

St. Botolph's church Boston, Lincolnshire, England ... Fred W. Fox. Washington, D. C. January, 1939.

In grateful recognition of the generous gift of Boston, Mass., U. S. A. friends for the restoration of the tower of St. Botolphs.

ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH

Boston, Lincolnshire, England

When by St. Botolph's Church you stand, Its grandeur will amaze; And, like cathedrals vast, command
Your rev'rence and your praise.

In part below the river's bed, Its great foundations lie, And pilgrims oft have faster sped, At sight of
tower so high.

In keeping with its wondrous height, Is its imposing size, Its beauty, and its lasting might, Which age-
long time defies.

When but a youth who scarce could know Its import through the years, I stood upon the bridge
below, Impressed almost to tears.

I left it with a cheerful heart, Intending to return, But fate played its relentless part, As I was soon to
learn.

Three thousand miles away or more, 'Tis dearer still today Than when, in childhood days of yore, My
feet went not astray;

And 'tis not strange my heart was stirred Its gratitude to show, When, after forty years, I heard Those
bells by radio.

The sweetest music cannot weave The spell those chimes have wrought, When peeling forth, at
morn or eve, Some soul-inspiring thought.

How blest are they who still abide Where those great bells can cheer, And 'tis less hard to turn aside
From trouble, doubt and fear!

Oh, massive pile, by cent'ries worn, Long may your bells portray Our sorrows when our hearts are
torn, Our joys when light and gay!

FRED W. FOX

Washington, D. C., January 1939

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