

Acknowledgments

Many thanks, first of all, to Paul Cimbala, who provided encouragement (and procured a contract) that compelled me to complete this project. I appreciate his work as editor and Fordham University Press for publishing their excellent series *The North's Civil War*. FUP staff have been most helpful throughout a lengthy process. Wil Cerbone shared detailed comments and insights about the manuscript; FUP director Fred Nachbaur offered judicious encouragement; and Eric Newman shepherded the book through the publication process. Kate O'Brien-Nicholson and Katie Sweeney demonstrated their considerable skills in the realm of marketing. Michael Koch was gracious and thorough in copy editing the entire manuscript, no easy task. Outsider reader Michael Frisch provided sensible, extensive, and helpful criticism of the entire manuscript, as did an anonymous reviewer. While I remain solely responsible for any errors, this book is stronger because of the expertise rendered by the entire FUP staff.

A second round of thanks is directed to librarians and archivists. Topping the list is Paul Cyr, Special Collections Librarian at the New Bedford Free Public Library, who generously proffered sources, leads, and insights, along with reviewing a draft of the manuscript. I doubt that anyone knows more than Paul about New Bedford's history, and he and the NBFPL remain treasures of the Whaling City. Janice Hodson provided timely assistance in obtaining appropriate images for the book, and I thank her and the Trustees of the NBFPL for granting permission to reproduce them. Gratefully, I acknowledge assistance from the staffs of the New Bedford Whaling Museum, the Baker Library at the Harvard University Business School, the Boston Public Library, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the National Archives, and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Southern Utah University's interlibrary loan staff, notably Phil Dillard, had a perfect record in obtaining scholarly books and articles.

A variety of colleagues at Southern Utah University have provided encouragement and even inspiration. Special thanks are due to Jim Aton for his continuing friendship and our ongoing conversations about history, writing, and academic life. Both Jim Aton and Mark Miller read an early version of the full manuscript and furnished perceptive comments. By churning out meaningful scholarship despite heavy teaching loads, fellow SUU historians—Curtis Bostick, Wayne Hinton, Mark Miller, Ryan Paul, Larry Ping, and Jim Vlasich—

provide proof of our department's high standards. I am grateful for travel and research support from several sources at SUU: the Department of History and Sociology, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Provost's Fund for Faculty Development. Extended funding allowed me to hire an excellent research assistant, Kristen Fowler, whose varied efforts improved this book immeasurably. Her cheerful, can-do attitude was an added bonus. Rudia Williams deserves recognition for effectively managing our department and student assistants. One more institutional plug goes to the Mystic Seaport Museum and their fine staff, especially Dr. Glenn S. Gordinier, who helped me to stay informed about historical issues tied to race, ethnicity, gender, and power in maritime America.

I am pleased to publicly acknowledge friends and family for their support over many years. Most of them learned, eventually, to stop asking when this book would be completed. I offer heartfelt "thank-yous" to fellow professors Jerry Kapus and Tom Mondschean, along with George Pacocha, David "Doc" Shuster, Greg Surufka, and Paul Zega. I appreciate advice and encouragement from graduate school colleagues, particularly Nancy Isenberg. I want to thank my mother, Margaret Grish, and my siblings (and their families): Steve Mulderink, Peg Newcomb, and Doug Mulderink. All of these folks, and many others, have helped me to endure the trials of an academic career.

My professional odyssey landed me far from New Bedford in the landlocked desert of southern Utah. For the past decade and a half, my sojourn here has been enriched beyond belief by my wife, Rita Osborn, and daughters, Alyson Osborn and Amy Osborn. Despite the challenges of doing scholarly work in the midst of extremely busy lives, my efforts were buoyed in multiple ways by all of the "Mulderborns" (including Shadow). While I proudly take full credit for finishing this book, I want to extend my gratitude to Rita, Alyson, and Amy for making it all possible and more pleasurable.

In closing, I feel compelled to quote one of New Bedford's local chroniclers, Daniel Ricketson. Writing in 1858 about his serialized articles published in the *New Bedford Daily Mercury* (and reprinted in his book, *History of New Bedford*), Ricketson explained: "I am aware that much of the material of this history is wanting in arrangement, but it should be remembered that I have been obliged to collect my information from a great variety of sources, and at different times during a period of many years" (vii). Concluding his labors with some satisfaction, he added, "If I have succeeded in saving from oblivion a considerable portion of our history, which I have in many instances received . . . from old and scattered records, I shall feel that my time has not been misspent, or my labors in vain" (408).

My sentiments exactly.