



November 9, 2011

Dear Friends,

Greetings from 18 Broad Street and the Pickering Foundation. We wanted to update you on our many accomplishments during the past several months.

The Board of Trustees organized several events at the house, perhaps highlighted by a Sunday afternoon lecture with Robert Booth entitled “John Pickering’s Surprising Tales of the Sea.” Mr. Booth wove facts, humor and historical context to bring alive Salem in the 1820’s. We are fortunate to count him as a loyal friend.

We continued to strengthen our governance by adding two new members to our Board from the North Shore: Liz Taft and John Reardon. Both bring not-for-profit experience and a keen sense of local resources. We are delighted to have them join us. We appointed a new Treasurer, Board member Richard O’Dwyer, to help us manage our financial resources as wisely as possible.

We established a Building and Grounds sub-committee to focus on the next round of long-term capital improvements. An energy audit was conducted and CFLs installed throughout the house. Several volunteer workdays allowed family and friends to gather to assist Tag in keeping the house and property shipshape.

We initiated a review of the Foundation’s historical papers archived at the house and at the Phillips Library in the Peabody Essex Museum. Most of these documents are unknown to the current generation and we look forward to rediscovering these ancestral treasures. We expect to shift more documents to improved storage conditions in the next year.

Finally, perhaps one of our favorite events was awarding the Sarah C. Pickering Memorial Scholarship to a Salem High School student at our annual Open House in June. This year we were delighted to recognize Sabrina Bazile, a talented and dedicated student who reminded us all of “Aunt Sally’s” optimism, intelligence and poise.

Your Board remains focused on expanding its membership, strengthening its operating budget and growing its endowment. We welcome your ideas for enhancing the Foundation and hope you will continue to support our mission by renewing your membership.

Thank you for your consideration and best wishes to all.

H. Benson Pickering, Jr., President  
The Pickering Foundation