

## View of the Colleges in Cambridge, 1767

ONE of the rarest and most desirable of Revere's engravings is the Harvard view of 1767. It is entitled "A Westerly View of The Colledges in Cambridge New England." It is signed "Josh. Chadwick, del" and "P Revere sculp." At the bottom are the words "A Harvard Hall B Stoughton C Massachusetts D Hollis E Holden Chapel," the letters referring to the college buildings. The size of the print, to the border lines, is  $9\frac{1}{4}$  by  $15\frac{5}{16}$  inches.

The view is of the greatest historical interest. Since no description of the scene could be more authoritative or detailed than that given by Hamilton V. Bail in his *Views of Harvard*, 1949, pages 43-44, it is here quoted entire:

"This view is taken from approximately the present site of the Unitarian Church, facing somewhat to the north and not squarely in front of the first Stoughton as in Burgis's drawing. The second Harvard has disappeared — burned down on the night of 24 January 1764 — and the third and present one is found on its site; Stoughton and Massachusetts appear as previously; and there are two new buildings appearing for the first time — Holden Chapel built in 1744 and Hollis Hall built in 1763. The tree in the old quadrangle is still standing and a smaller one (later to be called the Class Day Tree) is seen in the yard between Harvard, Hollis, and Holden. The fence appears to be lower than in the Burgis View, and bears vertical subdivisions, but these differences may be merely adventitious. There have been general indications that the fence appearing in the Burgis View was built of stone, but the evidence of the District Reports suggests that it was of wood and continued so until the fence first appearing in the *Massachusetts Magazine* View — stone below surmounted by a picket top — was built. The Revere View shows an entrance for pedestrians in front of Hollis and one for carriages to the south of Massachusetts, as well as the entrance in front of Stoughton which appeared in the Burgis View. There is no indication here that the fence surrounds

the buildings entirely, although it is known that such was the case. A four-horse carriage is again seen in the road — probably the Governor's, from the out-riders who accompany it. There are also numerous other figures both within and without the Yard, with their costumes shown in considerable detail."

The date of the engraving is well chronicled in Revere's Day Book. Under date of July 4, 1767, is the following entry: "Capt Josep Chadwick Dr/ To one half of the Engraving a Plate/ for a Perspective View of the Colleges/ To Printing/ 4-0-0." No Boston newspaper between August and December, 1767, mentions the publication of the engraving.

It is evident from the charge, that Revere and Chadwick were partners in publishing the print. Joseph Chadwick was well known during the period as a surveyor and engineer. Mr. Bail recounts several instances of his career as a surveyor and artillery officer, to which account I can add little except the date of his death in 1783, based upon his Will signed July 26, 1783, and probated August 14, 1783, in the Suffolk County Probate Records, number 18004.

I can locate only four copies of this print. The Essex Institute has an excellent copy which it has owned for many years. Matthew A. Stickney owned a copy which was sold at the sale of his library at Libbie's, November 25, 1907. A group of seven Harvard alumni purchased the print for \$700 and presented it to the Harvard Library. It was described in the catalogue, number 1617, as a fine perfect copy and was reproduced opposite page 152. Zachary T. Hollingsworth owned a copy and upon his death in 1925 bequeathed it to his son Valentine, who upon his death in 1942, bequeathed it to his son Mark Hollingsworth. The fourth located copy was owned by Daniel Denison Slade of Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. Dr. Slade obtained the print in 1891 from Miss A. P. Rogers, who in turn had acquired it from Mrs. M. B. Blanchard of Harvard, Massachusetts. Dr. Slade upon his death in 1896, bequeathed the print to his daughter, Margaret B. Slade, who upon her death in 1939 left it to her sister, Mrs. Henry E. Warner of South Lincoln, Massachusetts. Mrs. Warner allowed Goodspeed to price it for sale in 1939, but soon asked for its return and in 1950 presented it to the American Antiquarian Society. This copy has two slight mutilations in the sky and the foreground, not affecting the printing, and the print has lately been restored. It is the only copy which has

been contemporaneously colored, and is the copy which is herewith reproduced. Mr. Bail mentions two other copies, but that owned by Frederick L. Gay was a restrike, and the Margaret Slade copy was the same as that owned by Mrs. Warner.

The Harvard view has been reproduced many times. Mr. Bail lists over a dozen references, to which should be added the reproductions in the Libbie Catalogue of November 25, 1907, and Goodspeed's *Month* for March, 1939. The most noteworthy reproduction, as Mr. Bail states, is the re-engraving executed in exact facsimile ( $9\frac{1}{16} \times 15\frac{1}{2}$  inches) by Sidney L. Smith in 1916 with the following additional inscription in the lower left-hand corner: "Engraved by Sidney L. Smith for the/ Club of Odd Volumes/ from the original print in the possession of the/ Essex Institute, Salem, Mass./ 110 Copies printed October, 1916. Copyrighted." The print was published November 28, 1916, and entered for copyright December 1, 1916. Smith's re-engraving is described under Item B-68 in Stokes's *American Historical Prints* (New York, 1932) and also in the *Catalogue of the Collection of Engravings in the University Club* (New York, 1926), as well as in several of the contemporary Goodspeed sales catalogues.

In May, 1775, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress ordered that the sum of £26,000 should be issued in paper bills, to provide advance pay for the soldiers. Paul Revere was commissioned to engrave them, and they were engraved on three plates. They were dated May 25, 1775. One plate was for the bills of 20, 14, and 6 shillings, the second for 18, 12, and 10 shillings, and the third for 16, 15, and 9 shillings. Revere obtained the copper for his three plates by cutting down the plates of the Harvard View, the Boston Massacre, and another copper of a portrait of the Reverend Samuel Willard. The subject is fully discussed in my chapter on Paper Money.

In July, 1775, the Provincial Congress, desiring to raise more money, found that the coppers were still useable and requested Revere to alter the date on the bills from May 25, 1775, to July 8, 1775. That is the date on the bills last impressed from the copper-plates. All three original coppers are in the office of the Massachusetts Archives. The plate of the Harvard View was cut almost in half, leaving the right half for the engraving of the bills. The size of the copper-plate is  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches high by  $7\frac{3}{8}$  wide, to the outside of the plate marks. Restrikes have

been made many times from this copper-plate. Some restrikes were made in the late 'sixties. A copy owned by Conrad Slade, of Hollywood, California, has written on the back: "Bought in Harvard Square, Cambridge, about 1869 by father [Dr. D. D. Slade]. There were a number of impressions for sale at the time." Another restrike made by Conrad Blackden of the American Bank Note Company in 1913 was owned by Francis R. Hart of Boston and was given to the American Antiquarian Society in 1928. Hamilton Bail says that a reproduction of the half print was used in a newspaper advertisement of the Bank of New York and Trust Company in 1933. Anyone could obtain a restrike from the original copper if he could get permission from the proper State authority.