

Tavern in the Town



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26 February 1732 George Shannahane, INNHOLDER, and Sarah his wife, conveyed one and one-half acres adjoining the courthouse land to Dominick Carvin, INNHOLDER (13:777). This land is on the west side of Washington Street and opposite the Courthouse on West Dover Street in Easton. Here Dominick and Mary kept an INN until the latter's death in 1734; after which the widow married John Frith (-1741). Carven's will, (nuncupative) made in September 1733, devised "Cuba" to his daughter Mary at age eighteen or day of marriage; the house and lotts bought of George Shannahane to Mary his wife. The witnesses to this testament were Andrew Spence, a planter, aged 30; Michael Fletcher, aged 55; John Fellow (Quaker), aged 37; all of whom made depositions on behalf of John Frith and Mary; his wife, administratrix. (Wills 21:478)

/ Mary, daughter of Dominick Carven, Jr. and Mary Shannahane his wife, married Charles Pickering, Sr., 28 February 1748/9. Charles Pickering, Sr. and his son Charles, Jr. held the Shannahane land into the 19th century and were responsible for the division of and leasing of a number of smaller lots. These lots were tenanted long before the formal 1786 survey was made of the town of Easton and formed a part of the nucleus of the settlement which was developing around the Talbot County courthouse. One of the first tenants was Frederick Leith, the Wigmaker, 1764, who leased the "White House." John Bullen, Cabinetmaker, and John Dickinson IV, Hatter, also were leaseholders of Pickering land. Mary (Carven) Pickering was deceased by 1783 (21:341).

KENNY, RICHARD. A Mariner, he was one of the 19th century TAVERN-KEEPERS in Easton; proprietor of the "Union Tavern" at the corner of Washington and Goldsborough Streets. During the War of 1812 he was a soldier with the St. Michaels Patriotic Blues under Capt. Joseph Kemp. On 17 March 1827 he announced that he was leaving the Union Tavern but in January 1828 he opened a tavern opposite Mr. Camper's store in Easton and advertised that he was prepared to accomodate the public with oysters, terrapins, ducks and other seasonal luxuries.

He was married in 1820 to Mary Larrimore and like so many other TAVERN wives, she was left to run the TAVERN while her husband followed other pursuits. Scarcely two months after opening the new business, he advertised that the packet, "Jane and Mary," of which he was Master, was running to Baltimore and that he had leased the granary at Easton Point which belonged to Mrs. Sarah Vickers. 21 February 1829, Capt. Richard Kenny of Easton, notified the public that he was sailing the Baltimore packet sloop, the "Edward Lloyd." About this time he moved to Baltimore; his dwelling at Easton Point was put up for rent and his accounts were placed in the hands of Alexander Graham for collection.

KENT, EMANUEL. License issued 22 June 1779 to keep an ORDINARY at Kings Towne on the Chester River, Queen Anne County. By 1800 he was located in Baltimore.

Emanuel Kent was the son of William Kent (-1779) of Queen Anne County. His stepmother was Frances, daughter of Edward Rogers of Queen Anne (Rogers' adm. 1797); mother of Nathan and Vachel Kent, Emanuel's step-brothers. He had brothers William, Jacob Lambert, James, Elijah and John; sisters Lovey, wife of Nathan Brown, Elizabeth Kent, a niece (in 1779), Sarah, daughter of James Kent; and a niece Ann, daughter of his brother John (Queen Anne Adm. Accts. SC #2:353).

