

WHAT HE DID HERE:

With a partner, Field opened up a general variety store in a small frame building at the south-east corner of King and Third Streets. They moved to Bagot Street when Victoria Hall was built and in 1893 moved again to 360 William Street. By the 1840s Field had built a handsome Regency house (323 King Street West) and a three story brick commercial block that housed his dry goods store until 1933.

John Field was described as a prudent and careful manager of his business. He accumulated large real estate holdings including farms and town buildings with a considerable sum in mortgages. He was responsible for the construction of the Taunton Block on the east side of Division Street just south of King in 1858.

The Field store was passed on to his sons, John Collard and Corelli Collard Field and in 1898 to a third generation, John P and Fred with their brothers Harry and Cyrus. **The store at its peak covered over 8000 square feet containing goods from all over the world.**



Field and Brother's storefront on north side of King Street opposite Victoria Hall

One unidentified local described the atmosphere of the store as, "the smell of quality, when you opened the door; there was an odour, a pleasant odour, bringing with it in some way, the atmosphere of rich salons of Paris or the fabled importing houses of London of another day". He went on to say "A cap or tie from Field and Brothers curried a distinctive air and out wore any of the perhaps flashier but cheaper products of other smaller establishments."