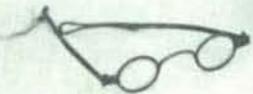


RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

JANUARY
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COVER PHOTOGRAPH by BOB RAPELYE

The cover this month shows some of the objects from the Carrington Collection now owned by The Rhode Island Historical Society. The pottery figurine is one of the four nodding figures that formerly stood in the north drawing room of Carrington House. This female figure is dated around the beginning of the nineteenth century; the matching male figure is equally interesting. The chart of the Pacific Ocean was published in London in 1798 and dedicated to Joseph de Mendoza Rios by A. Arrowsmith. The large Chinese porcelain water bottle is decorated with figures of war lords and muses interspersed with good luck sayings. It is one of a pair made about 1840. *The Overland Colombo Observer*, a newspaper carrying intelligence of maritime affairs, was published in Ceylon for the English speaking community. This issue is dated August 16, 1847.

The flower-handled urn (one of two) of so-called Lowestoft pattern of Chinese export ware of about 1800 is typical of the Chinese attempt to combine designs from various European factories of the period. Other items shown include one of Edward Carrington's letter books, dated Canton, 1805; his spectacles; one of the house keys; personal letters; Chinese paintings on rice paper; some of the carved ivory fittings from a lacquered sewing cabinet; an export ware tea cup and saucer; a richly embroidered mandarin coat; and a Chinese fan. These objects cover in date the span of Carrington business years from the 1790s to the 1840s and give some indication of the extent of his long association with the Orient.

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THE FATE OF CARRINGTON HOUSE

by ANTOINETTE F. DOWNING

THE GREAT SQUARE BRICK MANSION at 66 Williams Street, the home of Edward Carrington and his descendants from 1812 until 1936 and a museum house from 1936 until 1961, has recently been returned to private ownership. In the next months the house will undergo thorough and much needed restoration, and another era will begin for the historic building.

In the meantime the original furnishings, accumulated over a span of three generations but many of which had been imported from China by General Edward Carrington, have been dispersed. However, through the co-operation of some of the heirs and the generosity of a group of concerned citizens, The Rhode Island Historical Society and the Providence Preservation Society have been able to acquire an important portion of the contents (over 250 items), chiefly the Chinese collections which have always made this house so important as tangible evidence of Providence's flourishing nineteenth century trade with China and the Orient. This acquisition includes the carved teakwood and marble tables, chairs and stands, lacquer chests and cabinets, some of the export chinaware, many of the larger Chinese vases, some fans, trays, the famous nodding mandarin figurines that distinguished the north drawing room for so many years, the cane and bamboo chair given to General Carrington by the Hong merchant, Houqua, Chinese silks in their original shipping boxes, some oriental robes and some of the Chinese paintings in their elaborately carved teakwood frames. General Carrington's office furniture has been acquired and will remain in its old place in the house. Nearly all the mirrors, three sofas, and the furnishings for two of the bedrooms are included. The Victorian library furniture, the family portraits, some of the linens and textiles, the chandeliers, draperies and the five family carriages are gifts from the heirs who purchased the

contents of the house. A permanent Carrington Collection will thus be formed to retain in some measure for future generations the memory of the Carrington family and the excitement of the days when Carrington ships and brigs returned from the Orient loaded with spices, tea, silks, and cargo after cargo of the export chinaware imported to meet the demand of the American market.

The same heirs have also made a gift to the Historical Society of the vast collection of Carrington business and family papers. These are in process of being studied by Jacques M. Downs and when published, will add immeasurably to the body of information about merchandising history of the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Edward Carrington,¹ one of the great merchants of post-Revolutionary Providence, who founded a fortune in the China trade and later in cotton manufacturing, was the son of Dr. Edward and Susan (Whittlesey) Carrington. He was born in New Haven in 1775 and was just twelve years old when the first Providence eastindiaman, the *General Washington*, owned by John Brown, set sail in 1787 for Canton, thus following a new pattern of commerce that was replacing the lost prewar trade with British and West Indian markets.² Carrington came to Providence in the 1790's and was employed first by the firm of Samuel Butler, Seth Wheaton, and Richard Jackson, and later by the firm of Munro, Snow, and Munro. Samuel Snow gave young Carrington his introduction to the Orient. Snow, who had been appointed American consul at Canton by President John Adams in 1798, returned home for a visit in 1801, at which time he appointed Sullivan Dorr, then in Canton on family business, as consular agent. In a letter dated Providence, May 14, 1802, he wrote to Dorr:

M^r Edward Carrington who will hand you this letter has lived upwards of two years in my counting house & family, & his conduct was such during the whole time as to gain my confidence & merit our esteem. . . . He now embarks in the *Resource* as an assistant to M^r Megee, more particularly to gain information & knowledge of the Eastern business. . . . You will do me a favour by introducing him to the different Hong China Ware, & Silk merchants, & every

¹Biographical data is taken from *The Biographical Cyclopaedia of Representative Men of Rhode Island* (Providence, 1881), p. 81-82.

²William B. Weedon, *Early Oriental Commerce in Providence*, [Reprinted from *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, December, 1907] (Cambridge, 1908), p. 6, 16.

information given or assistance rendered him will be very thankfully acknowledged. . . .³

Carrington learned the Eastern business well and was soon appointed United States consul in Canton, a post he filled until his return to America in 1811. The Carrington papers and ledgers give the scope of the business in Canton and his correspondence as consul with British officials on behalf of American shipmasters whose seamen were being captured and impressed into British service throws light on the acrimonious relationship between the two countries prior to the War of 1812.

Carrington never went back to China after his return home in 1811. A letter in the Carrington papers written by Chouqua, Hong merchant, in about 1814 carries greetings to his important customer, congratulates him on his business success and his marriage and asks him to take good care of his buyer (hous-pigeon):

"Dear Sir" the translator writes — "I have no see you three year, and mucho profit, come rich man, ketche many very No. one wifo & takee too much care your hous-pigeon — Your partner Mr. Snow come home American I sendee this letter compliments —"⁴

In 1815 General Carrington established the firm of Edward Carrington and Company. His business acumen and knowledge of China soon made the firm one of the most successful in America. The company came to own an imposing number of sailing vessels engaged in commerce not only with China but with other foreign ports, including an important but less publicized trade with South America.⁵ He was also deeply concerned with cotton manufacture and built at least two mills: the Hamlet Mill in Woonsocket and the Carrington (later called Clinton) Mill in Clinton, Rhode Island. He was the prime promoter of the ill-fated Blackstone Canal (known as General Carrington's Ditch), connecting Providence and Worcester and finished in 1828 just four years before the first run of the Providence and Worcester railway doomed it to early obsolescence.⁶ He was elected several times to the Rhode Island General

³Vincent P. Carosso and Lawrence H. Leder, "The Samuel Snow-Sullivan Dorr Correspondence," *Rhode Island History*, v. 15, no. 3, July, 1956, p. 83.

⁴Earl C. Tanner, "The Latin-American Trade of E. Carrington & Co., 1822," *Rhode Island History*, v. 13, no. 2, April, 1954, p. 33-44.

⁵Carrington Papers, The Rhode Island Historical Society.

⁶Robert H. Wheeler, "General Carrington's Ditch," *Providence Sunday Journal*, Jan. 9, 1949, *The Rhode Islander*, p. 9, R.I.H.S. Scrap Books, v. 42, p. 141.

Assembly and was a major general of the state militia.

In 1811 Edward Carrington married Loriania Hoppin, daughter of Benjamin and Ann Hoppin. A small piece of the cloak material selected for her by her husband soon after their marriage has been carefully preserved among the family papers, and the carriage, made in England in 1810, in which the newlyweds took their wedding journey⁷ to Albany is still in the carriage house and is now the property of the Historical Society. The tax rates paid in 1814 and 1817 for this carriage and for three other of the Carrington carriages have been kept in the family papers.

In 1812 Carrington purchased from John Corlis a two-story brick house on Williams Street, which was of conservative and typical eighteenth century plan, designed with a central hall and two symmetrically arranged rooms opening from either side.⁸ Bills show that he was soon engaged in building operations which included mill construction and building a house on Westminster Street (at Snow Street) with his old friend Samuel Snow. He added a third story to his own house, finishing it with a handsome roof balustrade and built the unusual two-story portico on the south front. A detailed order to B. Sturgis for carving the eight Corinthian and eight Ionic capitals for the portico is also included in the papers. Carrington is credited with various interior changes, particularly in the hall where the front part is separated from the swiftly curving delicately detailed staircase by a double door (with one leaf fixed to conceal the stairs) above which is set a leaded glass fan light.

The wallpaper in the parlor, decorated with floral designs and rare birds, peacocks, etc., one of the glories of the house was hand-painted in China for the room.⁹ According to Nancy McClelland in her *Historic Wallpapers*¹⁰ such Chinese papers were at first not made to be sold, but were given by the great Hong merchants to important customers upon satisfactory completion of business deals. These gifts were much admired in the West and soon special orders for sets were sent back on the east bound ships. They made a wonderful back-

⁷"An Historic Carriage," R.I.H.S. Scrap Book, v. 7, p. 122.

⁸The deed of purchase dated Oct. 14, 1812, and deeds for additional land between Williams and Power streets, Carrington Papers.

⁹Hugh Gourley III, "Carrington House, Providence, Rhode Island," *Antiques*, February, 1961, p. 183.

¹⁰Nancy McClelland, *Historic Wallpapers* (Philadelphia, 1924), p. 89.



The parlor of Carrington House from a photograph in the Isham Collection at The Rhode Island Historical Society. One of the pair of urns on the mantel and one of the pair of porcelain water bottles on the tables beside the fireplace are pictured on the cover of this issue. The portrait of Edward Carrington has been presented to this Society.

ground for the lacquers and Chinese furnishings which were filling the Western houses.

The beautiful wallpaper in the Carrington House is to be carefully restored. Other wallpapers in the house were printed by Joseph Dufour and Company of Paris in the second and third decades of the nineteenth century and are equally important. Dufour's scenic papers were enormously popular in America during these years. The John Larchar House on Benefit Street has two sets¹¹ and so does the Eliza Ward House at Two George Street. The north drawing room of Carrington House is hung with Dufour's *Indian Landscapes* printed in 1815 while the set telling the story of *Telemachus on the Island of Calypso* and published in 1825 is hung in the library.¹²

Changes made in the house later, probably by the second Mr. Carrington, included installing the Greek Revival style marble mantel pieces (ca. 1845). This Mr. Carrington may also have been responsible for the niches in the north drawing room since Mr. Robert Paul Dart of the Oriental Department in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts thinks that the larger pair of mandarin figurines, for which the niches were designed, date from about 1840. Cuts in the floor boards here indicate that cupboards originally flanked the wide doorway leading from the north to the south drawing rooms. These were evidently removed to install the niches.

At the northeast corner of the main house stands the little two-story brick building where General Carrington conducted some of his voluminous business affairs. Like other such early office buildings it was originally set so that entrances and exits were separated from the main house in order to keep the main house free from business callers. As stated above, the original furnishings of Mr. Carrington's time will be kept in this room, including his fall front office desk, the bookkeeper's high desk, the fall front bookkeeper's secretary with pigeon-holes where he kept business papers and ledgers, and the bamboo chair supposedly given him by Houqua. Samuel Snow also possessed such a chair. An article published in the *Manufacturers and Farmers Journal* of July 29, 1872, signed only by the initials S.H.W., tells of a childhood spent in Snow's Westminster Street house:

The fortunes of the great Canton merchants had waned and faded into thin air but had left behind a mirage of vanishing splendor

¹¹*Ibid.* See also *Rhode Island History*, v. 20, no. 3, July, 1961, cover.

¹²*Ibid.* See also *Rhode Island History*, v. 13, no. 2, April, 1954, cover.

which floated dimly before my childish imagination, an aroma of myrrh and sandalwood, of candied fruits and Indian spices, that perfumed all the buffets and corner-cupboards of the old house where I lived. Some of the Snow furniture which had remained in the house, and which was sold under the red flag when my parents came to occupy it, fell into our possession, and a cane "settee," such as all China merchants used to bring home with them from the Orient, retained its equilibrium and general integrity until the commencement of the present year, when it succumbed to the infirmities of age and quietly paid the debt of nature. It was our last memento of the Snow family. . . .

In the same reminiscence the author, writing of Snow's great house built as a summer residence in Cranston just before the bankruptcy of the firm of Munro, Snow and Munro, described it in words that might apply to the Carrington House that present day Providence has been privileged to know:

The lofty rooms and echoing halls were papered with costly India hangings, gorgeous with tropical birds and flowers. Many relics of the original owners were scattered here and there about the house, tall vases and urns of rare china, gilded tea-caddies and gilded cabinets and card boxes with their mother-of-pearl counters, the delight of my childhood, exhaling the rare and indefinable perfume of Indian woods: . . .

Edward Carrington died in 1843. His son continued to live in the house, and the third Edward Carrington expressed the wish that the house be preserved as a memorial to the family and as a "lasting illustration to future generations of a Providence homestead of the nineteenth century." In 1936, the house and its contents were given to the Rhode Island School of Design by Miss Margarethe Dwight, the great-granddaughter of the first Edward Carrington. Although house and furnishings are now no longer one, the collection purchased by the Preservation Society and The Rhode Island Historical Society will in time be placed on display as a permanent Carrington Collection. These imports of China trading days, the "tall vases and urns, gilded tea-caddies and gilded cabinets," the carved teakwood tables and chairs, silks, paintings and lacquers with their "aroma of myrrh and sandalwood" will not be entirely lost but for this age as for the age of S.H.W. will "leave behind a mirage of vanishing splendor."

THE RHODE ISLAND LINCOLN PARTY AND THE 1906 ELECTION

by ERWIN L. LEVINE

Assistant Professor of Government, Skidmore College

1906 WAS A VERY SIGNIFICANT YEAR in Rhode Island politics.¹ The term of Republican United States Senator George Peabody Wetmore was to expire the following year and the General Assembly, meeting together in Grand Committee, would select his successor in keeping with the as yet unamended Federal Constitution. It was natural, then, that much depended upon the political composition of the legislature, heretofore dominated by the Republican party, which would be elected in November, 1906. In April an informal committee of three Democrats, led by former Democratic Governor Lucius F. C. Garvin, brought before the Democratic State Central Committee a series of resolutions recommending that the Central Committee call a party State Convention for the express purpose of selecting a man to oppose Senator Wetmore as well as Samuel Pomeroy Colt of United States Rubber, another prominent Republican who had decided to challenge Wetmore.

The Democratic State Central Committee unanimously agreed and issued a call for a State Convention, the first ever held by either party in Rhode Island for such a purpose, to meet in May. Democrats gathered in Providence's old Music Hall and duly nominated Colonel Robert Hale Ives Goddard, a wealthy, upstanding Rhode Islander, as their candidate for the United States Senate. Although Colonel Goddard's political inclinations were generally toward the Republican party on national issues, he was one of the many outstanding citizens of the state who were appalled at the extent of Charles R. Brayton's control of Rhode Island's government through his position as Republican party boss. Goddard accepted the nomination tendered him, and Frank E. Fitzsimmons, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, appointed a special committee whose principal task was to secure the election to the General Assembly of men who would unequivocally commit themselves to vote for Colonel

¹Much of the material for this article was garnered from the collection of private papers and documents of the Honorable Theodore Francis Green, former United States Senator from Rhode Island, when the writer was preparing a manuscript on the early political career of Senator Green.

Goddard when the time came in 1907.

The stand taken by the Democratic party was openly supported by the recently founded reform weekly, *The State*, which voiced the hope that the people of Rhode Island would at last be aroused and throw off "the yoke of political slavery and establish democracy in Rhode Island."² The *Providence Journal*, which had also decided to make an editorial fight against Brayton, joined in the reforming zeal of the day. A group of Protestant ministers took to their pulpits to excoriate boss rule in the state.³ The Goddard forces organized a strong drive to register potential Democratic voters, particularly in Providence. Many independents joined their ranks urging the defeat of Republican candidates to the General Assembly, and when registration ended on June 30, a large increase in the total number of voters was registered over the previous year.⁴

In late July the Goddard Campaign Committee, hoping to attract to its side large groups of independents and anti-Brayton Republicans, announced the formal adoption of the name Lincoln party for its organization. In this way the committee believed it would not offend any who might not wish to be associated directly with the Democratic party. This was one of the early attempts to entice voters of an independent bent or of the opposition party by the application of a totally different title to the organization. The Lincoln party in Rhode Island, then, was an early precursor of such groups as "Democrats for Eisenhower" and "Citizens for Kennedy." In line with its desire not to alienate anti-Brayton Republicans who did not wish to align themselves personally with Democrats, the Lincoln party also decided to have on the November ballot a list of candidates separate from that of the Democratic party. Eventually, as it turned out, the Lincoln party ticket emerged as the same as that of the Democrats for the General Assembly. There were, however, two different columns from which to choose. One was labeled Democratic; the other, Lincoln. Thus the more rigid of the Republican voters, who wanted

²*The State*, May 19, 1906.

³See *Providence Journal*, July 3, 1906. As the campaign continued, more clergymen also entered the fight against the Republicans. Reverend S. W. Smith, pastor of the colored Congdon Street Baptist Church, was particularly vehement in his denunciation of Brayton and urged his flock to vote for Goddard supporters. See *Providence Journal*, October 15, 24, 25, and November 5, 1906.

⁴There was an increase of 21% in the registration in Providence.

to cast ballots against Brayton's control, did not have to make their crosses in a Democratic column.

The regular Democratic State Convention to select State and Congressional candidates was to meet on October 3, a full two weeks earlier than usual, in order to allow more time for them to campaign and build their case against the Republicans. A crusading spirit began to pervade the urban communities of Rhode Island as the Democratic party received added support from the infant labor unions, which were upset at the failure of the Republican-dominated General Assembly to have passed an eight-hour-day act in the 1906 session.⁵ Aware that they had to have a well-regulated convention in October, the Democratic State Central Committee fully realized that much depended on having the State Convention nominate a competent slate for state-wide office and that the city and town conventions, which met shortly afterwards, select good candidates, particularly from Providence, for the General Assembly. Accordingly, the Central Committee embarked on a crusade to have the local caucuses "clean house" and make certain that a "ticket worthy of the support of the independent element" was eventually nominated.⁶ An important factor in previous Democratic local caucuses and conventions had been the presence of "renegade" Democrats, those who maintained the Democratic label but who, in reality, had close working agreements with the Republicans in their communities, for due compensation it might be added. For the most part, Democratic politicians in Rhode Island were divided into two camps in 1906. The first was led by the older, more conservative forces — the "renegades" — who preferred to continue the *status quo* of an inferior party in order to keep their own local power, which the Republicans permitted in exchange for Republican hegemony in more important spheres. The second group was composed of those, led by the State Central Committee, who claimed to be true Democrats working to support a capable man for the United States Senate, Colonel Robert H. I. Goddard. They also wished to present to the voters of Rhode Island, where a property qualification to vote was still in effect, a good and honest slate of candidates for the General Assembly which would appeal to inde-

⁵Although only the Central Trades and Labor Unions officially endorsed the Democratic Party in Rhode Island, practically all the local branches of the various unions condemned the Republicans.

⁶*Providence Journal*, September 2, 1906.

pendents and anti-Brayton Republicans as well. The latter Democrats charged that the "renegades" were "made up principally of hirelings in the pay of the Republican machine leaders," while they themselves were "legitimate" Democrats.⁷

The Democratic State Central Committee continued to purge and root out corrosive elements in the party. Throughout the Providence wards and in several other cities and towns appeals were issued to further the ascendancy of true Democrats in the selection of delegates to the state, city, and town conventions. The Central Committee, which worked closely with the Goddard backers, was victorious in most of the ward caucuses in Providence. Attempts to purify the Democratic party were not quite as successful in other cities and towns where the Central Committee had incurred the wrath and resentment of many local Democrats, not all of whom were "renegades." Nevertheless, a minimum of confusion was expected in the forthcoming October State Convention.

The Goddard Campaign Committee, working separately from the Democratic State Central Committee (although there were some who were members of both) was composed of several leading Democrats, including Pawtucket's Mayor James H. Higgins. The popular, young politician accepted the offer of Democratic nominee for Governor made by the Democratic State Executive and Campaign Committee. Among Goddard's sponsors were of course a number of prominent Republicans. Some sort of fusion between the Democratic party and the newly formed Lincoln party was hoped for. Goddard had been originally named by a convention of Democrats. Many of his campaign committee were also Democrats, and there seemed to be little difference between the two parties other than in name. Seeking non-Democratic support as well, added to the problems of campaigning. It was decided to attack Brayton and bossism rather than to attack the Republicans themselves. At the Goddard Ratification Rally, a common practice in those days, speeches centering around the theme "down with Braytonism" were made on Goddard's behalf by Democratic Mayor James H. Higgins; Henry D. Sharpe, a prominent manufacturer; Professor William MacDonald of Brown University's History Department; Everett Colby, leader of Republican reformers in New Jersey; and William Gammell, long a staunch Republican in Rhode Island. Occupying a chair on the stage that

⁷*Ibid.*, September 16, 1906.

STAND BY HIM FOR A SQUARE DEAL!

**ROBT. H. I. GODDARD
FOR U. S. SENATOR**



evening was Theodore Francis Green, a novice in politics who, at the age of thirty-nine, had become convinced of the necessity for reform in Rhode Island and had decided to enter the political world.

A few days after the rally the Democratic State Convention endorsed the selection by the nominating committee of Mayor Higgins for Governor, chose the rest of the state-wide ticket, renominated Congressman Daniel Granger from the First Congressional District, and named former Governor Garvin as the candidate from the Second District. Democrats also passed the important resolution pledging "the vote of every Democrat elected to the next General Assembly to Robert H. I. Goddard for the United States Senate."⁸ During the next week the various city and town conventions met to choose candidates for the General Assembly, as was customary in the early years of this century. Among the twelve candidates for the lower house, elected at large until 1910, Providence Democrats chose Theodore Francis Green and Jesse H. Metcalf. Green was later to challenge Metcalf in the 1936 campaign for the United States Senate when, after having served as Governor for four years, he unseated Metcalf, who had long since turned Republican.

The Lincoln party dared not risk a split with reform Republicans and independents who supported Goddard by backing the entire state-wide Democratic slate. The Lincoln party itself had no candidates for Governor or the rest of the state administration and resolved its dilemma by stating officially that it would make its fight on the election of Goddard only and not run candidates for any office other than the General Assembly. The Goddard Campaign Committee proposed to support for the assembly only the Democratic candidates, some of whom took upon themselves the label of Lincolnian as well as Democratic, although Colonel Goddard personally endorsed all the Democrats in the election. Thus the Goddard Campaign Committee hoped that no anti-Brayton Republicans would abandon its standard because of a too heavily Democratic tinge.

The 1906 campaign was a lively one. Open entreaties to religious, ethnic, and racial groups — always seemingly a pattern in Rhode Island politics — were made by candidates of both parties, Republican as well as Democratic. The Democrats directed their attacks on Brayton and the Republican party for having accepted boss rule while the Republicans denied the very existence of bossism, alleging

⁸*Ibid.*, October 4, 1906.

that the assaults upon them were merely a Democratic pretext to cover up the lack of a solid Democratic program. Anti-Braytonism was put forth again and again at Democratic rallies throughout the state, although the party concentrated its efforts mostly in Providence. 1906 was viewed as the best chance in years to elect a majority of the Grand Committee and a Democratic Governor to lead them. In his very first political campaign, Theodore Francis Green, one of the twelve Democratic-Lincolnian candidates from Providence, called upon the voters to elect as Governor James H. Higgins, a "man with a backbone" who would throw Brayton out of the State House. Green defended Goddard's right to use the name of a Republican President, stating that Goddard had twice been decorated by President Lincoln for gallantry in the Civil War and could certainly employ the President's name for the group which sought to send him to the United States Senate. He appealed to "old soldiers" to vote for the Democratic candidates who would then be in the position of supporting Colonel Goddard for the Senate.

The Democrats were endorsed by the *Providence Journal* (which did not turn against the party until 1916 when Charles Evans Hughes was running for the Presidency), the weekly *The State*, the Rhode Island Temperance League, and several local union organizations (unofficially) in the state. Despite the optimism expressed by the Democrats in the outcome of the election, the Republicans managed to retain control of both houses of the General Assembly. James H. Higgins defeated Governor Utter, however, and Congressman Granger was also reelected. The Republicans had a majority of eleven in the State Senate. In the lower house, there was a near even division with the Democratic-Lincoln party capturing thirty-four of the seventy-two seats. Two independents held the balance of power, as the Republicans won thirty-six seats. When it came time to organize the house, however, they, along with one Democratic "renegade," voted with the Republicans, and the Democratic numbers fell to thirty-three. All Providence's Democratic-Lincoln party candidates were elected to the General Assembly. Led by Theodore Francis Green, Lewis A. Waterman, John Hogan, and Thomas A. Carroll, they continually harassed the Republican majority throughout the 1907 session.

In those days complete power rested with the legislature, not the Governor, and despite the fact that a Democrat occupied the office

of chief executive, there was nothing constructive that he could do with a legislature in the control of the opposition. All was not completely peaceful for the Republicans, however, as the Wetmore-Colt feud within the party brought about a deadlock for the selection of United States Senator. All the Democratic State Representatives and Senators held together in their support of Goddard, and none of the three hopefuls could ever secure a majority of the votes cast in Grand Committee. Not until 1908, when Colt withdrew from the race, did Rhode Island have its proper number of two United States Senators.

The long ordeal and the failure to have obtained a majority in the General Assembly apparently proved too much for the optimistic reformers, and the Lincoln party, as an organization, fell apart in early 1907. Some of the Lincolnians, such as Theodore Francis Green, stayed with the Democratic party while others, such as Jesse H. Metcalf, turned to the Republicans. A few years later Charles R. Brayton died, but it was not until 1935 that the Democrats managed to obtain control of the entire state government including both houses of the legislature. Attempts to bring reform to the government of Rhode Island were destined to fail because of autocratic control of the State Senate and House of Representatives by Republican party bosses. Not until the advent of the economic depression of the early thirties, did enough Rhode Islanders vote Democratic to negate the rotten borough system which had maintained Republican control of the legislature. But it was the Lincoln party, short-lived though it was, which started reform in Rhode Island along political lines. Although the party soon collapsed, the need for reform was ever present and politicians such as Theodore Francis Green kept the flame alive.



JOHN SMITH, THE MILLER, OF PROVIDENCE,
RHODE ISLAND
SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

by CHARLES WILLIAM FARNHAM

[continued from October 1961, v. 20, no. 4, p. 118]

THIRD GENERATION

3 JOHN³ SMITH (*John*,² *John*¹) of Providence, d. 20 Apr. 1737. He was the last John Smith to bear the title of miller, his son, John the fuller, having d. 24 May 1719, leaving but one child, Martha.

10 Feb. 1724 he deeded to his son Philip, miller, all his homestead lot, dwelling house, corn mill, and fulling mill, except eighty foot square of his homestead; also half his farm at Wanskuck.¹⁴ 15 Mar. 1737 he sold to John Whipple, son of Col. John Whipple, land at Wanskuck that had belonged to his son Philip, in partnership with the latter's brother William, and conveyed to John Smith by his daughter-in-law, Sarah Smith, widow of his son Philip. Frank C. Angell in his *Annals of Centredale* traces the bounds of these properties to include the present business district of Centredale in North Providence.¹⁵

His will, made 10 Feb. 1724, with later codicil, and proved 21 May 1737, named his son Philip executor, with son William and friend John Warner as guardians until Philip came of age.¹⁶ To Philip he left the family homestead; to William lands at West River and two thirds of the farm at Wanskuck; to son Prince one hundred acres west of the Seven Mile Line; residue of estate to the three sons named. His wife Hannah was to have suitable maintenance while a widow. Daughters Mercy Burlingame and Sarah Field were left five pounds each, but daughter Hannah was to have thirty pounds at the age of eighteen or at marriage. Granddaughter Martha Smith, daughter of his son John, dec., was to have twenty pounds at age eighteen. Hannah, his wife, was to care for "my two small children," Hannah and Prince, this indicating that Hannah was his second wife and the mother of these two children of John Smith.

The codicil signed 2 Aug. 1734 mentioned the death of his son Philip and made son William executor, giving him all movable

¹⁴Providence Probate, 3:301,306.

¹⁵Providence Deeds, 9:6.

¹⁶Providence Probate, 3:301.

estate.¹⁷

The will of the widow Hannah, made 12 Oct. 1737, proved at Providence 23 Aug. 1757, left all to son Prince and daughter Hannah in equal shares.¹⁸ However, Prince had died, and Hannah became her sole heir.¹⁹

It would appear that Hannah, widow, had died 5 Sept. 1756. On 28 Sept. 1756 the Providence Town Council stated that she had died intestate and voted that David Bowen of Rehoboth take administration. The latter gave bond with Benjamin Hunt and Abraham Smith of Providence as sureties. The inventory totaled £108. Hannah Smith, her daughter and sole heir, had married in 1738 David Bowen. Also on 28 Sept. 1756 Mercy Smith, daughter of Prince Smith, dec., and granddaughter of John and Hannah Smith, appeared before the Council to make choice of her "Uncle George Potter" as guardian of her estate. Considerable research has not established any George Potter as a family relative.

Apparently at the time of Hannah's death, her will of 1737 had not come to light, for it was not until the Town Council met 23 Aug. 1757 that her will was placed on record.²⁰ Rufus Hawkins, Elizabeth Hawkins, and Joseph Aldrich, witnesses to the will, appeared to testify that Hannah was sound of mind when the will was signed. Since no further mention is made in any records, it must be assumed that the estate had been turned over to the sole heir, Hannah, now wife of David Bowen.

No proof has been found of the parentage of the widow Hannah Smith. There is strong circumstantial evidence that she was the Hannah Smith named in the will of Arthur Howland of Marshfield, Massachusetts, as his daughter.²¹ Arthur Howland had married Elizabeth Prince and many of his descendants named sons Prince, including those of his daughters, Mary who married at Jamestown, Rhode Island, Henry Goddard, 12 Aug. 1693, and Elizabeth, who married there 4 mo., 6, 1701, Robert Saunders, who removed to Glocester, Rhode Island. Again, the witnesses to the will of Arthur Howland of Marshfield were Jamestown men. In the final disposition

¹⁷*Ibid.*, 3:306.

¹⁸*Ibid.*, 5:136.

¹⁹*Ibid.*, 4:158.

²⁰*Ibid.*, 5:172.

²¹Will of Arthur Howland, Plymouth Colony Wills, 5:381-391.

of the estate of Prince Smith, "cousin John Howland" of Scituate, Rhode Island, was appointed administrator.

CHILDREN OF JOHN² SMITH BY HIS FIRST WIFE:

8 I JOHN⁴ SMITH

II MERCY⁴ OF MARCY⁴ SMITH, b. ca. 1696; d. 10 Nov. 1782. In her father's will of 1724 she is named Mercy Burlingame. A manuscript Burlingame genealogy at The Rhode Island Historical Society places her as wife of Samuel Burlingame of Thomas and Martha (Lippitt) Burlingame. This would appear impossible.

As Mercy McClellan, widow, of Providence, she appears as one of the defendants in a Court of Common Pleas suit in 1752, brought by Elisha and Martha Brown for possession of the original John the Miller grist mill property in Providence. Martha Brown was the only daughter of Mercy's brother John⁴ Smith, who had died before his father. This property had descended to Philip, and at his demise to his son Charles, who himself died as a young man. The law of primogeniture was apparently invoked, and Martha Brown, as heiress to the eldest son of John,³ sued for the property. Her aunt Mercy McClellan was thence a defendant.

Presumably some time after 1724 Mercy married as second husband Humphrey McClellan, Providence tailor and mariner, and signed off rights of dower as Mercy McClellan in her husband's deed to William Houston of Providence 26 Apr. 1737.²²

The Samuel Burlingame named above made his will 10 Oct. 1740, naming his wife Marcy.²³ The will was probated the following year. Obviously, if Mercy was the wife of McClellan in 1737, she could not have been the wife of this Samuel Burlingame. All available material on the third and fourth generations of Burlingames has been carefully examined without identifying Mercy's first husband. By Mercy's marriage to Humphrey McClellan there were at least three children:

1 MERCY⁵ McClellan [*sic*] m. at Providence 3 May 1752 Abel Franklin.²⁴ His death is recorded 13 Sept. 1752,

²²Providence Deeds, A10:100.

²³Providence Probate, 3:394.

²⁴James N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island, 1636-1850*, 2:74. Hereafter cited as Arnold.

and he is buried in North Burial Ground, Providence, in the same row as is Charles Smith. The marriage of Mercy Franklin to David Burr of Providence was recorded as of 4 May 1755.²⁵ The *Providence Gazette* of 16 Dec. 1786 reported the death of Marcy, wife of David, Burr, in her 56th year (b. 1731) and noted the death of David Burr 12 Mar. 1796. Both are buried in the Burr lot in the North Burial Ground.

2 SARAH⁵ McClelland [*sic*] m. at Providence 14 Mar. 1744/5 to Eliakim Hand by Rev. Josiah Cotton.²⁶ Providence Town Records in June 1750 note that Eliakim Hand had been absent for several years, leaving only one child, Eliakim, an infant with no relatives in town except his grandmother, Mrs. Mercy McClellan, widow, who had been supporting the child. She was granted guardianship of Eliakim, Jr.

3 PRUDENCE⁵ McClenning [*sic*] m. 27 July 1746 to Pardon Burlingame by Rev. Josiah Cotton.²⁷

In *Weybosset Bridge* (Boston, 1947) by the Rev. Arthur E. Wilson, p. 168, the third marriage of Mercy (Smith) Burlingame McClellan is mentioned. This marriage was to Deacon Joseph Snow of the old West Side Congregational Church (now the Beneficent Congregational Church on Weybosset Street). Mr. Wilson states that Deacon Snow's wife Elizabeth outlived her daughter-in-law fifteen years, dying 15 Apr. 1768 at the age of seventy. "The old deacon would follow her in five years at the age of eighty-three, but in the meantime he felt the admonition, 'it is not good for man to be alone,' applied to old Josephs as well as to young Adams and he married Marcy McClanell [*sic*], one of the charter members of the church. She had signed the covenant directly after his first wife, Elizabeth. 'Marcy' outlived her husband by nine years. Marcy was a widow, whose grandchild, Eliacum [*sic*] Hand, her future stepson had baptized in 1750."²⁸

Records of the West Side Church include the deaths of Deacon Joseph Snow 24 July 1773 and of Mercy Snow 10 Nov. 1782.²⁸ The *Providence Gazette* of 16 Nov. 1782

²⁵*Ibid.*, 2:33.

²⁶*Ibid.*, 2:94.

²⁷*Ibid.*, 2:32.

²⁸*Ibid.*, 10:229.

reported the death of Marcy Snow, widow of Joseph Snow, Esq. "in the very advanced age of her 87th year," thus placing her year of birth as 1696. The Snow lot in the North Burial Ground has a memorial stone for Deacon Joseph and his children, but none for Mercy.

- III SARAH⁴ SMITH. She is called Sarah Field in her father's will. Stephen Field, son of Thomas and Abigail (Dexter) Field, blacksmith alias mariner, died at sea 10 Sept. 1727, intestate.²⁹ Administration was granted to his widow, Sarah Field. The presumption that Sarah Smith was wife of Stephen Field is heightened by the fact that her bondsmen were John Smith (probably her father) and James Olney. Further, the Providence Town Papers at The Rhode Island Historical Society record a Court of Justices case against Stephen Field.³⁰ He was fined 24 July 1724 twenty shillings for assault and battery upon Mrs. Hannah Smith. At this time, no other Mrs. Hannah Smith appears in records except the wife of John³ and stepmother of Sarah Field, named in the will of John³ Smith. The Field genealogy states that Stephen and Sarah Field had only one child, who died at the age of four, and that Stephen's widow m. second William Smith 21 Mar. 1732.³¹ If Stephen Smith's wife was Sarah Smith, as records indicate, she could not have been the Sarah Field who m. William Smith, for he was her brother.

9 IV WILLIAM⁴ SMITH

10 V PHILIP⁴ SMITH

CHILDREN OF JOHN SMITH BY HIS SECOND WIFE, HANNAH:

11 VI PRINCE⁴ SMITH

- VII HANNAH⁴ SMITH m. 3 Aug. 1738 David Bowen of Rehoboth, Massachusetts, b. 1714, of Richard and Patience (Peck) Bowen of Rehoboth.³² As previously noted, David Bowen was administrator of the estate of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Hannah Smith. Their children were BEBEE Bowen, b. 22 Apr. 1739, m. Jonathan Bullock 9 Dec. 1759; PRINCE Bowen, b. 5 Sept. 1741; MARGARET Bowen, b. 2 May 1743; WILLIAM Bowen, b. 17 Dec. 1745; PETER Bowen, b. 2 June

²⁹Providence Probate, 3:91.

³⁰Providence Town Papers, no. 14655, The Rhode Island Historical Society Vault.

³¹Frederick Clifton Pierce, *Field Genealogy* (Chicago, 1901), p. 177.

³²Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:32.

1748; CHRISTOPHER Bowen, b. 17 Dec. 1750; and LYDIA Bowen, b. 17 June 1753.³³

- 4 JOSEPH³ SMITH (*John*,² *John*¹) called Joseph Smith the weaver, of Providence, d. 13 Jan. 1749/50. He m. Lydia Gardiner of George and Lydia (Ballou) Gardiner on 14 Apr. 1689. She d. 1723.³⁴

His will, made in Providence 16 Oct. 1742, was proved 17 Mar. 1749/50 and named his son Jeremiah executor.³⁵ He left to Jeremiah rights in land east of the Seven Mile Line "including land my son Joseph had deed of from William Edmonds, but paid for by the testator since Joseph died"; to grandson Stephen all the farm and home which was the homestead of his son Israel, deceased, "but his mother [Stephen's mother], my daughter-in-law Elizabeth Smith, widow of Israel, is to have use and profit of the homestead while a widow." Nothing was left to daughter Alice Sayles because she had already her share, and naught to sons Robert and David because they had their portions of land. His daughter Sarah Olney was left forty shillings. The remainder of the movables was left to son Jeremiah, he to provide for his sister Lydia, and to Jeremiah the remainder of the land.

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH³ AND LYDIA (GARDINER) SMITH:

- 12 I ISRAEL⁴ SMITH, b. 13 Jan. 1690/1.

II LYDIA⁴ SMITH, b. 25 May 1692; d. unmarried 1742, shortly after her father made his will.

- III SARAH⁴ SMITH, b. 24 May 1694; m. 8 Aug. 1724 Thomas Olney of Thomas and Lydia (Barnes) Olney, b. 18 Jan. 1696/7; d. 7 Dec. 1758.³⁶ They lived in Wanskuck, North Providence. Their proved³⁷ children included JOSEPH Olney,⁵ b. 12 Dec. 1724, m. Martha Hawkins of John and Mary Hawkins, and d. 6 July 1779; THOMAS Olney,⁵ b. 29 July 1726, d. 13 Apr. 1793, m. Siboleth Whipple; ISAAC Olney,⁵ b. 1728, d. 1800, m. 1757 Mrs. Lydia Packard; EZRA Olney,⁵ b. 22 Nov. 1727, m. (1) ——— Langford, m. (2) Lydia Wales of Coventry, Rhode Island; and ITHAMAR Olney,⁵ b. 1731, d. 1769, m. Hepsibeth ———.³⁸

³³James N. Arnold, *Rehoboth Vital Records* (Providence, 1897), p. 548.

³⁴Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:245.

³⁵Providence Probate, 4:257.

³⁶Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:140.

³⁷Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:235.

³⁸James H. Olney, *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Olney* (Providence, 1889), p. 18.

- 13 IV JOSEPH⁴ SMITH, b. 18 Dec. 1695.
 14 V ROBERT⁴ SMITH, b. 3 Mar. 1698/9.
 VI ALICE⁴ SMITH, b. 25 Jan. 1699/00. Named as Alice Sayles in her father's will.
 15 VII WILLIAM⁴ SMITH, b. 15 Mar. 1702/3.
 16 VIII DAVID⁴ SMITH, b. 10 Dec. 1705.
 17 IX JEREMIAH⁴ SMITH (birth not recorded).

5 BENJAMIN³ SMITH (*John*,² *John*¹) of Providence, b. *ca.* 1672; d. in Providence (now North Providence) 23 Apr. 1751. He m. (1) 12 Apr. 1693 Mercy Angell of John and Ruth (Field) Angell, b. 1675; d. 3 Sept. 1721. She is buried in North Burial Ground to which family remains were transferred from the cemetery on the family farm in North Providence; m. (2) 11 June 1730, Mercy, widow of Resolved Waterman, Ensign. She had been the second wife of Ensign Waterman and by him had three children: Wait, John, and Hannah Waterman, the last b. 1719, the year Resolved died. Mercy evidently died before 1750, for she is not mentioned in the will of Benjamin, her last husband.

Benjamin had land laid out 18 Dec. 1700 at Wanskuck meadow in the right of his father, John Smith, dec. On 7 Mar. 1724 he deeded to son John one hundred acres bounded partly by land of Benjamin's son Solomon at Tarkiln (now in Burrillville, Rhode Island).³⁹

His will, dated at Providence, 20 Jan. 1750 and proved 25 May 1751, names his son Hezekiah executor.⁴⁰ He left the family homestead at Wanskuck to Hezekiah; to sons John, Daniel, and Solomon £5 each; to daughter Mary Whipple £200; to daughter Abigail Arnold £300; to daughter Mercy Brown £300; to daughters Anne and Frelove Smith £300. His inventory of £820 4s. 6d. included cooper's tools.

CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN³ SMITH AND HIS FIRST WIFE,
 MERCY ANGELL:⁴¹

- 18 I JOHN⁴ SMITH, b. 8 Dec. 1694.
 19 II DANIEL⁴ SMITH, b. 27 June 1697.
 III MERCY⁴ SMITH, b. 18 Apr. 1699; m. in Providence 16 Mar.

³⁹Glocester Deeds, 1:54.

⁴⁰Providence Probate, 4:279.

⁴¹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 2:245.

- 1724/5 Ensign John Brown of North Providence, son of Ensign John and Isabel (Mathewson) Brown, b. 26 Mar. 1697; d. at Smithfield, Rhode Island, 29 Dec. 1746. Their children included CHRISTOPHER Brown, b. *ca.* 1725, d. 10 Feb. 1778, m. Lydia Jenks of Nathaniel and Lydia (Arnold) Jenks, who d. 6 Feb. 1787 aged 60 years; ESEK Brown, b. 1726, d. 1794, m. 25 Oct. 1767 Cynthia Olney of Richard and Hannah (Hunt) Olney, b. 9 June 1745, d. 28 July 1778.⁴²
- 20 IV SOLOMON⁴ SMITH, b. 4 Mar. 1702/3.
 V MARY⁴ SMITH, b. 3 Apr. 1704; m. 6 Nov. 1726 Daniel Whipple of Thomas. They had ABIGAIL Whipple, who m. 19 Nov. 1726 William Winsor of Samuel; and MERCY Whipple, who m. *ca.* 1748 Israel Sayles.
 21 VI HEZEKIAH⁴ SMITH, b. 18 Aug. 1706.
 22 VII JONATHAN⁴ SMITH, b. 3 Mar. 1708/9.
 23 VIII NEHEMIAH⁴ SMITH, b. 2 May 1710.
 IX SARAH⁴ SMITH, b. 26 Apr. 1712; d. 4 Apr. 1729.
 X ABIGAIL⁴ SMITH, b. 10 June 1714; d. 19 June 1801; m. Jonathan Arnold of Thomas and Elizabeth (Burlingame) Arnold, who d. 28 Dec. 1796 in his 90th year and is buried in the Friends' Grounds, Lincoln, Rhode Island.⁴³ Their children were: MERCY⁵ Arnold, b. 7 Jan. 1739, m. 6 Sept. 1761 Edward Dexter; ELIZABETH⁵ Arnold, b. 22 Apr. 1740, d. 11 Mar. 1815, m. 10 Nov. 1757 Samuel Arnold of Joseph and Mercy Arnold, who d. 16 Jan. 1813; RICHARD⁵ Arnold, b. 1 Aug. 1741, d. at Port Louis of smallpox 19 Oct. 1759; BENJAMIN⁵ Arnold, b. 4 Dec. 1742, d. young; WELCOME⁵ Arnold, b. 25 Jan. 1745, d. 29 Sept. 1798, Providence merchant, m. Patience Greene, daughter of Samuel, son of Gov. William Greene of Warwick, 11 Feb. 1773; JONATHAN⁵ Arnold, Jr., b. 28 Aug. 1746, d. among the Cherokees near Muscle Shoals, Tennessee, in Nov., 1806; ASA⁵ Arnold, b. 14 Apr. 1748, d. at Smithfield, Rhode Island, 19 Dec. 1833, unmarried; THOMAS⁵ Arnold, b. 10 Oct. 1751, m. 14 Jan. 1779 Mary Brown, daughter of Obadiah and Mary Brown, b. 25 Nov. 1753; ABIGAIL⁵ Arnold, b. 7 May 1754, m. 2 Feb. 1791 Nathan Greene who d. 9 June 1838.

⁴²William Bradford Browne, "Chad Brown of Providence," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, April, 1926, p. 170 ff.

⁴³Ms. by Welcome Arnold Greene, copied by James N. Arnold, on file at The Rhode Island Historical Society.

XI ANN⁴ SMITH, b. 5 Oct. 1717, m.⁴⁴ (1) Benjamin Smith of Edward and Amphilis [*sic*] (Angell) Smith of the Christopher¹ Smith line; m. (2) Governor Stephen Hopkins. Children, all by her first husband: SARAH⁵ Smith; BENJAMIN⁵ Smith, Jr., b. 25 Oct. 1744, d. 17 Mar. 1812, m. Mary Gibbs of Daniel and Hannah (Gibbs) Tillinghast; AMEY⁵ Smith, b. 1748, d. 1784, m. Joseph Russell, Providence merchant; and RUTH⁵ Smith, b. 1749, d. 1812, m. Capt. George Hopkins, son of Governor Stephen Hopkins by his first wife, Sara Scott.

XII RUTH⁴ SMITH, b. 5 Oct. 1717.

CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN³ SMITH AND HIS SECOND WIFE,
MERCY (——) WATERMAN:

XIII FREELOVE⁴ SMITH, b. 25 Mar. 1733; m. (1) Col. Samuel Angell, son of Daniel and Hannah (Winsor) Angell, who d. in 1760; m. (2) Solomon Owen of Thomas and Ruth Owen, grandson of Josiah Owen, Elder Winsor of Johnston officiating. Freeloze d. 15 Aug. 1774 and Solomon Owen d. 7 Oct. 1794 aged 66 years. By her second marriage Freeloze had children: OLIVER⁵ Owen, b. 1763, and WILLIAM⁵ Owen, b. 1765. Oliver⁵ m. (1) Abigail Smith of Eseck and Phebe Smith of Gloucester, Rhode Island, b. 1770; m. (2) Sarah Whipple of Daniel of North Providence; m. (3) Lydia Dexter of Christopher of North Providence. Oliver d. 13 Oct. 1825 in Wooster, Ohio. His daughter Phebe⁶ m. Newell Wood. In 1855 she was living in Chenango County, New York, a widow with unmarried daughter Sarah.⁴⁵

24 XIV WILLIAM⁴ SMITH, b. 15 Apr. 1736.

6 ELISHA³ SMITH (*John*,² *John*¹), b. 14 Apr. 1680;⁴⁶ d. Smithfield, Rhode Island, after 25 Nov. 1766. He settled in the Smithfield-Georgiaville area in 1700.⁴⁷ The presently called Appleby House in

⁴⁴Root Mss., The Rhode Island Historical Society, Boxes 1 and 3.

⁴⁵Owen Family Records at The Rhode Island Historical Society. An undocumented note in the Root Mss. states that the Ann Angell who married James Wheaton of Providence was the daughter of Col. Samuel Angell. The *Providence Gazette* of 2 July 1774 reports the marriage of James Wheaton and Anne Angell of Gloucester. William W. Chapin in his Ms. on the Wheaton family, in The Rhode Island Historical Society, lists among the children of James and Anne Wheaton, Freeloze Wheaton.

⁴⁶Root Mss., Record from the family of Mrs. Monroe Bartlett, Stillwater, Rhode Island.

⁴⁷Thomas Steere, *History of the Town of Smithfield, Rhode Island* (Providence, 1881), p. 131.

Stillwater, Smithfield, across the road from the Stillwater Country Club, was built by Elisha Smith in 1725, and remains the property of Smith descendants, although the ancient "movable estate" was auctioned in the summer of 1961, to settle the estate of Miss Maria Appleby, last of the family to live out her life in the centuries-old house.

Elisha³ was a Smithfield Town Council member in 1732.⁴⁸ On 9 Sept. 1718 he sold to his brother Benjamin lands and a sawmill.⁴⁹ On 3 Dec. 1715 he sold to Benjamin land at Wanskuck formerly belonging to his father John.⁵⁰ On 29 June 1733 he made a deed of gift to his son Philip;⁵¹ to son Abraham⁵² (his farm with dwelling-house, sawmill, and grist mill); to son Noah⁵³ (one hundred acres in Smithfield where Noah was living); and to son Jonathan⁵⁴ (one hundred acres adjoining land of Noah). On 5 Oct. 1733 he deeded to son Richard⁵⁵ one hundred acres abutting Jonathan's land.

Elisha³ and his wife Experience sold 21 Feb. 1734/5⁵⁶ to Robert Staples of Bellingham, Massachusetts, one hundred acres bought from Edmund House. Elisha of Smithfield and Joseph and Benjamin of Providence, joint tenants in land released to them by Lt. William Smith of Providence, Gent., agreed to a division of land, it being a part of the original right of John Smith, Sr., and John Smith, Jr., 5 Jan. 1744.⁵⁷ Elisha deeded to his grandson Ezekiel Smith 25 Nov. 1766 one hundred twenty-five acres, including one-half the tract where Elisha's son Richard was then living.⁵⁸ To his grandson Nehemiah Smith he deeded 8 Apr. 1765 half of a tract of one hundred and twenty acres bounded on the west by land of Abigail Smith.⁵⁹

Elisha³ m. Experience Mowry, daughter of John and Mary (Olney) Mowry, b. 8 Feb. 1680;⁶⁰ d. after 1766.⁶¹

CHILDREN OF ELISHA³ AND EXPERIENCE (MOWRY) SMITH:⁶²

I PENELOPE⁴ SMITH, b. 5 Dec. 1701. The Root mss. state that she married Serril Phillips. Study of Smithfield deeds indicates that she was the wife of Israel Phillips. The name may have been misread as Serril, since no Serril Phillips appears

⁴⁸*Ibid.*, Appendix D.

⁴⁹Providence Deeds, 3:83.

⁵⁰*Ibid.*, 2:435.

⁵¹Smithfield Deeds, 1:95.

⁵²*Ibid.*, 1:97.

⁵³*Ibid.*, 1:96.

⁵⁴*Ibid.*, 1:99.

⁵⁵*Ibid.*, 1:101.

⁵⁶*Ibid.*, 1:204.

⁵⁷Providence Deeds, 2:129.

⁵⁸Smithfield Deeds, 5:42.

⁵⁹*Ibid.*, 5:368.

⁶⁰Root Mss.

⁶¹Austin, *op. cit.*, p. 385.

⁶²*Ibid.*, p. 365.

in Smithfield records.

On 30 Nov. 1742 Israel Phillips of Smithfield conveyed his homestead farm of one hundred thirty acres to Samuel Buxton, with Israel's wife Pennolepy [*sic*] signing off her right of dower.⁶³ Jonathan Smith of Smithfield, brother of Penelope, sold 10 Oct. 1735 to Israel Phillips the westerly part of his homestead which abutted land of Daniel Smith, another brother.⁶⁴ Israel conveyed 10 Jan. 1755 to Daniel "son of Elisha" the tract of land he had bought of Jonathan Smith, Israel's wife Penelope yielding her dower right.⁶⁵ In 1776 Israel sold to Jonathan Comstock thirty-eight acres, with Daniel Smith, Jr., and Stephen Arnold as witnesses.⁶⁶ No further deeds are on record. The marriage of Israel and Penelope and the births of their children are not recorded in Smithfield records. The 1774 Census of Rhode Island lists Israel Phillips with one male under 16 years.

25 II PHILIP⁴ SMITH, b. 6 Jan. 1703.

26 III NOAH⁴ SMITH, b. 7 May 1705.

IV SARAH⁴ SMITH, b. 28 Apr. 1707; m. Chad⁴ Brown of Gloucester, Rhode Island, of Obadiah,³ John,² Chad,¹ who d. 24 Mar. 1746/7. Sarah was named administratrix of his estate, but declined, and her brother Philip was then named. Chad Brown wrote his will 3 Mar. 1746/7 in Gloucester, leaving his homestead farm to be equally divided among his sons OBADIAH, ELISHA, and JESSE, and made bequests to his daughters DORCAS and MARY when of age.⁶⁷

CHILDREN OF CHAD AND SARAH (SMITH) BROWN:⁶⁸

1 OBADIAH⁵ BROWN, d. 19 Dec. 1789 in Gloucester. He m. as his third wife Anna Lovell, daughter of Alexander and Mary (Waterman) Lovell and had MARTHA,⁶ who m. (1) Peter Coombs, m. (2) ——— Tripp, and m. (3) Abraham Clarke, all of Gloucester; NANCY,⁶ who m. ——— Fiske and removed to Cooperstown, New York; and MARY,⁶ who m. Benjamin Jenckes and removed to Ludlow, Massachusetts.

⁶³Smithfield Deeds, 1:120.

⁶⁴*Ibid.*, 3:408.

⁶⁵*Ibid.*, 4:135.

⁶⁶*Ibid.*, 7:124.

⁶⁷Gloucester Probate, 1:21.

⁶⁸Abby Isabel (Brown) Bulkley, *The Chad Brown Memorial* (Brooklyn, 1888), p. 13, 26.

2 ELISHA⁵ BROWN of Gloucester, m. Sarah Olney, b. 20 Dec. 1733 of James and Hannah (Winsor) Olney and had CHAD;⁶ ESEK;⁶ OLNEY;⁶ DORCAS,⁶ m. Esek Sayles; SARAH,⁶ m. ——— Handy; and MERCY,⁶ m. Abraham Belknap.

3 JESSE⁵ BROWN, b. 1739; m. Amey Whipple and had ANN PHILLIS,⁶ m. Philip Sweet; ABIGAIL,⁶ m. Thomas Owen of Gloucester; and AMEY,⁶ m. Nicholas Smith of Capt. John and Sarah (Arnold) Smith and removed to Thompson, Connecticut.

4 DORCAS⁵ BROWN, m. 1753 Lawrence Southwick of Daniel Southwick of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, and had SARAH⁶ who m. Benedict Arnold of Burrillville; ELISHA,⁶ m. Margaret Moshier and removed to Danby, Vermont, and later to Scipio, Cayuga County, New York; and RUTH,⁶ d. young.

5 MARY⁵ BROWN, m. Stephen Aldrich and removed to Long Island, New York.

27 V JONATHAN⁴ SMITH, b. 1710.

28 VI ABRAHAM⁴ SMITH, b. 19 July 1711.

29 VII RICHARD⁴ SMITH, b. 2 Apr. 1714.

VIII MARY⁴ SMITH, b. 29 Oct. 1716. The Root mss. state, without naming authority, that she m. Chad Brown. If true, she was his first wife and d. young, for her sister Sarah was his wife when he died, and she was named administratrix of his will.

30 IX STEPHEN⁴ SMITH, b. 28 Oct. 1718.

31 X DANIEL⁴ SMITH, b. 1 Mar. 1723.

7 MAJOR WILLIAM³ SMITH (*John*,² *John*¹), a major of the militia, b. 1682 at Providence; d. Smithfield 11 Dec. 1753; m. Mary Sayles of John and Elizabeth Sayles, b. 30 May 1689, d. Dec. 1754, granddaughter of John Sayles and his wife Mary Williams of Roger Williams.⁶⁹

He removed to what is now Smithfield in 1703 and settled on a large tract of land in the vicinity of what is now Esmond, Rhode Island.⁷⁰ He was eighteen times Deputy between 1714 and 1744. He was Assistant six terms between 1731 and 1740.⁷¹

Deeds identifiable with Major William include the transfer 3 Dec.

⁶⁹Austin, *op. cit.*, p. 385.

⁷⁰Steere, *op. cit.*, p. 1-9.

⁷¹John R. Bartlett, ed., *Records of the Colony of Rhode Island*, v. 4, *passim*.

1705 to his brother Benjamin of land formerly of his father John Smith, dec.;⁷² 26 Oct. 1733 to son Daniel Smith of land on both sides of the Providence-Smithfield line;⁷³ 25 Oct. 1738 to son Richard one hundred and thirty acres on both sides of the Woonasquatucket River, the northerly part of the farm where William lived.⁷⁴

The will of Major William, made in Smithfield, 5 Dec. 1753 and proved 14 Jan. 1754, named his wife Mary and son Daniel joint executors. Profits of the homestead, and other real and personal estate "except wearing apparel" were left to the widow; to son Daniel the homestead except one acre for a burial place "where already are buried some of my children and grandchildren"; to son Richard certain land and wearing apparel; to daughters Elizabeth Winsor and Sarah Winsor £20 each; to daughter Abigail Smith £100. Total inventory was £547 6d.⁷⁵

CHILDREN OF MAJOR WILLIAM AND MARY (SAYLES) SMITH:⁷⁶

- 32 I DANIEL⁴ SMITH, b. 28 Sept. 1712.
 33 II RICHARD⁴ SMITH.
 III ELIZABETH⁴ SMITH, b. 5 Jan. 1717; d. 20 Aug. 1791; m. 1 June 1741 Samuel Winsor of Rev. Joshua and Mary (Barker) Winsor of Smithfield, b. 7 Nov. 1712, d. 25 Dec. 1800.⁷⁷
 CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND ELIZABETH (SMITH) WINSOR:
 1 WILLIAM⁵ WINSOR, b. 15 Mar. 1743; d. 10 Mar. 1820; m. 19 Nov. 1761 Abigail Whipple of Daniel.
 2 HANNAH⁵ WINSOR, b. 1745; m. Joseph Hawkins.
 3 BENJAMIN⁵ WINSOR.
 4 ISAAC⁵ WINSOR, b. 22 Aug. 1749; d. 1 Jan. 1805; m. Amy Waterman.
 5 LYDIA⁵ WINSOR, m. Noah Farnum.
 6 JAMES⁵ WINSOR.
 IV MARY⁴ SMITH, b. 1721; d. 4 Jan. 1752; m. 2 Apr. 1741 Abraham Winsor of Rev. Joshua and Mary (Barker) Winsor, b. 4 Oct. 1720, d. 20 Apr. 1798. He m. (2) 24 Nov. 1752 Mary's sister, Sarah Smith, b. 21 June 1725, d. 12 Nov. 1802.

⁷²Providence Deeds, 2:396.

⁷³Smithfield Deeds, 1:133.

⁷⁴*Ibid.*, 1:412.

⁷⁵Smithfield Probate, 2:35.

⁷⁶Austin, *op. cit.*, Additions and Corrections, Supplement.

⁷⁷Winsor Family Ms., The Rhode Island Historical Society.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM AND MARY (SMITH) WINSOR:⁷⁸

- 1 MARY⁵ WINSOR, b. 22 Mar. 1742; d. 1752.
- 2 JOHN⁵ WINSOR, b. 25 Oct. 1744; d. 1752.
- 3 ALICE⁵ WINSOR, b. 1747; d. 1752.
- 4 ABIGAIL⁵ WINSOR, b. 1749; d. 1752.
- 5 MERCY⁵ WINSOR, b. 18 Mar. 1751; d. 1752.

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM AND SARAH (SMITH) WINSOR:

- 6 MARY⁵ WINSOR, b. 28 Mar. 1754; d. Aug. 1825; m. 18 Nov. 1771 Edward Thurber.
 - 7 JOHN⁵ WINSOR, b. 5 Oct. 1755; d. 1756.
 - 8 ABRAHAM⁵ WINSOR, Jr., b. 2 Oct. 1756; d. 1787; m. Nancy Waterman of John Waterman.
 - 9 SARAH⁵ WINSOR, b. 2 Oct. 1756; m. William Waterman of John, b. 20 May 1749, d. 23 Jan. 1831.
 - 10 LUCINA⁵ WINSOR, b. 25 July 1759; m. Dr. Stephen Randall of Peter, b. 1762, d. 1843.
 - 11 DANIEL⁵ WINSOR, b. 13 Nov. 1763; d. 17 June 1823; m. Rachel Smith, b. 1759, d. 1830.
 - 12 AUGUSTUS⁵ WINSOR, b. 12 June 1764; d. 14 Nov. 1837; m. (1) Nancy Waterman of Andrew, b. 1764, d. 18 Nov. 1804; m. (2) Mrs. Martha (Steere) Eddy, daughter of Samuel and Martha (Colwell) Steere and widow of Adfur Eddy. Martha was b. 1771; d. 8 Nov. 1851.
- V SARAH⁴ SMITH (see IV MARY SMITH).
 VI ABIGAIL⁴ SMITH, b. 21 June 1725; d. 22 Oct. 1786; m. as his second wife Deacon Joshua Winsor of Joshua and Mary (Barker) Winsor, b. 17 Sept. 1709; d. 23 Dec. 1786.
- CHILDREN OF DEACON JOSHUA AND ABIGAIL (SMITH) WINSOR:
- 1 FREELove⁵ WINSOR, b. 28 Sept. 1757; d. 1836; m. Jonathan Jenckes.
 - 2 ELISHA⁵ WINSOR, b. 21 Feb. 1760; d. 14 June 1820; m. Barbara Healey of John Healey, b. Apr. 1764; d. 30 June 1812.

[to be continued]

⁷⁸*Ibid.*

BOOK REVIEW

Indians, Privateers, and High Society, by Bertram Lippincott, Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Company, 1961, 301 p. maps.

Indians, Privateers, and High Society, Bertram Lippincott's recent contribution to the Rhode Island bookshelf, is subtitled, *A Rhode Island Sampler*. Across the pages of this book march the names of those who made the colony (later the state) and our nation great. The parade is long — Roger Williams, Anne Hutchinson, Bishop Berkeley, Massasoit, King Philip, Captain Kidd, Ida Lewis, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Gilbert Stuart, Count de Rochambeau, Admiral Esek Hopkins, Thomas W. Dorr, Julia Ward Howe, Commodore Abraham Whipple, General William Barton, Rabbi Isaac Touro, *ad infinitum*.

The author concludes his offering with a paragraph, the last sentence of which is a key to the Rhode Island Sampler: "Surely a small theater for great happenings, this, and a beautiful background for the present and future progress of America."

Since *Indians, Privateers, and High Society* is limited to three hundred pages it is hoped that Mr. Lippincott may soon follow with another book and include other distinguished personalities not included in this work — General Nathaniel Greene; Michele Felice Corné; those two great commodores, Oliver Hazard Perry and his brother Matthew Calbraith Perry; George Bancroft (foremost historian of the United States, long-time resident of Newport, diplomat, cultivator of roses, founder of the United States Naval Academy); balloon ascensionists James K. and Ezra Allen; Captain Stephen Olney, the hero of Yorktown; Horace Mann, father of the American public school system; those "Wizards of Bristol," the Herreshoff brothers, and many more.

The jacket of Mr. Lippincott's book tells us that he gathered his material from contemporary documents and from little-known historical accounts. This is not just a publisher's statement. As one who feels on familiar ground when it comes to Rhode Island history, this reviewer read several interesting extracts in Mr. Lippincott's work which he had not seen prior to this time, and they have done much to amplify and add new color to fairly well-known Rhode Island incidents. He must have accumulated a tremendous amount of material, and then like many writers had the task of sifting and condensing.

To many who read Rhode Island history it seems that the most complicated part is that which deals with the variety of religious groups who settled in the colony. Even Williams, founder of the Baptist faith in the New World, forsook that denomination. There were Antimonians, Sabbatarians, Quakers, Jews, and others. Mr. Lippincott has made this period of Rhode Island history understandable, as he does a masterful job of interpreting their backgrounds, and their leaders. He gives an excellent description of Samuel Gorton, founder of Warwick, a man not highly regarded in Boston, Plymouth, or Providence. But Gorton turns out to be a hero as he secured Shawomet, his settlement, for the colony of Rhode Island.

Anne Hutchinson, founder of Portsmouth, is well treated by Mr. Lippincott who reveals her impressive accomplishments, founder of what might be called

the first woman's club in America, and a Boston social leader.

Getting along with the Rhode Island Sampler, Mr. Lippincott deals next with the privateers and gentlemen pirates. In this chapter, however, he pays a great tribute to Rhode Island as a seafaring colony and opines that the colony probably furnished more privateers and seamen than any other English colony in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. To these men may be traced some of the earliest fortunes made in America, and like the high society that was to come a century later, they were the ones who could afford commodious houses and could fill their rooms with the work of the cabinetmaker, silversmith, and artist. Here also enters that part of our history which deals with slavery.

Mr. Lippincott tells about the legitimate business of slavery, which enriched many Rhode Islanders, and he illustrates his chapter with an excellent example of the triangular trade: Rhode Island rum to African ports for slaves, to the West Indies for molasses which came back to the colony's thirty distilleries to be made into more rum.

Rhode Island's establishment of a naval force to protect its shores upon the outbreak of the Revolution receives a good tribute from the author. To those who will read the book in other states, it may come as news that the true birthplace of the Navy is in Rhode Island.

Rhode Island's part in the Revolution has a prominent place in this book, and here again source material not generally seen by most students of Rhode Island History is utilized. Lippincott draws on three good accounts — one by Mrs. Mary Gould Almy, a Tory, whose husband fights on the side of patriotism; Fleet S. Green's diary, which is pro-patriot; and the journal of Captain Frederick Mackenzie, a British officer of the regiment of Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Colonel William Barton's capture of General Prescott in a bold raid on the British headquarters in Portsmouth is commented on by Mackenzie, who writes: "They however executed it in a masterly manner, and deserve credit for the attempt." One day this reviewer hopes to see the home town of this American hero given credit for all he did for his country. Not a street, place, square, park, or public building in Warren honors that community's most outstanding personality.

There is a good deal in this sampler that is seemingly new concerning Gilbert Stuart. How many of us know that he had to work his way back to America aboard a ship, and that upon his return to England in 1775, broke and with no prospects, he became an organist in London? Or, that once established as an artist in that city his reputation was so highly regarded that his prices for paintings were exceeded only by Reynolds and Gainsborough? Mr. Lippincott doesn't skimp in telling his readers about Stuart's great sense of humor and that many of the artist's anecdotes could be considered shocking.

It is good to see someone recalling Ida Lewis, that heroine who saved eighteen souls from drowning while keeper of the Lime Rock Lighthouse in Newport Harbor. The author dwells upon the popularity Ida enjoyed and tells of the many men, including a West Point cadet, who wished to marry her. Perhaps it was an oversight on Mr. Lippincott's part — he fails to tell his readers that Ida was a married woman. She was married to William H. Wilson of Bridgeport,

Connecticut. Her wedding ring may be seen in the collections of the Newport Historical Society.

South County's many legends take up several pages (not enough) but there are many good stories here, some old, and some new. The section he devotes to factual legends would cheer the members of the year-old Rhode Island Jonny-cake Society which has for one of its objectives the collecting of famous stories and legends of Rhode Island.

Concerning Jamestown, where the author has spent his summers, he tells of many incidents involving the ferry sailboat skippers. He describes Jamestown as a summer cottage colony isolated except for the bridge and ferry connections, and says that the islanders basked in the inaccessibility of this island summer retreat until the erection of the Jamestown Bridge. Although he tells about the vacationists who crossed the island on their way to Newport and Cape Cod, one wonders what Mr. Lippincott refers to when he says it was passed by as a vacation destination. Other than mentioning two hotels, which still stand, there is no reference to the others, such as the big Thorndike and the Gardner House, demolished about twenty years ago, which with the others could accommodate about a thousand transients — these in addition to the established Philadelphia cottage colony.

The chapter on high society takes up only seventeen pages, hardly enough on which to get started with the rise of Newport as Queen of Resorts. But there are some humorous references, and he does not leave out those two favorite characters of the Four Hundred: Ward McAllister and Henry Lehr.

Putting together a book of this type was bound to include errors, and some omissions. It is too bad that no reference was made to the Portsmouth Compact of 1638 which David Patten champions as the first document in the New World which established a body politic formed on democratic principles, and insuring its citizens civil and religious liberty. Mr. Lippincott errs in saying that Touro Synagogue was the first to be built in the New World. Erected in 1763, it was built 35 years after the Jews in New York put up their house of worship — Congregation Shearit Israel. Mr. Lippincott, on page 34 tells of Roger Williams settling Providence and making his landing around the middle of April, 1636. No one knows the *exact* date of his landing in Providence, but it is generally believed that the "What cheer, Netop" greeting by the Indians was during the last week in June.

Indians, Privateers, and High Society is a book that will be appreciated by all who are fortunate enough to read it. We hope that Mr. Lippincott, and others, will continue to tap Rhode Island for a source for more books. The field is fertile.

Newport

LEONARD J. PANAGGIO

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LECTURES

February 25, 1962, Sunday 3:30 p.m.

FROM SHELLS TO SHERATON

RHODE ISLAND CABINETMAKING

Wendell D. Garrett, Assistant Editor, *The Adams Papers*

(illustrated with Kodachrome slides)

March 25, 1962, Sunday 3:30 p.m.

HISTORICAL TREASURE HUNT

CELLAR TO GARRET OF JOHN BROWN HOUSE

Arranged by the Staff and Friends of the Society