

with serious losses. He decided to go to California, and desired the assistance of a younger man. At this time, James Otis was active in the Mercantile Library Association, and the constant companion of M. P. Kennard, James T. Fields, Warren Sawyer, and Daniel Haskell.

His employers now recommended him to Captain Macondray, and a partnership was formed, in Boston, which included a brother-in-law of John M. Forbes. Under the name of Macondray & Co., this firm still exists, being, at the end of over forty years, the oldest business firm in California. At the age of twenty-three, James Otis sailed for San Francisco, by way of the Isthmus; and so great was the success of the new firm, that when, at the end of three years, the terms of the partnership expired, he was able to return to Boston, with what he considered a fortune.

After a year's absence, he returned to California, and, later, re-entered the firm, being for many years previous to his death its head.

In 1858 he married Lucy, the oldest daughter of Capt. Macondray. The respect which was everywhere felt for him, as one of the most prominent citizens, made him by turns Supervisor or Alderman, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Presidential Elector for Lincoln's first term, and finally Mayor of the city for two years. In 1875, just before the expiration of this mayoral term, Mr. Otis died. He is still remembered as a most conspicuous figure in the history of the State. Every traveller hears his name. He was an active member of the Unitarian Church; and during the war, both as an individual and as representing his firm, contributed largely to the