

Boston Athenæum and an omnivorous reader. He was actively interested in the Unitarian Church, and the settlement of his classmate, Dr. Barrett, over the Chambers Street Church was largely due to his influence.

He married, later than most men, Susan Munroe, born of an old Boston family, and left two daughters now married in California.

George Otis was born in 1800 ; his youngest brother James, a quarter of a century later, in 1826. One was the oldest the other the youngest of the large family at No. 34. James was christened by Dr. Charles Lowell in the parlor of the old house. According to the prevalent custom, Dr. Lowell brought Mrs. Lowell and the young James Russell with him. The whole party stayed to tea, and the future poet and diplomat was mounted in a high chair and arrayed in a blue gingham "tyer" which his mother had brought in her pocket.

George had been educated entirely at private schools ; James went through the public, which indicates a marked change in the habits of the community. He graduated from the Boston High School at the age of fifteen. His father offered him a college course, but he was active and ambitious, and bent upon work. He entered the well-remembered counting-room of Capt. Benjamin Rich, the day after his graduation.

When Capt. Rich retired, James became book-keeper for Minot & Hooper. Here he became acquainted with a friend of his employers, Capt. Macondray, who, having made a fortune in China, had been living in easy retirement at Dorchester. When the gold fever broke out, the captain had met