



(Fraunces' Tavern) THE HISTORIC "LONG ROOM" (Second Floor)

and many other organizations—in fact, it was for the earlier period a rendezvous which fore-ran the modern Delmonico's as a favorite place of entertainment and meeting. The Society of Sons of the Revolution was formally organized in the Long Room on December 4th, 1883, on the hundredth anniversary of Washington's farewell, after the inception of the Society at a meeting held at the New York Historical Society some seven years earlier, viz., on February 22, 1876.

Fraunces sold the tavern in 1785, when he transferred it to one George Powers, and retired to country life in New Jersey. It passed through several hands, till in 1801 it was sold to Thomas Gardiner, whose granddaughter married the Count de Dion. In 1904 the Sons of the Revolution purchased the building from the French heirs of the Countess de Dion. On December 4th, 1907, the 124th anniversary of Washington's farewell, the Sons formally occupied and dedicated the building. The interim between the purchase of the building and the dedication was taken to restore the tavern, under the supervision of William H. Mersereau, the architect. The purchase was made possible by the late President of the New York Sons, Frederick Samuel Talmadge, one of whose ancestors was Col. Talmadge, one of the officers at the farewell meeting in 1763, whose original diary the Sons of the Revolution own.

The tavern has been open continuously as a house of public entertainment since 1762, having escaped the great conflagrations of 1776, 1835 and 1845, though it has been attacked by fire several times. It was said in Valentine's Manual of the Common Council of New York, in an article by William J. Davis, in 1854, "The City of New York has made many futile attempts to erect to the memory of Washington a suitable monument. It is already done. The preservation of Fraunces'