

1741-1790

Phoebe Fraunces Save Geo. Washington's Life

New York, So Little and Not So Old

By Sarah M. Lockwood

"In the meantime, the Continental Army was squeezing the British Army out of Boston. In March, 1776, General Howe evacuated The town and sailed for Halifax. Geo. Washington, beleiving that his next point of attack would be N. Y., transferred his forces here, making his headquarters first in the De Peyster's mansion in Pearl Street, later removing to the Richmond Hill house about where Charlton St. crosses Varick today. It was here that pretty Phoebe Fraunces saved him from an attack upon his life, which, if successful might have changed the history of the whole world.

Phoebe was the daughter of Samuel Fraunces, a West Indian who in 1762 had purchased one of the De Lancey mansions on the corner of Broad and Pearl streets and opened up a tavern there. Phoebe was Washington's house-keeper. Govenor Tryon from his refuge on the Asia, with the aid of friends on shore, planned to murder the American Commander in Chief whose truiumphal procession up Broadway behind the white horses had not been forgotten. The man picked to do the job was a British deserter named Thomas Hickey, who had become a member of Washington's

bodyguard. Hickey, however, fell madly in love with Phoebe's pretty face and confided to her all the details of the plan. Phoebe told her father and her father told Washington. Hickey was arrested, confessed, and was hanged in the presence of twenty thousand spectators.

Washington never forgot what he owed to Fraunces's fidelity. When, in 1789, he returned to New York to be inaugurated first President

Subject: Fraunces, Samuel

Nowhere in the material examined in reference to Samuel Fraunces is there any direct mention of his being a Negro.

Mr. J. Davies writing in Historic Buildings of N.Y.

Edited by Esther Singleton (Dodd Mead & Co. 1906) stated:

"Samuel Fraunces, or as he was formerly called, Black Sam (in consequence of his swarthy complexion) was of French extraction, and appears to have been a prince of a publican

It must not be presumed that Same was an idle spectator of the events passing around him. His sympathies were with the whigs and he became one of Washington's most faithful friends and followers."

In Philip Freeman (Published 1786 Phila) narative poem,

"Hugh Gaines Life" is the following verse:

Pound on us tempest of round shot and language
Scaree a broadside was ended till another began
again

By jove it was nothing but Fire away Flannagan
At first we supposed it was only a sham
Till he drove a round hole in the roof of
Black Sam.

The other books examined simply refer to him as Black Sam, or "Samuel Fraunces a West Indian probably of French extration.

Dictionary of American Biography -- Charles Scribner 1931

Writings of George Washington -- Edited by Gerard Sparks.

F.M. Pierce's Landmark of Fraunces Tavern 1901, N.Y.

Edgar Dale

PHOEBE FRAUNCES RESPONSIBLE FOR SAVING GEORGE WASHINGTON'S

L I F E

A letter written by Dr. Solomon Drowne's to his sister.

In 1775 Samuel Fraunces could not sell "Queens Head." He enlisted as a private in Colonel Malcolm's First Regiment of New York State Troops in the Continental service 1780-1781.

"His daughter Phoebe was Washington's housekeeper in the Mortier House on Richmond Hill, occupied by the Commander-in-chief as Headquarters, in June, 1776, and it was she who revealed the plot to assassinate Generals Washington and Putnam, which led to the apprehension of her lover, an Irishman named Thomas Hickey, a British deserter, then a member of Washington's body guard, in consequence of which he was promptly executed on June 28, 1776."

The following is a letter written by Dr. Solomon Drowne's to his sister, explaining the incident :

New York
June 24, 1776.

Dear Sister Sally: I cannot let this opportunity slip without scribbling you a few lines, tho' I have but little time to do it in. It is not past ten; Dr. D. Smith told me he should set away home tomorrow or ~~the~~ next day; and tomorrow morning I expect to go to Elizabeth Town, on some ~~business~~ business of my own, and to serve my friend, Captain Timothy Hughs, who expects to set out for Canada in a day or two. He and I are now in possession of Mr. Gano's house, who has gone into ye country, to see Mrs. Gano, ets. Not one of ye family is in ye city.

A "A most infernal plot has lately been discovered, which, had it been put into execution, would have made America tremble, and been as fatal a stroke to us, this Country, as gun powder treason would to England, had it succeeded. The heathish conspirators were a number of Tories (the Mayor of ye City among them) and three of George Washington's Life Guards. The plan was to kill Generals Washington and M'utham, and as many other Commanding Officers as possible. I should have mentioned at first, - to set the city on fire in nine several places. To spike up the cannon. Then to give a signal to the Asia and ships expected; - and blow up the magazine. They had a large body of men, which were to attack ours amidst their confusion. The while was discovered (as I am informed) by a Sergeant of ye guards, whom they wanted to take into ye plot, and who, having got what he could from them, discovered all to the General. - The Drummer of ye Guards was to have stabbed ye General. The pretty fellows are in safe custody, and I hope I shall be able to give you a better account of them in my next. This morning a large Guard went to take two-hundred Tories, who are under arms not very far from this city.

I wish you would excuse me to Mr. J. Dabney for not writing to him. I intended to, and am sorry I have not time. I enquire at several shops for the bottons he desired me to get him; but could find none. My duty to Dad, and Mama, Love to Sisyer Aplin, Billy, etc. I shall be very glad of a letter from each of you; for I have not received one since I have been here.

Yours,
Solomon "

Source: A Sketch of Fraunces Tavern by Henry R. Drown
42nd St. Library Rm. 328

Carl Offord
August 8th, '38

Re: Samuel Fraunces

K

Federal Writers' Project #1

Upon Samuel Fraunces, a Negro, and his daughter, Phoebe, fell the distinguished honor of being ~~the~~ close and trusted attendants to George Washington during ~~his~~ the trying years of the Great Revolution when he was Commander-in-Chief, ~~and later when he was~~ and later when he was President. Washington appointed Fraunces steward of his mansion at 3 Cherry Street, which then constituted the White House. ~~Together~~ With his daughter, Phoebe, who was housekeeper to Washington since 1776, he remained personal attendant to the President until 1796 or later as is revealed by receipts signed by Fraunces. (One receipt was on exhibition in the tavern in 1930.)

Samuel Fraunces, originally a native of a French West Indian island, was keeper of a ~~xx~~ three-story tavern located at the corner of Broad and Pearl Streets. The property which became known as "the most famous tavern in New York" was bought by Fraunces in 1762 for two thousand pounds. The farewell dinner to Washington on December 4th, by Governor Clinton, was held at the Fraunces Tavern; from this tavern Washington bade farewell to his officers. At this tavern, the organization now known as the New York Chamber of Commerce was organized in 1768.

Fraunces Tavern was purchased and restored as a memorial by the Sons of the Revolution in 1905.

(Black Manhattan by James Weldon Johnson Page 44)

(Pictures of Tavern and Samuel ~~xxxxxx~~ in Valentine's Manual of old New York)

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carl offord
August 18th, '38

Federal Writers Project #1

America would have "trembled" and history would undoubtedly be far different had not Phoebe Fraunces, daughter of the "swarthy" inkeeper, Black Sam, "revealed the infernal plot to assassinate General Washington." Because of her profound loyalty, this daughter ~~of~~ of the "thrifty West Indian Negro" thwarted "the hellish conspirators" in their plan which, had it succeeded, would have been "a ~~an~~ fatal stroke to this country."

Young and attractive Phoebe Fraunces was Washington's housekeeper. In 1776, when America made her historic ~~bid~~ bid for Independence, she was in ~~charge~~ charge of the Mortier house on Richmond Hill, temporary headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief of the American Army. In June of that year, a British deserter named Hickey~~was~~, who because of his cleverness had become one of Washington's bodyguards, and had further made himself a favorite at the Richmond Hill Headquarters, was engaged in a plot fostered by "men in England who saw that the great personality of Washington was one of the greatest dangers to England's hold upon the colonies."

Hickey was "the king-pin" in this "plot to assassinate Washington," and his chief conspirators were "the tory mayor Matthews, and the royalist governor, Tryon." But the first step in the plan was for Hickey "to win

offord Fraunces *3

father's tavern?" The records bear no indication that the New York Chamber of Commerce acted upon the plea of the American Scenic and Historic Society; ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ and as late as August 17th, 1938, the famous Fraunces Tavern on Broad and Pearl Streets was without tablet, inscription or any such token in dedication to Phoebe Fraunces.

"Faithful, ardent, devoted Black Sam," whose proper name was Samuel Fraunces, had two daughters besides Phoebe, and a son named John. History is blurred as to which West Indian island he came from and as to the exact date and circumstances which governed his appearance in America. The earliest record of Fraunces in New York is reflected in an ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ advertisement in the New York Post Boy of February 5th, 1761. In this newspaper he advertised himself as a "caterer" who sold delicacies at the sign of the Masons Arms near the Green, supported by the reputation of being an "inkeeper in New York since 1755."

On January 15th, 1762, Fraunces purchased the "elegant three story and half brick dwelling situated in Great Dock Street at the corner of Broad Street" (now known as Broad and Pearl Streets), former residence of the renowned De Lancey family. The ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ firm of De Lancey Robinson & Company was paid 2000 pounds and the "roomy mansion passed by deed into the possession of the favorite Boniface of the day---that of Samuel Fraunces, with whose patriotic name it was to become so imperishably associated."

Fraunces, a man of remarkable business acumen, turned the former residence of the De Lancey's into a tavern which he named the Queen's Head Tavern. But three years later, Fraunces, "one of the most picturesque figures in the history of American Free-masonry," leased the tavern to John Jones, a member of the fraternity, and "took charge of the popular Vauxhall Gardens on the Hudson, south of Sir Peter Warren's place." Here he opened a "museum of wax figures and other ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

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Fraunces

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curiosities," in all probability a forerunner of our modern amusement centers. At the Gardens he "served hot rolls, meat, sausages, tea, coffee and other drinkables to the citizens with their wives and to the beaux with the belles who drove out there, mostly in chaises, on pleasant afternoons."

But it seemed that Fraunces hankered for the tavern ~~for~~ for in 1770 he "went back to his ~~xx~~ own again, and inaugurated at the Queen's Head the brilliant regime which marked him to all time as the pioneer and peer of a unique and important character in our American civilization--- the affable, executive, money-making, yet manly and patriotic Hotel-keeper."

Fraunces Tavern, then called the Queen's Head, was the nation's social and cultural, as well as revolutionary center. There the Social Club met every Saturday night "to praise Black Sam's cider, maderia, old port, spirits, ales and punches. The black, mammies who presided over his stores preferred the use of ~~mixx~~ their own capable hands to such objects as spoons or measuring cups: for all that 'Black Sam' was caterer-in-chief to his generation and his tavern was famous in two continents."

Many of the most famous men of the day congregated in the 'Long Room' and there held their convivialities. "It was in this room that the Stamp Act was discussed, and it was here that the seeds of Liberty were sown." In this room was held the first meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce in April, 1768. And it was here that the Society of St. Andrew, the Governors of the Province, and the New York Society for Promoting Arts and Agriculture met. "Besides their drinking, and card-playing they argued mightily together over the burning question of the day---the question of Taxation without Representation. In the Club were many loyalists, but patriots like John Jay, ~~Gouverneur~~ Gouverneur Morris, Robert Livingston, Samuel Verplanck, and others, were also members. As the trouble between

Some
of the
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Social
Club.

offord

Fraunces

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King and colonies waxed more and more angrily to a head, his tavern ~~has~~ became the headquarters of rebellion against the crown."

It was in Fraunces Tavern that the Sons of Liberty, in April, 1774, planned and successfully carried out a Tea Party, similar, though on a less extensive scale ~~than~~ ^{to} the Boston Tea Party of the previous December. "Upon receiving news "that a ship was in port having on ~~board~~ board eighteen chests of the hated commodity, the Sons met at Fraunces Tavern, and from ~~thence~~ thence went straight to the offending ~~vessel~~ vessel. In open daylight they seized and threw the tea into the bay, and bade the captain recross the Atlantic without delay." In 1775, His Majesty's ship Asia which was anchored in the bay, "aimed, to the honor of Sam Fraunces, let it be said, at the Queen's Head as the special gathering place of the rebels. An 18-pound ball pierced its roof and another struck close by---the only hostile shots that ever touched New York."

When the Great Revolution broke in 1776, Samuel Fraunces "abandoned his property and struck for Liberty and Independence." He was enrolled ~~in~~ as a private in Colonel Malcolm's regiment, one of the sixteen commanded by Washington, himself. Here again the records are much too scant ~~for~~ for a ~~precise~~ precise comprehension of his activities in the army. But that he performed his duties with honorable distinction there can be no doubt for "in consequence of his generous advances and kindness to American ~~prisoners~~ prisoners and secret services he received a vote of thanks in July, 1782, and 200 pounds as a gratuity from Congress."

Testimony to Samuel Fraunces and his tavern during the ~~Revolution~~ Revolution was included in the "Retrospect" by the American Scenic and Historic Society before the New York Chamber of Commerce thus:

"Throughout the Revolution the Queen's Head, doubtless to the joy of its now intensely tory ex-owner, Oliver De Lancey---was occupied by British officers, nor did Sam Fraunces venture to trturn to his own

inn again until the British were about to evacuate New York... and of all those wildly throbbing hearts surely none could have been more bursting with love, joy and pride than that of Sam Fraunces; for where was the adored Washington to put up for the night but at Queen's Head, and who was in charge of the grand banquet to be given there by Governor Clinton to the Commander-in-Chief and the French Ambassador Luzerne, after the triumphant entry, but Black Sam himself, the Delmonico of his day, and who, of course, could not have been with his regiment during the entry, because he must have been rushing the arrangements for the occasion which was the grand climax of his life!"

From that twenty-fifth day of November, 1783, known as Evacuation Day, the name Queen's Head was changed to Fraunces Tavern.

(To Be Continued)

History of Samuel and Phoebe Fraunces, and of Fraunces Tavern were gleaned from the following sources:

- 1-- A Sketch Of Fraunces Tavern and those connected with its history: by Henry Russell Drowne, secretary of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York
- 2-- Crisis A magazine published by the N.A.A.C.P. Issue of December 1916, page 85: an excerpt from an article in the Washington D.C. Evening Star by Frederick J. Hawkins, owner of the largest Free Information Bureau in existence. (Who's Who in America, 1933)
- 3-- Fraunces Tavern A Retrospect: by the Women's Auxiliary to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society (1901)
- 4-- The Washington Masonic Shrine At Tappan New York: preface by Charles H. Johnson.

Carl Offord
aug. 22nd, '38

Federal Writers Project #1

Fraunces, Samuel and Phoebe

(Continued from assignment of Aug. 18th)

Fraunces "renovated the Tavern" for the "grand banquet" on Evacuation Day and it is recorded that "Washington made his headquarters there and that the building was illuminated in the evening. On this occasion the memorable thirteen toasts were drunk." A full account of the ceremonies of Evacuation Day, including the "public dinner given to the Commander-In-Chief at Fraunces Tavern," was reported in the New York Gazette of November 26th, 1783. The following is the itemized bill of the banquet:

November 25, 1783

His Excellency, Governor Clinton to Sam'l Fraunces, Dr.

Recd.

To an entertainment	£ 30..4s Od
To 75 Bottles of Madeira at 8/	30..
To 18 " of Claret at 10/	9..
To 16 " of Port at 6/	4..16..
To 24 " of Spruce at 1/	1.. 4..
To 24 " of Porter at 3/	3..12..
To Lights 60/ Tea and Coffee 64/	6.. 4..
To Brokeg	2.. 2..
To Punch	10..10..

£ 67..12s

Full payment of the bill was made less than three months later and is recorded thus:

"The above bill is for an entertainment of taking Possession of the City when the British evacuated the Southern District. Recd. the Contents in full 2d Feby., 1784.

Saml. Fraunces."

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aug. 22nd, '38

Fraunces

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The records show that "Black Sam" entertained the New York
~~Ex~~ Provisional Congress at his tavern "from May 18 to June 30, 1776,"
and in consequence received payment of a bill for £ 91. 1s Od. On
August 25, 1774, the Massachusetts delegates to the Continental Congress
were entertained by the New York delegates in the Chamber of the Royal
Exchange which was "followed by a banquet in the 'Long Room' at Fraunces
Tavern. This is referred to in the Diary of John Adams as 'the most
splendid dinner I ever saw.' "

In the Library of Congress there is a receipted bill "rendered
to his Excellency Gen. Washington by Samuel Fraunces, covering the
period from November 26 to December 4, 1783, amounting to £95, 15s and
6d, which shows Washington's intimate connection with Fraunces Tavern
during his brief stay in New York." Evidence of an "intimate connection"
between Washington and Fraunces Tavern date back to the early part of
1776 and is borne out by the ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ records thus:

"At the request of Congress, Washington left for Philadelphia
on May 1, 1776, returning about June 7---the concluding item in his
expense account for this trip is a dinner eaten at Samuel Fraunces'; a
receipt also exists, which was not entered in any of his accounts, for a
dozen bottles of Madeira wine from Samuel Fraunces, dated June 27, 1776."

~~From the Long Room of the West Indian Tavern xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

In the ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ celebrated Fraunces Tavern, Washington "the
memorable scene occurred of Washington's Farewell to his Officers. The
time now drew near when the Commander-in-Chief intended to leave this
part of the country for his beloved retreat at Mount Vernon. ~~On~~ On
Thursday, the 4th of December, it was made known to the officers then
in New York, that General Washington intended to commence his journey
on that day. At 12 o'clock the officers repaired to Fraunces' Tavern,
in Pearl Street, where General Washington had appointed ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ to

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Fraunces

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meet them, and to take his final leave."

Two years later, "Fraunces now having owned the Tavern for some twenty-three years, sold it for ~~£~~ 1950 to George Powers, a butcher of Brooklyn, and retired to country life in New Jersey." Three months ~~before he sold the tavern to Mr. Powers in New Jersey~~ prior to Sam's retirement "to country life in New Jersey," his tavern became the ~~the~~ "quarters" of the Department of Foreign Affairs. "In January, 1785, the seat of government being moved to New York, the Department of Foreign Affairs found quarters in the famous Fraunces ~~the~~ Tavern. Here it remained till 1778, when it moved to the west side of Broadway."

His retirement to New Jersey, however, was of short duration, "Samuel Fraunces, in 1789, left his Jersey farm, and as the best person fitted for the office, he was made the Steward of Washington's presidential household. He became Steward to President Washington at what was then the 'White House' in New York, known as the Franklin Mansion located at 3 Cherry Street." In the Gazette of the United States, New York, May 9--13, 1789, is the following notice:

"THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSEHOLD

Whereas, all Servants and others, employed to procure provisions, or supplies, for the Household of The President of the United States, will be furnished with monies for those ~~the~~ purposes. Notice is therefore given, That no accounts, for the payment of which the Public might be considered as responsible, are to be opened with any of them.

Samuel Fraunces, Steward of the Household."
May 4th, 1789.

Fraunces "continued as Washington's Steward to Philadelphia, when Congress reassembled there on the first Monday in December, 1790,

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Fraunces

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and remained so until 1796 or later, as shown by receipts by him. All this would seem to indicate that Washington held him in high esteem, else why would he not, like others temporarily residing in New York, have brought his head servants from his Virginia mansion?" The following is a receipt of Fraunces', ~~now~~ which was on exhibition at Fraunces Tavern, corner of Pearl and Broad Streets, on August 12th, 1938:

"Recd. 3d Feby. 1794 of B. Danoridge One
hundred & fourteen dollars & forty seven
cents to purchase Sundries for the
household of the President

Saml. Fraunces"

114 $\frac{47}{100}$

The esteem in which Washington held Samuel Fraunces may be gauged from an excerpt of a letter from Washington to Fraunces in August, 1873. Washington wrote: "you have invariably through the most trying Times maintained a constant friendship and attention to the Cause of our Country and its Independence and Freedom... I wish you Health and prosperity---with a grateful Reception with your fellow Citizens."

Samuel Fraunces and his wife, Elizabeth, had two daughters besides Phoebe, and a son named John. "Some of his descendents are buried in Trinity Church Yard."

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Re: Samuel Fraunces
(Fraunces Tavern)

1741-1776

P/C

The portion of the article, "Fraunces' Tavern," by Frederic J. Haskin, appearing in The Evening Star (Washington), August 11, 1916, page 10, concerning the Hickey plot, follows. Section Three of article; subtitle: "Plans for Revolt Fomented There." (Excerpt begins with paragraph 2):

"But it appears that plots against liberty as well as for it were fomented at Black Sam's. For in 1776 there were men in England who saw that the great personality of Washington was one of the greatest dangers to England's hold on the colonies, and these men were not above removing the danger as best they could.

"So it happens that a frequenter of Black Sam's place was a young Englishman named Hickey, who had deserted from the British army and enlisted as an American volunteer. Because he was a clever man, despite his bad record, he had become one of General Washington's body-guard.

"This man was the king-pin in a plot to assassinate Washington, and the first step in the plan was for him to win the help of the General's housekeeper. This person was none other than the young and attractive West Indian girl, Phoebe Fraunces, daughter of Black Sam. The murderer first won her heart and made her his mistress then he let her know his plan and the part she was to play. There is no record of the struggle that took place in the mind of Phoebe Fraunces when she

found that the man she loved was the appointed murderer of her master. But the fact remains that she revealed the plot to Washington and saw her lover hanged."

Note:

Tavern characterized as "a house that has stood in the midst of a great city for two hundred years, a house where six generations of men have eaten, argued, bought, made love, bought and sold and stolen is a rarity anywhere..."

The tavern was built in 1719 but its prominence did not begin until 1757 when it was purchased by Samuel Fraunces. The tavern was sold in 1785, when Fraunces became a steward of George Washington.

From Old Taverns of New York

by
M. Harrison Bayles.
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Genealogical Company.

Chapter X:

When the news of the signing of the provisional treaty reached this country in March, 1783, the return of peace was universally celebrated in the land. General Washington and Sir Carleton met near Tappan in May to arrange matters relative to the withdrawal of the British troops in the vicinity of New York and Sam Francis came up from the city to pro-

vide for the American officers and their British guests, whose bill amounted to 500 pounds. Francis, after serving in the army, had gone back to New York on news of peace to reclaim his abandoned property. When a dinner was to be served to do honor to the cause of liberty, who could so well do it as Sam Francis? He was well known to Washington, but whether his aid was sought on this occasion or whether he proffered his services is unknown. At any rate the thing was well done. It is said that through the instrumentality of Francis' daughter, who was housekeeper at Richmond Hill, the headquarters of General Washington, that the attempt on his life and that of General Putnam, called the Hickey plot, was discovered and frustrated. The House of Francis was one of those which suffered when H. B. M. S. Asia fired on the city in August, 1776. Freneau thus speaks of it:

Scarce a broadside was ended 'till another began again--
By Jove! It was nothing but fire away Flannagan!
Some thought him saluting his Sallys and Nancys
Till he drove a roundshot through the roof of Sam
Francis.

On Tuesday, June 18, 1776, an elegant entertainment was given by the provincial Congress to General Washington and his suite, the general and staff officers and the commanding officers of the different regiments in and near the city. The newspapers do not state where this dinner was served, but all the circumstances indicate it was at the house of Samuel Francis. At this dinner many toasts were drunk, but instead of commencing with a toast to the King, as had formerly been customary, the first was Congress, the second, etc. Independence had not yet been declared. Francis had gone out with the

army of Washington and was now returned and making preparation to receive the Americans when they should enter the city. He was the harbinger of Washington and the returning patriots.

On Saturday, the 3rd of May, 1783, General Washington and Governor Clinton set out. They and party...arrived at Tappan Sloat on Sunday morning, about 10 o'clock. After partaking of a small repast provided by Francis they went up to Orangetown. On Tuesday, General Washington and party at Orangetown; after a conference and much general conversation on the subject of a treaty, etc., about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, a most sumptuous dinner was served by Sam Francis to about 30 who ate and drank "in the peace and good fellowship without drinking any toasts." The British troops drawn from Winchester County on the 14th (May)....

I⁴ was about this time that Sam Francis seems to have assumed the name of Fraunces. Before the war we do not find other than Francis, and in the deed of the DeLancey house to him in 1765, the name is Francis. This celebrated old house is known today as "Fraunces' Tavern."

Tuesday, November 25, 1783, the day of evacuation of the city by British troops and return of American troops was a great day for New York. Following a reception Governor Clinton gave a public dinner at Fraunces' Tavern at which the Commander-in-Chief and other general officers were present.

....Washington had issued, under date of November 2, from Rocky Hill, near Princeton, New Jersey, his farewell address to the army of the United States. The place appointed for this formality was the Long Room of Fraunces' Tavern. It has given publicity to this house which can never be effaced. The Long Room of Fraunces' Tavern had recently been used for the dinner given by Governor Clinton on the day the Americans entered the city. It was 38 ft. long and 19 ft. wide, its length extending from Broad Street, probably just as it exists today in the restored house. On the morning of December 4, 1783, Washington and his officers met here for the last time as soldiers of the Revolutionary Army. There are no exact records as to who were present on this memorable occasion but it has been stated that there were 34, including Generals Greene, Knox, Wayne, Steuben, Carroll, Lincoln et. al.

Page 322:

Although Sam Fraunces came back to the city after the war and took up his old business in the house which had been known as the Queen's Head, he did not remain there long, but retired to a country life in New Jersey. He sold the house in 1785. The deed was dated April 23 of this year and states "Samuel Fraunces, late of the City of NEW York, innkeeper, but at present of the County of Monmouth, New Jersey, farmer and Elizabeth, his wife," sell to "George Powers, butcher of Brooklyn," all his dwelling house and lot, bounded, " etc. Price - 1,950 pounds.