

Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire, and was also on June 16th, 1753, present at a Council held at Albany between Governor Clinton and seventeen Mohawk Indians.

Stephen Richard, the father of Mayor Richard, was a prominent merchant of New York, who carried on an extensive business with the West Indies and Europe. His place of business was in the so-called Dock Ward, on the north side of the present Pearl Street, between Old Slip and Broad Street, then known as the Water Side. His warehouse was built on land which he had received by letters patent from the crown and which on March 1st, 1722, he conveyed to his oldest son, Paul. At the death of Stephen Richard, in 1729, his three sons, Paul, John and Stephen formed the firm of Richard Brothers and continued and extended their father's business.

At a later period, Elie, their youngest brother, became a member of the firm. The Richard Brothers had business houses in New York, New Haven, Norfolk, the Bermudas, and Belfast, Ireland. This firm was one of the principal, if not the principal business house in New York City, about the middle of the last century. The Richards exported flour, wheat, corn, ship-biscuit, lumber of all kinds, butter, fish, etc., to the West Indies, and received in return all the various products of those islands, sugar, rum, molasses, dye-stuffs, etc., which they exported to England. They also exported linseed to Belfast, and received Irish linens, butter, etc., in return.

From England they imported all the various articles of English manufacture consumed in the colonies, and from the Madeiras, large quantities of wine. Moreover I do not think that they were averse to occasionally purchasing the cargo of a French or Spanish prize brought into the port of New York, but as far as I can ascertain they did their privateering second hand and never dealt in negro slaves. The following extracts from letters written by Mayor Richard to Colonel Jacob Wendell, of Boston, the firm's correspondent in that city, a merchant prince himself, and of the family from whence Oliver Wendell Holmes and Wendell Phillips descended, will give a slight idea of the commercial transactions of the Richard Brothers about the middle of the last century.

"I have, with a great deal of patience expected, before now, news from London, as also from Martinique, which is the only hope I have of the brigantine being well. Well or not, I must be