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PHOTOGRAPH OF A MINIATURE OF SARAH COOKSON (SCOTT) DEBLOIS,  
GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF RICHARD SCOTT  
OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, PAINTED AT NEWPORT ABOUT 1820.

*Courtesy of Mrs. Lillian (DeBlois) Fox*

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*ISSUED QUARTERLY AT PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND*

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the colonies, one-fourth of the dried fish, and a considerable quantity of rice had been sold in these ports and had brought good prices. Between eighty and one hundred ships and about twelve hundred seaman were engaged in this trade.<sup>2</sup>

After we were an independent nation our ships were fair game for any roving corsair that might wish to capture our merchantmen and enslave our seamen. As a result, our commerce languished even though Jefferson had been able to secure a liberal treaty with Morocco in 1786, for Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli had yet to be dealt with. During the negotiations with Morocco, two American vessels had been seized by Algiers and their crews consigned to slavery.

What should be done about it? Should we adopt the European policy of paying annual tribute or should we construct a navy and enforce respect for our flag in these regions? Jefferson chose the latter.

In September, 1793, a sudden truce brought to an end the hostilities existing between Portugal and Algiers. The Portuguese blockade of the Straits of Gibraltar was lifted and the Algerian cruisers once more threatened American shipping in the Atlantic.

At the time we believed that England, fearing the rising power of American commerce, was responsible for this truce. One American shipmaster, Captain Lewis of Boston went so far as to write that "there was no doubt entertained in Lisbon that the British were the sole managers of the treaty between the Portuguese and the Algerians."<sup>3</sup> A letter from Lisbon, dated October 20th, 1793, carries this accusation even further: "It is reported, that the English have lent the Algerines frigates, and as many vessels as they wanted to cruise against the Americans."<sup>4</sup>

Captain Z. Phinney brought a letter to Boston in the Brig *Sally* which showed that British consular officials in Spain

<sup>2</sup> J. H. Latané, *American Foreign Policy*, 6th ed., pp. 57-58.

<sup>3</sup> *Providence Gazette*, February 22, 1794.

<sup>4</sup> *Providence Gazette*, February 1, 1794.

were well aware of the movements of the Algerian cruisers. This letter reads in part: "—the English Consul in this city [Bilboa?] has received this morning a letter by a messenger from Gibraltar, saying, that 12 or 13 Algerine vessels had left the Mediterranean for the ocean; the object of these vessels it seems is to intercept the Americans."<sup>5</sup>

Intercept them they did! Soon a total of four ships, five brigs, and a schooner, were in the hands of the Algerians and the crews enslaved.<sup>6</sup>

Portugal at first attempted to assist us by providing an armed escort for a group of American merchantmen. Captain John Munro of Providence sailed with this convoy. On Nov. 5, 1793, a Portuguese squadron consisting of two 74 gun ships, two frigates, and two 20 gun brigs convoyed about 20 American vessels out of the danger zone. The Queen of Portugal ordered this squadron to retake and free all American vessels found in the possession of the Algerians.<sup>7</sup> The assistance of the Court at Lisbon soon ceased, however, probably also due to British intervention.

Here at home Congress was divided on the method of dealing with Algiers. Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island were solidly for the construction of a navy, a measure opposed by the Southern states. The majority of

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> Ship *President*, Penrose; Ship *Minerva*, Shaw; Ship *Thomas*, Newman, Boston; Ship *Hope*, Burnham, New York; Brig *Jane*, Moss, Newbury-Port; Brig *Polly*, Smith, Portsmouth, N. H.; Brig *Olivebranch*, Kembleton; Brig *George*, Taylor, supposed belonging to Newport; Brig *Jay*, Calder; Schooner *Dispatch*, Wallace, Petersburg; — *Providence Gazette*, February 22, 1794.

Variations of the above list are to be noted in D. W. Knox, Ed., *Naval Documents Related to the United States Wars with the Barbary Powers*, vol. I, p. 56, and in C. W. Goldsborough, *United States Naval Chronicle*, vol. I, p. 53.

In the *Ships Documents of Rhode Island* (W.P.A.), vol. I Newport, pp. 242-243 there is a description of a brig *George* that is listed as having been captured by the Algerians.

<sup>7</sup> *Providence Gazette*, January 18, 1794.

the other states felt that we should either buy peace by paying tribute, or hire a European navy to do our fighting for us. A number of the members felt that a navy was a danger to our liberty.<sup>8</sup>

On January 2nd, 1794, after much discussion, the House of Representatives voted, however, by a majority of two "that a naval force, adequate to the protection of the commerce of the United States against the Algerine corsairs, ought to be provided."<sup>9</sup>

Although few Rhode Island ships were in the danger zone in 1793<sup>10</sup> our merchants were worried lest the Algerian episode be a prelude to further attacks on our shipping in that as well as other parts of the world. Therefore, as the letters in the Peck Collection indicate quite clearly, they utilized this Algerian incident to assist them in securing protection for their shipping.

As early as January 11th, Benjamin Bourn<sup>11</sup> wrote Welcome Arnold<sup>12</sup> from Philadelphia that the House had "resolved to equip a fleet adequate To our protection against the Algerines."<sup>13</sup>

On the 15th of the month John Brown<sup>14</sup> of Providence addressed a long letter to Benjamin Bourn setting forth his

<sup>8</sup> G. W. Allen, *Our Navy and the Barbary Corsairs*, pp. 48-49.

<sup>9</sup> G. W. Allen, *Ibid.*, p. 48.

<sup>10</sup> A search of both the *Newport Mercury* and the *Providence Gazette* for 1793 reveals only two vessels—one to Providence from Malaga and the other leaving Providence for Bilboa. Other Rhode Island vessels, as in the case of the brig *George*, probably were in the danger zone.

<sup>11</sup> Benjamin Bourn of Bristol (1775-1808). Active in Rhode Island public affairs; member of Congress from Rhode Island; Judge, United States Court, District of Rhode Island.

<sup>12</sup> Welcome Arnold (1745-1798) Providence merchant; active in state politics.

<sup>13</sup> A. L. S. Benjamin Bourn to Welcome Arnold, dated Philadelphia, January 11, 1794 (Frederick S. Peck Collection, Rhode Island Historical Society). [A.L.S. is a technical term, meaning *Autograph Letter Signed*.]

<sup>14</sup> John Brown (1736-1803) Providence merchant; third of the four Brown brothers; active in civic and political, as well as the economic affairs of the day.

argument in favor of a strong naval force for the protection of our commerce. Brown contended first that if the general government was to be supported by the taxes levied on commerce then the latter should be "*Protected Manfully*" for, he asked, "will our being all Quakers protect us [ — ] do you mean to Turn the other Cheek too when they have Boxed you So Severely as to have Stopt half the produce of the Country, — —."<sup>15</sup>

Brown was certain that a navy would be a good investment for "Every Doller Laid in it will make the Nation a Doller the Richer for it,—."<sup>16</sup> He also made certain specific suggestions as to its composition, "we ought to have at Least three Ships of Every Size Say 3 Sloops of Warr 3 Twenty Gun Ships 3 Friggits of 28 Guns 3 d<sup>o</sup> 32 Guns & 3 d<sup>o</sup> of 36 Guns 3 forty Gun Ships or 44 Guns 3 of Fifty 3 of Sixty Four & 3. of Sevinty Four they may be all built and paid for in Four or Five Years and if you ad three more of 80 Guns Say Thirty Ships in all they will not Cost more then one Doller p<sup>r</sup> Head to Every Inhabbitent of the United States —."<sup>17</sup>

The Providence merchant felt strongly that Congress should take steps to protect our trade against "Little Pickeroone Priveteers & Allgreens" but that if they did not "Every Man of Spirit ought to Quit the Union and Leave Congress & the Friends to Abollish Slavery and Live without Trade —."<sup>18</sup> Strong words these from such a staunch supporter of the new constitution.

Brown continued his argument for preparedness by looking beyond the immediate Algerian incident to the time when this country might possibly have to contend with the might of England or France. This is of particular interest, because within a period of less than twenty years the United

<sup>15</sup> A. L. S. John Brown to Benjamin Bourn dated Providence, January 15, 1794 (Frederick S. Peck Collection, Rhode Island Historical Society).

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, by Friends, he means Quakers.

States was to engage in a naval war with each of these powers.

He was also certain that, should we "omit the Build<sup>s</sup> them till a Warr takes place it will be too Late," for "the handling of Grait Ships & Grait Cannon with their Grait Acqipments are not to be Learnt in a Moment nor the Nessessary Articolos for their Use at all times to be Got —." Brown developed this line of reasoning further when he wrote "Can their Anchors, Cannon &c &c be Made in a moment No Sf. Large Ships Requires time both to build & Acqip them and the Practice or Art of Mannageing them to the best Advantage Acquires time, —."<sup>19</sup>

The Providence merchant saw no reason for us to be dependent upon the "Queen of Portergail nor no other nation to Convoy Our Shiping, —." In addition he foresaw a great naval future for this country "within the Age of Man Say 70 Years from this as the United States Doeth if we begin Now & Continue Increeseing the Navey as we Groo Rich and Numerus as within 70 years the Inhabbitents of the United States if their Commerce is Incouraged & PROTECTED will Exceede in number the Inhabbitents of France, —."<sup>20</sup>

In conclusion the business sense of Brown came to the fore when he wrote to the Rhode Island member of Congress "Indeed I Suppose about one third of all the Cannon for the Thirty Ships I have proposed may be made at the Furnace Hope<sup>21</sup> within four or Five Years —."<sup>22</sup>

Welcome Arnold shortly received another letter from Bourn in Philadelphia dated January 17, 1794. This brought the news that the House of Representatives had decided to construct a navy and that the necessary expense

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.* (U. S. Population, 1870 was 38,558,371; France, 1872 was 36,102,921. A shrewd guesser was John Brown.)

<sup>21</sup> Famous furnace owned by the Browns, located near the village of Hope, R. I.

<sup>22</sup> See Note 15.

would be borne by the mercantile class. Bourn wrote as follows, "the Committee will report an addition to The *impost*. I had hoped they would have favored some other object, than Commerce already overburthened."<sup>23</sup> He was certain that no naval force could be hired in Europe and felt that the best hope of immediate relief for our commerce lay in the fact that "Portugal will not abide by the late Truce & in that Case she will renew her blockade of the Straits in the Spring."<sup>24</sup> The Rhode Island Representative felt, however, that in spite of this possibility it was still absolutely necessary to go ahead with plans for constructing the navy.

The desultory action of Congress which frittered away the remaining days of January and all of February so infuriated some Providence merchants that a petition was drawn up dated February 20, 1794 entitled "To the Members of both Houses of Congress." This, the last of the documents in the Peck Collection referring to the Algerian affair of 1793-94, sums up the arguments of the mercantile class favoring the creation of an effective navy.

After accusing Congress of wasting valuable time the petition goes on to describe the burden of taxes which had been placed upon our unprotected commerce. The writers of this document wondered if Congress thought "the Merchants are all *asses* that they will Continue to be thus Imposed on and not one Single Step tacon by You to Protect the Trade by which you are paid your Dayly Wagers, —."<sup>25</sup>

Once again it was emphasized that the national revenue was dependent upon an expanding commerce which would of necessity need protection. In addition, this document

<sup>23</sup> A. L. S. Benjamin Bourn to Welcome Arnold, dated Philadelphia, January 17, 1794 (Frederick S. Peck Collection, Rhode Island Historical Society).

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>25</sup> Petition addressed to *Members of Both Houses of Congress*, dated February 20, 1794 (Frederick S. Peck Collection, Rhode Island Historical Society).

demanding again that we take steps for national defense even if we were at peace and were opposed to war.

The final point advanced in the petition supported a land tax to defray the cost of a navy. The writer claimed that such a tax was just and proper because the farmer was dependent upon the export market for his profit. If our shipping was driven from the seas because of the lack of naval protection, the farmer would be bound to suffer. According to this plan a tax of "half a Dollar on Each Citizon of the United States to be propotiond on Each State According to the Constitution would Raise nearly Two Million & a half of Dollers a Sum alltogether Suffitient to build & Acquip a Fleet of Four times the Strength and Consequence of the Six Ships Lately Reported to Congress by their Committee with Such a Fleet as this our President would be not only heard but Attended too by Aney of the Belegant [beligerant] Powers when he Complained to them of the Treatment of his Flagg & with such a Fleet the Farmer may Expect a Competition in purchessers for his produc because the Shipper would Expect to Send it to market without the Fear of Such Insults as is now Common to our Flagg through out the world —."<sup>26</sup>

Today, in the present state of world affairs, the result of this Algerian incident assumes real importance. The agitation of the Northern states, so well mirrored in the letters from the Peck Collection, resulted in the authorization by Congress in March 1794, for the construction of six frigates. Three of these, the *United States*, *Constitution*, and *Constellation*,<sup>27</sup> were completed and formed the nucleus of the permanent United States Navy.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>27</sup> It is of interest to note that some cannon intended for these new frigates were manufactured at the Hope Furnace. This venture seems to have run into difficulties according to a letter dated January 1, 1796 from Brown & Francis to Benjamin Bourn to be found in the Peck Collection.

## The Scott Family Needle Work

by RICHARD LEBARON BOWEN

(Continued from *Rhode Island History*, Volume II, No. 1, p. 21)

On 30 June 1768, Judge EDWARD<sup>1</sup> SCOTT (*John<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup>*), the head of the main line of the Scott family, died at Newport. In his younger days he opened a Grammar School<sup>3</sup> at Newport, the first Classical School in Rhode Island, which he was teaching so late as 1734. For twenty-five years he was one of the Judges of the Court of Inferior Pleas, at Newport, the last fifteen as Chief Justice. In his will he especially provided in cash and land for his niece, Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott, over and above any other female, and made her brother John<sup>5</sup> Scott, then twenty-eight years old, his heir, leaving him an estate of Nine Thousand Pounds Sterling, or, £300,000 Old Tenor.<sup>4</sup> These were two of the children of his next younger brother George,<sup>4</sup> second son, who died in 1740. By the death of his father George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>5</sup> Scott became the head of the main line of the family, in the fifth generation. To him, as head of the family, was passed on the Scott Arms and Pedigree Roll, besides a comfortable fortune.

Judge Scott was a rich and prominent man, and in his later years maintained an elaborate establishment at Newport. It is thought that his favorite niece, Elizabeth<sup>5</sup>, who was thirty-three years old, and a spinster when he died, kept house for him. Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott's brother, John<sup>5</sup> Scott, died in 1773, after squandering about £80,000, Old Tenor,<sup>4</sup> of his fortune, leaving his son and only child, John Cookson<sup>6</sup> Scott, five years old, an orphan. Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott, still a spinster, and her brother John's favorite sister, brought up the orphan child.

p. See "The Arms of Richard Scott," by Richard LeBaron Bowen, *N. E. Hist. Gen. Register*, vol. XCVI (1942), p. 13.

q. *Literary Diary of Ezra Stiles*, vol. I, p. 375.

At a session of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Newport, June Court, 1781 [117], "John Cookson Scott, of Newport, an infant under the age of 21 years, Gentleman, sues by Elizabeth Scott of Newport, Gentlewoman, spinster. . . . Damage Twenty Thousand pounds lawful money." He was then thirteen years of age.

In 1784, at the November term of the same Court, (when he was sixteen years of age) by his guardian, Elizabeth<sup>s</sup> Scott, he sued Amos Gardner, Jr., of Newport, yeoman, in an action of trespass and ejectment, for the recovery of a farm, or tract of land, containing two hundred and twenty-seven acres, being part of the Hammersmith Farm<sup>r</sup>, lately divided by Jahleel Brenton, esquire, deceased, to his four sons, Jahleel, Samuel, James and Benjamin. Damage, £1200 lawful money. Scott, by his guardian, was given possession of the farm, and Gardner paid the cost of the suit, £1/19/10.<sup>s</sup> Gardiner appealed the case, and, on April 1785, the court confirmed the above judgment.<sup>t</sup>

On 14 September 1791, John Cookson Scott, for £300 lawful money, sold to his Aunt, Elizabeth Scott, a lot of land with a dwelling house and buildings; also another lot fronting on Sugar Lane southerly, whereon lately stood a Sugar House and Distillery, all in Newport.<sup>u</sup> On the same day was made the following indenture:

" . . . between John Cookson Scott of Newport . . . Gentleman . . . and Elizabeth Scott of Newport, Gentlewoman . . . for and in consideration of the love, honor and respect that the said John Cookson Scott hath and doth bear to his Aunt, the said Elizabeth Scott, and for that the said Elizabeth hath had the care of and superintended his nurture and education from his earliest infancy, and for the further consideration of £300 lawful money, by the said Elizabeth already paid . . . the said John Cookson Scott hath . . . granted unto the said Elizabeth Scott an annuity of £50 lawful money . . . out of any and all of his lands, tenements or messuages in the towns of Newport and Middletown. . . ."<sup>v</sup>

Eight days after agreeing to give his Aunt Elizabeth an annuity of £50 a year for life, John Cookson Scott, then twenty-three years of age, was married<sup>w</sup> by Rev. Mr. Smith, of Trinity Church, Tuesday evening, 22

r. See "The Arms of Richard Scott," by Richard LeBaron Bowen, *N. E. Hist. Gen. Register*, vol. XCVI, (1942), p. 16.

s. *Newport Court Rec'ds*, Orig. File, No. 13,151.

t. *Ibid.*, Orig. File, No. 13, 130.

u. *Newport Deeds*, Bk. IV, p. 431.

v. *Ibid.*, Bk. IV, p. 432.

w. *Newport Mercury*, 24 Sept. 1791, p. 3.

September 1791, to Patty [Martha] English, daughter of the late Capt. William English.<sup>x</sup>

In order that he might marry, his Aunt Elizabeth had apparently set him up in business. At any rate, "in 1793 John Cookson Scott had a shop opposite Mr. John Hadwen's. He removed, in 1800, to the house lately occupied by Mrs. Katherine Malbone, a few doors below Bannister's Wharf. He had English goods for sale."<sup>y</sup>

On 30 March 1797, Elizabeth<sup>s</sup> Scott, for the consideration of one dollar, quit-claimed<sup>z</sup> to John Cookson<sup>6</sup> Scott the lot of land with a dwelling house and buildings in Newport, the same parcel she paid him £300 for in 1791.

In 1806 John Cookson<sup>6</sup> Scott's wife died leaving six motherless children, the oldest of which was eleven, and the youngest an infant. Again the maiden aunt Elizabeth<sup>s</sup> Scott, then 71 years of age, was called upon



EMBROIDERED MEMORIAL OF JOHN COOKSON SCOTT AND HIS WIFE, MARTHA, MADE AT NEWPORT IN 1808 BY HIS GRAND-AUNT, ELIZABETH SCOTT, GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF RICHARD SCOTT, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

x. A sea Captain sailing out of Newport, said to have been lost on a voyage from Africa; probably in the slave trade. In the 1774 Rhode Island Census of Newport families, William English was listed for 2 males above 16; 1 female above 16, and 2 under 16; 1 black; total of 6.

y. *Newport Mercury*.

z. *Newport Deeds*, Bk. VI, p. 403.

to bring up some more children. John Cookson<sup>6</sup> Scott died three years later, 16 Nov. 1808, and the aunt Elizabeth died on 4 January 1809, seven weeks after his death, leaving the six orphan children ranging from Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> Scott, 15 years old, down to Sophia, who was about 4 years old.

In 1808 Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott made the "Memorial," the third oldest piece of Scott needle work, here illustrated. This was made on a fine, thin piece of silk, sheeting weave, of a count of 130 x 180 threads per square inch, of an original size of 18" x 22", bound on the edges with a strip of 7/16" linen binding, doubled over, through which the silk was laced taut to the embroidery frame.

As framed today, the embroidery is stretched between two mitered 1 1/4" x 1/4" pine frames, 19 3/4" x 15", fastened together. The front frame is covered with black velvet, showing, on the inside of the 2 1/2" gold leaf frame, an inch black border.

The embroidery, reading from left to right, first pictures two crossed trees. Next, a small urn topped monument, with a wreath in the center, on which are the initials "E. S." [Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott]. Next a woman dressed in black faces the main Monument, which has a large urn over an inscribed panel; back of the monument is what is probably a weeping willow tree; to the right is a church. The inscription on the panel of the main monument reads:

"In memory  
of John Scott who died  
Nov. 13, 1808, aged 40 &  
Martha his wife who died  
Feby. 22, 1805, aged 38."<sup>aa</sup>

The embroidery is done in rough, medium and fine silks, using the satin, couch and long-stitch. Seed, or spot-stitch, on the church. The colors are white, cream, grey and black; light, medium and dark blues; light, medium, and dark browns.

<sup>aa</sup>. The Trinity Church, Newport, Records give the date of John Cookson Scott's death as 16 Nov. 1808, and the death of his wife Martha as 5 Mar. 1806.

The church is done in a microscopic black spot-stitch, of a style entirely different from the rest of the embroidered piece, and in exactly the same stitch and style as that used on "The Fisherman's Return at Sunset," made by Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois, Elizabeth's grandniece.

Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott must have started to make this Memorial some time after the death of Martha in 1806, and had it pretty well finished in 1808 when John Cookson<sup>6</sup> Scott died, as she herself died seven weeks afterwards. The embroidery does not seem to have been finished, as the face and hand of the central figure is uncompleted. It would seem that grandniece Elizabeth finished the piece by embroidering the church, as it is so clearly her type of work.

To the writer this particular Memorial has more significance than just a piece of embroidery recording the deaths of two people. This Scott family was very proud of its descent in the main line, from oldest son to oldest son, as is shown by the ownership and descent of the Scott Arms and Pedigree Roll. So it may well have been that when Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott made this embroidery she was doing a little more than first appears to the eye. Although a spinster, she considered John Cookson<sup>6</sup> Scott her child, as she had brought him up from childhood, and had taken care of his motherless children. So she made a Memorial to herself on the small monument, marked "E. S.," and on the large monument, beside it, a memorial to the man she considered a son, but what was more important to her, a memorial to the *last male of an extinct Scott line*.

The embroidered Memorial of 1808 descended from Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Scott to Mary Smith<sup>7</sup> (Scott) Hunter; to Capt. John Scott<sup>8</sup> DeBlois; to Edward Thatcher<sup>9</sup> DeBlois; to John Edward<sup>6</sup> DeBlois; to Lillian<sup>7</sup> (DeBlois) Fox, the present, and sixth owner, in five generations, in one hundred thirty four years.

#### THE FISHERMAN'S RETURN AT SUNSET

The fourth, and last example of Scott needle work, is the piece of embroidery entitled "The Fisherman's Return

at Sunset", made at Newport, about 1825, by Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois. She was the oldest daughter of JOHN COOKSON<sup>8</sup> SCOTT, (*John<sup>5</sup>, George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup>*) merchant, and was baptized at Trinity Church, Newport, 1 May 1794, and died at Newport, 30 March 1835. She married, at Newport, 2 July 1815, John<sup>4</sup> DeBlois, born at Newport, 5 November 1790, died there 18 October 1834, son of Stephen<sup>3</sup> and Jane (Brown) DeBlois.

This piece of embroidery is 18" x 23", and is done on a fine piece of silk, sheeting weave, with very fine black embroidery silk, almost entirely in a microscopic dot, or spot-stitch, with outline in continuous short-stitch. The effect of the whole piece of embroidery is that of a black and white steel engraving.

Reading from left to right, the scene shows a high cliff, partly covered with trees; in the foreground a woman with a fish basket on her arm is talking to a man with a fish pole; in the center, a man fishing from the shore; in the right foreground, a man and woman in a boat; in the right middle distance, a full rigged ship, sails furled, at a castle dock; three flocks of birds in the middle sky; grey tinted clouds at top of picture.

The embroidery is framed under glass on which is painted a 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " black border with two gold leaf bands. On the black border, at the bottom of the picture, is printed in gold leaf letters, "The Fisherman's Return at Sunsett."

Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois was a teacher, and taught a children's school<sup>bb</sup> at Newport. The exact date when she started the school is not known, but is supposed to have been about 1820. She was married in 1815 when she was 21 years of age. She had eight children, born from 1816, to 1835, and we do know that she ran the school up to the time of her death.

bb. This school is here noted for the first time.

We have the following tuition receipt<sup>cc</sup> which, unfortunately, is undated:

"Mr. Asa Freeborn<sup>dd</sup>  
to Sarah C. DeBlois, Dr.  
To schooling three of his children 6 weeks  
at 9<sup>d</sup> per week  
\$3 - - 0. Received payment,  
Sarah C. DeBlois."

Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois wrote a beautiful hand, as is seen by this receipt. The writing is small and delicate, and looks like copper plate. In fact the letters are so perfectly made that at first glance the receipt looks as if engraved.

We know that she taught needle work, and if "The Fisherman's Return at Sunset," with its microscopic stitches, is a fair example of her work, it explains her poor eyesight, as mentioned in the letter<sup>cc</sup> of her husband, John<sup>4</sup> DeBlois, written from Newport, 29 Sept. 1834, to his son "John Scott<sup>5</sup> DeBlois," (then 18) on board the *Audley Clark*, Cap. Paddock of Newport, R. I., Pacific Ocean. . . . Your mother says she will write you a long letter before long, as her eyesight is pretty poor now. . . ."

John<sup>4</sup> DeBlois died the next month after writing this letter, and his wife Sarah died five months later. Again

cc. From the MSS collection of DeBlois papers in the possession of Mrs. Frank B. Fox, Rehoboth, Mass.

dd. Asa Freeborn was born at Portsmouth, R. I., 14 April 1785, son of Jonathan and Martha, and married, at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, R. I., 30 December 1806, Abigail Gifford.

cc. From the MSS collection of DeBlois papers in the possession of Mrs. Frank B. Fox, Rehoboth, Mass.

ff. Capt. John Scott<sup>5</sup> DeBlois, a whaler, was 3rd Mate for Capt. Netcher on the *Isabella*, Fair Haven, in 1841. On his next voyage he was 1st Mate for Capt. Sawtelle on the ship *Ann Alexander*, of New Bedford, 1844-9. On the succeeding trip he was Master of the same vessel, sailing from New Bedford 1 June 1850. This was the famous ship that was stove in and sunk by a whale in the Pacific Ocean in 1851, the story of which was so graphically told in the school books of that period, and commemorated in the poem, "The Wonderful Whalers," published in *London Punch*, 6 Dec. 1851. He commanded the bark *Vigilant*, 1852-5. After his return from this voyage, the bark *Merlin*, of New Bedford, was especially built for him, and sailed on her maiden trip from New Bedford, 25 June 1856. He was accompanied on this voyage by his wife. He made one more voyage, and, returning home 22 Aug. 1863, retired from the sea. [*New Bedford Mercury*.]

there was an orphan family of six children. The home was of necessity broken up and the furnishings stored at the home of the mother's younger sister, Mary Smith<sup>7</sup> (Scott) Hunter. The oldest child, John Scott<sup>5</sup> DeBlois, 19, was at sea; Edward Thatcher DeBlois, the third son, went into the family of William E. Cook, blacksmith, at Portsmouth, R. I., and the other four children were distributed among relatives. Years after, Mrs. Hunter, and her daughter Rebecca, returned to these children the Scott Arms, Scott Pedigree Roll, pieces of embroidery, various family pictures and other articles.

A miniature in oils of Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois, on front cover, is owned by her great-granddaughter, Lillian<sup>7</sup> (DeBlois) Fox. This picture shows a woman about twenty-six years of age, and was painted in Newport about 1820. In the picture the right hand covers the left, and the artist has put the wedding ring on the only hand that shows, the right. The painting is on a piece of ivory,  $2\frac{3}{4}$ " by  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ", in a hand carved wooden frame  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ", mortised and tennoned together, painted brown with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " gold leaf moulding inside the frame. On the back edge of the miniature, the artist has painted his name in microscopic letters so small that it is impossible to read.

The embroidery, "The Fisherman's Return at Sunset," about 1825, descended from Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois to Mary Smith<sup>7</sup> (Scott) Hunter; to Capt. John Scott<sup>5</sup> DeBlois; to Edward Thatcher<sup>5</sup> DeBlois; to John Edward<sup>6</sup> DeBlois; to Lillian<sup>7</sup> (DeBlois) Fox, the present and sixth owner, in four generations, in one hundred seventeen years.

Mary Smith<sup>7</sup> (Scott) Hunter was born at Newport, 8 June 1798, and died there, 3 January 1883. She married, at Newport, 10 September 1815, Andrew Hunter. Mrs. Hunter opened a small girls school, about 1837, on the second floor of No. 3 Division Street, where she and her daughter Rebecca lived. As early as 1856, when her daughter Rebecca, unmarried, was 34 years of age, she moved the

school to the Brenton House, 103 Church Street, which place she afterwards owned. Mrs. Hunter died in 1883, and in 1886 Rebecca built a new house in the rear, and when completed, tore down the old house.<sup>88</sup> The new house at No. 103 Church Street is still standing, [1942] with a deep lawn in front where the old house stood. Just after moving into the newly finished house, Rebecca was drowned at the foot of Narragansett Ave., "Forty Steps," 25 July 1887. The school established by Mrs. Hunter became a well known school for girls, and was conducted by mother and daughter for about fifty years.

We do not know where Sarah Cookson<sup>7</sup> (Scott) DeBlois kept her school, but presumably it was at her home. We do know, however, that she was running a children's school when she died in 1835. The date for the opening of Mrs. Hunter's school, "about 1837," is so near to the end of her sister Sarah's school, that it may have been, and it seems probable, that the school headed by Mrs. Hunter was a continuation of the school established by her sister.

In the Scott family there were school teachers in the fourth and fifth, and two in the seventh generation.

Research on the needle work of the Scott women has brought to light many new facts about this interesting family, which would have otherwise been unknown. There are few, if any, cases in research work where a study of handicraft has added so much to the genealogical knowledge of the family. As a rule, outside of birth, marriage, and death, little, or nothing, is known about the early women.

gg. Mrs. Frank B. Fox has a picture taken in this old Brenton House, at Newport, about 1880, on the back of which is written: "South West corner of the Little Parlor, 103 Church Street." This picture shows the *Scott Arms*, quarterly of eight, and the *Scott Pedigree Roll* hanging on one of the walls.

# ARTICLES

OF THE

## MUTUAL FIRE SOCIETY.

THE members of the MUTUAL FIRE SOCIETY reposing special trust and confidence in each other, do agree the following articles:

I.

That whenever it shall please God to permit fire to break in the town of Providence, we will then faithfully aid and assist each other; him first who is in the most apparent danger.

II.

That each member shall furnish himself with a bed-key and two good Raven's duck bags, one yard and a half long, and three quarters of yard wide, with drawing strings, and a leather belt, for the purpose of carrying them conveniently on the shoulder: That each bag shall have an oval figure, six inches long, painted thereon, with Spanish brown, on which the initials of the christian and the whole of the firm-name, together with the year of the institution of this Society, shall be painted in white letters: That each member shall keep his bag and bed-key in the most conspicuous and easy place to him at in his house: That his bags shall not be used but in case of fire; and that all bags and bed-keys damaged or lost in a fire, where the owner or any of his family were present, shall be made good by the Society.

III.

That if it should at any time be deemed necessary to remove goods or effects of any member out of his house, shop or office, they shall be removed by the members of this society, to such places as may be, and to such places as the judgment of the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, or in the absence of both, the Clerk shall direct; and when deposited, the goods or effects shall be secured by the members of the Society, or more members shall stay by and see them safely secured.

IV.

That if the house, shop, store, goods or effects of any member shall be in danger, in his absence, the members present shall use their utmost exertions for the preservation and security thereof; and that if the houses, shops, stores, goods or effects of two or more members shall be in danger at the same time, the other members shall divide for their assistance; and the parties so divided to be under the direction of the officers aforesaid.

V.

That no member may be imposed on by evil-minded persons, there shall be a watch-word agreed on at every quarterly meeting, to be used when necessary; and that it may not be forgotten, every member shall repeat it to the Clerk at the next meeting.

VI.

That every member shall, if health permit, attend all meetings that may happen in town, and exert himself to extinguish fire, if any, and assist the sufferer, whether connected with this Society or not.

VII.

That this society shall at no time consist of more than twenty members: That a majority of actual members shall constitute a meeting to transact business; and that their votes shall be binding on the society: That the society meet four times in the year, at the hour of six o'clock, P. M. in January and April, and at seven o'clock in July and October, on the first Thursday of each of said months, at such places as the majority shall determine; and that no vote shall be passed after nine o'clock in January and April, nor after ten o'clock in July and October. That the business may be conducted with order and de-

corum, at each meeting the President shall preside as Moderator; and at the January meeting annually, a President, Vice-President and Clerk, shall be chosen for the year ensuing; the Clerk shall keep a fair record of the proceedings of the society, receive and be responsible for all fines, and at the end of the year, render an account of the disposal thereof; and he shall also, every quarter, at least two days before the meeting, take with him two members by rotation, and visit the habitation of each member of this society, in order to inform themselves fully of their situation, and the most easy way of coming at their dwellings in case of fire, and inspect their bags, and report their state at the meeting; for which services, he shall be exempted from his proportion of the expense of the four quarterly meetings.

VIII.

That whenever a vacancy shall happen in the society, by death or otherwise, the person who is a candidate shall be proposed three months before the ballots are taken for his admission, which shall require two thirds of the votes of the members present.

IX.

That if any member shall neglect or refuse to observe any of the preceding articles, he shall pay the following fines, affixed to the offences, unless he render a satisfactory reason therefor to the President, at the first next quarterly meeting following the incurring any fine:—

	DOLL.	CTS.
For non attendance on any fire in town,	3	
For not keeping bags in repair,	1	
For using bags, except at a fire, <del>at any place</del>	1	
For not carrying bags and bed key <del>on</del> fire, each	1	
For non-attendance on each meeting at the time affixed,		50
For refusing to serve as Clerk when chosen in turn,	1	
For omitting to bring these articles to each meeting,		25
For refusing to attend the Clerk to visit the members when called on by rotation,	1	
For forgetting the watch-word,		50
And that any member neglecting to attend four quarterly meetings successively, shall be excluded the society, and his name erased.		

*In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands in Providence, this first day of July, A. D. 1802, and of AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE the twenty-sixth.*

SAMUEL AMES,	SILVANUS G. MARTIN,
BENJAMIN DYER,	GEORGE W. HOPPIN,
ASA AMES,	WILLIAM HOLROYD, JR.
CHARLES LOW,	GEORGE FREEMAN,
HENRY CUSHING,	SMITH BARTLET,
BENJ. HOPPIN, JR.	SULLIVAN MOULTON,
W. BUDGET, JR.	STEPHEN HUBBARD,
CALEB BOWERS,	JOHN R. CARPENTER,
JOHN C. BUCKLIN,	GEORGE R. ARNOLD,
ARAUNAH TINGLEY,	LEMUEL DRAPER,
GAMALIEL L. DWIGHT,	JOSEPH SWEET,
JASON WILLIAMS,	SAMUEL N. RICHMOND,
CHARLES DYER,	BENJ. T. CHANDLER,

*Marvin Morris*

*Simon Ames*

## Shepherd Tom's Grandfather

by CAROLINE HAZARD

The Jonny Cake Papers of Shepherd Tom Hazard are recognized more and more not only as a contribution to the folklore of Rhode Island, but as a contribution to American literature. Shepherd Tom had been brought up with strong English associations, as his mother, Mary Peace, was taken to England from Charleston for her education. She went to Kendall Westmoreland, to a family of her father's friends named Wakefield, after whom our Rhode Island Wakefield was named, and went to Dottenham, the famous school conducted by the Society of Friends in London, finishing in 1788. Addison and Swift were the models of the day in prose writing, and these papers of Shepherd Tom's bear witness to their influence upon him.

The thesis of his book is that his Grandfather's cook, the famous Phyllis, was the remote cause of the French Revolution. He boldly embarks upon this course of reasoning, but is always diverted to tell of the achievements of the cook, or stories of the neighborhood. It is indeed a slender thread to hang his tales upon, but his Grandfather's cook is the constant *leit-motif* to which he returns.

Who was his Grandfather? He could not have known him, though he was born in his Grandfather's house in 1797. His Grandfather, "College Tom," died August 28, 1798, while Shepherd Tom was still a baby, and it is an ironical fate which has perpetuated his fame in this delightful but frivolous fashion as Shepherd Tom's Grandfather rather than in his own right.

For Thomas Hazard, son of Robt., as he always signed himself, was a remarkable man. His sobriquet to distinguish him from the many Thomas Hazards was gained by his attendance at Yale College in late 1730.

He was born in 1720, and his descendants still cherish one of his Latin exercises, a small pamphlet of folded paper

(Indorsed on the back)

50 Cents watchword—Punctuality—Care

stitched together, on the pages of which are beautifully engrossed in Latin the "Articles of Religion," the Ten Commandments, the Apostles Creed, and the Lord's Prayer.

On one of his long rides, to and from college, the story is that he met a pleasant companion and fell into conversation. The stranger enquired what his religion was — "A Quaker," Thomas replied.

"They are not Christian people," said the stranger, and to the astonished youth added "They hold their fellowmen in slavery."

This saying sank deep in the young student's heart, with the result that, about 1745, he freed his own slaves, and became an ardent advocate of the abolition of slavery.

Slavery even among Quakers was not common. Young Thomas Hazard's father had many slaves, and the broad acres of the Narragansett Planters were cultivated by them. But from his very early manhood he became an ardent worker for abolition.

He is said to have been a fine handsome man, a blue eyed fair Hazard, for it was not, so the old folks said, until his marriage to Elizabeth Robinson, daughter of William Robinson, Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island, that the dark haired Hazards became numerous. That marriage, in the old Quaker meeting house on a May morning in 1742, was a notable occasion, the certificate being signed by many friends and relatives of both families — "By this marriage I have ennobled my family," Governor Robinson declared.

The groom was twenty-two years old, the bride younger, and their long life began auspiciously.

There are traditions of conflict with his father over the slavery question. His father did not free his slaves but his will bequeathes some of them to his children, and the old tradition is that the others were freed at his death.

When Brown University was founded, Thomas Hazard was one of the Incorporators, and elected on the first board of Fellows. He was on all the important committees of the

meeting, and through the Revolution on the Committee for Sufferings. He and his friend Moses Brown went to Cambridge in the cold winter of 1776 armed with a letter to both General Howe and General Washington asking permission to go through the lines, which was granted by both generals, as they wished to distribute relief to "necessitous persons."

So early did Friends' Service Committee, which of late years has done such wonders in wars, begin to function to "feed the hungry and clothe the naked," as this letter requests. They report, February 12, 1776, that they have given aid to 141 single persons, having distributed £229. 4s. and 2d.

IN  
MEMORY OF  
MANY MEMBERS OF THE  
SOCIETY OF FRIENDS  
IN NARRAGANSETT  
WHOSE BODIES WERE  
HERE COMMITTED TO  
UNMARKED GRAVES  
IN THE LIVELY HOPE OF A  
GLORIOUS RESURRECTION  
WHEN THEY SHALL KNOW  
EVEN AS THEY ARE KNOWN  
  
THIS LAND A PART OF THE  
PETTAQUAMSCUTT PURCHASE  
OF 1657  
WAS SOLD BY SAMUEL SEWALL TO  
THOMAS HAZARD  
1698  
AND BY HIM TO THE MEETING  
1710

A little later the Meeting House is reported in a bad condition, having been used as a hospital for French soldiers. Thirty pounds was allowed for damages, but had not been paid. "Therefore Thomas Hazard is desired to apply for the same," the Friends' Meeting record states.

Rhode Islanders have a special interest in this staunch Friend whose Grandfather sold the land to the Meeting he served so well, as this year the place on which the meeting house stood, surrounded by its unmarked greens, for the "plainness" of Friends did not allow the flowery epitaphs of the times, — has been taken over by the *Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities*, for perpetual care.

The Narragansett Meeting came to its end in the last of the century. William H. Perry was the Clerk who had the records which he confided to me, and from which I wrote a history of the Narragansett Meeting published in 1899. The land lay neglected, so I became the informal custodian, and twenty-five years ago put up a tablet, giving a brief history of the place. The reverse of the tablet has a special inscription in memory of Thomas Hazard, Son of Robert, called College Tom.

The Jonny Cake papers touch on the lighter side of life in their amusing fashion, but it is well to know that this man was a good deal more than Shepherd Tom's grandfather, who had a famous cook.

CAROLINE HAZARD

### The American Dream — 1841

"I am more and more a Puritan. I love simple manners, simple tastes, a simple government, which has very little to do, which leaves everything possible to be done by the individual, and which stimulates talent of every kind, not by patronage, but by giving talent free exercise, and leaving it to its own resources; a government of which the constitution may remain firm as adamant, while the men who administer it may be changed every year by the popular will. This is the country for me, and may it be the country for my children; and may it please God such a country long may be the United States of America."

From the *Journal of Francis Wayland*, during his visit to France, January, 1841, quoted in, *A Memoir of the Life and Labors of Francis Wayland, DD.LL.D.*, by his sons, Francis Wayland and H. L. Wayland (N. Y., 1867), II, 23-24.

### The Frederick Stanhope Peck Collection

The recent gift of two hundred and forty-four manuscripts to the Society by Hon. Frederick Stanhope Peck is the most valuable addition to the library in several years.

The letters and manuscripts in this collection are a welcome complement to the Society's large collection of papers relating to the Brown family and their associates.

W. G. R.

### Rehoboth (Mass.) Tercentenary

There is considerable of interest to Rhode Islanders in the series of articles entitled *Early Rehoboth Families and Events*, by Richard LeBaron Bowen, currently appearing in the *New England Historical & Genealogical Register*. In the early days, of which Mr. Bowen is writing, Rehoboth was about the same size as Providence, and the people and affairs of the two towns were closely associated.

The old town of Rehoboth was just across the Seekonk River and comprised, in its greatest extent, the present town of East Providence, City of Pawtucket, town of Cumberland, and a part of the town of Barrington, all now in Rhode Island, together with the present towns of Rehoboth, Seekonk, Attleborough, and a part of the town of Swansea, all now in Massachusetts. The center of the old Town of Rehoboth was in Rumford where the present Newman Congregational Church (White Church) now stands. From the earliest days to well into the eighteenth century, Providence had no established doctor and was dependent on Rehoboth for its medical and surgical aid.

This year is Rehoboth's tercentenary, for Seekonk, alias Rehoboth, was settled in 1643, three hundred years ago this spring.

W. G. R.

## Book Reviews

### PEDIGREES OF SOME OF THE EMPEROR CHARLEMAGNE'S DESCENDANTS

Compiled by M. D. R. von Redlich, LL.B., Ph.D., with a Foreword by Arthur Adams, Ph.D., F.S.A.

Published by the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, vol. I, pp. 320. (\$17.50).  
For Sale by M. D. R. von Redlich, P. O. Box 53, Old Post Office Annex,  
Chicago, Ill.

This is a book of royal pedigrees brought down to twenty-four first emigrants to New England, and through them down to the present generation, showing proved lines of ancestry from today, 1943, back to 700, a total of 1243 years, through some forty-four generations. It is the first scholarly book of the kind to be written and there is nothing in print to equal it, even in England. It is a valuable contribution to the science of genealogy and hasn't the long list of "exploded" pedigrees contained in most of its predecessors.

The compiler of this book, Marcellus Donald R. von Redlich, born in Hungary, is an American citizen and served in the American Army in the first World War. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature of the United Kingdom, a well-known continental genealogist, and during the last thirty years has conducted genealogical research in many European countries, as well as in the United States. He is a lawyer by profession and is the author of fourteen published works, among which are *International Law as a Substitute for Diplomacy, World Problems*, and the *Law of Nations*.

Dr. Arthur Adams, who wrote the Foreword and assisted in the compilation of the book, besides being a well-known American genealogist and an Internationally-known medieval genealogist, arranged and edited the *Cheshire Visitation Pedigrees, 1663*, published by the Harlein Society, London, 1941. He is a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists of London, of the Society of Antiquaries of London, of the Royal Society of Literature of the United Kingdom, the American Society of Genealogists, a member of the Committee on English and Foreign Research, and of the Committee on Heraldry of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, etc.

While there are mistakes in this book, they are real mistakes, not sins against knowledge. It took four years work to prepare the MSS. This is the first volume of a series to be published, and mistakes found in this volume will be corrected in the next, which will be under the co-authorship of Dr. Adams and Dr. von Redlich.

The chief criticisms of the book are, first, that it is not documented—outside of the names of the men who compiled it, there is nothing to indicate the tremendous amount of scholarship that went into it,—and,

second, that the arrangement of the royal pedigrees is very complicated, being spread through the book in sections, instead of being brought together in one place. Both these faults will be corrected in the next volume.

Here is an important source book, practically unknown, except to medieval genealogists, that should be in every library in Rhode Island.

It is important to Rhode Islanders for the reason that all descendants of Jeremy Clarke, of Newport, President Regent of Rhode Island in 1648, and of Katherine (Marbury) Scott, wife of Richard Scott of Providence in 1638, have clearly proved lines back to Charlemagne. These are the only two proved Rhode Island lines.

The Jeremy Clarke line is correct as stated in this book and is one of the clearest and best documented lines in New England. Jeremy Clarke is ten generations back from the present 1943 generation, and is in the thirty-fourth generation from Charlemagne. This is the way the line traces back:

JEREMY<sup>34</sup> CLERKE (or Clarke), bapt. at East Farleigh, co. Kent, England, 1 Dec. 1605; d. at Newport, Rhode Island in November 1651; President Regent of Rhode Island, 1648; one of the founders of Newport; Treasurer of Newport, 1644-47; Lieutenant and afterwards Captain of Militia; m. about 1637, Frances (Latham) Dungan, bapt. in the Parish of Kempston, co. Bedford, England, 15 Feb. 1609/10, d. at Newport in September 1677, widow of William Dungan, and dau. of Lewis Latham, falconer of Charles I,

WILLIAM<sup>33</sup> CLERKE, gent., of East Farleigh, co. Kent, and St. Botolph Aldgate, London; m. at St. Andrew's Holborn, 10 Feb. 1598/9, Mary, dau. of Sir Jerome Weston,

JAMES<sup>32</sup> CLERKE, gent., of East Farleigh, d. about 1614; m. about 1566, Mary, dau. of Sir Edward Saxby (Saxilby),

GEORGE<sup>31</sup> CLERKE, gent., of Ford Hall, d. 8 Mar. 1558; m. about 1533, Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Wilsforde, of Hartridge, Parish of Cranbrook, co. Kent,

ELIZABETH<sup>30</sup> FERRERS, m. about 1508, James Clerke, gent., of Ford Hall, d. about 20 Sept. 1553, son of John Clerke, of Ford, near Wrotham, co. Kent,

SIR HENRY<sup>29</sup> FERRERS, Knt., of the manor of Hambleton, Rutland, d. 28 Dec. 1500; m. Margaret, dau. and co-heiress of William Heckstall, of East Peckham, and widow of William Whetenhall,

THOMAS<sup>28</sup> FERRERS, inherited the manors and advowsons of Walton and Tettenhall, and the manors of Champeyns in Woodham Ferrers, Flecknoe, Hethe, and Claverly, d. 6 Jan. 1458/9; m. Elizabeth, dau. of Sir Baldwin Freville, of Tamworth Castle, co. Warwick,

WILLIAM<sup>27</sup>, Baron Ferrers of Groby, bapt. 25 Apr. 1372; d. 18 May 1445; m. first, after 10 Oct. 1388, Philippa, dau. of Sir Roger de Clifford, sometimes called Lord Clifford, by Maud, dau. of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick.

The next twenty-six generations, from this point back to Charlemagne, are a matter of recorded English history. In fact, in the thirtieth generation, four generations earlier, when James<sup>30</sup> Clerke, great-great-grandfather of Jeremy<sup>34</sup> Clerke formed an alliance with the powerful Ferrers family, by marrying Elizabeth, the granddaughter of William, Baron Ferrers of Groby, and Philippa, daughter of Roger de Clifford, sometimes called Lord Clifford, by Maud, daughter of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, the Clerke family had definitely entered, so to speak, the inner ring of English history.

The Marbury family pedigree follows much the same pattern as that of the Clarke family. There are hundreds of Rhode Island descendants of both Jeremy Clarke and Katherine (Marbury) Scott, and all of these who can prove their ancestry back to these two early New England emigrants have a proved pedigree, all worked out, extending back 1243 years to Charlemagne and the beginning of English history.

RICHARD LEBARON BOWEN

#### Jews in New England

By Samuel Broches

New York, Bloch Publishing Co. I, 68 pp., II, 80 pp. (\$5.00 a copy).

Mr. S. Broches of Boston plans a series of six monographs on the history of the Jews in New England. One on "the Jews in Massachusetts 1650-1750" and the second on "Jewish Merchants in Colonial Rhode Island" have recently been published.

We in Rhode Island are primarily interested in the second pamphlet which concerns itself with the transactions of Eighteenth Century Jewish Merchants in Rhode Island. In connection with the business documents reproduced a few facts very interesting to this reviewer are made available. The town of West Greenwich had a Jew named Judah Franck who received his naturalization in 1755. The Portuguese Jewish immigrant and kingpin of Newport commerce, Aaron Lopez, used to take the major portion of Brown Brothers iron output. A Hebrew and Yiddish bread-and-butter letter was sent by a Jewish rabbi in 1773 to the Lopez and Rivera families in Newport. The generous heads of these two families donated ten thousand feet of lumber for the first buildings of Brown University.

The Jews of Newport who were fugitives from the Inquisition took their religion seriously as is evident from their determination to observe the Sabbath even when that meant postponing important business con-

ferences. However, they did not permit their concern with religion to interfere with their social life. They had their club where supper was served and cards played. The stakes were limited by definite penalties.

Now this reviewer is temperamentally incapable of excitement over candles, spermacetti and molasses with which many of the documents published in the Broches monograph deal. He knows that these things are important, that men have lost their lives while delivering them and that wars have been fought over their possession. But since he cannot follow the complexities of a simple business contract he is quite baffled by the give-and-take in letters exchanged among canny Jewish and Yankee traders. It seems to him however that Bruce Bigelow (See *New England Quarterly*, IV, 4, 1931) drew the main outlines of Aaron Lopez' business career, and S. Broches enriched it with more details. The two essays complement each other.

Broches should be encouraged to continue his research. As far as I know he, Lee Friedman and Morris Gutstein are at present the principal investigators of the early history of Jews in New England. Their special works are bound to give better perspective to general students in the field.

Temple Beth El

WILLIAM G. BRAUDE

#### Spring Lecture Series

*Tuesday evening, April 27 . . . 8:15 P. M.*

HOWARD CORNING of The Essex Institute, Salem, Massachusetts, will give an interesting talk on SULLIVAN DORR'S LETTER BOOKS, Canton, China, 1799, 1803.

*Tuesday evening, May 18 . . . 8:15 P. M.*

PROF. JAMES B. HEDGES, Chairman of the History Department, Brown University, will discuss the topic—

#### HAS THE UNITED STATES LEARNED ANYTHING FROM ITS PREVIOUS WARS?

Prof. Hedges will refer to the following recent books: *Lee's Lieutenants* by Douglas S. Freeman, *Abraham Lincoln and the Fifth Column* by George Fort Milton, *Reveille in Washington* by Margaret Leach, *Hidden Civil War* by Wood Gray, *The Coming of the Civil War* by Avery Craven.

Following the lecture, Prof. Hedges will lead a round-table discussion. It is suggested that some members might be interested to read these books in advance of the meeting.

R. I. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report for Year ending December 31, 1942

Receipts:

Operating Receipts (Dues, State Appropriations, etc.)	\$12,804.79
Contributions, general purposes	5,789.81
Contributions, endowment (Life Member)	150.00
Sale of 68 Waterman St.	15,000.00
Securities sold, called or exchanged	14,404.29
Other Receipts	552.02
Total	\$48,700.91

Disbursements:

Operating Expenses	\$15,164.59
John Brown House Reconstruction	8,360.32
Paid to Endowment Funds	2,150.00
Securities purchased or exchanged	14,222.23
Deposited in Savings Banks	10,262.87
Other Expenditures	565.72
Total	\$50,725.73

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets:

Cash in Banks	\$19,852.38
Cash, petty	25.00
Securities	68,868.14
Investment Funds in Savings Account	649.39
John Brown House	50,000.00
Books and Manuscripts	50,000.00
Real Property in Custody	4.00
Furniture and Fixtures	1.00
Museum Material	1.00
Total	\$189,400.91

Liabilities:

Life Membership Endowment Reserve	\$ 5,750.00
General Endowment Reserve	146,792.52
John Brown House Endowment Reserve	2,000.00
Revolving Publication Fund	277.45
Surplus	34,580.94
Total	\$189,400.91

GEORGE L. MINER, Treasurer

The accounts of the Society were audited under the direction of the Audit Committee, John H. Wells, Chairman.

Report of the Director and Librarian

Submitted to the Annual Meeting, January 19, 1943

Mr. President and Members of the  
Rhode Island Historical Society:

The year 1942 was an eventful one in the history of the Society. On December 9, 1941, two days after the country was plunged into war, at a special meeting, Hon. Charles F. Stearns, President, presiding, the Society voted to accept Mr. John Nicholas Brown's gift of the John Brown House on Power Street as its home, and to sell the Cabinet at 68 Waterman Street to Brown University for \$15,000.

Under the resolution offered by Hon. Addison P. Munroe, a past president, and seconded by Mrs. T. I. Hare Powel, the President and the Treasurer were empowered to execute the necessary transfer of deeds.

At high noon of the day before Christmas, Mr. John Nicholas Brown presented President Stearns with the deed at an informal ceremony at John Brown House in the presence of the officers of the Society.

Shortly after the first of the year, the work of preparing our new quarters for occupancy was begun. On April 7, the first truckload came over from Waterman Street. Sufficient progress in moving had been made by July 7 to open the doors to our members and the public. By the end of the year more than fifteen hundred had signed the visitors book. Guests from out of town familiar with historical societies in other parts of the country, were enthusiastic in their admiration.

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On August 7th, General Nathanael Greene's 200th birthday was celebrated with due pomp and ceremony. Addresses were made by the Honorable Theodore Francis Green, United States Senator, Governor J. Howard McGrath, Hon. Francis J. McCabe representing Mayor Dennis

J. Roberts, and your Director. The Kentish Guards, of which General Greene was a charter member, furnished a Guard of Honor under command of Colonel Thomas Casey Greene.

During the year, a number of organizations held meetings in our new quarters. Among them were the Roger Williams Family Association, the Westcott Family Association, the Mayflower Descendants, Southern New England Conference of Historical Societies, South County Museum, National Federation of Music Clubs, the Gaspee, Nicholas Cooke Chapters and the State of Rhode Island D. A. R., and the Society of Colonial Dames in Rhode Island.

Dr. James L. Hanley, Superintendent of the Providence Public Schools, held a staff meeting on October 28th.

These organizations have met in our quarters by invitation of your Director, with the approval of the Operating Committee. Such societies as the above have found the John Brown House a natural and attractive place to meet. It is safe to anticipate that a return to more normal conditions will find the Society's facilities in great demand.

One of the objects of the Society is the promotion of interest in historical activities throughout the State. Your Director has been honored by invitations to address the following meetings, during the year: Block Island Historical Society, Jamestown Historical Society, Christopher Greene Chapter D. A. R., R. I. State Fall Meeting of D. A. R., at Hillsgrove Methodist Church, Westerly Historical Society, the Roger Williams Family Association, Four Leaf Clover Club, and Women's City Missionary Society.

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A total of 574 books and articles were accessioned in 1942. Several genealogies were notable, including those of the Witter, Ballard, Gosney, Blanchard, and Carey (Virginia) families. Of particular interest to Rhode Island were the Burgess, Dexter and Tillinghast genealogies, the

last some 1200 typewritten pages. Forty-one genealogies were received, eleven of which were compiled and donated by members. A number of genealogical charts were also added to our extensive collections.

We have the collection made and compiled by Colonel Hunter C. White covering "Notes and History of our Courts" dating back to 1636. Another is the "Probate and Land Records" compiled by Marshall Morgan who also contributed three township maps of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and the New England States which have proven of great help to members in research.

The "Index to Rhode Island Graves" (typewritten) and given to the Society by Charles P. and Martha A. Bennis covers a great deal of research. These records are in six volumes, the last three have each its own index. These volumes have been microfilmed and are available to students.

Paul C. Nicholson has presented two more Log Books to add to our growing collection.

Mrs. George W. Gardner presented a group of 21 medals and 14 banner emblems of the Civil War, all of which have been placed in the vault for future museum display.

The Reading Rooms have been used extensively, and 667 books have been loaned for outside use.

Under the circumstances, the library has not only succeeded in serving the public beyond expectations but has grown, though the attention of the staff has of necessity been directed to other purposes. From now on, it is our intention to concentrate on building the library along its lines of specialized service.

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Let us consider for a moment the particular field which should be covered by the Rhode Island Historical Society library in order to justify its existence.

We have here one of the largest genealogical libraries in New England. No other Rhode Island library special-



## New Publications of Interest to Rhode Island

### ARTICLES

- "Additions and Corrections to Austin's Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island." By G. Andrews Moriarty, Jr. *The American Genealogist*. Whole Number 75. XIX, No. 3, (January 1942).
- "A Note on Coddington Origins." By Emily Coddington Williams, LL.B., Ph.D. N. Y. *Genealogical and Biographical Record*. Vol. 72, 1941.
- "A Sarah Helen Whitman Letter about Edgar Allan Poe." H. P. Vincent, editor. *American Literature*, XIII (May, 1941), 162-167.
- "John Cotton and Roger Williams: Their Controversy concerning Religious Liberty." By Elizabeth F. Hirsch. *Church History*, X (March, 1941), 38-51.
- "My New England Grandmother and Grandfather." By Louisa R. Church. *Old Time New England*, XXXII (October, 1941), 67-72. (Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Clark, Lincoln, Rhode Island.)
- "Our Summer Resort Architecture—An American Phenomenon and Social Document." [By Roger Hale Newton]. *Art Quarterly*, IV (Autumn, 1941), 297-321.
- "The Newport Banjo Clock." By Elisha C. Durfee. *Antiques*, XL (July, 1941), 34-35.
- "Regional Characteristics in the Literature of New England." By Randall Stewart. *College English*, III (November, 1941), 129-143.
- "Washington in New England." By Julian L. Coolidge. *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, XLIX (April, 1941), 125-140.

*The New England Quarterly* has kindly permitted the publishing of several of the above items from its Bibliography for 1941 and 1942.

### BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

- Massachusetts' War with Samuell Gorton*. By William G. Roelker, 1942.
- Newport Towner*. By Philip Ainsworth Means. 1942.
- Rhode Island Colonial Money and its Counterfeiting, 1647-1726*. By Richard LeBaron Bowen. Contributed by Frederick Stanhope Peck, LL.D. (December 1942). Governor of the Rhode Island Society of Colonial Wars, Publication No. 34.
- Sketches of Old Bristol*. Written and Edited by Charles O. F. Thompson, 1942.
- The Sword on the Table*. By Winfield Townley Scott, 1942.
- Two Joans*. Elizabeth Nicholson White, 1942.