Ward XVI., of this city, joined in an appropriate observance of the anniversary of the passage of the famous "Suffolk resolves." These Resolves, which were drawn up by General Joseph Warren, were passed September 9, 1774, by a convention which was held in the house of Daniel Vose at Milton. The building is still standing, and is in a good state of preservation, and in the same rooms where the delegates assembled, a century ago, the meeting of last evening was held. The "Suffolk Resolves" were a plain declaration in favor of the independency of the colonies, then in a state of incipient rebellion against the King. As being the earliest patriotic outburst of this distinctive character, as well as on account of their distinguished author, they have been justly renowned. After their passage, an official copy was conveyed in person by Colonel Paul Revere to the Continental Congress, then in session at Philadelphia, and they received a formal expression of appreciation on the part of that body.

At the date referred to, the extent of Suffolk County was much larger than at present, and included all the towns now in Norfolk County. A convention of delegates from the several towns of the county had been previously called to consider the alarming aspect of public affairs, and to give formal expression to the prevailing public sentiment. A part of the delegates first met at the house of Mr. Doty in Stoughton; but, finding that some of the towns were not represented, they adjourned to a later day. The second meeting was held at a public house in Dedham, conducted by Mr. Woodward. Here a Committee on Resolutions, of which General Warren was Chairman, was appointed, and the delegates again adjourned, to give time for preparing the resolutions with deliberation. The third meeting was held at the house of Mr. Vose, as above stated.

The building is now owned by the Hon. Nathaniel F. Safford, and stands upon the left hand side of the street leading from the bridge over Neponset River to Milton Hill. The site is but a few rods from the bridge, and is next beyond that occupied by the railroad station. The building is an old-fashioned, square, hipped-roof wooden mansion, and the interior construction and finish also exemplify the ancient order of things. A wide hall extends through the middle of the house from front to rear. The other apartments would be considered disproportionately small at the present day. In this hall and in the parlor at the right of the entrance the delegates held their session. More space was occupied by the company which gathered, last evening, but the number was carefully limited to the capacity of the rooms and the convenience of the family now occupying the house. Near by is another reminiscence of the revolution; a dwelling-house in which General Washington and General Warren dined at different times as the guests of the owner. The dishes used upon those occasions are yet preserved by the descendants of the host, who yet own and occupy the premises.

The Vose mansion was handsomely draped, yesterday, with the American bunting. Many strangers visited the place during the day and viewed the apartments which a century before had echoed with the first articulate voice of American independence. A copy of the famous "resolves" had been framed and hung up in the hall. Upon the exterior of the building was a marble tablet bearing this inscription:

IN THIS MANSION,

on the 9th of September, 1774, at a meeting of the delegates of every town and district in the County of Suffolk, the memorable SUFFOLK RESOLVES were adopted. They were reported by Maj.-Gen. Joseph Warren, who fell in their defence, in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. They were approved by the members of the Cont' Congress, at Carpenters Hall, Phila., on 17 Sept., 1774. The resolves to which this immortal patriot first gave utterance, and the heroic deeds of that eventful day on which he fell, led the way to American independence. "Posterity will acknowledge that virtue which preserved them free and happy."

The Hon. Henry L. Pierce presided, during the evening, and addresses appropriate to the occasion were made by him, the Hon. N. F. Safford, James Robbins, Esq., and others. The original resolves of the Hon. Edward L. Pierce. The address of Mr. Robbins was of a detailed historical character. Reports of these several addresses are at the special request of those interested, but cannot, be prepared for publication in a