Rhode Island's oldest political controversy was answered for the second time in the affirmative when a Constitutional Convention met shortly after 10 A.M. on Tuesday, March 28, 1944 in the auditorium of the Rhode Island College of Education at Providence.

That question is and was the very holding of a Constitutional Convention itself.

Fourteen times in the history of the State it had been seriously and forcefully proposed—six times before the one other actual Convention of 1842 and seven times thereafter. No student of history needs to be reminded that the Dorr Rebellion was a curtain-raiser to the East Greenwich Convention held 102 years ago on November 5, 1842.

Hardly less inflamed have been the controversies surrounding the proposals for any such convention since the Freemen in 1821 defeated the attempts to change the voting limitations of the ancient charter. England's King had given John Clarke that charter in 1663. That was 20 years after Roger Williams had secured his patent, leaving on his errand to the old country by way of Manhattan, since Massachusetts favored neither Roger nor his request.

But a half dozen years earlier than that—even before the name of "The Isle of Rhodes" was associated with any
part of the colony—the settlers of these plantations had shown the value they placed on the right to vote. It was on a par with freedom of conscience which was fundamental in these settlements. In 1637 Joshua Verin was deprived of his right to vote because he had restrained his wife's liberty of conscience. He did not let her hear Roger Williams preach, as she wanted to.

Freedom of the vote, extension of suffrage and the apportionment of representation were the bases of complaints against the charter, especially when this relic of Charles II endured beyond Rhode Island's own Independence Day, May 4, 1776.

Complaints increased until the new State Constitution was inaugurated on May 2, 1843. And they continued thereafter to our own day. The demand for reform or changes in the extent of the franchise and the nature of apportionment precipitated the political animosities of the 19th Century.

Staunch Rhode Islanders supported the requirement that would-be voters should first have a proprietary interest in the State. Rural Rhode Island was aghast at the growing population of industrial cities and towns. They regarded voting not only as a privilege; but they also saw it as a power. And they did not intend that representative government should expand as far as conferring proportionate interest in their government on these newcomers. Counting heads, they argued, was no guarantee that you could count hearts devoted to Rhode Island.

Remnants of these feelings survive even though generous grants of privilege have come to the individual citizen in the past century. Reapportionment of representation has not kept pace with the enfranchisement of the individual. The sections, the parties, the interests which felt a possessive advantage in the status quo have been reluctant to surrender or risk the loss of such advantage. The maximum risk, to many such minds, lay in a constitutional convention.

But here, on this March morning of 1944, such a convention was being held. Here was the historical event of a century. And yet only 27 members of the general public looked down from the galleries upon the 200 delegates there assembled. Did this mean lack of importance? Did it mean lack of interest?

The answer could really be found in two figures gracing the platform with the Chairman of the Convention. One of these figures wore the blue of a Commander of the United States Navy. He was former Governor Robert E. Quinn. In the Army uniform was a former executive of a State Department, Major George R. Beane. They symbolized the citizens of Rhode Island who had left their pursuits of peace-time. Their presence was the token of the thousands whose very absence was the spirit and the inspiration of the Convention. It was no petty, personal, partisan issue that engaged the attention of this assembly.

Out of the political perspective of more than a century, Rhode Island came to the dawn of the election year of 1944 with the realization that many thousands of her sons and daughters would be far away from her borders, prepared to sacrifice their lives so that our freedoms and our franchises would be maintained with the meaning and the values they had gained in a republic of free men.

But, by their very sacrificial absence, most of these men and women would be unable to perform the fundamental act of registration required by the Constitution, within the time and at the places set out by law.

Rhode Island has always had an affectionate regard for its citizen-soldiers. The fourth Amendment adopted in August, 1864, gave the right to vote to electors absent in military service. In 1886 the franchise was given to all naturalized citizens who had served in the Civil War. But the mandates and the machinery that had sent 5,000 ballots to distant soldiers in the first World War—to which there were 1,800 responses—were inadequate to do simple justice to the multiplied numbers over the global span of the present war. Voting would be difficult enough. Failure to register would make it impossible.

The tardy steps of customary legislative amendments would be more an insult than an inspiration to absent Rhode Islanders.
A Constitutional Convention was the only patriotic solution. The political habits of thought fostered for more than a century could not be altogether absent from 144 legislative minds.

Could a Constitutional Convention be limited? Could the General Assembly limit the power of the people? Once convened, on whatever pretext, could the Convention resolve and regulate and reform the government as it pleased? And could the people then limit themselves only through the necessity of ratification and adoption?

Fortunately, this was a General Assembly in which, though the Executive and House of Representatives were of a different political complexion from the Senate, there had developed a progressive practice of working together in war years with a common purpose and glory enough for all parties in the achievements of government.

I, as Governor, with Senator George T. Greenhalgh, Republican State Chairman, and John E. Mullen, Democratic State Chairman, guided the bi-partisan consideration of the question. The framing of the question itself was important and finally evolved as the following:

Shall a constitutional convention be held for the limited purpose of amending the Constitution of this State by empowering the General Assembly:

1. To exempt members of the Armed Forces and the Merchant Marine of the United States in active service, during the period of such service and for two years thereafter, from the registration requirements of Article XX of the Amendments to the Constitution;
2. To prescribe the time, place, manner and extent of voting by such members during the period of such service and for two years thereafter;
3. To enact legislation giving effect to such amendments.

Two hundred delegates were provided for, equally divided between the two major parties, and the event of a century, the holding of a constitutional convention which historically could cause political agitation mounting to the fury of a civil war, became a procedure in co-operative legislation, in an atmosphere of utmost good will.

The CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION of 1944

Many steps were involved.

1. The legislation had to be framed, introduced, passed and signed.
2. The Governor had to call a special election to determine whether the electorate would decide whether the convention should be held.
3. On affirmative vote the Governor by proclamation would fix the time and place of the Convention.
4. The Convention would meet and would adopt amendments to the constitution specifically enabling the General Assembly to proceed with the enactment of necessary legislation for the soldiers' vote.
5. The Governor would call a special election for the purpose of ratifying the proposed amendments.
6. If ratified, the amendments would become a part of the State Constitution.
7. The General Assembly would enact the necessary legislation to make effective registration and voting under the new power.

Before the first month of the General Assembly had elapsed, the first legislation had been passed. In less than three months thereafter, all the steps had been taken and the legislation born of the amendment was on the books. Between the time of the Governor's recommendations in his Annual Message of January 4, 1944 and of April 21, 1944, lay an epochal era of harmonious purpose. Less than two hours was the span of the Constitutional Convention itself, with bi-partisan sharing of the honors and responsibilities.

The extremely light vote of the people in authorizing the convention and in ratifying its resolutions was again evidence not of the lack of concern, but of the supreme confidence of the people that their representatives were doing the manifestly righteous thing toward the service men and women of our common concern.

For instance, on March 14, only 4.9% of the eligible voters appeared to authorize the convention. On April 11,
only 2.2% of the eligible voters went to the polls and ratified the work of the Convention: 7,122 to 119.

These were really “token” votes, necessary steps toward the ultimate goal. The Constitutional Convention itself may well be termed a “token”. For it was not intended for the glorification of those who participated. It was not merely a demonstration of harmony in which both major parties shared the representation, the offices, and the felicitations. It was for no selfish purpose attached to any person there present. The real convention was not the two hundred answering that roll call, but the 53,000 service men and women gone to every corner of the earth where they might be needed—53,000 sons and daughters of this State to whom the voice of the Convention spoke saying: “Not only do you belong to Rhode Island—but Rhode Island belongs to you.”

Activities of the Director

William G. Roelker, our director-librarian, addressed the Society of American Archivists at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in November on “How Should a Historical Society Make a Disorganized Body of Manuscripts Available to the Research Worker.” In December, Mr. Roelker delivered the address at the annual meeting of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, in Cincinnati. His subject was “The Historical Society and the Community.”

Mr. Roelker has recently been appointed chairman of a new committee, on ways and means, of the American Association for State and Local History. He is a member of the Council of that organization.

B. F. S.

Observances of the Centennial of Butler Hospital

By Paul J. Spencer*

The Trustees and Superintendent of Butler Hospital decided that in spite of wartime conditions the year 1944 should not pass without marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of their institution, the oldest hospital in the State of Rhode Island. In order that everyone interested in mental health and in Butler Hospital’s contribution to this field of medical and nursing endeavor might have an opportunity to participate in appropriate recognition of a century of service, two observances were held: the first on May 10, embracing scientific personnel only; the second on October 4, for the general public.

More than 400 guests attended the Spring event, which began in Ray Hall in the afternoon. Those present included physicians, hospital administrators, psychiatric nurses and social workers, officers of various social agencies with which the hospital maintains professional relations, and many nationally known psychiatrists from New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Kansas, and California.

Speakers included Mr. Walter A. Edwards, president of the Board of Trustees; Mr. John Nicholas Brown, chairman of the Centennial Committee; Dr. Edward A. Streecker, professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, consultant to the Surgeon General of the Navy and the Air Force, and president of the American Psychiatric Association; Dr. Gregory Zilboorg, psychoanalyst, author, medical historian, and associate editor of the Centennial Volume of the American Psychiatric Association; Dr. Karl A. Menninger, president of the Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas; Miss Anna K. McGibbon, R.N., superintendent of nurses at Butler

*Assistant Director, Salem Hospital, Salem, Mass.; formerly Assistant to the Superintendent, Butler Hospital.
Cyrus Butler, 1769-1849
Benefactor for whom Butler Hospital was named.
Oil portrait by Thomas Sully, painted in 1847
and now in Butler Hospital Library.

Nicholas Brown, 1769-1841
First Benefactor of Butler Hospital.
Oil portrait by Thomas Sully, painted in 1847
and now in Butler Hospital Library.
Hospital; Miss Elisabeth S. Bixler, R.N., professor of nursing and dean of the Yale University School of Nursing; Dr. Arthur H. Ruggles, superintendent of Butler Hospital; and Dr. Alan Gregg, director of the Division of Medical Sciences, Rockefeller Foundation.

A radio broadcast by Mr. John W. Haley, commemorating the centennial, was also part of the program, which was also marked by distribution of a centennial volume entitled "A Century of Butler Hospital, 1844-1944," which was compiled by William G. Roelker, director and librarian of the Rhode Island Historical Society, Dr. Ruggles, and Dr. Zilboorg. A centennial edition of the Butler Argus, a periodical published by patients of the hospital, was also issued especially for the occasion.

The Rhode Island Medical Journal devoted virtually its entire August issue to the centennial by printing all addresses delivered at the May 10 meeting; a paper on dentistry and the early days of the hospital by Dr. Harold Sutton, consulting dentist on the hospital staff; and a historical note by the author of this article. In addition to being sent to all members of the Rhode Island Medical Society, 1500 extra copies of the issue were printed and distributed to medical libraries, mental hospitals, prominent psychiatrists, and a large number of persons engaged in psychiatric work.

Late in September the centennial received recognition in a radio broadcast on the program, "The Album of Courageous Women." The program took the form of a vignette in the life of Dorothea Linde Dix, who did so much during the mid-19th Century to establish mental institutions along the Eastern seaboard. Her part in calling public attention to the need for proper institutional care for the mentally ill in Rhode Island was dramatized, and the last half of the program was devoted to an interview with Miss Mcgibbon, who told of the institution's work and its extensive program of education carried on for approximately 300 affiliating nurses every year.

Open House was held at the hospital on October 4 in the morning and again in the afternoon. Special exhibits of patients' work, including a show of flower arrangements in Ray Hall, supplemented inspection tours of the hospital and its facilities.

In the evening a public meeting was held in the auditorium of the Rhode Island School of Design. Those taking part in the program included Rt. Rev. James DeWolf Perry, Rev. Arthur H. Bradford, Mr. Walter A. Edwards, Mr. John Nicholas Brown, U.S. Senator Theodore Francis Green, representing Governor J. Howard McGrath, who was unable to attend because of illness; Dr. Elihu S. Wing, president of the Rhode Island Medical Society; Mr. Clemens J. France, director of the State Department of Social Welfare; and Acting Mayor William A. Cahir of Providence.

The principal address, "A Hundred Years of Service in Mental Health," was delivered by Col. H. Edmund Bullis, U.S. Army, formerly executive of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. Dr. Ruggles closed the exercises with a review of the hospital's accomplishments under his predecessors and an outline of plans for the future.

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Book Review

A Century of Butler Hospital, 1844-1944

Something more than a hundred years ago the democratic "faith in the right to be free" united with "nineteenth century faith in progress to produce a crusading zeal that swept men into all sorts of reform movements designed to perfect the institutions of contemporary society." This reforming ardor reached its apogee in the 1840's; and it was this decade which witnessed the birth of Butler Hospital, one of the finest products of the era of reform. The present work commemorates the completion of the first century of the hospital's service to society.

The story is divided into three parts: "A Layman's Narrative" by W. G. Roelker; "The Achievements of Five Superintendents" from the pen of Dr. A. H. Ruggles; and Dr. Gregory Zilboorg's account of "The Closing of A Century".

After briefly placing the origins of the hospital in the wider setting of reform, Mr. Roelker promptly explodes the ancient myth that Dorothea Dix, the famed humanitarian who struggled so valiantly to improve the
care of the insane, played a leading part in its founding. He also demolishes the less robust legend that men of wealth were the sole contributors to it. Although it owed its inception largely to the benefactions of Nicholas Brown and Cyrus Butler, it also enjoyed widespread support from people of small or moderate means.

With a sure hand Mr. Roelker traces the growth of the physical plant and the financial resources of the hospital. Equally important, he shows the ever-expanding conception of the function which the institution was to perform. The gulf separating the original idea of mere "custodial care" for mental cases from present day methods is the measure of a century of progress in the treatment of nervous and mental diseases. The professional historian will be grateful for the excellent essay in social history which Mr. Roelker has given us.

Both the serious student of history and the general reader will find in Mr. Roelker's narrative one defect which seems to inhere in official or commemorative publications. The authors of such works seldom are able to resist the temptation to do honor to the multitude of persons who have played faithful and honorable, but not especially significant, roles in the life of the institution whose history they relate. Mr. Roelker's pages are literally cluttered with the names of trustees and committee members, together with dates of election, death or resignation. As this information is also to be found in an insert listing all officers of the corporation, with dates of service, repetition in the text would seem to serve no useful purpose. All this, while doubtless gratifying to the descendants of the trustees, can only be annoying to the scholar faced with the task of winnowing the wheat from the chaff.

In "The Achievements of Five Superintendents" Dr. Ruggles presents an unusually interesting account of the work and character of his predecessors. Especially noteworthy is his tribute to the ability and vision of Dr. Isaac Ray, who guided the destinies of the hospital during its difficult formative period. That Dr. Ruggles has himself maintained the high standards and traditions of the past, while improving the methods and increasing the usefulness of the hospital, is abundantly shown by Dr. Zilboorg.

Although there undoubtedly are good reasons for the tripartite arrangement of the book, some readers may question its wisdom. Admirable as are the contributions of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Zilboorg, one may wonder why their non-technical accounts were not synthesized with Mr. Roelker's historical essay to produce an integrated and harmonious whole. As they are intended for the lay reader, they might well be incorporated in "A Layman's Narrative."

James B. Hedges

Brown University

Christian Lodowick of Newport and Leipzig

By Harold S. Jantz

(Concluded from Rhode Island History, Volume III, No. 4, p. 117)

Most important perhaps in its after-effects was Lodowick's period of chemical experimentation and medical practice with Dr. James Oliver of Cambridge. No exact dates for this association can be ascertained; it may have begun before 1694, and to judge from their activities, it must have been of at least several months duration, possibly even (with interruptions) for the remainder of Lodowick's stay in America. The evidence for Lodowick's acquaintance with James Oliver has hitherto rested upon the short statement of Thomas Prince in his preface to Dr. Nathaniel Williams' The Method of Practice in the Small Pox, With Observations on the Way of Inoculation, Boston, 1752. Prince mentioned that the author had studied "Chymistry and Physick, under his Uncle the Learned Dr. James Oliver of Cambridge; one of the most esteemed Physicians in his Day; who had a singular Help in the Art of Chymistry by the ingenious Dr. Lodowick a German, who was also accounted an excellent Physician, and the most skilful Chymist that ever came into these Parts of America." The question immediately arises whether Lodowick had something to do with the introduction of the novel idea of small-pox inoculation in America; however, so far as we know, no evidence to this effect has yet come to light, but only this mention of his place in the educational background of a writer on the subject.

New evidence about Lodowick's activities with Dr. Oliver has come to light, strangely enough, in a folio notebook of Gershom Bulkeley's, now at Trinity College, which (except for an interesting autobiographical passage on an explosion in Bulkeley's laboratory) contains nothing else but compendious notes on such volumes as Four Bookes of Johanes Segnerus Weidenfeld, Concerning the Secrets of the Adepts, London, 1685. At the end of his notes on Weidenfeld's book Bulkeley adds excerpts from
a letter of Dr. James Oliver of Cambridge as a commentary on the twelfth chapter of that book:

"I have [says Dr. James Oliver] a preparation of & which seems to differ a little from what is common, which is made out of Crocus metal-lorum by a solar distillation or sublimation, with its adventitious salt with which it is calcined. I have tried 3 j of it in 2 quarts of sweet wine. I find that the wine is in a little time impregnated with fall virtue. Of this I give a spoonful or 2 where the stomach is disordered in the beginning of fevers, & any case where there is a putrid malignity, & find that it works much as nature is inclined. Sometimes it vomits, sometimes not; & where there is need of evacuation I find that a little will do as well as a great deal: & where the matter is not to be evacuated, a great deal will not stir a person. The virtue of it seems as yet to be inexhaustible after several affusions of fresh wine. The innocent operation of it upon all bodies makes it eligible. The notion I received from an old Hermite that pretended very high, & in this particular notion seemed to differ from most. For he reckoned that the Culinary fire was rather destructive to good medicine than otherwise; & if any did pass through it, it was only previous to theree exaltation by a subterraneous digestion for a while, then a solar one: which was performed by mixing his minerals thus prepared with Sal Nitre, or Amoniacke, or the salt they were calcined with, moistening with Raine or other water as oft as they flew dry, withall grinding the minerals & salts together every time; thus continuing to do till all the Empyreuma is blotted out, & the matter hath contracted a solar Balsamick virtue.

"The way of his preparing Magistry of Corall was, to take Corall levigated, put it into a glasse, add a small quantity of water; put it 2 or 3 foot into the ground; cover the glasse tightly that the dirt may not fall in. After it hath been a month or more in that digestion, then he exposes it to the sun, setting his glasse a little within the earth, & there continues it for 2 or 3 months, with repeated imbibations as needfull, every time grinding his matter aferth.

"Minerals are more tedious in their preparation, Viz. 1. 2. or 3. years. This he was confidant was the true philosophicall way of working. Many notable things he did, & many more he might have done in the practice of Physicke, had he not been too enthusiasticall in his Divinity & Philosophy. Sir, I beg your notion with respect to the notion, for I have some thing inclined the way, & have found something of truth in it." Dr. James Oliver of Cambridge in his letter to me, dated May 26. 1701."

Two pages farther along Bulkeley copied another portion of the same letter, concerned with the "Tinctura Regalis":

"As to the processe of 2 (i.e. his Processe) It was (says Dr. James Oliver) a mixture of crystals of 2 (extracted from 2 by a Corrosive or
thing like as large or important as the library he later assembled at Leipzig. Till now only one publication has turned up in America which definitely came from his library and bears his signature. It is now at the American Antiquarian Society in the Mather library bound in a volume of pamphlets, and since it was probably presented by Lodowick to Cotton Mather, it is most significant of the kind of intellectual interchange that passed between the two men. The pamphlet is John Hales’ Dissertation de Pace, &c. Or a Discourse Touching the Peace and Concord of the Church. Wherein First, Is Elegantly and Accurately argued That its not so much a bare Error in Opinion, as a bad Life, excludes a Christian out of the Kingdom of Heaven. Secondly, That the things necessary to be known for the attainment of Salvation are very Few and Easie. Lastly, that those who pass amongst us under the Names of Hereticks and Dissentiers, are notwithstanding to be Tolerated, London, 1688. (The Latin version of 1630 is also to be found in the Mather library). Though Cotton Mather, like most of his contemporaries loved a good theological argument, he was, contrary to accepted opinion, a basically tolerant man, and became more and more so as he grew older. Even at this time shortly after he became acquainted with Christian Lodowick, he had written two tracts advocating tolerance and Christian union: the Opianta and the Blessed Union of 1692; from these somewhat limited beginnings he had gradually developed until by 1725 he had attained practically the modern stage of tolerance in his noble apology to the Quakers, Vital Christianity: A Brief Essay on the Life of God, in the Soul of Man.

Late in 1694, probably, there appeared the last known of Christian Lodowick’s American publications: 1695, The New England Almanac For the Year of our Lord Christ, M DC XC V. To which are added some Seasonable Cautions against certain Impieties and Absurdities in Tulley’s Almanacks, giving a truer Account of what may be expected from Astrological Predictions. Together with some choice, experimented, cheap, easy and parable Recei


cipts, of a General Benefit to Country-People. By C. Lodowick, Physician, Boston, Printed by B. Green, for S. Phillips, ... 1695. A very similar but anonymous almanac for the preceding year, 1694, also printed by B. Green for Samuel Phillips, has been attributed on good evidence to one of the Brattles, though on very inadequate evidence to William rather than Thomas. The last page of it is typically Lodowickian in style and content; the long first paragraph is concerned with the accurate calculation of the tides, and the second, concluding paragraph, which is aimed against the astrological predictions in Tulley’s almanacs, sets the theme for the vigorous essay in the 1695 almanac. Thus Lodowick may just possibly have had a hand in the 1694 almanac as well.21

The medical receipts included are none of the erudite affairs which he concocted with James Oliver; they are the popular home remedies which the people themselves could make out of camomile, brimstone, mastick, horse dung, quick-silver, earth worms, hen’s grease, castile soap, hemp seed, and other favorite ingredients of the seventeenth century pharmacopoeia. The remarkable thing is not that Lodowick is a child of his times in including such ingredients, but that a number of his receipts are quite free from the repulsive features of much of the medicaments of the day. There is one receipt under each month; in August, for example, he recommends an unusual tooth powder:

“To prevent the Tooth ach & keep the Teeth sound. Rub frequently the Teeth moderately with Tobacco-ashes, that

21 Mass. Hist. Soc. Proceedings, 2nd series, VII (1891 & 1892), 414-415, a letter from John Tulley, the Saybrook, Conn. almanac maker, to his publisher, Benjamin Harris, May 7, 1694. Tulley’s letter makes it reasonably certain that one of the Brattles either compiled or published the 1694 almanac by “Philosophemat.” The attribution to William Brattle on the basis of this pseudonym, which he had also used for his 1682 almanac, is inconclusive, since other almanac makers of the time frequently used the same name or self-attribution (e.g. Samuel Danforth 1648, Nathan Chauncy 1662). The internal evidence, however, as outlined in the text above, makes it far more likely either that Thomas Brattle was the compiler, with or without the aid of Lodowick, or that Lodowick compiled it under his patronage. Their common mathematical studies, as seen in their correspondence, also lend support to this attribution.
remain in Tobacco-pipes after smoking, wash the mouth after (if need be) with water not too cold.”

—Surely an innocuous remedy, and one that might have led some New Englanders to take better care of their teeth, which from various reports must have been rather bad in Colonial times.

His essay (pages 15 and 16) “Concerning Astrological Predictions” attempted to enlighten the public on the matter in a thoroughly modern way, though he took poor Tulley, who was merely following an old almanac convention, as his whipping boy. Passing over the religious points, the polemics against Tulley, the allusion to his Ciceroan name and un-Ciceroan attitude, and the ridicule cast upon the pretentious jargon of astrology: the houses, the governors, the signs of the zodiac (“the imaginary Circle, called the Zodiac is but at pleasure (for Doctrine sake) Geometrically divided into 12 Signes”), we come upon a passage which strikes us as completely modern, and which is already ushering in the eighteenth century “Age of Reason”: “Is it rational to think, that 7 wandering Stars, which can Ejaculate but 7 sorts of Beams, should suffice to conclude in one onely short moment, the great variety of innumerable Accidents, that shall befall all and every of those Infants that at one and same instant enter into the World, from the time of their Birth to that of their Death? and that Planets should cause such effects, though at that time under the earth, when we find by experience, that the sun being under us, its rays cannot pierce through the Globe of the Earth to reach unto us? What reason is there, that such impressions on Infants, should not be taken off, by other Impressions that are made every day, seeing the Planets immit their beams in any Position?”

Lodowick goes on to refute point by point the astrological rectifications and interpretations of nativities, the directions, revolutions, transits, etc., and then passes over to the like vanity of long range weather forecasts, which have remained a feature of almanacs to the present day. In a jocular vein he concludes: “You may your selves observe

such Weather-Conjectures to be fallible, by those instances of them, which (for that end) I have given you in the Preceding Pages, according to the Common Rules of Meteorology. Perhaps the most Probable Way of Predicting the Weather, would be that of the famous Old Lord HOWARD: His manner was to take such Almanacks, as Tullies, and where they wrote, Foul, he wrote, Fair, where they wrote, Good, he wrote, Bad; and his Contradictions, he found frequently truer than their Predictions.”

Naturally Tulley answered Lodowick in his 1696 almanac, though Lodowick, as we shall learn, was already out of earshot. Tulley’s reason for including the astrological predictions was at bottom the old commercial principle of giving the public what it wants: “not that any thing... might be displeasing to God,... but I would gladly please man also.” He was right in contending that Lodowick should not have singled out his almanac for attack, when it merely followed a long, time-honored tradition. In the following almanac of 1697 Tulley backed down on weather forecasting also, stating that the forecasts are often wrong because they are based on secondary causes which are often crossed by the First Cause, God. Thus Lodowick was not without influence upon the old New England sport of almanac making, though he did not stay in America long enough to carry out his prefatory promise: “if this Essay, find Acceptance, the Country may for some following Years, with Gods leave, be entertained with larger Communications, whereby not only the Time & the Health of People but their Husbandry also, and many other Advantages, may be Served.” But it would really have been too much, if on top of everything else, chemistry, medicine, mathematics, navigation, music, religious and philosophical speculation, he had become the founder of the Old Farmer’s Almanac.

According to his earliest biography, he must have left New England in the late summer or early autumn of the year 1695. Why he left and whether he intended to return we do not know; he seems, however, to have been bound for England, perhaps on some scientific project. On
the voyage across he was, like Samuel Lee, his hypothetical friend, captured by the French, deprived of his money and goods. He survived his captivity, however, remained in France for a quarter of a year, and then in the beginning of the year 1696 he went to England. Several years later he returned to Germany again, and finally he settled down in Leipzig, where he remained as a teacher of English for the rest of his life. One might expect to find some mention of him in the writings of the English scientists with whom his New England friends were well acquainted, such mentions may exist, though my incomplete investigations have revealed none to date. Only three documents have come to light which tell something about his movements during the next three years. According to the Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, for August 3, 1696, passes were issued at Whitehall for a number of men to go to Holland; in the document Christian Lodowick's name is coupled with that of a certain Lawrence Hermense. If he actually went to Holland at this time, he must have returned to England, for in the catalog of the manuscripts of Amsterdam University library (vol. IV. Brieven), there is recorded a letter from Lodowick to the well known Dutch Remonstrant theologian, Philip van Limborch, dated London, October 25, 1699, and also Limborch's reply from Amsterdam on December 22 of the same year. The investigation of his career in England and Holland will have to wait the time when the materials again become available to scholars.

About the turn of the century he settled down in Leipzig to an active career as linguistic and literary mediator between England and Germany. He translated various English books into German, as for instance, a medical book by Richard Lower.23 By 1706 his reputation as a scholar and teacher of English became firmly established with the publication of A Dictionary English, German and French.24 These dictionaries were none of the inadequate little word lists that their predecessors had been, but large scholarly quartos of over a thousand pages each, which offered much more than the bare translations of single words. The same superiority is to be noticed in his compendious English grammar of the following year: Grundliche Anleitung zur Engli schen Sprache, of 997 pages and containing a grammar, vocabulary, conversations, and idioms. Thus for the first time in 1717 there existed adequate grammatical and lexicographical material as a basis for that fruitful intellectual and literary intercourse between England and Germany which had such a decisive effect upon German classical and then upon English Romantic literature. There is evidence that the German-English dictionary, at least, reached America at an early date; one copy of the first edition of 1716, now at the American Antiquarian Society, bears the autograph of Samuel Jackson, 1730, and late in the century became the property of William Bentley of Salem when he began his significant studies of German language and literature.

One historical factor which added significance to the work which Lodowick was then doing was the settlement of the Protestant succession in Great Britain upon the House of Hanover, and the resulting necessity for Hanoverians and English to learn each other's languages. At least one young New Engander, Jonathan Belcher, who early saw whence the wind of preferment would be blowing, made two trips to the court of Hanover while Sophia, the mother of George I, was still reigning, in 1704 and again in 1708, and left a very favorable impression. Years later when the governorship of Massachusetts became vacant, Belcher, as he says, fixed his eye upon the matter. When it Was first Mentioned to the King by a great

23Jicher, loc. cit., though Lower is not mentioned in the 1728 biography. This Artheose-Buchlein is possibly Dr. Lear's and Several Other: . . . . . . Physician: Receipts: Containing the . . . . . Method for Curing Most Diseases, London, 1700, though there is another little book of Lower's on oatmeal as a health food which enjoyed a certain popularity in Germany and Sweden. As we shall see, Lodowick was something of a pre-Battle-Creekian health faddist.

24Later editions during the 18th century appeared in 1736, 1763, 1766, and 1791; possibly there were others.

25Later editions in 1745, 1765, and 1789. Both parts were revised and published together in 1790, 1808, 1821, and 1832.
Minister the King Askd if it Was the same Mr. Belcher Who Was twice at Hannover, It Was Answered Yess...”
Needless to say Belcher was appointed, on November 27, 1729. 25 Lodowick’s publisher too was quick to see his own advantage in these new connections; he dedicated the 1706 dictionary to Sophia and in 1716 again pointed out the greatly enhanced value of his product.

That Nathaniel Williams and Thomas Prince long kept alive in New England Lodowick’s fame as a physician, we have already noted above. Lodowick’s direct contacts also did not come to an end, for Samuel Sewall copied into his letter-book a letter from Lodowick dated Leipzig March 24, 1712. 26 This was in answer to a letter from America of July 13, 1708 asking Lodowick’s medical advice. The enigmatic thing about this letter is that neither Sewall’s diary nor letter-book for 1707 or 1708 makes mention of any such ailment of Sewall’s as is here described and diagnosed. There are two possible explanations: since the malady is diagnosed as “the Hypochondriack Evil”, it was perhaps a psychiatric affair which Sewall might be inclined to keep secret, looking for help and advice to a source which was as safely distant as it was learned. To judge from Sewall’s portraits, he was of the bodily type which Kretschmer calls pyknic-cyclothymic and thus possibly subject to cyclic melancholia. Another possible explanation would be that another New Englander, a friend of Sewall’s, had written for advice and had received it, and that Samuel Sewall had copied it into his letter-book simply because of its real personal and scholarly interest. One friends of Sewall’s who was “subject to hypochondriack complaints”, and in addition may very well have known Lodowick at Cambridge, was the Reverend Simon Bradstreet of Charlestown, 27 though there were no doubt others who fulfilled the conditions equally well.


CHRISTIAN LODOWICK

Whatever the case may be, the letter is a long and most interesting one. Lodowick’s delay in answering his American correspondent was not his fault, for the letter had been under way about three and a half years before it finally reached Leipzig. The return letter was apparently almost as slow, for Sewall did not copy it into his letter-book until February 20, 1713/14. The body of the letter is devoted to Lodowick’s advice as to what to do and not to do for the hypochondria, following therein an unnamed “professor of Physick at a neighbouring university, who lately put forth a new Physiology and Pathology, wherein he treats at large of this Distemper”, as he does also in “a Disputation of his about this Evil”. The advice given is a strange mixture of the eminently sensible and the fantastic, in this proving an advance beyond most of the medical advice of the time, which was merely fantastic. “That they who make use of a simple Diet, and use Exercise of the body, and live free from perturbations of Mind; live free also from this evil.” “What the best Remedy against Hypochondriack evil? Equitation.” — which is simply impressive medical terminology for horseback riding, the good old fresh air and exercise.

The beginning of the last paragraph seems to indicate that previous letters had passed between Lodowick and his American correspondent: “My translation of Ludovicus Cornaro will not be printed. Some other has translated it which you may get. But then you will not have my Appendix about drinking water.” Then Lodowick goes into a lengthy panegyric on water as the best of all possible beverages. This rediscovery of water as a liquid that one could actually drink, may have been a result of his New England stay. The drinking of water had almost gone out of fashion in Europe when the early settlers of New England perfors acquired a taste for it and brought it into fashion again, continuing it as a tradition long after the necessity for it had vanished. Lodowick’s attempt, however, to prove to Germans that water was a beverage, was apparently not successful. Whether his American correspondent turned to water to drown his melancholia we
III TASTE; quite otherwise to an end the career of a man of remarkable versatility, as well as good German words and expressions, collected and bound together with some notice of the author in one further publication of his of which we have knowledge. The treatise was in Latin and apparently of pamphlet size: 28 Exercitatio theologiae de spiritu Mosis in septuaginta seniores posito, ad Numer. XI. 16 et 25, Lipsia, 1724.

His last known work was an abridgment of his large English grammar, his Rudimenta der Englischen Sprache, which appeared in 1726. Two years later, on May 21 he died at Leipzig, nearly sixty eight years old. The death of one of his New England friends, Cotton Mather, had occurred a few months earlier. The conclusion of his obituary may stand here, in translation, as an indication of the extent and also of the dispersal of his labors, and may furnish leads toward the recovery of unknown American:

28 In the Bibliotheca Zwickiana (see note 6 above), p. 300, no. 1695, it is listed as being in a "convolut" with eight other titles, thus almost certainly of pamphlet size. It is also listed in the supplement to Jäger uunder Ludwig's name.

letters and perhaps other manuscripts of Mather, Sewall, and other New England worthies, possibly Lodowick's own notes on things American, his biographical notes in early New England imprints, etc., which may still lie forgotten in some Leipzig library.

"Along with this [his work on the English language], his particular study was chemistry, in as much as he not only read through and extracted many chemical writings, and also carried on extensive communication, oral and written, with famous chemists, but also spared neither time nor money in the practical investigation of chemical truths. On September 6th next, the beginning will be made in the sale of his books at auction, his medical, chemical, and alchemical, also his philological, philosophical, and theological books, among which there are many in the English, Dutch, and French languages, as also a considerable quantity of all kinds of good disputations, collected and bound according to subject. It is to be noted here that the late Mr. Ludwig added to most of his books a short extract of the same, together with some notice of the author in his own hand, and also that the copy of his English lexicon used by him and to be sold at this auction is enlarged with very many neatly written additions from the English, as well as good German words and phrases, the same having also been done in his Introduction to the English Language." His chemical apparatus and preparations were also to be sold at the same auction.

Thus came to an end the career of a man of remarkable brilliance and versatility who came perilously close to being completely forgotten, partly because of certain erratic qualities in his personality, partly because his work was scattered over many fields and over two continents, and in the end was thoroughly dispersed at auction, partly also because of the sheer accident that no one wrote an adequate biography of him at the time and that most of the materials concerning him have subsequently either been lost or buried away in the libraries. Just what place Lodowick will occupy in any future history of early American intellectual activity, and particularly of scientific activity, it is impossible to

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determine at present. Not only do we not yet know enough about him, in many cases we know even less about his important American contemporaries. As has been indicated earlier in this paper, really large quantities of choice and most significant material still await the patient work of scholars. True, a history of early American intellectual activity even on the basis of materials at present available would be of considerable value, and when the pertinent material still in hiding is brought to light, then, it can safely be predicted, many of our present notions of the early American mind will stand in need of a thorough-going revision.

Schedule of Coming Events

The annual meeting of the Rhode Island Historical Society will be held Tuesday evening, January 30, at 8:15 p.m. Among its features will be a discussion of post-war building plans. Election of officers will be conducted.

On Sunday, February 18, at 3:30 p.m., Harold Minot Pitman, A.B., L.L.B., of Bronxville, N. Y., prominent genealogist and contributing editor of The American Genealogist, will speak on “The Fun of Finding Forefathers.” This talk will be designed to outline proper procedures for persons desiring to take up genealogy.

At another afternoon meeting, on Sunday, March 18, at 3:30, Prof. S. Foster Damon of Brown University will speak on “The American Song.” Music will supplement his talk.

Robert Stowe Holding will speak on “George H. Corliss” at a meeting on the evening of Tuesday, April 17.

Book Review


Reprinted from the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society for April, 1943. (Worcester, Massachusetts, 1944.)

Reviewed by Henry M. Wriston
President of Brown University

The present study is a judicious and critical account of Francis Wayland. It describes his greatest qualities as an educational reformer and indicates the reasons for the ultimate failure of his plans. It reveals the democratic passion which determined the president of Brown University to let each student “study what he chose, all that he chose, and nothing but what he chose” in college.

The monograph contains, perhaps, insufficient warning against giving modern contents—or possibly one should say a modern context—to the words of another day; misunderstanding of his work would be the consequence of reading back into Wayland’s time the vast variety of subjects which were subsequently introduced into the college. Nothing trivial was then available for election. The range of choice under Wayland’s extremely catholic formula was actually very small relative to the cafeteria-style curriculum of a modern state university. The original “elective system” was neither so confused nor confusing as its later counterpart. A faculty of eleven men teaching Philosophy, Mathematics, Chemistry, History, Greek, Latin, French, German, Rhetoric, Natural Philosophy, and Civil Engineering could not encompass the earth. The quoted objective sounds, therefore, much more extravagant than it was.

Wayland’s vocationalism also may appear more crass and crude than the facts really warrant. He wanted education to “look with as kindly an eye on the mechanic as the lawyer, on the manufacturer and merchant as the minister”; but he did not propose to teach the mechanic lead burning or how to wipe a joint, nor did he plan courses in management or sales technique for the businessman or merchant. He was interested in raising “to high intellectual culture the whole
mass of our people”; he wanted the artisan, the merchant, and the manufacturer each to perform “his process with a knowledge of the laws by which it is governed,” to be transformed “from an unthinking laborer into a practical philosopher.” Christianity was to “imbrace the whole mass of our people with the spirit of universal love.” This accent upon culture, upon basic laws, and upon the spirit of love shows that he was not concerned with the techniques, with the routine skills which modern vocationalism has so thoroughly emphasized; his emphasis was upon value judgments, intellectual discipline, and moral perception which have virtually disappeared from modern vocationalism.

A discouraging record with regard to one general experience in education is presented in this essay. The widespread belief that excellence of performance brings financial support ought to be true. It would not then be necessary for a good college to engage in high-pressure publicity and salesmanship in order to enlarge its resources. In his first twenty years as president, Wayland, by his initiative and his perception, by his enthusiasm and his dominating personality, altered the teaching patterns and made Brown a distinguished educational institution. In public relations he brought it to the attention of the whole nation through his energy and catholicity of interest and the wisdom of his participation in extra-curricular matters. Yet neither his own enormous prestige nor that of the college inspired gifts commensurate with either his standing or its needs. The corporation of the University seemed content to rest upon his laurels instead of finding the means to perpetuate what he had started and carried forward by a resolute will and the expenditure of incredible strength.

Moreover instead of supporting his whole program they postponed some fundamental innovations for more than a decade and accepted them only when the president resigned. The nature of their acceptance, when he was induced to withdraw his resignation, meant that the governing body yielded to pressure and not to conviction, thus dooming the program to failure even if it had been perfect.
John Brown Memorabilia

Recently placed on display at the Society’s headquarters, John Brown House, are some interesting items pertaining to the house itself and its original owner.

These include five framed samples of wall paper used in the early decoration of the house. Three of these are the papers themselves while the remaining two samples are of borders.

Also on display, framed under glass, are a pair of John Brown’s white silk stockings and a waistcoat which belonged to him.

All these articles are on loan from Mr. Norman Herreshoff of Bristol. They have been hung near the head of the stairs at the third floor.

Some Recent Accessions

From Mr. Harry I. Angell of Lambertville, New Jersey, three orderly books of Colonel Israel Angell, for 1779-1780. Also a gold medal belonging to Colonel Angell and given to him by General Washington when the latter took leave of his officers in New York.

From the author, Colonel Hunter Carson White, bound copy of a 22-page manuscript, The Gibe of St. Paul’s in Narragansett, with sketches showing the house as it was when purchased by Dr. James MacSparran and after his alterations.

From the American Antiquarian Society, manuscript diary kept by James Brown of Providence in the years 1801 and 1802.

From the compiler, Hattie B. Cooper, 45-page typewritten manuscript, with index: Squire Bucklin of Foster, R.I., His Ancestors Back to William Hingham Buckland of Hingham, Mass., 1635, and His Descendants — Buckland, Bucklin, Bucklin, Bucklyu. With a sketch of the old Bucklin homestead on the Windsor Road in Foster.

From Mrs. Harriet Nightingale Dorrance and Mr. Joseph G. Henshaw, a sea captain’s day bed, with chest beneath, for many years in the Nightingale family.

From the author, Ira B. Cross, 25-page typewritten manuscript: Some Genealogical Data Concerning the Cross, Bradford, Clemons, Haeley, Mobley, Hessey, Dillman, and Rhoer Families.

News-Notes

of the Rhode Island Historical Society

An illustrated article on the Stephen Hopkins House appeared in the October, 1944, issue of The Magazine Antiques.

Richard LeBaron Bowen has contributed an article, "Rehoboth's Book of Laws," to the October, 1944, issue of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register. It contains a large number of abstracts of "creature earmarks" registered to Rehoboth horse-owners from 1697 to 1724, and hence has considerable genealogical value.

"An Early View of Providence" is the title of an article which appeared in the June, 1944, issue of The Connoisseur. It discusses the old theatre drop-curtain belonging to this society and now on loan at the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design.

An illustrated article, "Treasure of the 'San Pedro de Alcantara,'" by Carlos Hanks, a member of the staff of the Providence Journal, appeared in the magazine Yachting, for November, 1944. It tells about a sunken treasure expedition financed by General Ambrose E. Burnside and other Rhode Islanders in 1871.

The Providence Sunday Journal for 8 October 1944 carried an article by Charles W. Wilson comparing the New England hurricanes of 1938 and 1944.

The booklet issued by the Society of Colonial Wars in Rhode Island and Providence Plantations as a memento of its General Court held 30 December 1944 was The Case of Richard Chasmore, by Bradford F. Swan. It is the society's 36th regular publication, and pertains to Providence and Pawtuxet in 1656-57.

Among recent books of interest to Rhode Islanders are two historical biographies for young people: Lone Journey by Jeanette Eaton, a biography of Roger Williams; and Oliver Hazard Perry by Alfred H. Fenton of Providence. Maude Howe Elliott has written her reminiscences of Newport in This Was My Newport.
New Members of the
Rhode Island Historical Society
Since September 1, 1944

Mrs. William Adams, Jr.
Sarasota, Fla.
Mr. Howard S. Almy
Mr. George R. Ashby
Mr. Albert H. Baer
Mr. Frederick A. Ballou, Jr.
Mrs. Frederick A. Ballou, Jr.
Mr. Henry W. Ballou
Mrs. Fred H. Barrows
Mrs. Charles E. Bartlett
East Providence, R. I.
Dr. James H. Bartley
Miss Mary D. Basso
Mr. Robert K. Bennett
East Greenwich, R. I.
Mr. E. W. Bradford
Mr. George L. Brady
Mrs. Arthur H. Brown
Mr. Sidney Brown
Mrs. Frank R. Budlong
Edgewood, R. I.
Mrs. Thomas Burt
Mr. William A. Cahir
Mr. Linn M. Carpenter
Mrs. Elmer S. Chace
Dr. Peter Pineo Chase
Mr. Frederick H. Cole
Auburn, R. I.
Mr. Michael F. Costello
Pawtucket, R. I.
Mr. H. Douglass Dana
Mr. George C. Davis
Mrs. Harriet N. Dorrance
Mr. Kenneth H. Farle
Mrs. J. Lamson Eddy
Mrs. Aney Taylor Foggitt
Mr. Edward G. Freehafer
Mrs. Hugh Fulton
Mrs. Mary Colt Gross
Mr. R. F. Hassenreffer, III
Mr. Benjamin P. Harris, Jr.
Miss Avis A. Hawkins
Centredale, R. I.
Mr. I. Peace Hazard
Peace Dale, R. I.

Mr. Arthur Henius
Mr. Norman Herreshoff
Bristol, R. I.
Mr. Richard A. Jenks
Pawtucket, R. I.
Mr. Robert R. Jenks
Pawtucket, R. I.
Mr. S. E. Jones, Jr.
Edgewood, R. I.
Mr. Thomas F. Kane
Mansfield, Mass.
Mr. Francis F. Kellogg
North Providence, R. I.
Mr. Harold H. Kelly
Mrs. Howard Knight
Johnston, R. I.
Mr. Victor H. LaBonne
Miss Edith L. Mason
Mr. I. B. Merriman
Rev. Harold C. Metzner
Rev. Wesley D. Osborne
Mr. Harold Minot Pitman
Bronxville, N. Y.
Mr. Wallace L. Pond
Mrs. Hannah R. Pretzer
Capt. James L. Raymond
Darien, Conn.
Miss Mary H. Remington
East Providence, R. I.
Dr. A. Hamilton Rice
Newport, R. I.
Mr. Quinlan T. Shea
Mr. Stuart C. Sherman
Mr. Archibald Silverman
Mr. Robert F. Thayer
Mr. Milton P. Tilley
New Canaan, Conn.
Miss S. Mabel Thombs
Mrs. George S. Truscott
Brig. Gen. Earl C. Webster
Cranston, R. I.
Mrs. Charles H. White
Manville, R. I.