

CONTENTS OF VOLUME II.

Number I.

INTRODUCTION,	1	Notes on American Currency, No. 2, by Matthew A. Stickney,	45
Historical Notices of Salem Scenery, by Gilbert L. Streeter,	2	MISCELLANEA,	46
Abstracts from Wills, Inventories, &c., on file in the Office of Clerk of the Courts, Salem, Mass. Continued. Copied by Ira J. Patch,	15	Letter of Wm. Peake to Geo. Corwine, 46.—Anecdote of Rev. N. Noyes, 46.—Extracts from the Town Records of Salem, 46.—Extracts from the Town Records of Reading, 47.—Prices of Rare Coins, 47.—American Medals, 48.—Notice of the "The Council of the Revision of the State of New York," by Alfred B. Street, 48.—Notice of the Family of Roger Williams, 48.	
Philip English—Part Second—The Prosecution of Philip English and his wife for Witchcraft, by George F. Chever,	21		
The Very Family. Continued. By Jones Very,	33		
The Old Planters' House, notice of, by Charles M. Endicott,	39		
Extracts from the First Book of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, of the City of Salem. Continued. Copied by Ira J. Patch,	42		

Number II

An Account of the Trial of George Jacobs, for Witchcraft, by Lincoln R. Stone,	49	Extracts from the First Book of Births, Marriages and Deaths, of the City of Salem, continued. Copied by Ira J. Patch,	93
An account of the Private Armed Vessels belonging to Salem, Mass., during the War of 1812, Prepared by William Leavitt,	57	Rev. John Higginson's Advice to his Children, called his Dying Testimony,	97
Extracts from Interleaved Almanacs of James Jeffrey, late of Salem—copied by George A. Ward,	64	Notes on American Currency, No. 2, by Matthew A. Stickney,	99
Abstracts from Wills, Inventories, &c., on file in the Office of Clerk of the Courts, Salem, Mass. Continued. Copied by Ira J. Patch,	67	MISCELLANEA,	100
Philip English—Part Second—the Prosecution of Philip English and his wife for Witchcraft, continued, by George F. Chever,	73	Journey from Boston to Salem, 100—Formation of Boston Numismatic Society, &c., 101—Materials for a Genealogy of the Dean Family in Salem, 101—From an old Notarial Record in Clerk of Court's Office, Salem, 102—The once Forest-covered Islands of Salem Harbor, 103—The First Connexion with North Salem, 103—A Caveat to the Steam Fire Engines of our Day, 104—Indians taking Salem Fishing Vessels, 104—Winter Island, 104—Errata, 104.	
Records of the Overseers of the Poor of Danvers, for the years 1767 and 1768, with Notes; by S. P. Fowler,	85		

Number III.

History of the Salem and Danvers Aqueduct, by C. M. Endicott,	105	Notes on American Currency, No. 4, by Matthew A. Stickney,	153
The Hopkins Family in Rhode Island, by C. C. Beaman,	115	MISCELLANEA,	154
Abstracts from Wills, Inventories, &c., on file in the Office of Clerk of the Courts, Salem, Mass. Continued. Copied by Ira J. Patch,	123	Notice of being chosen Tythingmen, 154; Retailer's License, 154; Certificate of Election as Commissioner, 154; An Order to Warn Soldiers, 154; Epitaph from a Tombstone, 155; Epitaph on a Miser, 155; Origin of the Term "Farthing," 155; Numismatics, 155; Old Pamphlets, 155; Copy of a Circular Letter in the handwriting of Col. Pickering, by B. F. B., 155	
Philip English—Part Second—the Prosecution of Philip English and his wife for Witchcraft, continued, by Geo. F. Chever,	133	Queries,	156
Report of the Committee on the Authenticity of the Tradition of the First Church, built in 1634,	145	Errata,	156
Extracts from the First Book of Births, Marriages and Deaths, of the City of Salem, continued. Copied by Ira J. Patch,	148		

Castle Hill,
after his
fall from
mentions
l adds,
dwell-
" The
Hill is
solable.
g chief,
claimed
and the
endants
obtained

lem was
dians of
Beverly,
in 1629,
ined [by
lish and
d in to-
s state-
ly date,
ence in-
f frater-
readily
ce no ex-
of our
ant. In
present-
nature.
le, was
rowth of
th game,
s and by
itory in-
ished a
of our
rural as-
woodland
of its an-
med over
owne of
n assures
at it was

iron pipes, as the old
They had an abundant
l purposes, and no com-
reached the Directors un-
business of Tanning and
ch increased that these
ded a larger supply of
eretofore received. They
before the city govern-
ce was chosen to confer
company. The impositions
ed, it was thought, from
rs as to the quantity of
ys caused them to be looked
eyes; but whether unjustly
vince of the narrator to
merely to state the fact,
1813 it was considered "the
t water to the Tanners
quantity they used, there-
the Agent, was directed
ement with them." In
osition, it was found the
ntly sufficient for all do-
ach days as these manu-
ake use of it, as Sundays
ays desirous, however, of
f customers, and particu-
lass to the prosperity of
ers and Carriers, the Di-
nder the able superinten-
ent, Wm. D. Waters, Esq.,
iron pipe, from the main
Federal street, in Boston
street to the head of Sum-
p at the same time extended
inches into Spring Pond,
Legislature in 1850. They
a most substantial filterer of
r one 16 feet square and the
t square, and had the space
ty tons of rotten rock for
rough before entering the
gate of 12 inches diameter
ntity of water taken from
e never as yet had occasion
one inch. The cost of lay-

ing down these pipes, together with the amount
expended beyond the sum raised by creating
new stock in 1850, induced the Directors to
look into the whole cost of the Aqueduct, or
the construction account since its first formation,
which, after a careful analysis of expenditures,
was ascertained to be 246,200 dollars, or
246²⁰/₁₀₀ per share, and the Company thereupon
doubled their stock in November, 1859, and it
now consists of two thousand shares at one hun-
dred dollars each, equal to two hundred thou-
sand dollars, on which their dividends will be
hereafter predicated. The Corporation have
now some forty miles of pipes, including all the
branches; and the number of water takers has
swelled from 500 to 3600.

The duties of the Agent and Collector are
comparatively onerous and perplexing, and can
be appreciated only by those who are conver-
sant with them. The shifts and turns at de-
ception in the use of water are manifold, and
prove how sadly we have departed from the
standard of truth as demonstrated by Jennie
Deans in the Heart of Mid-Lothian—but

"When self the wavering balance shakes
'Tis rarely right adjusted."

As the Agent has principally to rely upon the
water takers in one case to render a true and
accurate account of the number in a family, and
in the other the quantity of water used, he has
all sorts of people and all sorts of consciences
to deal with, from the strictly honest and re-
liable, to those who appear preposterously to
acknowledge no property in water, which is a
gift in the providence of God, forgetting that
the providence of God does not lay down pipes
or convey water through them to their doors,
and therefore believe it a venial offence to de-
ceive in the use of it.

The height of the fountains is 57.3 feet above
medium high water, and Spring Pond 63.6
feet. The quantity of water is now equal to
supply an indefinite population. The reser-
voirs and fountains are capable of holding some
1,100,000 gallons, besides the great and inex-
haustible reservoir of Spring Pond, containing

59 acres, which at present is scarcely used, but
is merely a *corps de reserve* in case of need.—
Ten thousand pounds of this water contains
only ¹⁰⁰/₁₀₀₀th of one pound of solid foreign mat-
ter—this consists of silicious earth, sulphate of
soda and common salt, the proportion of salts
being about one-half; the evaporation of 20,-
000 pounds of this water will leave only one
pound of these.

The perplexing lawsuits and various imposi-
tions this Company have experienced through-
out its whole existence, we have forbore to re-
count or comment upon, as they would show
up the worst phase in human nature. Suffice it
to say, it has evidently been believed, that
while they will not accord to corporations,
souls, they at least believe they have purses to
filch and fatten upon.

The present officers of the Corporation are,
Wm. D. Waters President; Jos. S. Leavitt
Vice President; David Pingree, John G. Wa-
ters, Robert Peele, Aaron Perkins, Henry
Cook, Eben'r Sutton, C. M. Endicott, Direc-
tors; Wm. Jelly Agent and Collector; C. M.
Endicott Treasurer and Clerk. Annual Meet-
ing first Thursday in May.

THE HOPKINS FAMILY IN RHODE ISL-
AND, TO WHICH STEPHEN HOPKINS,
ONE OF THE SIGNERS OF THE DE-
CLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE,
JULY 4, 1776, BELONGED.

BY C. C. BEAMAN.

Read at a Meeting of the Essex Institute,
Thursday, March 8, 1860.

On a high ridge of land, twelve miles west
of Providence, on the turnpike road to Hart-
ford, may be seen a little cluster of graves. They
lie in the Northwest part of Scituate, (Chop-
mist Hills,) a farming and manufacturing
town of some four or five thousand inhabitants.

These resting places of the dead are in close
proximity to the road, at the west end and out-
side of the wall of a kitchen garden, cultivated
for many generations, and lying on the opposite

side of the road to a large house, built in 1775 by Lt. Governor West, and known as the "Governor West House." On the same site, or very near it, stood a moderate sized house, erected some seventy years earlier, and removed to give place to the present edifice. The prospect is very extensive from this spot in all directions.—Scattered farm houses, with woods and orchards and ploughed fields filling up the landscape, present the aspect of an ordinary hill town of the country.

He who chose this place for a homestead, and whose axe was among the first to level the trees for a clearing, is lying with his wife in the little household burial place already described. No inscription is upon the rude stones at either end of their graves, but the position may be ascertained with considerable certainty among the few hillocks, some of which are of recent erection and have stones cut with the names of the dead. William Hopkins died in 1738, and his wife some few years earlier.—Their celebrity is now chiefly dependent upon that of their distinguished sons, Col. William Hopkins, Governor Stephen Hopkins and Commodore Ezek Hopkins, neither of whom, however, has received that biographical attention which their position, talents and services would seem to demand. Almost every one is familiar with the trembling signature of Stephen Hopkins to the Declaration of American Independence. This was occasioned by a nervous affection of the right hand, which had compelled him for some years when he wrote to guide his right hand with the left. This shaking handwriting has given him a notoriety, but so little is known of him otherwise, that even the cause of the tremulousness is not understood. It is quite time that an attempt should be made to gather up some particulars of his history and spread them before the public. The effort to make him a descendant of the person of the same name who came out in the Mayflower to Plymouth in 1620 has not been successful.

Thomas Hopkins, the first ancestor in America of Gov. Hopkins, came from England to Providence in the earliest settlement of the

town, and had a house lot assigned to him in 1638. He was elected Commissioner from Providence to the Court of Commissioners in 1650, and in several subsequent years down to 1668. He married Elizabeth Arnold, sister to Benedict Arnold, the first governor of Rhode Island. Major William Hopkins, son of Thomas, married Abigail Whipple, daughter of John Whipple, one of the first settlers of Providence. His only child William was a pioneer in the settlement of Scituate. His wife, Ruth Wilkinson, was descended from an old soldier of Oliver Cromwell, Capt. Lawrence Wilkinson, whose son Samuel, the father of Ruth, denominated in written documents "Capt. Samuel Wilkinson, Esq.," was a highly respected citizen of Providence.

The marriage of Ruth is connected with a pleasant anecdote. William Hopkins was in the employ of her father. The lovers could not muster courage enough to speak to the "awful Justice," for Mr. Wilkinson held that office, so dignified in former days. In the house or office it was the custom to post up "Intentions of Marriage." The timid lovers, who had often looked with an envious or envious eye upon such important steps preliminary to a "consummation devoutly to be wished," wrote a notice of their "intentions," and placing it unobserved upon the table of the "Justice," watched to see how it would be regarded. 'Squire Wilkinson, as they saw by a peep through the door, took up the paper, read it and deliberately posted it up in the proper location. There were some blushes on the cheeks of Ruth that day, probably, but the desired approbation thus ingeniously obtained, soon led on to marriage, and some new land in the then large town of Providence, extending to the bounds of Connecticut, where Ruth's brother, Lieutenant Joseph Wilkinson, also went to live, was selected for farming operations. Here a house and barn were built in the woods, ten or a dozen miles inland, and in this home the newly married pair began to live in wedlock.

Tradition informs us that a little meadow on

Mr. Wilkinson
hay for the wi
with him. T
meadow by b
down and th
same author
given us an c
(Martha Pray
tive of the ti
her husband
near the hom
tree, the only
in order to c
indignant at
and not a lit
lieutenant, w
was in its pl
tinued to rat
the resolution
she seized th
door to chas
fired at brui
fled into th
without dani
Wilkinson c
occurrence,
the bear ly
killed by th

We can f
under which
Hopkins wa
an incident
history of B
gives us a v
the early se

"No hor
Nor lo
Or gard
No ch

No orch
Or lab
No neig
Or gr

No frien
Nor h
No mot
Along

se lot assigned to him in
d Commissioner from Prov-
of Commissioners in 1650,
quent years down to 1668.
n Arnold, sister to Benedict
governor of Rhode Island.
ins, son of Thomas, mar-
e, daughter of John Whip-
st settlers of Providence.
am was a pioneer in the
te. His wife, Ruth Wil-
ed from an old soldier of
pt. Lawrence Wilkinson,
he father of Ruth, denom-
ocuments "Capt. Samuel
was a highly respected citi-

Ruth is connected with a
William Hopkins was in
father. The lovers could
enough to speak to the
r. Mr. Wilkinson held that
in former days. In the
as the custom to post up
riage." The timid lovers,
ed with an envious or emu-
important steps preliminary
a devoutly to be wished,"
their "intentions," and plac-
upon the table of the "Jus-
ce how it would be regard-
son, as they saw by a peep
ook up the paper, read it
sted it up in the proper lo-
e some blushes on the cheeks
probably, but the desired
geniously obtained, soon led
d some new land in the then
vidence, extending to the
cut, where Ruth's brother,
Wilkinson, also went to
or farming operations. Here
ere built in the woods, ten
aland, and in this home the
e began to live in wedlock.
s us that a little meadow on

Mr. Wilkinson's farm yielded the first crop of
hay for the winter fodder of the cow he brought
with him. The beavers having flooded the
meadow by building a dam, the trees rotted
down and the grass grew up of itself. The
same authority handed down in the family has
given us an exploit of Mr. Wilkinson's wife,
(Martha Pray was her maiden name,) illustra-
tive of the times. One day, in the absence of
her husband at work two miles off, a bear came
near the house and climbing up a sweet apple
tree, the only one they had, began to shake it
in order to eat the fruit. Martha was highly
indignant at the freedom taken with her tree
and not a little regretted the absence of the
lieutenant, whose gun loaded for wild game
was in its place ready for use. The apples con-
tinued to rattle on the ground, as if to spur
the resolution of the backwoodsman's wife, and
she seized the gun and rushed out of the back
door to chastise the intruder. Taking aim, she
fired at bruin, and instantly dropping the gun,
fled into the house and fastened the door,
without daring to look behind. When Mr.
Wilkinson came home she informed him of the
occurrence, and on going to the tree he found
the bear lying on the ground, having been
killed by the shot.

We can form some idea of the influences
under which the children of William and Ruth
Hopkins were trained in early life from such
an incident. Some poetry in Gov. Hopkins's
history of Rhode Island, and attributed to him,
gives us a view of the privations and penury of
the early settlers of the State:

"No house, nor hut, nor fruitful field,
Nor lowing herd, nor bleating flock;
Or garden that might comfort yield;
No cheerful, early crowing cock.

No orchard yielding pleasant fruit,
Or laboring ox or useful plough;
No neighing steed or browsing goat,
Or grunting swine or feedful cow.

No friend to help, no neighbor nigh,
Nor healing medicine to relieve;
No mother's hand to close the eye,
Alone, forlorn, and most extremely poor."

The children of William Hopkins were,
William, Stephen, John, Esek, Samuel, Hope,
Abigail and Susanna; five sons and three
daughters. We shall speak at this time only
of three of these, namely, William, Stephen
and Esek.

WILLIAM was born in 1705, and being the
oldest son, and bearing both his father's and
grandfather's name, was probably admitted to
more privileges than the other children. He
went to England soon after he reached the age
of manhood and obtained the favor of a presen-
tation at Court. He is said to have been very
handsome and manly in appearance, and he so
favorably impressed one of the royal Dukes
that he gave him a Colonel's commission. A
part of the dress he wore at Court is now in
the possession of his great grandson, William
Hopkins Cooke, Esq., of Barrington, R. I.—
He married an Angell and had a son, Christo-
pher, who married Sarah, daughter of Judge
Daniel Jenckes. Joanna Hopkins, daughter of
Christopher, married Nicholas Cooke, son of
Nicholas Cooke, who was, at the time of her
marriage, Governor of R. I. Col. William
Hopkins died before the Revolutionary War,
in his native State.

STEPHEN HOPKINS was born March 7, 1707,
and was consequently in his 70th year at the
time he signed the Declaration of Indepen-
dence. No particulars of his boyhood are pre-
served. As there were no schools in those days
in his neighborhood, he must have been taught
at home by his mother, and also by his Uncle
Wilkinson, a surveyor, living within two or
three miles. From early youth, probably as
young as Washington, he was employed to
survey land.

At nineteen he married Sarah, the youngest
daughter of Major Silvanus Scott of Provi-
dence. The marriage took place June 27,
1726. On this occasion his father gave him a
deed of 70 acres of land, and his Grandfather
Hopkins bestowed on his "loving grandson,"
as the deed reads, an additional tract of 90
acres of bordering territory. He continued to
reside on his farm and on that of his father,

which came into his hands, until he was thirty-seven years of age, when he removed to the seaport of his native town, or Providence, and entered into trade and commerce on South Main street. When Scituate was set off from Providence in 1730, at the age of twenty-three, he was chosen Moderator of the first town meeting. This fact is significant of the esteem in which he was held. The following year he was elected Town Clerk, which then, as now, included the registry of deeds and of probate. This office he held for ten successive years and then resigned it. The books, in his beautiful handwriting, are still preserved. In 1733 he represented the town in the General Assembly and was made Justice of the Peace. In May, 1739, he received the appointment of Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. In May, 1751, he was made Governor of the State, and at subsequent times filled the office, in all nine years. The town of Providence seems to have made him the standing moderator of her Town Meetings, so often and regularly was he chosen. In 1757 he headed a list of thirty-six men (his son George being one of the number,) as ready to march against the French and Indians, who had suddenly invaded the Northern frontier, carrying ruin and terror in their path. Their speedy retreat prevented the setting out of the expedition. In August, 1774, he, with Samuel Ward, was elected to represent the State in the General Congress at Philadelphia, and served there for several successive years. He exerted himself in Congress for decisive measures, saying on one occasion, "that the time had come when the strongest arm and the longest sword must decide the contest, and those members who were not prepared for action had better go home."

His wife was with him at Philadelphia, June 21, 1775, when he wrote to his daughter Ruth at Providence the following letter:

"BELOVED RUTH—I wrote you on the 25th May and gave you an account of our journey hither. Since then I have had an ill turn and two or three fits of the fever and ague, but am now well. Your mother has not been very

well for several days and is now quite poorly. I hope she will soon be better. George (his son) I expected to have seen here, but believe he is gone to South Carolina. Col. Washington will set out from here in a day or two for New England, to take the command of the Continental army, of which he is appointed Commander-in-Chief. He will be accompanied by Gen. Lee, who also has a command in that army, which is taken into the pay of all America."

It was at this time that Washington, passing through Providence, was sent by the town authorities to lodge at Gov. Hopkins's house, although he and his wife were absent. Ruth had only a few black servants in the house, and as her father lived in a very plain way in his small house, the relatives and friends of the family tendered the loan of China, glass and other articles, but the patriot's daughter proudly replied, "*that what was good enough for her father was good enough for General Washington.*"

He was a member of the naval committee, and John Adams, who was also a member of that committee, thus alludes to him in the third volume of his autobiography:

"In this place I will take the opportunity to observe, that the pleasantest part of my labors for the four years I spent in Congress, from 1774 to 1778, was in this naval committee.—Mr. Lee, Mr. Gadsden, were sensible men and very cheerful, but Gov. Hopkins of R. I., above 70 years of age, kept us all alive. Upon business his experience and judgment were very useful. But when the business of the evening was over he kept us in conversation until 11 and sometimes till 12 o'clock. His custom was to drink nothing all day, nor till 8 o'clock in the evening, and then his beverage was Jamaica spirits and water. It gave him wit, humor, anecdotes, science and learning. He had read Greek, Roman and British history, and was familiar with British poetry, particularly Pope, Thomson and Milton, and the flow of his soul made all his reading our own, and seemed to bring to recollection in all of us all we had

ever read. I could not read those days. He was temperate. He was but all he drank converted into humor, but in

Gov. Hopkins, a mathematician, from youth to old age. In taking the transit of Venus, he passed over a plain. Soon after he died, twenty-five guineas. Supposing that in the bushes and from his pocket found it hanging with Benj. W. June 3, 1769, transit of Venus.

He acted in an arbitrary position for the Revolution. Island what the he was appointed Commissioner. digest and conclusions. He wrote rights and claims. Rights of the published by. With the collection that ardent sympathized a controversy for

Mr. Howard a letter to a friend. he ridiculed the notion in Parliament justice and executive authority. M which was made. This drew for Mr. Howard a controversy. their common

is now quite poorly.
e better. George (his
seen here, but believe
olina. Col. Washing-
ere in a day or two for
the command of the
which he is appointed
He will be accompanied
has a command in that
to the pay of all Amer-

that Washington, pass-
e, was sent by the town
Gov. Hopkins's house,
ife were absent. Ruth
servants in the house,
in a very plain way in
relatives and friends of
he loan of China, glass
the patriot's daughter
what was good enough
good enough for General

of the naval committee,
o was also a member of
cludes to him in the third
graphy:

all take the opportunity
easantest part of my la-
I spent in Congress, from
his naval committee.—
were sensible men and
Gov. Hopkins of R. I.,
kept us all alive. Upon
e and judgment were very
e business of the evening
in conversation until 11
o'clock. His custom was
day, nor till 8 o'clock in
his beverage was Jamaica
t gave him wit, humor,
d learning. He had read
British history, and was
poetry, particularly Pope,
and the flow of his soul
our own, and seemed to
in all of us all we had

ever read. I could neither eat nor drink in
those days. The other gentlemen were very
temperate. Hopkins never drank to excess,
but all he drank was immediately not only
converted into wit, sense, knowledge and good
humor, but inspired us with similar qualities."

Gov. Hopkins was esteemed an excellent
mathematician, and was extensively engaged
from youth to advanced age in surveying land.
In taking the survey of a tract of land he
passed over a plain thickly set with shrubbery.
Soon after he found that his watch, which cost
twenty-five guineas in London, was missing.
Supposing that the chain had become entangled
in the bushes and the watch thereby pulled
from his pocket, he set the course back and
found it hanging on a bush. He was associated
with Benj. West and others at Providence,
June 3, 1769, in making observations on the
transit of Venus over the sun's disc.

He acted in concert with JAMES OTIS and
SAMUEL ADAMS in those earlier contests with
arbitrary powers, which paved the way
for the Revolutionary War, doing in Rhode
Island what they did in Massachusetts. In 1754
he was appointed a member of the Board of
Commissioners, which assembled at Albany, to
digest and concert a plan of union for the Col-
onies. He wrote a pamphlet in support of the
rights and claims of the Colonies, called "The
Rights of the Colonies examined," which was
published by order of the General Assembly.
With the celebrated James Otis of Boston,
that ardent apostle of liberty, he so keenly
sympathized as to come to his aid in a political
controversy for freedom.

Mr. Howard, of Halifax, published in 1765
a letter to a friend in Rhode Island, in which
he ridiculed the plan of American representa-
tion in Parliament and openly defended the
justice and expediency of taxation by English
authority. Mr. Otis gave a spirited reply, in
which was much acrimony and personal abuse.
This drew forth a sharp personal retort from
Mr. Howard; and Mr. Hopkins took up the
controversy, defended Otis and overwhelmed
their common opponent with sarcasm and in-

vective. At a special town meeting held in
Providence, August 7, 1765, Gov. Hopkins was
chairman of a committee chosen to draft in-
structions to the General Assembly on the
Stamp Act. He was not Governor in that
year. The resolutions reported by that com-
mittee were the same that Patrick Henry in-
troduced into the House of Delegates of Vir-
ginia, but with a sixth additional. Those re-
solves passed in the Assembly, including the
fifth, which had been rejected in the "Old Do-
minion." The additional resolution stated,
that "WE ARE NOT BOUND TO YIELD OBEDIENCE
TO ANY LAW OR ORDINANCE DESIGNED TO IMPOSE
ANY INTERNAL TAXATION WHATEVER UPON US,
OTHER THAN THE LAWS AND ORDINANCES OF
RHODE ISLAND."

This measure showed that Rhode Island
stood in the very front rank of opposition and
that Stephen Hopkins headed the movement in
his State, as did Otis and Samuel Adams in
Massachusetts and Patrick Henry in Virginia.

We should not forget, in giving a sketch of
the life of Gov. Hopkins, his taste in poetic
composition. He had severe domestic afflictions
in the loss of children and that of his first wife
very near together, and their loss drew forth
some lamentations in verse. His son *Silvanus*,
a youth about nineteen years old, was cast
away on Cape Breton shore April 24, 1753,
and barbarously murdered by the savages.
Another son, *John*, died at Cadiz July 20,
1753, thus bringing very near together the
death of two children. Here is one of two
pieces written on these occasions:—

"On prickly stems as gayest rose-buds blend,
Sweetly diffusing odors all around;
Yet leaf by leaf the blasted flowers descend,
And on the stocks thorns only then are found.

When I look back upon my hopeful sons,
Cheerfully smiling round my youthful mate,
My soul within me sadly sinks and mourns
The ruined riches of my former state.

Does Fate delight to shower his blessings on us,
That we may think our happiness complete;

"Philadelphia, Nov. 6, 1775.

Dear Sir,

You will perceive by a letter from the committee dated yesterday, that they have pitched upon you to take the command of a small fleet, which they and I hope will be but the beginning of one much larger.

I suppose you may be more serviceable to your country in this very dangerous crisis of its affairs by taking upon you this command than you can in any other way. I should therefore hope that this will be a sufficient inducement for you to accept of this offer. Your pay and perquisites will be such as you will have no reason to complain of. Such officers and seamen as you may procure to come with you may be informed that they will enter into pay from their first engaging in this service, and will be entitled to share as prize the one-half of all armed vessels, and the one-third of all transports that shall be taken.

You may assure all with whom you converse, that the Congress increase in their unanimity and rise stronger and stronger in the spirit of opposition to the tyrannical measures of administration.

I am your affectionate brother,
STEPHEN HOPKINS."

The appointment was accepted and the fleet, consisting of the ships Alfred, Capt. Dudley Saltonstall, and the Columbus, Capt. Whipple, the brig Andrew Doria, Capt. Nicholas Bidle, and the Cabot, Capt. John B. Hopkins, and the sloops Providence, Fly, Hornet and Wasp, put out to sea Feb. 17, 1776, with a smart northeast wind, and cruising among the Bahama Islands, captured the forts of New Providence, Nassau. This was a very fortunate affair, for the heavy ordnance and stores proved quite acceptable to the country in its defenceless state. Seventeen cannon, from nine to thirty-six pounders, were taken at Fort Montague, and seventy-one cannon, from nine to thirty-two pounders, from Fort Nassau, besides mortars, shells and round shot, chain and double-headed shot and other articles.

On the commodore's return, when off Block

Island, April 5, 1776, he took the schooner Hawke, of six carriage guns and eight swivels, and the bomb brig Bolton of eight guns and two howitzers, ten swivels and forty-eight hands, well found with all sorts of stores, arms, powder, &c. The Glasgow man of war was engaged very early in the morning of the next day but made her escape.

The celebrated JOHN PAUL JONES, then a lieutenant on board the commodore's ship Alfred, which was one of the vessels engaged with the Glasgow, wrote to a friend soon after the combat:

"I have the pleasure of assuring you that the commander-in-chief is respected thro' the fleet, and I verily believe that the officers and men in general would go any length to execute his orders. It is with pain that I confine this plaudit to an individual; I should be happy in extending it to every captain and officer in the service. Praise is certainly due to some, but alas! there are exceptions."

Considerable blame was attached to the fleet for not taking the Glasgow, and the ship Columbus, Capt. Whipple, was particularly censured.

The President of Congress wrote Com. Hopkins a letter of a complimentary character and said:—

"Tho' it is to be regretted that the Glasgow man of war made her escape, yet as it was not thro' any misconduct, the praise due to you and the other officers is undoubtedly the same."

Every one is acquainted with the difficulties which Gen. Washington encountered in organizing a stable and efficient army out of a raw militia, whose term of service on short enlistments was often expiring at the very moment when they were most needed. Similar obstacles were met by Com. Hopkins in the navy, and his force was wholly inadequate to protect the long line of American coast and meet the disciplined and large navy of Great Britain. But he performed good service and helped on the good day coming. Atmost like NELSON, HOPKINS became a synonym for naval heroism and for American patriotism. An engraving

of the Commodore some, open counter him, was made in and in America.

Tree and the motto rattlesnake was drawn spring, and over tread upon me." Naval Hero was written in-Chief, la Flotte likeness, with the of these are in the Island Historical much resembles the Providence, the great

The commodore over six feet in tioned. He built his furniture remained his furniture remained fashioned clock, on venerable chair have years to Brown University their Library Room in 1802 and he was His monument has

"This stone is cons Hopkins, Esq., who died day of Feb., 1802. I at Scituate, in this Revolutionary War was appointed in-Chief of the naval He was afterwards a ture, and was no less tion than for his valor ed so he died, deeply his friends, at the advanced months.

Look ne Say, wh

JOHN ADAMS on him in the Naval O against what he ter land spirit which h Congress," and was kins. When the tr Newport went to M have made the old m

776, he took the schooner
 eight guns and eight swivels,
 Bolton of eight guns and
 eight swivels and forty-eight
 with all sorts of stores, arms,
 Glasgow man of war was
 in the morning of the next
 escape.

JOHN PAUL JONES, then a
 the commodore's ship *Al-*
 one of the vessels engaged
 wrote to a friend soon after

ure of assuring you that
 chief is respected thro' the
 believe that the officers and
 old go any length to execute
 with pain that I confine this
 dual; I should be happy
 every captain and officer in
 is certainly due to some,
 exceptions."

he was attached to the fleet
 Glasgow, and the ship *Co-*
 ple, was particularly cen-

Congress wrote Com. Hop-
 complimentary character and

regretted that the Glasgow
 or escape, yet as it was not
 t, the praise due to you
 is undoubtedly the same."
 pained with the difficulties
 gton encountered in organ-
 cient army out of a raw
 of service on short enlist-
 ring at the very moment
 t needed. Similar obsta-
 n. Hopkins in the navy,
 olly inadequate to protect
 rican coast and meet the
 navy of Great Britain.
 d service and helped on
 . Atmost like NELSON,
 nonym for naval heroism
 patriotism. An engraving

of the Commodore, a splendid figure and hand-
 some, open countenance, as indeed belonged to
 him, was made in France and circulated there
 and in America. In the picture was a Liberty
 Tree and the motto, "An appeal to God." A
 rattlesnake was drawn on the ground ready to
 spring, and over it were the words, "Don't
 tread upon me." Below the portrait of the
 Naval Hero was written, "Hopkins, Command-
 er-in-Chief, la Flotte Americaine." Another
 likeness, with the tree only, was made. Both
 of these are in the collections of the Rhode
 Island Historical Society. The portrait very
 much resembles the Hon. John H. Clarke of
 Providence, the grandson of Com. Hopkins.

The commodore was some one or two inches
 over six feet in height and finely propor-
 tioned. He built hima house in North Prov-
 idence, where a niece still resides. Much of
 his furniture remains, but a large and old
 fashioned clock, one hundred years old, and a
 venerable chair have been given within a few
 years to Brown University and are placed in
 their Library Room. His death took place
 in 1802 and he was buried in a private lot.
 His monument has the following inscription:

"This stone is consecrated to the memory of Ezek
 Hopkins, Esq., who departed this life on the 26th
 day of Feb., 1802. He was born in the year 1718,
 at Scituate, in this State, and during the Revolu-
 tionary War was appointed Admiral and Commander-
 in-Chief of the naval forces of the United States.
 He was afterwards a member of our State Legisla-
 ture, and was no less distinguished for his delibera-
 tion than for his valor. As he lived highly respect-
 ed so he died, deeply regretted by his country and
 his friends, at the advanced age of 83 years and 10
 months.

Look next on greatness!
 Say, where greatness lies!"

JOHN ADAMS on several occasions defended
 him in the Naval Committee and in Congress
 against what he termed "that anti-New Eng-
 land spirit which haunted the proceedings of
 Congress," and was turned against Com. Hop-
 kins. When the trial was over *Mr. Ellery* of
 Newport went to Mr. Adams and said, "You
 have made the old man your friend for life;

he will hear of your defending him and he
 never forgets a kindness."

The old man *did* remember the services of
 Mr. Adams in his behalf. "More than twenty
 years afterwards," says Mr. A. in his autobi-
 ography, "the old gentleman hobbled on his
 crutches to the inn at Providence, at fourscore
 years of age, one-half of him dead in conse-
 quence of a paralytic stroke, with his eyes
 overflowing with tears, to express his gratitude
 to me. He said he knew not for what end he
 was continued in life, unless it were to punish
 his friends, or to teach his children and grand-
 children to respect me. The President of
 Rhode Island College, who had married his
 daughter, and all his family showed me the
 same affectionate attachment."

The parents of these three distinguished sons
 should be gratefully and honorably remember-
 ed. What a family were William and Ruth
 Hopkins, bearing in their small and rough
 boarded farmer's house among the wooded
 hills, in the first quarter of the eighteenth cen-
 tury!

"'Tis wonderful

That an invisible instinct should frame them
 To royalty unlearned; honor untaught;
 Civility not seen from other; valor
 That mildly grows in them, but yields a crop
 As if it had been sowed!"

ABSTRACTS FROM WILLS, INVENTO- RIES, &c., ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF COURTS, SALEM, MASS.

COPIED BY IRA J. PATCH.

Continued from Vol. II, Page 72.

Ann Burt, 4th mo., 1673.

The Will of Ann Burt, dated 8 of January,
 1664, mentions William Basset jun'r, John
 Basset, Elisha Basset and Samuel Basset,
 when their children are 18 years old, Elizabeth
 Basset, Sarah Basset, Merriam Basset, Mary
 Basset and Hannah Basset, Ellen Bartrom to