

006-114



Commercial Street, facing Harbor, from Center Church steps. September 1946. Center Street, right.



... The Shoemaker's Shop.
- 1948 -
On the corner of the
lane to the Pilgrim
House



May 3, 1947

Justin S. Jason

Funeral services will be held Saturday morning for Justin Soares Jason, 82, oldest and most picturesque of Provincetown's cobblers, who died yesterday morning at his home at 403 Commercial Street. Ser-

The Old Shoemaker

The old shoemaker is gone.
The days of sound and single crafts-
manship
Close with him, when once men
knew all a trade
No parts and snippets of it, piece-
work doled
From ranged assembly lines, levers,
and treads
And not a man's intelligent, full
work.
The old shoemaker is gone.
The shoes he made were good shoes
made entire
By hand and awl and thread plied,
diligent.
His canaries that sang and bred in
cages hung
About the room, are sold.
His shop is dismantled.
The old stove like a grieved thing
stands all cold.
In that quaint, one-roomed shop
Men sat talking sparely; he would
put in
A word of wisdom now and then,
sure, practiced
As his stitching, his quick hammer.
His was a voyaging mind, a pilot's
thought
And quenchless fire of an undaunted
heart.
The old shoemaker is gone!

Harry Kemp