

Annals of West Tisbury

Ensign; and the second under command of David Butler as Captain, with Noah Look as Lieutenant and William Foster as Ensign. In 1765, the peace having been established, there was but one company thereafter in the town; and on that date it was commanded by James Athearn as Captain, Noah Look as Lieutenant, and Russell Hancock as Ensign. Particulars are wanting for details of military matters until the time of the Revolution, when such interests became merged in the general county organization. It is probable that Nathan Smith, who had seen active service in the previous wars, was a leading spirit in the foot company of Tisbury before the Revolution. The part played by this town in that great national struggle has been related. Since then the martial spirit has not been manifest in the organization of parading companies of citizen soldiery in times of peace. It is doubtful if any such existed; but if so, they were short lived and no records remain to tell the tale.

TAVERNS.

Contemporaneous with Isaac Chase at Homes Hole, Robert Cathcart became a taverner in the present village of West Tisbury. In 1701 he was licensed "to keep publick house of Entertainment," and for many years after, probably till his death about 1719, "Kithcart's," as it was called, was one of the well-known hostleries of that day. It was located on the west side of Old Mill river, not far from the store now occupied by S. M. Mayhew & Co. A diary of the visit of the famous Judge Samuel Sewall to the Vineyard in 1702, describes the local taverns he patronized on his journey. After embarking at Wood's Hole, he says:—

Have a good passage over in little more than hours time. Refresh at Chaset: from thence rode to Tisbury. First man I speak with is Joseph Daggett: he tells me Kithcart keeps an Ordinary: we go thither, the day-light being almost spent. Mr. Robinson's son helps us and bears company awhile.

In 1722 Samuel Cobb and Samuel Athearn were licensed as inn-holders, the latter probably to fill the void left by the death of Cathcart. Cobb lived on the lot now occupied by the post office, his land extending to the brook. As he married Isaac Chase's daughter, the instinct for tavern keeping came to him by marriage, and it is probable that he continued the