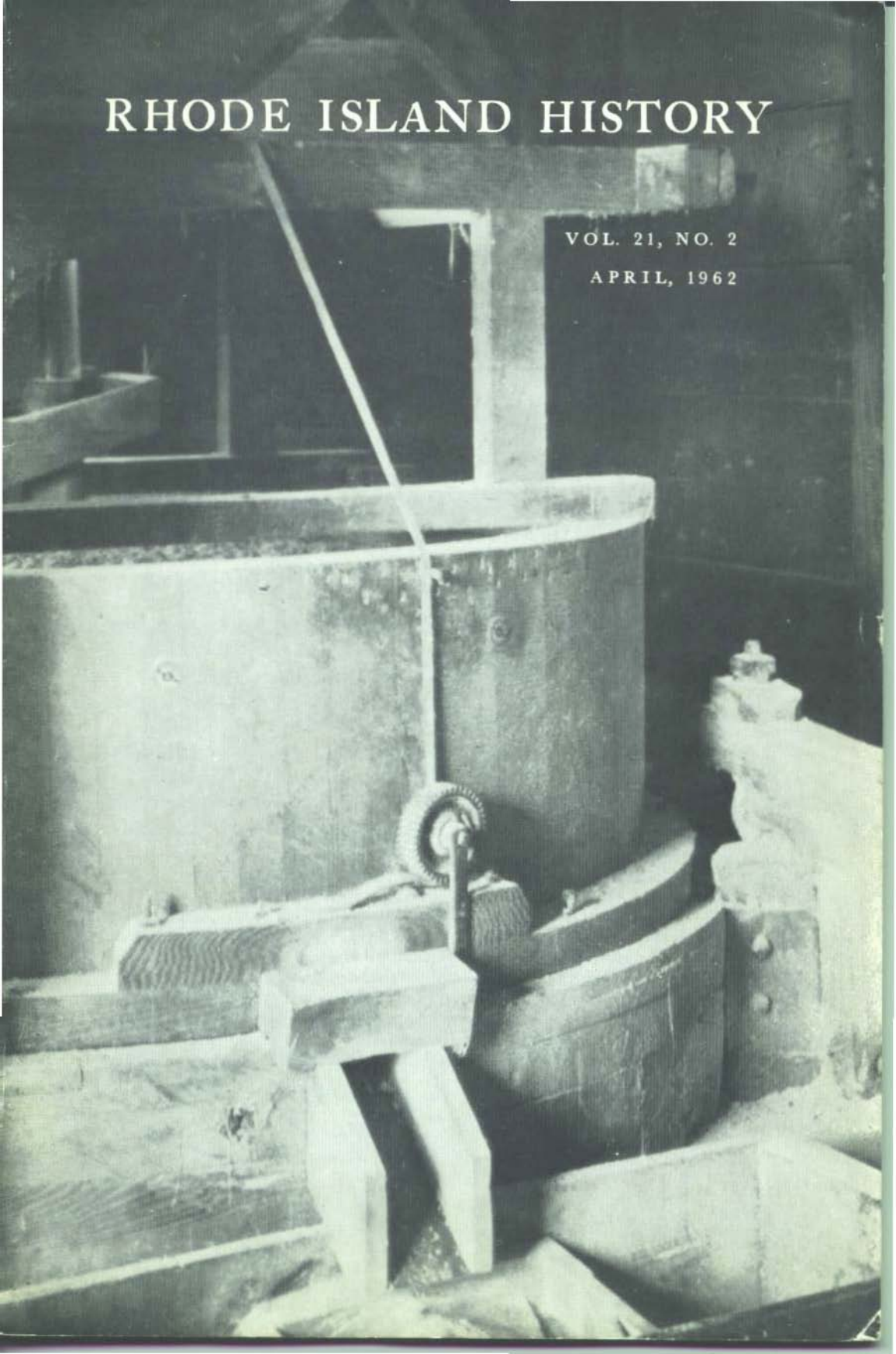


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MILL INTERIOR

Photograph by Charlotte Estey

The cover illustration shows one of the few remaining mills producing Rhode Island jonny-cake meal, the "Ambrosia" of Shepherd Tom Hazard, who described the jonny-cake as "the best farinaceous food that was ever partaken of by mortal man, to wit an old-fashioned jonny-cake made of white Rhode Island corn meal, carefully and slowly ground with Rhode Island fine-grained granite mill-stones . . ."

The mill shown is that of Kenyon's Corn Meal Company in South Kingstown, founded in 1886. The mill stone of Westerly granite is barely visible within the wooden exterior or mill curb. The corn is released from a hopper above, falling through a hole in the upper mill stone. The meal is discharged through the chute in the lower center.

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THE PROVIDENCE ABOLITION SOCIETY*

by JAMES F. REILLY

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THE MOST PRESSING MORAL PROBLEM facing the supporters of the Declaration of Independence during and after the American Revolution was that of slavery. According to the Declaration, all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This was presumably part of the official philosophy of the new nation, yet throughout the Revolutionary period slavery existed in all thirteen of the states, having been recognized and protected by law from the early colonial period. It has been estimated that in 1776 there were 333,000 Negroes in the United States, a large majority of whom were slaves.¹

This situation weighed heavily on the consciences of many enlightened Americans in the course of the Revolution. Jefferson was quite concerned about the degrading effect of slavery on a free people when he wrote, "Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just."² This concern was not slow in producing results, for in the decade following the Declaration of Independence every state north of Maryland either abolished slavery outright or provided for its gradual extinction by declaring that all persons born within their borders after a certain date should be free. There was also widespread sentiment against slavery in the southern states, but after the invention of the cotton gin opinion changed as slavery was deemed economically essential to a cotton economy.

Rhode Island was a focal point in the antislavery sentiment during

*This is a chapter from Mr. Reilly's master's thesis, "Moses Brown and the Rhode Island Antislavery Movement."

¹Cited in Harold U. Faulkner, *American Economic History*, fourth edition, p. 383.

²*Notes on Virginia*, Query XVIII.

and after the Revolution. There was ample reason for this. Not only were slaves widely employed in personal service as elsewhere in the North, but also there existed in South County a plantation system manned largely by slaves. Newport was in colonial times the great slave market of southern New England. In the middle of the eighteenth century South County possessed over a thousand slaves.³ More significant in colonial Rhode Island was the foreign slave trade. As early as 1708 the colony imported between twenty and thirty Negroes a year from Barbados.⁴ As Rhode Island's shipping trade developed during the eighteenth century, the African slave trade became of ever increasing importance. It soon developed into the notorious "triangle trade" in slaves between Rhode Island, the Guinea coast of Africa, and the West Indies. The African slave trade attracted such prominent Rhode Island merchants as Geoffrey Malbone, William Ellery, Abraham Redwood, Stephen Ayrault, and James and Obadiah Brown.⁵ Between 1747 and 1755, thirty vessels were reported as outbound or cleared from Newport to Africa.⁶

While these traders were growing wealthy on the profits of the slave trade (although at the same time concerned with more reputable enterprises), an increasing number of Rhode Islanders were becoming concerned over the moral aspects of slavery. Among these were the Quakers, who constituted one of the major religious groups in early Rhode Island. As early as 1729 they censured the practice of importing Negroes, and in 1758 the New England Yearly Meeting adopted a rule forbidding Quakers within its jurisdiction to engage in or countenance the slave trade.⁷ Individual leaders and congregations of other churches also took an interest in the welfare of the slaves. Although the latter did not at first recommend the outright abolition of slavery, they counseled humane treatment of the slaves and also their christianization and often their baptism. Dr. Ezra Stiles of Newport (later president of Yale), who had seven Negroes in his congregation, frequently discoursed to them concerning Christian

³William D. Johnston, "Slavery in Rhode Island 1755-1776," *Publications of The Rhode Island Historical Society*, New Series, July, 1894, p. 127.

⁴Governor Cranston's Report to the Board of Trade, reprinted in Elizabeth Donnan, *Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade in America*, III, p. 109-110.

⁵*Ibid.*, p. 130-138.

⁶Newport Customhouse entries, reprinted in Donnan, *op. cit.*, p. 139.

⁷Johnston, *op. cit.*, p. 144.

doctrine.⁸ More outspoken against the abuses of slavery was the Reverend Samuel Hopkins, a neighbor of Dr. Stiles. While he believed that slaves should remain quietly and peaceably in bondage until their masters should emancipate them, he vigorously denounced slavery and the slave trade.⁹

The citizen who was to play the most significant role in the Rhode Island antislavery movement was Moses Brown. One of the four Brown brothers of Providence, he was second to none of them in shrewdness and practical business ability. However, he was at heart an idealist who was ever concerned with human progress, spiritual, intellectual, and moral, as well as material. It was therefore natural that he should interest himself in the growing antislavery movement of the late eighteenth century. In his younger days he had held at least ten slaves, but after coming under the influence of the Quakers, he manumitted his slaves in 1773. He joined the Society of Friends in 1774.¹⁰ For the remainder of his long life Moses Brown was to be the guiding force behind the Rhode Island antislavery movement and for a few years one of the leaders in the national antislavery movement.

The opposition to slavery and the slave trade was soon carried from the pulpit to the press. It became a major issue in Rhode Island after 1760. By that time it had become part of a widespread movement against slavery throughout the colonies. An article in the *Providence Gazette* in 1768 declared that slavery would upon strict and honest inquiry be found "directly contrary to scripture and solid reason." The article stated that "every man born into this world is free unless by some act of his own he forfeits his liberty into the hands of public justice." The colonists could not complain, it continued, of the infringement of their natural rights (by Britain) while so many of their fellow creatures continued in the most abject slavery.¹¹ A later article in the *Gazette* asked how slavery could be reconciled with professions of freedom founded on the law of God and nature and the common rights of all mankind.¹² If we assume that colonial newspapers were like their modern counterparts in catering to reader interest and sentiment, it is evident that antislavery feeling in Rhode

⁸*Ibid.*, p. 153.

⁹*Ibid.*, p. 154.

¹⁰Copy of Moses Brown's manumission of slaves in Moses Brown Papers, II, #331, The Rhode Island Historical Society. Hereafter cited as MBP.

¹¹*Providence Gazette*, May 14, 1768.

¹²*Idem*, September 24, 1774.

Island, particularly in Providence, was very strong in the decade immediately preceding the outbreak of the Revolution. On the other hand the *Newport Mercury* carried very little material against slavery, probably out of deference to the large number of slaveholders and slave traders of Newport.

Antislavery sentiment was soon to assert itself in the political field. After vigorous resistance from the deputies of slave-trading Newport, the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1774 adopted a law providing that no Negro or mulatto slave was to be brought into the colony, or such slave would be immediately free. Excepted from its provisions were those persons traveling through the colony accompanied by their slaves, provided that the slaves were taken out with them. Also exempted were residents of other British colonies who moved into Rhode Island with the intention of assuming permanent residence.¹³ A law of 1779 forbade the sale of Rhode Island slaves outside the state without their consent.¹⁴ Encouraged by these legislative victories and taking advantage of the emphasis placed on natural rights during the Revolution, the antislavery forces, led by Moses Brown, secured over the bitter opposition of the Newport deputies the passage of the Antislavery Law of 1784. This act declared that "holding mankind in a state of slavery, as private property . . . is repugnant to this principle [of liberty], and subversive of the happiness of mankind, the great end of all civil government,—" It provided that no persons born in Rhode Island after March 1, 1784, were to be considered slaves. However, this act did not emancipate those already in slavery, but it encouraged masters to grant them their freedom by releasing the masters from the obligation of providing for the support of freed slaves.¹⁵

Not content with this victory, the antislavery forces, led by Moses Brown and Samuel Hopkins, were determined to ban Rhode Islanders from participation in the external slave trade anywhere in the world. Their efforts were crowned with success in 1787 when the Rhode Island legislature enacted a law forbidding any citizen or resident of Rhode Island to import directly or indirectly, or to buy or sell, or receive on board any vessel with intent to transport from their native land any natives or inhabitants of Africa without their voluntary

consent. Violators were to be fined £100 for every person illegally transported and £1,000 for each vessel engaged in the enterprise.¹⁶

Although the antislavery forces had now achieved a virtually complete legislative triumph in Rhode Island, there still remained much to be done in order to complete their work. The Rhode Island antislavery movement was but a part of a nationwide movement against slavery, which would be satisfied with nothing less than the complete extinction of slavery and the slave trade throughout the United States. As soon as antislavery forces attained their goal in one state, they would immediately aid their confrères in other states with all moral and financial help necessary to their cause. It was evident that no single state could effectively keep its citizens from trading in slaves unless it had the co-operation of its neighboring states. Certainly the Rhode Island law forbidding citizens of the state to engage in the slave trade anywhere could not be enforced if those citizens could engage in the trade under assumed names in Massachusetts or Connecticut, where the trade was still legal. Hence the Rhode Island antislavery men determined to work with their fellow abolitionists in other states to remedy this situation as soon as possible. Their efforts were crowned with success in all the northern states, where by 1792 the slave trade was outlawed, and slavery itself was either abolished outright or doomed to gradual extinction, as in Rhode Island.

There now remained the serious problem of adequate enforcement of the anti-slave trade laws. There were a number of Rhode Island merchants who were ready to engage in the slave trade despite the law. It was therefore evident that if the antislavery forces were to reap the fruits of their victory, some form of permanent organization was inevitable. In New York the antislavery forces had organized the New York Society for Promoting the Manumission of Slaves,¹⁷ which was similar to the antislavery society organized in Philadelphia ten years earlier.¹⁸ Both of these societies were ardently supported by Quakers. Various Friends and other citizens of Philadelphia, New York, and Newport suggested to Moses Brown that such a society be formed in Rhode Island. With a realistic grasp of the Rhode Island situation, John Murray of New York wrote Moses Brown, "I think it would do some good."¹⁹

¹⁶*Ibid.*, p. 262.

¹⁷John Murray to Moses Brown, September 19, 1785, MBP, V, #1300.

¹⁸Edwards A. Park, *Memoir of the Life of Samuel Hopkins, D.D.*, p. 125.

¹⁹John Murray to Moses Brown, MBP, V, #1300.

¹³*Rhode Island Colonial Records*, VIII, p. 251-253.

¹⁴*Ibid.*, VIII, p. 618.

¹⁵*Rhode Island Colonial Records*, X, p. 7.

Moses Brown had long favored the establishment of such a society in Rhode Island. His time, however, was so occupied with other affairs, particularly those of the Friends, that he had not been able to do much about it.²⁰ However, he became convinced that some action would have to be taken as the Newport Guinea traders opposed the Rhode Island anti-slave trade law with ever increasing vehemence and even published a pamphlet in Newport in defense of the trade. Quakers who protested were censured for "meddling," and many were thereby effectively silenced.²¹ Moses Brown finally declared that he saw no way of enforcing the law except through the establishment of a society similar to those in New York and Philadelphia, since those in favor of the slave trade were "powerful in money and influence, but not large."²²

Consequently Moses Brown, Judge David Howell, Dwight Foster, and a number of other antislavery men organized the Providence Society for Abolishing the Slave Trade at a meeting at the Providence Friends' Meeting House in February, 1789. The society adopted a constitution, the preamble of which declared:

It having pleased the Creator of mankind to make of one blood all nations of men, and having by the diffusion of His light manifested that, however diversified by colour, situation, or different states of society, it becomes them to promote each other's happiness as members of one great family. It is therefore the duty of those who profess to maintain their own rights, and especially those who acknowledge the obligation of Christianity, to extend, by the use of such means as are or may be in their power, the blessings of freedom to the whole human race, and in a more particular manner to such of their fellow citizens as by the laws and constitutions of the United States are entitled to their freedom, and who by fraud and violence are or may be detained in bondage. And as, by the African slave trade, a system of slavery replete with human misery is erected and carried on, it is incumbent on them to endeavour the suppression of that unrighteous commerce, to excite due observance of such good and wholesome laws as are or may be enacted for the abolition of slavery, and for the support of the rights of those who are entitled to freedom by the laws of the country in which they live; and to afford such relief as we may be enabled to those unhappy fellow citizens who, like the sons of Africa, falling into the hands of unmerciful men, may be carried into slavery at Algiers or elsewhere.²³

From a conviction of these truths, and the obligation of these principles,

²⁰Moses Brown to Samuel Hopkins, January 20, 1786, MBP, V, #1344.

²¹Moses Brown to Joseph Delaplaine, May 29, 1786, MBP, V, #1390.

²²Moses Brown to Edmund Prior, October 25, 1788, MBP, VI, #1518.

²³A reference to persons captured by Barbary pirates in the Mediterranean.

and from a desire to diffuse them wherever the vices and miseries of slavery exist, and in humble reliance on the support of the father of mankind, the subscribers have formed themselves into a society, under the title of the Providence Society for abolishing the Slave Trade.²⁴

Judge David Howell was elected president of the society, John Dorrance, vice president, Thomas Arnold, secretary, and Moses Brown, treasurer. The society had one or more counselors, whose duty it was to explain the provisions of state constitutions relating to the slave trade and emancipation, and, when necessary, to urge due execution of those provisions and of the Negroes' claim to freedom before the competent authorities. The first such counselors were David Howell, Thomas Arnold, and Daniel Lyman. There were to be four quarterly meetings a year and such special meetings as the president might see fit to call or as might be convened at the written request of any six members.²⁵

The society was formally incorporated by the Rhode Island General Assembly in June, 1790, as the Providence Society for promoting the abolition of Slavery, for the relief of persons unlawfully held in bondage, and for improving the conditions of the African race. At that time it contained 188 members, including such prominent citizens as Thomas Robinson, Obadiah Brown (son of Moses), Theodore Foster, Rowland Hazard, and Thomas Hazard, all of Rhode Island, Jonathan Edwards of Connecticut, and Samuel Eliot and several other residents of Massachusetts.²⁶

An amendment to the Act of Incorporation, passed in June, 1791, explicitly authorized the society to bring any suit, plaint, action, or information before any justice, judge, or court in the state concerning slavery or the slave trade.²⁷

The Providence Abolition Society immediately aroused the opposition and resentment of the slave-trading interests. A series of letters signed "Citizen," attacking the society, appeared in the *Providence Gazette* in February and March, 1789. "Citizen" held that the society was really a combination aimed at carrying out threats to prosecute a certain gentleman of Providence if he did not quit the Guinea trade. Although the name of the gentleman is nowhere mentioned, it was probably John Brown (brother of Moses), the Provi-

²⁴*Newport Mercury*, March 16, 1789.

²⁵*Ibid.*

²⁶*Rhode Island Colonial Records 1784-1792*, p. 382-385.

²⁷*Ibid.*, p. 436.

dence merchant who had been most concerned in the slave trade.²⁸ The writer defended the slave trade as necessary in supplying the West Indies and the United States with laborers. He also declared that taking Negro war captives from Africa saved them from certain execution at the hands of their captors. If the Abolition Society achieved its goal, "Citizen" wrote, many hundreds of citizens throughout the United States who had all or the greatest part of their property in slaves would be ruined. He stated that the clause in the new federal constitution requiring that persons bound to labor in one state, who escaped into another, be returned when properly claimed was designed to protect the slave owners against those "who seemed to be disposed . . . to rob their fellow citizens of their property in slaves." "Citizen" urged the Abolition Society not to cause dissension in the United States government, after Rhode Island ratified the federal constitution, by provoking war between the "two extremities of the confederacy."²⁹ Articles defending slavery also appeared in the *Newport Herald* at this time.³⁰

This defense of slavery and criticism of the Providence Abolition Society was immediately answered by Moses Brown. Writing in the *Providence Gazette* under the pseudonym of "A Friend, though a Monitor to the Citizen," he declared that no cruelties to Negroes in Africa could justify the slave trade, with the inhuman conditions of the ocean voyage. He denied that Negro prisoners were always executed in Africa, and cited contemporary authorities on the subject. Even if this were true, he asked, would it not be more humane to give the Negroes liberty with their lives? Concerning the need for laborers in the West Indies, Moses Brown held that the work could be done just as well by free men. Also, he continued, workers treated humanely would do more work and would more readily reproduce their kind. He cited the belief then widely held among antislavery forces, based on accounts of travelers, that Negroes in Africa were by and large naturally indolent, and that "none ever enjoyed the numerous blessings in rural simplicity and happiness than they." Under these circumstances, he wrote, it was inhuman to subject them to the rigors of West Indian labor, a situation to which they were entirely unaccustomed. Moses Brown cited authorities to the effect

²⁸John Brown was widely suspected of illegally engaging in the slave trade and was later prosecuted for it.

²⁹*Providence Gazette*, February 14, 28, March 14, 1789.

³⁰*Newport Herald*, March 19, 1789.

that African wars in which Negroes were captured and enslaved were to be blamed on "money-loving Christians of America." He appealed for an end to personal attacks on members of the Abolition Society, and offered to do all he could for the restoration of mutual good will.³¹

The Providence Abolition Society, undaunted by this controversy, almost immediately set out to prosecute violators of the anti-slave trade law. Such action seemed necessary beyond doubt if the law were to be anything but a dead letter. Samuel Hopkins wrote Moses Brown in November, 1789, that neglect to prosecute violators had already made the Newport slave traders contemptuous of the society, and that they had resolved to resume the trade.³² John Brown was again accused of engaging in the trade. Concerning this, Dr. Hopkins told Moses: "Your brother should be made to suffer the rigors of the law. He should be taken down a bit."³³ However, he was not prosecuted until some time later.

The first major case in which the Providence Abolition Society was concerned was that of *Gordon vs. Gardner et al.*, involving the prosecution of the brig *Hope* in 1789. The owner and the master of that vessel, both Rhode Islanders, were accused of violating the Massachusetts anti-slave trade law by clearing from Boston to Africa and carrying 116 slaves to the West Indies, where they were sold. The vessel was seized on arrival at Westport, Massachusetts, and a suit for £6,000 was entered.³⁴ The society immediately endorsed the prosecution and promised all assistance that might be necessary.³⁵ Judge Howell, president of the society, prosecuted the case. The defense raised the issue as to whether the defendants, being Rhode Island citizens, could be considered residents of Massachusetts and thereby subject to the laws of that state. The question of double jeopardy was also raised, since the defendants, as citizens of Rhode Island, were also liable to prosecution under the laws of their home state. However, the prosecution contended successfully that inasmuch as the defendants had fitted the ship at Boston, they were at that time residents of Massachusetts, and therefore subject to its laws. If they had also violated Rhode Island law by engaging in the foreign slave

³¹*Providence Gazette*, March 7, 14, 28, 1789.

³²Samuel Hopkins to Moses Brown, November 18, 1789, MBP, VI, #1766.

³³*Idem*, March 1, 1790, MBP, VII, #1802.

³⁴William Rotch to Moses Brown, May 6, 1789, MBP, VI, #1796.

³⁵*Idem*, May 16, 1789, MBP, VI, #1805.

trade, they had themselves to blame for committing a double crime. The defendants were found guilty, and the verdict was sustained on appeal.³⁶

Another case in which the Providence Abolition Society was concerned was that of the *Abelona* of Salem in 1792. This vessel, under Captain Sinclair, had brought 90 slaves from Africa in March, 1791, to be sold in Havana.³⁷ Information against Captain Sinclair was furnished by Captain Stephen Cleveland, a merchant captain but an ardent abolitionist, who was reported to be the first man in Salem to take an open stand against the slave trade.³⁸ Cleveland was without funds to carry on a prosecution, and consequently his case was recommended to the Providence Abolition Society for help. The society voted Cleveland its full support and urged the Boston Abolition Society to do likewise. However, the Providence society's treasury was empty because of so many minor calls for its aid, but Moses Brown gave Cleveland twenty dollars out of his own funds to enable him to engage the best attorneys available.³⁹ Samuel Eliot of Boston advised Moses Brown: "Do not let the Society be disgraced for any want of timely effort. If we do not support Mr. Cleveland, so far as it seems to me, it would be better if the society were extinct."⁴⁰

The case came to trial at Newburyport in the fall of 1792. The defense questioned the validity of the Massachusetts anti-slave trade law under the new federal constitution, which gave Congress authority to set the place of trial for crimes not committed in any state, thus raising the question whether federal jurisdiction had now superseded that of Massachusetts. The jury held the defendants guilty if the Massachusetts law was still in force, but asked the court to determine the question of jurisdiction.⁴¹

By its action in these two cases the Providence Abolition Society established itself as a potent force in upholding the morals of the community. Meanwhile abolition societies were flourishing in other northern states, and in 1793 the Pennsylvania Abolition Society issued a call for a convention to be held in Philadelphia in January, 1794.⁴²

³⁶Donnan, *op. cit.*, III, p. 352-358.

³⁷Moses Brown to Samuel Eliot, September 14, 1792, MBP, VIII, #2112.

³⁸Isaac Hacker to Moses Brown, September 11, 1792, MBP, VIII, #2107.

³⁹Moses Brown to Samuel Eliot, September 14, 1792, MBP, VIII, #2112.

⁴⁰Samuel Eliot to Moses Brown, September 19, 1792, MBP, VIII, #2119.

⁴¹Donnan, *op. cit.*, III, p. 94-97.

⁴²James Pemberton to Moses Brown, April 27, 1793, MBP, VIII, #2184.

The Providence Abolition Society accepted the invitation and named Moses Brown and Theodore Foster as delegates.⁴³

As soon as the convention assembled, it adopted a memorial to be presented to Congress asking for a federal law banning American participation in the foreign slave trade.⁴⁴ The memorial stated that the petitioners

... deem it their duty to approach the Congress of the United States with a respectful representation of certain evils, the unauthorized acts of a few, but injurious to the interest and reputation of all.

America, dignified by being the first in modern times to assert and defend the rights of man, suffers her name to be tarnished, and her people to be weakened, by a cruel commerce, carried on from some of her ports, for the supply of foreign nations with African slaves

... while it exposes the lives and morals of our sailors to peculiar danger, it renders all complaints of retaliation unjust; for those who deprive others of their liberty, for the benefit of foreign countries, cannot reasonably murmur if by other nations they are deprived of their own.⁴⁵

... Your memorialists observe and mention with pleasure that this venal cruelty is at present confined to a few ports and a few persons. Hence it becomes more easy to destroy a degrading exception from the general dignity of our commerce, and to restore our citizens to their former fame, of preferring the spirit of freedom to the delusion of interest.

... Foreigners, seduced by the example, and believing that they may commit without reproach what American citizens commit with impunity, avail themselves of our ports to fit out their vessels for the same traffic. Thus we become the accomplices of their offenses, and partake of the guilt, without the miserable consolation of sharing its profits.

... Your memorialists, therefore, trusting that a compliance with their request will not exceed the constitutional powers of Congress, nor injure the interests, or disturb the tranquillity of any part of the Union, respectfully pray that a law may be passed prohibiting the trade carried on by citizens of the United States for the supply of slaves to foreign nations, and preventing foreigners from fitting out vessels for the slave trade in the ports of the United States.⁴⁶

The memorial was presented to Congress by a committee of which Moses Brown was a member. For five weeks the committee labored unceasingly in favor of an anti-slave trade law, interviewing almost

⁴³Samuel Collins to Moses Brown, December 29, 1793, MBP, VIII, #2243.

⁴⁴Article I section 9 of the Constitution forbade Congress to prohibit the importation of slaves into the United States prior to 1808. However, this prohibition did not refer to strictly foreign trade. Moses Brown discussed this question with James Madison, who concurred in this opinion.

⁴⁵Reference to impressment by British ships.

⁴⁶Memorial reprinted in *Providence Gazette*, February 22, 1794.

every member. Moses Brown was a member of a delegation which called on President Washington, who appeared clearly and decidedly in favor of suppressing the slave traffic.⁴⁷

In March, 1794, Congress passed an act providing that no citizen of the United States or foreigner entering or residing in the United States was to fit out either for himself or anyone else at any port or any other place in the United States any ship or vessel for the purpose of carrying on any trade in slaves to any foreign country, or for the purpose of procuring in any foreign country slaves to be transported to any other kingdom, place, or country. Violators were to be fined two hundred dollars, one half of which was to be paid to the United States, and the remainder to the informer or prosecutor. Any master, owner, or factor of a ship fitting out for Africa who was formally suspected of planning to engage in the foreign slave trade was to post bond that he was not planning such activity.⁴⁸

Fortified by this national victory, the abolition societies throughout the northern states were determined to prosecute their cause with renewed vigor. James Phillips, a member of the London Abolition Society, wrote Moses Brown that the success of the American Convention of Abolition Societies was giving great encouragement to the antislavery forces in England in their efforts to secure eventual parliamentary abolition of the British slave trade.⁴⁹

The Providence Abolition Society was second to none of its sister societies in its zeal for the prosecution of the new law. The first major case in Rhode Island under the federal act involved John Brown, who was charged with fitting out a slave-trading ship in 1796. In contrast with his idealistic although eminently practical brother Moses, John Brown was concerned almost completely with reaping the maximum profit from his many enterprises, most of which were legitimate. However, he had no compunction about trading in slaves when it was profitable to do so. He has been aptly compared with the merchant adventurers of Elizabethan England in his determination to enter all types of profitable trade regardless of their social consequences.⁵⁰

In the fall of 1787, however, John had informed Moses that he

⁴⁷Moses Brown to James Phillips, May 7, 1794, MBP, VIII, #2266.

⁴⁸Act reprinted in *Providence Gazette*, March 29, 1794.

⁴⁹James Phillips to Moses Brown, September 19, 1794, MBP, VIII, #2284.

⁵⁰This comparison was made by Prof. James B. Hedges in an address on the Brown family at the John Carter Brown Library, March 29, 1951.

would no longer engage in the Guinea trade, but would instead send his ships to the East Indies, thereby inaugurating the East India trade on which Rhode Island was to thrive for the next half century.⁵¹ Nevertheless, since the profits to be derived from the Africa-West Indies slave trade remained too great for a man of John Brown's acquisitive nature to forego, he continued in that enterprise whenever he deemed it feasible. After the passage of the law of 1794, it was alleged that he purposely pursued the slave trade to test the strength of the law.⁵²

John Brown was charged by the Providence Abolition Society in 1796 with violating the federal anti-slave trade legislation. He immediately appealed to his brother for help in settling the case on the best possible terms,⁵³ and charged that Thomas Arnold, who was prosecuting the case on behalf of the society, was acting from motives of personal hostility as a result of some dealings between them at the Providence Bank.⁵⁴ John admitted that he had engaged in a slave voyage, but declared that this was his only such voyage in twenty years, and justified by the bland assertion that he owed the United States government one hundred thousand dollars in customs duties, and that he needed the profits from the voyage to help pay it. He asked his brother to have the case discontinued, or, failing that, to have it continued until it could be dropped.⁵⁵

In reply to John's appeal, Moses Brown sent his brother what is probably a masterpiece of fraternal guidance and correction. He expressed chagrin that there had been any occasion for a complaint that his brother had committed a breach of the laws of the United States and had thereby set a bad example which divers others had followed. Because of the widespread demand for the outlawry of the slave trade and the unanimity with which the anti-slave trade measure had passed Congress, Moses told John that he should have had no doubt that the act would be carried into effect. Concerning the prosecution, he declared it his sentiment that no one should be complained of more than was necessary to discourage his engaging in the trade and to prevent it in the future. He said he believed it right for

⁵¹John Brown to Moses Brown, August 10, 1787, MBP, VI, #1500.

⁵²Moses Brown to John Brown, March 15, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2509.

⁵³John Brown to Moses Brown, July 29, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2565.

⁵⁴Thomas Arnold to Moses Brown, March 20, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2515.

⁵⁵John Brown to Moses Brown, July 29, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2565.

every thoughtful citizen to discourage such commerce as evidently tended to injure the moral sense of the inhabitants and deaden their feelings of humanity toward their fellow men. It was the duty of such enlightened citizens, he said, to prevent such commerce among their neighbors in ways consistent with wholesome laws. For this purpose, Moses Brown declared, was the Providence Abolition Society founded. The members had signed a covenant, he wrote, to help one another and to observe appropriate laws in protecting the innocent and the oppressed. Moses urged his brother to look upon his circumstances as the consequence of having violated a righteous law, and to be as resigned as possible to his fate as the best means of avoiding the extreme punishment of the law. Since the object of the prosecution was that the slave trade be stopped, he declared, those willing to desist in the future should not be further prosecuted, but those who stubbornly persisted in the enterprise should be punished to the full extent of the law. He expressed the hope that the case would have a happy ending for all concerned, and that it would "be among the all things which is said shall work together for good to them that love the Lord."⁵⁶

John Brown finally wrote Judge Howell, president of the society, asking that the case be ended. He promised that if the suit was withdrawn or discontinued by his paying the costs of court, he would never again be concerned directly or indirectly with the slave trade.⁵⁷ Judge Howell presented this proposal to the executive committee of the society, but the latter refused to drop the case.⁵⁸ The society had offered to accept an accommodation, but it was explained that an accommodation did not mean total discontinuance of the case. In fact, Moses Brown heard that the society had offered John rather liberal terms, but that the flattering of John's friends in Newport had led him to refuse them.⁵⁹

The case came to trial in the United States District Court at Newport. However, to the apparent surprise of everyone, John Brown was acquitted, despite the charge of the court which seemed to indicate that he could properly be found guilty.⁶⁰ Moses Brown

⁵⁶Moses Brown to John Brown, March 15, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2509.

⁵⁷John Brown to Moses Brown, November 17, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2590.

⁵⁸David Howell to Moses Brown, November 17, 1797, MBP, VIII, #2591.

⁵⁹Comment on letter from John Brown, MBP, VIII, #2567.

⁶⁰Moses Brown to Dwight Foster, January 30, 1800, MBP, IX, #2733.

attributed his brother's acquittal to his advanced age and his situation in the community, but added very cryptically:

But there is something more which I forbear to describe that occasioned the difficulty to obtain a verdict of jury, though the most explicit charge of the court was given in favor of finding him guilty of the breach of the law. Perhaps no other man would have had so much favor shown him, and I doubt if there will be on a similar occasion.⁶¹

The verdict was certainly a setback for the Providence Abolition Society, but it continued its work undiscouraged. Even John Brown failed to win a complete victory over the society, for the latter assisted in the recovery of the rights of a Negro held illegally by him,⁶² a move which confirmed his belief that the society was out to ruin him.

John Brown's acquittal served to weaken considerably the standing of the Providence Abolition Society, for in 1803 Moses Brown noted much discouragement in some formerly active members owing to the society's failure to win a "popular case" (presumably the John Brown case) which it had zealously pushed, but in which the jury "had found means to give judgment in favor of the slave trader." He expressed the hope that when the society had recovered sufficient strength to carry on "with that firmness and dignity becoming the subject [of] slavery," he could stir up the members to greater activity.⁶³

The Providence Abolition Society never recovered its former zeal and energy. After its failure in the John Brown case it conducted no more major prosecutions of slave traders, although a flourishing commerce in slaves was carried on from the port of Bristol during the first two decades of the nineteenth century. In 1804 it aroused itself to hold a special meeting to protest a petition before Congress to permit slavery in the newly acquired Louisiana Territory. Although there seems to be no extant copy of the petition, Moses Brown wrote:

We are united in the opinion that Congress could not fall on a measure more unjust in itself, more unpopular in the northern states, or more impolitic . . .⁶⁴

Congress took no action at the time on the Louisiana petition, but slavery was tacitly permitted in the southern section of the territory, and in 1812 Louisiana was admitted to the Union as a slave state.

⁶¹*Ibid.*

⁶²*Ibid.*

⁶³Moses Brown to Walter Franklin, February 5, 1803, MBP, X, #2954.

⁶⁴Moses Brown to Rep. Nehemiah Knight, December 28, 1804, MBP, XIII, #2744.

After the adoption of the Louisiana protest the Providence Abolition Society rapidly became moribund. It sent no delegates to the American Convention of Abolition Societies after 1798, and in 1805 it reported that slavery was so nearly extinct in Rhode Island⁶⁵ that it had little to do and excused itself from attendance because of the length of the journey to Philadelphia and the inclemency of the winter season.⁶⁶ Although cognizant of the activities of the Bristol slave traders, the society took no action, perhaps because of the extreme difficulty of securing legally admissible evidence. Nevertheless, the society continued its legal existence for thirty years thereafter. In 1833 Moses Brown inserted in his will a provision that the Providence Abolition Society should inherit one share in the Providence Bank.⁶⁷ However, he canceled this bequest in 1835, stating that it did not appear that there would be another legally convened meeting of the society. He assigned the legacy to be held in trust for the newly formed Providence Antislavery Society.⁶⁸

The principal reason for the decline of the Providence Abolition Society seems to have been the lack of local slavery issues with which to concern itself. After 1800 public opinion was very apathetic concerning slavery until the Missouri Compromise of 1820. Consequently the society failed to attract new members to replace the older ones. Hence the society was in no position to take action against the Bristol traders or to take a stand in the national debate over Missouri. When a strong antislavery sentiment was again revived after 1830, the rising generation of abolitionists preferred to organize a more radical Providence Antislavery Society.

The Providence Abolition Society, under the guidance of such dynamic figures as Moses Brown, David Howell, and Theodore Foster, in co-operation with similar societies throughout the northern states, played a very vital role by influencing public opinion on the evils of slavery and the slave trade.

⁶⁵It will be recalled that the Rhode Island law provided for the *gradual* abolition of slavery.

⁶⁶Mary S. Locke, *Antislavery in America*, p. 109.

⁶⁷Moses Brown's will, MBP, XIV, p. 69.

⁶⁸*Ibid.*

JOHN SMITH, THE MILLER, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

by CHARLES WILLIAM FARNHAM

[continued from January, 1962, v. 21, no. 1, p. 29]

8 JOHN⁴ SMITH (*John*,³ *John*,² *John*¹), of Providence, called John, the fuller, d. 24 May 1719 intestate. He was married 12 June 1716 by Richard Waterman, justice, to Deborah Angell,⁷⁹ the daughter of James and Abigail (Dexter) Angell of Providence, who was b. 4 April 1695⁸⁰ and died in Providence 25 Feb. 1738.

On 5 Oct. 1719 the Providence Town Council granted the request of the widow to take administration of John's estate, and her brother James Angell provided the bond. The inventory taken by John Angell, John Whipple, and John Jenckes on 26 May 1719 was approved by the Town Council 29 Aug. 1719. It totaled £142 4s 10d and included mill irons and tailor's shears.⁸¹

Town records give no clue to the cause of John's death, but he was undoubtedly a young man when he died. It may be that he was buried in his father's lot in Charles Town in what was then the compact part of Providence. Deborah's gravestone is in North Burial Ground beside that of their only child, Martha. Her inscription reads: "Deborah Smith, relict of John Smith, died Feb. 25, 1738 in her 44th year."

CHILD OF JOHN AND DEBORAH (ANGELL) SMITH:

I MARTHA⁵ SMITH, b. 3 April 1719 in Providence;⁸² d. 1 Sept. 1760 in Providence; m. (1) in Providence 23 Mar. 1737 Elisha Brown of Providence,⁸³ of James and Mary (Harris) Brown, grandson of John Brown and great-grandson of Chad Brown. He was b. 25 May 1717 and d. 20 April 1802. He m. (2) 22 Feb. 1761 Hannah (Barker) Cushing, widow of Elijah Cushing. Elisha Brown was Deputy Governor of Rhode Island in 1765-67 and was for some years a member of the General Assembly.

Through a court action begun in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in the June term, 1752, Martha and her husband, as next of kin, following the death that year of her first cousin Charles Smith, laid claim to the original

⁷⁹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171.

⁸⁰Austin, *op. cit.*, p. 4.

⁸¹Providence Wills, 2:81-83.

⁸²Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:245.

⁸³*Ibid.*, p. 171.

John Smith grist mill properties. After lengthy litigation the properties came into the possession of Martha and Elisha Brown and their descendants.

Elisha Brown built a red brick house on North Main Street north of Olney Street in Providence, the southern half of which remained as a landmark until 1961 when it was demolished as part of a slum clearance program.

The will of Martha (Smith) Brown, made in Providence 1 July 1760 and proved 21 Oct. 1765, left to her husband one half of her mills, stream, and dam; to son James Brown a lot and dwelling house in the compact part of Providence called Charles Town, located near the burial lot of her grandfather John Smith, dec., the same marked lot 19 on the map of Smith holdings; to son Jeremiah Brown two small lots on the back street of Charles Town, lots 1 and 2 on the map and another parcel southwesterly of the lots abutting on land assigned as dower to the widow Sarah Smith; to son Elisha Brown two lots, one marked 11 and one marked 20; to son Isaac four lots together on the westerly side of the back street in Charles Town; to son Smith Brown lots 10 and 15 on the map; to Charles Smith, "reputed son of Charles Smith, dec. by Sarah Nash" one lot at the north end of the back street, lot 21 on the map, when he came of age, in fee simple forever "but if he die before 21 the devise is void"; to son John Brown all residuum of the estate devolved on Martha by the death of her cousin Charles Smith that remained unsold and not disposed of, to be entered upon when he was 21. Her husband and son John were named executors.⁸⁴

CHILDREN OF ELISHA AND MARTHA (SMITH) BROWN:⁸⁵

- 1 DEBORAH⁵ BROWN, 1740-1745.
- 2 JOHN⁵ BROWN, b. 28 Jan. 1742; d. 24 May 1775; m. 25 Jan. 1772 Wait Field, of Charles and Wait (Dexter) Field. Their only child MARTHA, b. 5 Sept. 1772 m. Jeremiah Howell 17 Oct. 1793 and became the owner of the John Smith the Miller grist mill property by right of inheritance. Wait (Field) Brown was left a widow at the age of thirty-one, and she m. (2) John Smith of Smithfield 13 Feb. 1794 as his second wife.

⁸⁴Providence Wills, 5:395. ⁸⁵Abby Isabel (Brown) Bulkley, *The Chad Brown Memorial* (Brooklyn, 1888), p. 23-26, 43-48.

John Smith was son of Philip Smith and grandson of Elisha³ Smith.

- 3 JAMES⁵ BROWN, b. 27 Apr. 1744; d. at St. Croix 6 Jan. 1766 leaving a son JAMES, who married but had no children. James⁵ m. 19 July 1765 Freelove Brown, b. 17 April 1742, daughter of Col. William and Susannah (Dexter) Browne, granddaughter of Richard Browne and great-granddaughter of Henry Browne of Providence.
 - 4 JEREMIAH⁵ BROWN, b. 28 Dec. 1746; d. 4 Jan. 1817, is buried in North Burial Ground; m. (1) 21 April 1765 Mary Cushing, daughter of Elijah and Hannah (Barker) Cushing, the eldest daughter of his stepmother, the second wife of Elisha Brown; m. (2) in Boston in October 1791 Susannah (Welch) Bowen, widow of Thomas Bowen of Seekonk, Massachusetts, and daughter of John Welch of Boston.
 - 5 ELISHA⁵ BROWN, b. 1 June 1749; d. March, 1827; m. 24 April 1774 Elizabeth Bowen of Rehoboth. They had nine children.
 - 6 ISAAC⁵ BROWN, b. 23 May 1751, a sea captain in command of the sloop *Hannah*, was knocked overboard by the boom and drowned off Charleston, South Carolina, 20 Nov. 1793. He m. 21 Jan. 1776 Amy, eldest daughter of Christopher and Priscilla (Carpenter) Dexter. She d. 28 Mar. 1844, aged 94 and is buried in North Burial Ground.
 - 7 MARTHA⁵ BROWN, b. 17 Apr. 1754; d. 27 June 1775.
 - 8 SMITH⁵ BROWN, b. 12 April 1756; d. 20 Nov. 1826; m. 12 Oct. 1785 Lydia, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Barker) Gould of Pembroke, Massachusetts. In the latter part of his life he resided in Pembroke on what is known as Oak Dale Farm.
 - 9 A daughter d. 26 June 1760 aged five days.
- 9 WILLIAM⁴ SMITH (*John*,³ *John*,² *John*¹) is called mariner and is probably the William Smith mentioned in early Providence records as innholder. He m. 21 Mar. 1732/3 Sarah Field.⁸⁶ Her parentage has not been proved. William was executor of his father's estate in 1737, but had died before 1749. His widow made a deposition in

⁸⁶Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171.

1752 in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas when Martha (Smith) Brown and her husband, Elisha, brought suit against other heirs as claimants of the Smith grist mill property following the death of Charles Smith, son of Philip and nephew of William. Since no children of William and Sarah were included as defendants in the property suit, it can be assumed that there was no issue.

10 PHILIP¹ SMITH (*John,³ John,² John¹*), was called fuller in his death notice.⁸⁷ He operated the hereditary Smith grist mill property. He died in Providence 7 July 1734 intestate, and the widow, Sarah, was named administratrix,⁸⁸ the grist mill property descending to his only child, Charles Smith. Philip married in Providence 28 April 1728 Sarah Olney,⁸⁹ daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Barnes) Olney,⁹⁰ who was b. 26 Aug. 1693. The widow Sarah Smith deeded land to her father-in-law John Smith 18 Jan. 1735/6.⁹¹ John Smith, Esq., deeded to John Whipple on 6 Jan. 1737/8 land formerly belonging to Philip Smith, dec., his son, and conveyed to him by Sarah Smith, widow of Philip.⁹²

CHILD OF PHILIP AND SARAH (OLNEY) SMITH:

34 I CHARLES⁵ SMITH, b. ca. 1727.

11 PRINCE⁴ SMITH (*John,³ John,² John¹*). The death of Prince Smith, mariner, "absent for three years" is recorded in Providence vital records 11 June 1745.⁹³ Providence Town Council records note that Mrs. Marcy Steed, who was the widow of Prince Smith, late of Providence and supposed to be deceased, appeared before the Council 15 May 1745 and refused to take administration of the estate. It was then granted that Lieut. William Smith, his brother, should have administration of the goods and chattels of his brother.⁹⁴ Providence probate records show the appointment of William Smith, innholder, as administrator, giving bond of £700, with John Howland of Scituate and Thomas and John Angell as sureties.⁹⁵

In the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Providence, June term 1745, William Smith, brother of Prince Smith, sued John Hopkins of Providence, who held power of attorney for Prince, for accounts due the estate. Papers in the case stated that Prince had gone to sea with Jeremiah Brown of Providence in 1740 and all were presumed to have been lost at sea. The suit sought possession of Prince's accounts

⁸⁷*Ibid.*, p. 274. ⁸⁸Providence Probate, 3:249. ⁸⁹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171.

⁹⁰*Ibid.*, p. 235. ⁹¹Providence Deeds, 10:75. ⁹²*Ibid.*, p. 158.

⁹³Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:274. ⁹⁴Providence Council Records, 4:18.

⁹⁵Providence Probate, 4:158, 239.

so that support could be given to Prince's child.

Apparently William died before administration had been completed on Prince's estate, for the Providence Town Council on 2 Apr. 1749 ordered that letters of administration be granted to John Howland of Scituate on the goods and chattels of his cousin, Prince Smith, which had not yet been administrated upon and that bonds be taken.⁹⁶ As previously mentioned, Prince is assumed to have been the son of John Smith by his second marriage to Hannah ———, and the cousinship with John Howland suggests that his mother may have been a Howland.

Prince's wife was designated as Mrs. Mercy Stead or Steed when she refused administration of Prince's estate. Very likely she married (2) George Steed. The Providence Town Council in December 1748 voted a certificate be granted to the selectmen of Rehoboth acknowledging Mercy Stead, wife of George, and her children to be lawful inhabitants of Providence and that they should receive them as such at any time. This would indicate that Mercy by then had issue by Stead, for the court case of *William Smith vs. John Hopkins* was definite in its mention of one child by Prince Smith. On 2 Oct. 1753 George Stead of Providence, housewright, was sued by the town treasurer for a house lot on Stampers Hill which he owned "in fee simple." This may have been property which had come to him through his marriage to Prince Smith's widow.

CHILD OF PRINCE AND MERCY SMITH:

I MERCY⁷ SMITH, b. 8 July 1740. Her birth is incorrectly copied in Arnold's Providence births as Mercy of Francis and Mercy Smith.⁹⁷ Mercy appeared before the Providence Town Council 28 Sept. 1756 and made choice of her uncle George Potter as her guardian. In Providence Town Papers in the vault of The Rhode Island Historical Society there appears a note by George Potter dated Cranston, 26 Oct. 1756 addressed to the Providence Town Council "to let you know the inventory I objected to the last council day I am free should be received by your honors, for Mr. David Bowen and I have so agreed."⁹⁸

This evidently refers to an inventory of the estate of Mrs. Hannah Smith, grandmother of Mercy, since David Bowen, who married Hannah Smith, daughter of John and

⁹⁶Providence Council Records, 4:62. ⁹⁷Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:245.

⁹⁸Providence Town Papers, no. 1004, vault, The Rhode Island Historical Society.

Hannah Smith, was administrator of Mrs. Hannah Smith's estate.

No proof has been found, but George Potter, son of George and Abigail Potter, who lived in Cranston might have been the uncle of Mercy. If so, Mercy's mother must have been a sister of George Potter or of George's wife.

Providence vital records list the marriage of John Whiting and Mercy Smith 16 Nov. 1764.⁹⁹ This Mercy may have been the daughter of Prince Smith, but no further trace of her has been found.

12 ISRAEL⁴ SMITH (*Joseph*,³ *John*,² *John*¹), b. 13 Jan. 1689/90 in Providence;¹⁰⁰ m. 3 June 1718¹⁰¹ Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins, widow, who died in Gloucester 11 July 1758.¹⁰² She was the daughter of Eleazer and Eleanor (Smith) Arnold and had first m. William Hawkins, Jr., 14 Dec. 1704.¹⁰³ Israel d. intestate 20 Jan. 1726/7.¹⁰⁴ The Providence Town Council on 13 July 1720 granted tavern licenses to several townsmen, among whom was Israel Smith. On 10 Mar. 1721/22 he was granted renewal of his license.

There are no deeds for Israel recorded in Providence, but it will be remembered that the will of his father Joseph gave to grandson Stephen Smith all the farm, house, etc., which was the homestead of Stephen's father, Israel, dec., reserving half the rights and profits for Israel's widow, Elizabeth Smith. The inventory for Israel in Providence identifies him as husbandman. It totaled £234 18s 8d and included one quarter part of a saw mill, no doubt part of his inheritance.

Israel's wife Elizabeth made her will in Gloucester 1 July 1758 and died ten days later. Items were left to her children by Israel Smith: Stephen Smith, Naomi Angell, and Elizabeth Man, as well as to a granddaughter, Martha Smith. She also left bequests to her children by her first marriage to William Hawkins, Jr.: Deborah Wade, Ruth Hopkins, and Elijah Hawkins as well as to her grandchildren William and Elizabeth Hawkins.

Her son Stephen Smith and grandson William Hawkins were named executors, but the Gloucester probate record states that Stephen Smith died 7 July 1758, six days after Elizabeth's death, and William Hawkins was named executor.¹⁰⁵

⁹⁹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:172. ¹⁰⁰*Ibid.*, p. 245. ¹⁰¹*Ibid.*, p. 171.

¹⁰²Gloucester Probate, 1:173. ¹⁰³Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:90.

¹⁰⁴Providence Probate, Will Book 3:124.

¹⁰⁵Gloucester Probate, Will Book 1:173.

CHILDREN OF

ISRAEL AND ELIZABETH (ARNOLD) HAWKINS SMITH:¹⁰⁶

35 I STEPHEN⁵ SMITH, b. 6 May 1719.

II NAOMI⁵ SMITH, b. 28 Oct. 1720; m. 13 June 1740 Oliver Angell,¹⁰⁷ of Hope and Lydia (Olney) Angell, who was b. 20 Feb. 1716/17¹⁰⁸ and d. in North Providence, his death recorded in the 1 Apr. 1799 issue of the *Providence Gazette*. Naomi d. in North Providence 3 Dec. 1799.¹⁰⁹

CHILDREN OF OLIVER AND NAOMI (SMITH) ANGELL:¹¹⁰

1 Col. ISRAEL⁶ Angell, b. North Providence 13 Aug. 1740;¹¹¹ d. 3 May 1832;¹¹² m. (1) 20 Feb. 1765 his cousin Martha Angell, of Stephen and Martha (Olney) Angell, whose death in Johnston is recorded in the *United States Chronicle* of 16 Mar. 1793; m. (2) in 1794 Susannah Wright, widow, daughter of Consider and Dilly Luther, b. 29 Feb. 1765; d. 17 May 1824; m. (3) 30 Apr. 1826 Sarah (Wood) Angell, widow of Richard Angell and daughter of David Wood of Rehoboth, who was b. 10 Apr. 1770 and d. 10 Aug. 1830. Col. Israel Angell of Revolutionary War fame had eleven children by his first wife and six by the second.¹¹³

2 HOPE⁶ Angell, b. North Providence 28 Mar. 1742; death in North Providence recorded in the *Rhode Island American* of 4 June 1819; m. 19 Apr. 1772 Avis Olney of Col. Charles Olney,¹¹⁴ who was b. 10 June 1748. They had twelve children.

3 RUTH⁶ Angell, b. 1746; d. 1803, unmarried.

4 JASON⁶ Angell, b. 7 Oct. 1748 in North Providence; m. 12 July 1772 in North Providence Caroline Jenks,¹¹⁵ of Dr. John and Rachel (Lawrence) Jenks of Smithfield; probably settled with his family in Ontario County, New York. Had four children.

NAOMI⁶ Angell, b. 27 Dec. 1755; m. John Whipple.

6 ELISHA⁶ Angell, b. 22 Feb. 1757; d. 28 Apr. 1838;

¹⁰⁶Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:245. ¹⁰⁷*Ibid.*, p. 5. ¹⁰⁸*Ibid.*, p. 209. ¹⁰⁹Bible records of Col. Israel Angell, typewritten transcript, Bible Records, v. 4, in The Rhode Island Historical Society. ¹¹⁰Avery F. Angell, *Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Angell* . . . (Providence, 1872) p. 39, 80-84. ¹¹¹Bible records of Col. Israel Angell. ¹¹²Arnold, *op. cit.*, 18:230, death notice in *Providence Patriot*. ¹¹³Bible records of Col. Israel Angell. ¹¹⁴Arnold, *op. cit.*, North Providence, 2:6. ¹¹⁵*Ibid.*

m. (1) 24 Aug. 1783 Anna Fenner of Johnston,¹¹⁶ daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Arnold) Fenner, who d. 3 Jan. 1818; m. (2) 7 May 1820 Mary Dean, who d. 22 May 1832; m. (3) 11 Feb. 1835 Catherine Pierce, who d. 12 Apr. 1868. Had four children, all by his first wife.

7 ADAH⁶ Angell, b. 6 June 1752;¹¹⁷ d. 3 Sept. 1842; m. 16 Dec. 1773 Nicholas Jenks of Jonathan, b. 13 June 1752; d. 23 June 1837. The family removed to North Brookfield, Massachusetts, where Nicholas was a farmer. Had nine children.

III ELIZABETH⁵ SMITH, b. 8 Oct. 1722 is mentioned in her mother's will as Elizabeth Man. The farms in Glocester of Elizabeth's brother Stephen Smith and Nathaniel Man abutted. A Glocester deed of 3 Oct. 1750 records the sale of property by Nathaniel Man to Joseph Cowen of Glocester, with Nathaniel Man's wife Elizabeth yielding her dower rights. No marriage of Nathaniel Man was recorded in Glocester, nor are children of Nathaniel and Elizabeth listed in the vital records.

36 IV ISRAEL⁵ SMITH, b. 22 Mar. 1724/5.

13 JOSEPH⁴ SMITH (*Joseph,³ John,² John¹*), b. in Providence 18 Dec. 1695; m. (1) 10 June 1772 Isabel Brown;¹¹⁸ b. 17 Apr. 1705¹¹⁹ daughter of Ensign John Brown (*John,² Chad¹*); m. (2) Ruth ———; d. in Providence 4 Feb. 1726/27.

Careful examination of probate records for Joseph Smith, cooper, whose wife Ruth was named administratrix proves that he was Joseph,⁴ son of Joseph.³ The will of Joseph³ left to Jeremiah Smith, brother of Joseph,⁴ land east of the Seven Mile Line, including fifty acres that Joseph⁴ had deeded from William Edmonds, but was paid for by Joseph's father, since Joseph⁴ had died. The inventory for Joseph Smith, cooper,¹²⁰ totaled £200 and excepted a house and "53 acres of wild land." This would seem to be the land bequeathed in the will of Joseph³ to his son Jeremiah.⁴

With this premise it can be assumed that Isabel Brown did not live long after her marriage to Joseph⁴ and that Joseph soon afterwards married Ruth ———. It is likely that the Ruth Smith, widow,

¹¹⁶*Ibid.* ¹¹⁷William B. Browne, *Genealogy of the Jenks Family of America* (Concord, N. H., 1952), p. 66. ¹¹⁸Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171. ¹¹⁹*Ibid.*, p. 214.

¹²⁰Providence Probate, 3:68.

who became the second wife of Jeremiah⁴ 27 Apr. 1729,¹²¹ was the widow of Jeremiah's brother Joseph.⁴ No births of children of Joseph by his two marriages have been found. Possibly there were daughters, but the fact that Joseph³ bequeathed land once held by Joseph to Jeremiah⁴ would indicate there was no male issue by Joseph. If Joseph⁴ had sons, their grandfather could be expected to reserve for them the land once held by Joseph.⁴

14 ROBERT⁴ SMITH (*Joseph,³ John,² John¹*), b. 3 Mar. 1698;¹²² m. 9 Nov. 1725 Anne Olney, b. 26 Mar. 1700 daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Barnes) Olney of Providence.¹²³ Robert was living at the time of his father's death in 1750 and may be the Lieut. Robert Smith, who d. intestate in Glocester 10 Nov. 1756. Anne, widow of Robert, was named administratrix.

Joseph Smith of Providence, weaver, on 20 Sept. 1731 deeded to son Robert Smith one hundred thirty-three acres in Glocester near the place called Chestnut Hill, adjoining Col. Joseph Whipple; also a quarter purchase right in undivided lands in Glocester, part of the original purchase of grandfather John Smith, with dwelling house "near where Robert now lives." James Brown and Hope Brown were witnesses.¹²⁴

Robert Smith of Glocester for sixteen pounds deeded to Stephen Keech thirty acres to be taken up on the west side of the Seven Mile Line in Scituate or Glocester, in the original right of John Smith, Jr., in the one hundred twenty acre division, 2 Feb. 1744/5; Andrew Brown and Phillip Keech, witnesses.¹²⁵

On 25 June 1744 Robert Smith of Glocester deeded to son Abraham Smith fifty acres, "the southern most part of the homestead where I now dwell." The land abutted that of Robert's brother, David Smith. Abraham Tourtelotte and Marey Hopkins were witnesses.¹²⁶

Anne or Anna Smith was living in Glocester 19 Aug. 1783 when her son Abraham and his wife Mary deeded land to their son Isaac Smith, with Anne Smith signing off her dower rights. Glocester Town Council records note the death of Anne Smith 3 Aug. 1794.¹²⁷ The Council on 8 Dec. 1794 allowed Elizabeth Mitchell fifteen shillings for her demands in keeping her grandmother, Anne Smith, until the

¹²¹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171.

¹²²*Ibid.*

¹²³*Ibid.*, p. 235.

¹²⁴Glocester Deeds, 1:25.

¹²⁵*Ibid.*, 2:87.

¹²⁶*Ibid.*, 3:10.

¹²⁷Glocester Town Council Records, 2:119, 63, 78.

time of her death. Earlier the Council had allowed Edward Mitchell of Gloucester four bushels of corn for keeping of his mother-in-law, Anna Smith. Another Council entry records the removal of the widow Anne Smith from Elder Edward Mitchell's to the home of Mary Smith, widow of Abraham Smith.

CHILDREN OF ROBERT AND ANNE (OLNEY) SMITH:

37 I ABRAHAM⁵ SMITH.

II A daughter who m. Elder Edward Mitchell of Gloucester, proved by Town Council records listed above. There may have been other children of Robert and Anne, for births are not listed in vital records.

15 WILLIAM⁵ SMITH (*Joseph*,³ *John*,² *John*¹), b. 15 Mar. 1703;¹²⁸ d. at Louisburg, Cape Breton, 30 Dec. 1745; m. 24 Dec. 1732 Abigail Dexter;¹²⁹ b. 1715, daughter of John and Mary (Field) Dexter.¹³⁰ She m. (2) William Smith,¹³¹ son of Daniel Smith (Benjamin,³ *John*,² *John*¹). The *Providence Gazette* of 13 Dec. 1792 records the death of Abigail Smith, wife of William at North Providence, at an advanced age.

The W. W. Chapin manuscript on this branch of the family states that Captain William Smith was an important man of his times: a member of the legislature and a merchant. He was captain of the vessel *Success* and took part in the Shirley expedition to Louisburg, where he died.¹³²

The will of Captain William, made in Providence 19 June 1745 named his wife Abigail, sons John, William, and Philip, as well as a child yet to be born. His inventory totaled £228 2s.¹³³

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM AND ABIGAIL (DEXTER) SMITH:¹³⁴

38 I JOHN⁵ SMITH, b. 15 Dec. 1734.

39 II WILLIAM⁶ SMITH, b. 18 Nov. 1739.

III PHILIP⁵ SMITH, d. 27 Feb. 1749 aged five years, buried in North Burial Ground, Providence, in the lot of his brother John Smith at Summit Street near Grove Street.

IV SARAH⁵ SMITH, b. 23 Aug. 1745 after her father had made his will. She would have been the right age to have been the Sarah Smith who married John Crawford in Providence 18 Sept. 1768.¹³⁵

¹²⁸Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:254. ¹²⁹*Ibid.*, p. 171. ¹³⁰Austin, *op. cit.*, p. 289.
¹³¹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:172. ¹³²W. W. Chapin manuscript, The Rhode Island Historical Society. ¹³³Providence Probate, 4:181. ¹³⁴Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:245.
¹³⁵*Ibid.*, p. 72.

16 DAVID¹ SMITH (*Joseph*,³ *John*,² *John*¹), b. 10 Dec. 1705; d. in Gloucester 27 May 1745;¹³⁶ m. 26 Aug. 1731 Sarah Whipple,¹³⁷ daughter of Capt. Job and Silence (Pray) Whipple. She m. (2) 4 Oct. 1747 Nathan Staples of Smithfield.¹³⁸

By a deed recorded in Gloucester 31 Dec. 1731 Joseph Smith of Providence gave to his son David Smith two hundred acres in Gloucester adjacent to land given to his son Robert on the west and south, on the east to land of Capt. James Olney, east of Capt. Whipple; also one-quarter purchase right in undeveloped land, part of original right of his grandfather, John Smith, dec., with dwelling house thereon. Amey Gibbs and Ann Crawford were witnesses.¹³⁹ On 4 Jan. 1731/2 David Smith of Gloucester deeded land to Stephen Hopkins of Scituate.

David Smith's will made 21 Oct. 1743 named his wife Sarah and her father Capt. Job Whipple of Smithfield as joint executors. He left to his son Simon Smith his homestead farm and to his daughters Sarah, Martha, and Dorcas Smith fifty pounds each. He also left to "my wife's daughter, Martha Hopkins thirty pounds."¹⁴⁰

Sarah Staples, widow of Nathan Staples, late of Smithfield, died in 1781. She left a will in Gloucester in which are mentioned her son-in-law Joseph Page and Martha his wife, her son-in-law Gideon Mowry and wife Dorcas Mowry, and also specifically mentioned are her two daughters Martha Page and Dorcas Mowry.¹⁴¹ Capt. Job Whipple, father of Sarah, made his will in Smithfield 2 Apr. 1750. He mentioned his daughter Sarah Staples and his granddaughter Martha Dexter, wife of Gideon Dexter [Martha Smith who m. (1) Gideon Dexter and m. (2) Joseph Page].¹⁴² It may be significant that in neither the will of Martha Staples nor the will of her father Capt. Job Whipple were the other children of David and Sarah Smith: Simon and Sarah Smith, mentioned. Since Capt. Job Whipple's will was made in 1750, only seven years after that of David Smith, it may indicate that Simon and Sarah were no longer living.

CHILDREN OF DAVID AND SARAH (WHIPPLE) SMITH:

40 I SIMON⁵ SMITH.

II SARAH⁵ SMITH.

¹³⁶Gloucester Probate, 1:140. ¹³⁷Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171. ¹³⁸*Ibid.*, Smithfield, 3:71. ¹³⁹Gloucester Deeds, 1:35. ¹⁴⁰Gloucester Probate, 1:142.
¹⁴¹*Ibid.*, 2:36. ¹⁴²Smithfield Wills, 2:26.

III MARTH⁵ SMITH. Her marriage to Gideon Dexter is recorded in Smithfield 21 Aug. 1748.¹⁴³ Children recorded there are AMIE, b. 20 June 1751; PHEBE, b. 7 June 1753; STEPHEN, b. 1 Dec. 1755; ISABEL, b. 19 Mar. 1759/60; MARTHA, b. 20 Jan. 1763; DAVID, b. 18 Apr. 1765.¹⁴⁴ The will of Martha's mother, then Sarah Staples, makes it clear that Martha had m. (2) Joseph Page of Gloucester.

IV DORCAS⁵ SMITH, is identified as Dorcas Mowry in her mother's will and her husband as Gideon Mowry. The Nathaniel Mowry genealogy lists Gideon Mowry, son of Uriah and Urania (—) Mowry, b. 18 July 1736 as twice married with wives not identified.¹⁴⁵ The names of the children by the first wife would suggest that this is the Gideon who married Dorcas Smith, since they include a David who would be named for Dorcas's father and a Dorcas who would be named for her mother.

CHILDREN OF GIDEON AND DORCAS (SMITH) MOWRY:¹⁴⁶

- 1 DAVID Mowry, m. (1) Amey and had SILENCE, PHEBE, and one other child; m. (2) Elizabeth and had ESTHER and SUSANNAH.
- 2 JESSE Mowry, possibly had a child THANKFUL Mowry.
- 3 SMITH Mowry, b. 25 Aug. 1781; m. (1) Sarah Smith, daughter of John Smith of Burrillville; m. (2) Mahala Edwards of Gloucester; d. 27 Apr. 1852. Children by first wife included SCOTT Mowry, MARY ANN Mowry, BROWN Mowry, and MARCELINE Mowry.
- 4 GIDEON Mowry, b. 1776; had one child WATERMAN Mowry, b. 1795.
- 5 URIAH Mowry, b. 1760; m. — Hawkins. Children: URANIA, JENCKS, WILLIAM, URIAH, RACHEL, SUSAN, LYDIA, STEPHEN, GIDEON, and AMEY Mowry.
- 6 THANKFUL Mowry, m. Joshua Kimball.
- 7 DORCAS Mowry, m. Jeremiah Young of Sterling, Connecticut.
- 8 MARTHA Mowry, m. 9 Dec. 1784 Richard Burlingame, son of David.

It is puzzling to find in Smithfield vital records ten children listed for Gideon and Dorcas Mowry¹⁴⁷ and

the marriage of Gideon and Dorcas Smith recorded 22 Oct. 1756.¹⁴⁸ The birth of the first child listed is in 1765, nine years after the marriage of Gideon and Dorcas. The children recorded for Gideon and Dorcas are MERCY, DIANA, AHAZ, RACHEL, MARTHA, ROBE, ABIGAIL, ARBA, HANNAH, and CHARLOTTE, the last child born in 1792. The John Mowry genealogy lists these children as of Gideon Mowry, son of Annanias Mowry of Smithfield, who m. in 1764 Hannah Smith, daughter of Dr. Thomas Smith.¹⁴⁹ This appears logical, considering the date given for the marriage of Gideon and Hannah.

17 JEREMIAH⁴ SMITH (*Joseph*,³ *John*,² *John*¹) was the only child of Joseph,³ whose birth was unrecorded. Since he is presumed to be the youngest son, he must have been born shortly after his brother David, whose birth was recorded in 1705. Jeremiah m. (1) Mary Pollard 10 Mar. 1726¹⁵⁰ and m. (2) Ruth Smith, widow, 27 April 1729.¹⁵¹ He died intestate in Providence 13 Jan. 1753, and his widow Ruth was administratrix.¹⁵² Inventory totaling £1,681 was taken 15 May 1753 by Joseph and Hezekiah Smith.

As stated in the record for Jeremiah's brother Joseph,⁴ it seems clear that Jeremiah took for his second wife Ruth Smith, the widow of Joseph,⁴ after the latter's death in Providence 4 Feb. 1726/7. Jeremiah Smith lived in the part of Providence later set off as North Providence.

An indenture recorded in Gloucester 5 Jan. 1744 stated: "Benjamin Smith of Providence, Joseph Smith of Providence and Elisha Smith of Smithfield, joint tenants in rights released to them by Lieut. William Smith as per deed or quitclaim of William dated 18 Dec. 1741 — thirds of one fifth part of two rights of land on the west side of the Seven Mile Line in the original rights in the purchase of Providence, together with such divisions as they had or should appear afterwards/ in rights thereon, viz: the right of John Smith Sr., the right of John Smith Jr. and the half right called the mill right, and whereof the joint tenants have agreed to divided as follows, that Jeremiah in the right of his father, Joseph, shall have one moiety or one half the premises released by William Smith, Benjamin one fourth part and

¹⁴³Arnold, *op. cit.*, Smithfield, 3:31. ¹⁴⁴*Ibid.*, p. 97. ¹⁴⁵William A. Mowry, *The Descendants of Nathaniel Mowry of Rhode Island* (Providence, 1878), p. 67. ¹⁴⁶*Ibid.* ¹⁴⁷Arnold, *op. cit.*, Smithfield, 3:106.

¹⁴⁸*Ibid.*, p. 51. ¹⁴⁹William A. Mowry, *The Descendants of John Mowry of Rhode Island* (Providence, 1909), p. 45. ¹⁵⁰Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:171. ¹⁵¹*Ibid.* ¹⁵²Providence Probate, 4:324.

Elisha, one fourth part. Said Benjamin and Elisha quitclaim all rights to Jeremiah.¹⁵³

On 25 Oct. 1742 Joseph Smith of Providence deeded to son Jeremiah of Providence a farm on both sides of the West River with dwelling house, and a tract on the east side of the highway to Smithfield, partly in Providence and partly in Smithfield.¹⁵⁴

In a deed recorded 9 June 1744 Stephen Smith of Gloucester, eldest son and heir of Israel Smith, assigned right to the tract which belonged to his uncle Joseph Smith, dec., of Providence, to his uncle Jeremy Smith of Providence. The tract included sixty acres on the easterly side of Wanskuck meadow and adjoined the John Brown farm in Smithfield.¹⁵⁵

CHILDREN OF JEREMIAH, possibly by his first marriage
(births unrecorded):

- 41 I JOSEPH⁵ SMITH.
42 II JEREMIAH⁵ SMITH.

CHILDREN OF JEREMIAH AND RUTH SMITH:¹⁵⁶

- III ELIZABETH⁵ SMITH, b. 14 Sept. 1729.
IV LYDIA⁵ SMITH, b. 20 Dec. 1731.

V SARAH⁵ SMITH. The Thomas Hopkins supplementary manuscript genealogy by Frank R. Kepler at The Rhode Island Historical Society states that she was the Sarah Smith whose marriage to Amos Hopkins is recorded in Providence vital records 18 Jan. 1761.¹⁵⁷ Amos, b. ca. 1731; d. at sea ca. 1770. He was son of Amos Hopkins, Sr., and his wife Sarah Smith, the daughter of Joseph³ (Thomas², Christopher¹) and Elizabeth (Hawkins) Smith. Jeremiah Smith of Providence deeded seven acres to Amos Hopkins 17 May 1752, with his wife Ruth yielding dower rights.¹⁵⁸

[to be continued]

¹⁵³Glocester Deeds, 3:78. ¹⁵⁴Providence Deeds, 11:267. ¹⁵⁵*Ibid.*, 226.

¹⁵⁶Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:249. ¹⁵⁷*Ibid.*, p. 172. ¹⁵⁸Providence Deeds, 13:207.

THE 140TH ANNUAL MEETING

THE 140TH ANNUAL MEETING of The Rhode Island Historical Society was held at John Brown House on January 21, 1962.

President Clarence E. Sherman called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M.

The secretary read the call of the meeting and declared a quorum to be present. The minutes of the previous annual meeting were approved.

Mr. Nathaniel M. Vose, Jr., treasurer, read his report for the year ending June 30, 1961. A copy of Mr. Vose's report is printed in this issue on the inside of the back cover.

The Membership Committee, Mr. O. Griswold Boynton, chairman, reported that a net increase of 71 members had been received during the year and that the total membership as of December 31, 1961 was 2,010.

As the members stood in respect, Mr. Boynton then read the necrology. Members of the Society who died during the previous year were:

Mr. Charles J. Bourgault	Miss Nancy Duke Lewis
Mr. Edwin C. Brackett	Mrs. Henry F. Lippitt
Mr. William S. Cherry, Jr.	Mrs. Arthur M. McCrillis
Mr. G. Maurice Congdon	Mrs. Walter H. Robinson
Mr. John Cooke	Dr. Arthur H. Ruggles
Mrs. Roger W. Cooke	Mrs. David C. Scott
Miss Mary Elliott Davis	Very Reverend Robert J. Slavin
Dr. Philip Dorenbaum	Mr. Charles C. Smith
Mrs. L. G. Eldredge, Jr.	Mrs. Nathaniel W. Smith
Mrs. Crosby Field	Mrs. Frederic W. Swan
Mrs. William Gammell	Mrs. Anthony M. Tourtellot
Mr. Thomas B. Gray	Mr. Benjamin S. Tully
Col. Thomas Casey Greene	Miss Pauline K. Weaver
Mr. William C. Huntoon	Mrs. Charles H. Weedon
Mr. Edward W. Husband	Mrs. Elizabeth Nicholson White
Prof. William A. Itter	Mr. Elmer A. Westcott
Mr. Eugene A. Kingman	

Mr. John C. B. Washburn, chairman of the Grounds and Buildings Committee, reported that John Brown House had a face-lifting on the exterior, the trim was painted and other needed repairs made to this fine old mansion. Our trees are beautifully kept up by the Bartlett Tree Company. Mr. Washburn commented that it seemed wise to keep expenses to a minimum until plans for a library building and any other building plans have materialized.

Acquisitions to our museum were reported on by Henry A. Street, Jr., chairman of the Museum Committee. The Society has acquired the collection of approximately 120 dolls under the will of Eloise Brown McCrillis, an excellent collection which will be on display in part throughout the year. We were also fortunate in acquiring some of the nationally known collection of Chinese art objects from the Carrington Estate.

Mr. Bayard Ewing, chairman of the Finance Committee, reported the receipt during the year of a magnificent bequest from the Dudley A. Williams Estate, and also an anonymous gift of \$20,000.

The Audit Committee, H. S. McLeod, chairman, stated that after studying the report of our auditor, Mr. Arthur L. Mulligan, it was making several recommendations in its written report, including a recommendation that our constitution be amended so that the election of an Operating Committee by the Executive Board be discretionary rather than mandatory. After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED that the recommendations of the Audit Committee be carried out, and the Executive Board be authorized to take such steps as are necessary to put them into effect.

It was pointed out, however, that the second recommendation requires a change in our constitution which can be made only at a properly called meeting of the Society.

Mr. Clarkson A. Collins, 3rd then gave his annual report as librarian. During the year we acquired ownership of the outstanding collection of the Carrington papers. This collection appears to be the most complete record of its kind relating to trade with the Orient and all other parts of the world. The cost of purchasing historical manuscripts continues to rise, but fortunately the Society has many generous friends, and among our donors during the past year were Mrs. Edward S. Moulton, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Drew of New York City, and Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin.

Mr. Clifford P. Monahan, director of the Society, presented his annual report. He stated that our income from dues and investments had risen during the past ten years, and that the Society had arrived at a turning point and a moment of decision. The Society will have to grow and expand during the next ten years if it is to fulfill its purpose. A new library building is the most urgent present need of the Society. A committee has been appointed to investigate a possible location for the library building and to look into the cost of construction. It is hoped that a decision will be made soon.

President Sherman made a few brief remarks on his work during the past year.

The report of the Nominating Committee for officers for the ensuing year was then submitted by Mr. C. George Taylor.

There being no other nominations and upon motion duly made and seconded, the nominations were closed and the secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the slate as read. The officers being duly elected, Mr. Clarence E. Sherman, who was re-elected president of the Society, said a few words of appreciation and the meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

FRANK L. HINCKLEY, JR., *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE TREASURER for 12 months ending June 30, 1961

<i>Income</i>	
Dues	\$10,771.00
Investments (net)	18,607.99
John Brown House Fund	330.25
State of Rhode Island	8,500.00
City of Providence	2,000.00
Contributions — General	2,764.50
Corporate	1,010.00
Patriotic Societies	300.00
Library Sales	468.80
Outside Services (net)	101.65
Miscellaneous	376.16
From Chace Fund	500.00
	\$45,730.35
<i>Expenses</i>	
Salaries	\$19,649.40
Social Security Taxes	553.46
Director's Discretionary Fund	607.71
Supplies	835.92
Telephone	443.38
Membership	468.93
Library	1,987.27
Museum	731.60
Lectures	614.83
Publications	4,030.36
Heat, Light, Housekeeping	2,507.15
Grounds	1,824.21
Building	3,416.37
Insurance	826.90
Miscellaneous	890.83
	\$39,388.32
Net operating gain	\$ 6,342.03

BALANCE SHEET

<i>Assets</i>	<i>Liabilities, Reserves and Special Funds</i>
Cash \$ 13,703.41	John Brown House Fund . . . \$ 8,135.00
Special Funds . . . 33,135.00	Jonathan Chace Fund . . . 25,000.00
Investments . . . 675,956.64	Life Membership Reserve . . . 2,100.00
Fixed Assets . . . 100,006.00	Roelker Memorial Reserve . . . 314.19
Other Assets . . . 2,842.93	Revolving Publication Fund . . . 893.33
	Library Book Fund 62.25
	Purchases Reserve (Chace) . . . 132.56
	Purchases Reserve (Wing) 31
	Anticipated Disburs. Reserve . . . 1,424.00
	\$ 38,061.64
	General Endowments . . . \$728,074.91
	Wilbour Fund Reserve . . . 41,102.41
	Irene Seabury Cummings
	Fund Reserve 5,000.00
	Wing Fund Reserve 1,000.00
	Mauran Fund Reserve 5,000.00
	McCrislis Fund Reserve 5,000.00
	Surplus 2,405.02
	\$787,582.34
\$825,643.98	\$825,643.98

NATHANIEL M. VOSE, JR., *Treasurer*

THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW MEMBERS

December 19, 1961 to March 12, 1962

- | | |
|--|--|
| Mr. R. Edwards Annin
East Greenwich, R. I. | Mr. W. L. Ridenour
Ann Arbor, Michigan |
| Mr. Samuel C. Brown
New York, N. Y. | Mrs. Carl Schrayssshuen |
| Mr. and Mrs. Donald Campbell
Riverside, R. I. | Mr. William G. Shade |
| Mrs. Harry King Cross | Mr. Peter Shattuck
Berkeley, California |
| Mrs. John E. Donley | The Reverend
Robert H. Simonton
Rumford, R. I. |
| Miss Evangeline Dumont | Louis Sorrentino, M.D.
Barrington, R. I. |
| Miss Mary Dutton | Mrs. Myles Standish |
| William V. Van Duynes, M.D. | Mrs. Edith Staples |
| Omar Elazar, M.D. | Miss Margaret Walker
Pawtucket, R. I. |
| Charles H. Jones, M.D. | Mr. Phillips R. Weatherbee
Edgewood, R. I. |
| Mr. L. Hazard Knowles
Warwick, R. I. | Mr. and Mrs.
Erskine N. White, Jr.
Barrington, R. I. |
| Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Levy
Riverside, R. I. | Mr. and Mrs.
Thomas R. Wickersham |
| Mrs. J. Harry Marshall | Raymond D. Willard, M.D.
Barrington, R. I. |
| Mr. Joseph E. Martella | Mrs. Eske Windsberg |
| Miss Doris Pennell Mowry
Slatersville, R. I. | |
| Mr. Russell L. Mowry
Rumford, R. I. | |
| Gabriel A. Najera, M.D. | |
| Mr. Joseph P. Parker
Kingston, R. I. | |

BENEFIT STREET FESTIVAL

Friday, May 11, 1962 — 10 to 6

21 homes and buildings open (Dorr Mansion area)

Free parking Brown-Dexter Field, Hope St. at Lloyd

Free buses from the Field

Tickets: \$5:00 Buy them at Providence Preservation Society,

24 Meeting Street or at the Field

For further information call 831-7440

Box lunches: \$1.00