

# RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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SARAH SMITH BROWN  
wife of JOHN BROWN

*Portrait in Oils*

*Gift of Mrs. John O. Ames*

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ISSUED QUARTERLY AT PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

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# RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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VOL. V.                      OCTOBER 1946                      NO. 4

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## How Acid Factory Brook Got Its Name

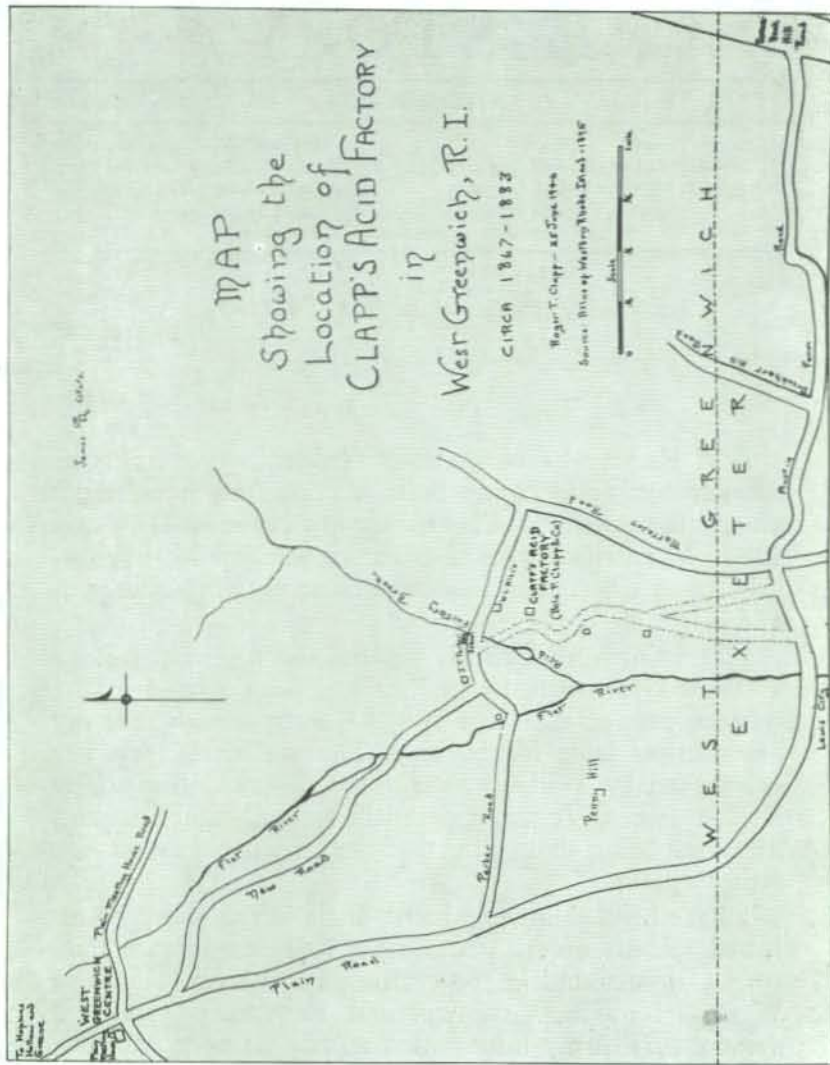
By ROGER TILLINGHAST CLAPP\*

Acid Factory Brook in West Greenwich got its name from an acetic acid factory built and operated there by my grandfather, Bela P. Clapp, roughly between 1866 and 1883. The earliest name of this brook was Saw Mill Brook, it being so referred to in the deeds to my grandfather in 1865.

Interestingly enough his was not the first acid factory in West Greenwich, as another had been started in the western part of the town in 1863, four years before my grandfather built his factory. The earlier factory was established by William Pike and was later operated by his son James. It was apparently a small establishment, its output being about a third of the capacity of my grandfather's plant.

I have been able to find very little in the way of published records of my grandfather's venture (other than what can be found in the tax books and land records of West Greenwich, Coventry, and Pawtucket), and the greater part of my information represents what has been told to me by my late father, Mr. Ralph R. Clapp; by

\*Condensed from a talk given before the Western Rhode Island Civic Historical Society on 25 June 1946.



his brother, Dr. Samuel Hopkins Clapp of Forest City, Maine; and by his sister, Mrs. J. Howard Hull of White Plains, New York.

The accompanying map locates the site of Clapp's Acid Factory. This map attempts to show the region as it was when the factory was operating. The New Road, running southeast from West Greenwich Centre to the Parker Road, was built by my grandfather about 1868 to accommodate his teams. Where the Parker Road crosses Acid Factory Brook there was once a schoolhouse, which I have seen but which has now disappeared.

To the south of the Parker Road at this point was the acid factory establishment, consisting of the factory itself, situated on the east bank of the brook, my grandfather's house on the top of a little hill at the north end of a meadow, the home of Wanton Albro, the superintendent, which was on the road, and two, or possibly three, workmen's cottages in a meadow alongside the brook and below the factory.

A word of warning to any who may feel inspired to make a pilgrimage to this historic spot: Do not put much faith in maps. On two occasions I attempted to reach the site using the old roads, but without success. The third time I obtained permission to cross the estate of Mr. W. Easton Louttit, which bounds on the south on my grandfather's property.

There is little to see there now, as practically all the old landmarks have disappeared. The Parker house, the schoolhouse, and the Albro house, all shown on the map, have gone, although Mr. Albro's barn is still standing. Gone, too, are the factory and the workmen's houses. My grandfather's house has now completely disappeared and the cellar hole has been filled in. Since this land is included in the Government-owned Beach Pond recreational camp development this probably resulted from their somewhat regrettable policy of utterly destroying all buildings on the area when they acquired it. Their north line runs within a couple of hundred yards of my grandfather's north line.

The factory site is buried in thick underbrush and when last I saw it was only a mound of rubble.

I have no exact information as to when the Acid Factory was built and how long it operated, but a study of the land records and tax books of West Greenwich would seem to give a fairly close approximation. The site was purchased by my grandfather on 1 July 1865 for \$2500 from Benjamin T., John R., and Jason W. Gorton and Hazard and Phebe W. Barber.

In 1866, the first year my grandfather was taxed for the property, the valuation was \$2500—all real estate. The next year the real estate value was doubled and \$500 added for personal property. It held at this level until 1877, when the real estate value increased to \$7000 and the personal property to \$1200. In 1883 the valuation was slightly reduced and in 1884 it was back at the original figure of \$2500. This would seem to indicate that the factory was in production by 1867 and came to an end about 1883. This checks with a statement in a history of Rhode Island, published by Hoag, Wade & Co., of Philadelphia in 1878, where there is a reference to Clapp's Acid Factory and the Pike Acid Factory as "doing a fine business and their goods are considered first class and find a ready market." The date for the ending of the business is also confirmed by my aunt's recollection that shortly after 1880 the venture was abandoned because of the increasing demands on my grandfather's time of his ammonia business in Pawtucket.

My grandfather and his partners, Messrs. Colwell and Leavens, continued to own the property, which he used at intervals as a summer home until they sold it on 27 May 1904, to Elbert R., Edward M., and Richard B. Tillinghast of New York.

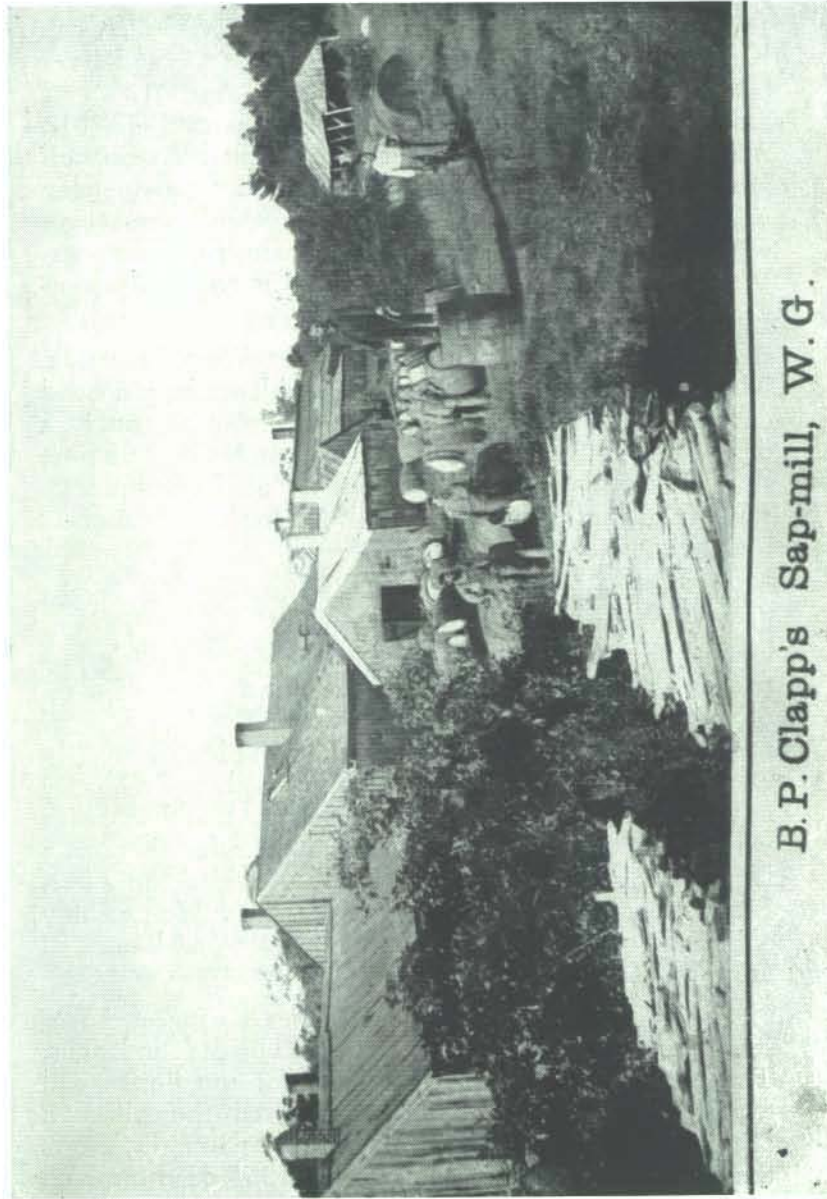
The Acid Factory was built and operated as a branch venture of Bela P. Clapp & Co., an ammonia business which my grandfather had started in Pawtucket in 1859. His original partners were Preserved W. Arnold of North

Providence, William B. Hopkins of Coventry, and Lyman Klapp of Providence. In July 1869, my grandfather bought out Lyman Klapp's interest; in April 1870, he acquired Mr. Hopkins's share; and in August 1872, Mr. Arnold's share. On 1 October 1872 Walter E. Colwell and Marvin H. Leavens were admitted to partnership under an arrangement whereby they each owned two-sevenths of the business. The factory superintendent was Wanton Albro, a member of the well known West Greenwich family.

My grandfather, who was born in West Hampton, Massachusetts, in 1830, came to Providence in 1849 and entered the drug business. Five years later he bought a drug store in Pawtucket. He spent a great deal of time studying chemistry and, as a result, invented a new process for manufacturing ammonia. This led to the formation of the ammonia company.

As he looked around for other opportunities in the manufacturing chemicals field he noted an increasing demand from Rhode Island's then fast-growing textile industry for acetic acid, then used in the manufacture of dyes, principally for calicoes. All that was needed by way of raw materials to produce acetic acid was a plentiful supply of wood, preferably small-sized hardwood, and a supply of running water. The second growth oak and ash with which West Greenwich then abounded made this town a logical site, and Acid Factory Brook provided the water. He needed no power and very little labor. He probably also knew of the Pike Acid Factory which had located in the town some four years earlier.

The Clapp factory consisted of a series of connected one-story buildings of frame construction on brick foundations. The establishment included a barn for the horses and teams. A photograph of the factory, from the collection of my cousin, the late Charles Tillinghast Straight, shows the general layout. According to the 1865 deed the land at the factory comprised approximately 500 acres, and in



B. P. Clapp's Sap-mill, W. G.

addition my grandfather, in March 1869, bought from Albert Gorton for \$450 a 50-acre woodlot which he sold in August 1872 to John Tillinghast for \$150, apparently having cut off all the wood by then.

I have referred to the product of the factory as acetic acid. More technically it was pyroligneous acid which is an acid liquor containing acetic acid and methanol, or wood alcohol. The process was what is called destructive, or dry, distillation of wood. This meant loading the cut wood into iron retorts, or large ovens, which were airtight except for a pipe at the top to carry off the vapor produced. Fires were maintained under these retorts which baked the wood to the point where it gave off vapor. This passed up the pipe and along a bent continuation of the pipe to a spot where it was cooled by running water from the brook. This condensed the vapor into liquid which was then drained off and collected. In other words these were stills where wood, instead of some liquid, was distilled.

What was left of the wood after the process was completed was charcoal which was used as fuel to heat the retorts. Part of it may have been sold to the mills for use in their dyes.

The factory employed about 15 men, which I believe constituted practically the entire labor supply in the vicinity. Other than the superintendent, the work did not call for what under modern standards would be classed as skilled workmen; they were principally woodcutters, teamsters, men to stoke the fires, and general laborers.

While this acid today would be shipped in carboys or earthenware containers, it is probable that they used barrels or casks. This is borne out by the barrels in the photograph and by the large number of barrel hoops which I remember seeing in the ruins of the factory. Quite possibly they employed a cooper and made their own barrels.

The capacity of the factory, according to the 1878 history, was 800 gallons a day. This product was hauled by team from the Acid Factory over the New Road to West

Greenwich Centre and thence over the Sand Hill Road through Hopkins Hollow to Greene, where it was loaded on freight cars of the Hartford, Providence, and Fish-kill-on-the-Hudson Railroad for shipment to the textile mills. To do this teaming the acid factory company owned 10 horses.

The final chapter, so far as the Acid Factory was concerned, was written, I think, in 1907, when the great fire of that year swept down from the northwest and burned the factory buildings to the ground.

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## Genealogical Notes

By BRADFORD F. SWAN

### ROBERT WILLIAMS'S WIFE

Robert Williams, brother of Roger, has been neglected by Rhode Island genealogists, undoubtedly because he is not known to have left any descendants. There is a possibility, however, that he was married twice, and certainly he was married at least once. Roger Williams, in *George Fox digg'd out of his Burrowes*,<sup>1</sup> refers to "Elizabeth Williams, my brother's wife" in connection with the famous debate between Williams and the Quakers at Newport in 1672, showing that, as of that date, Robert, who was then a schoolmaster at Newport, had a wife Elizabeth. In 1657, an Ann Williams, apparently of Providence is mentioned in the court records,<sup>2</sup> and, since there is no other way to account for her presence here, the question arises: Was this Ann Williams the wife of Robert?

<sup>1</sup> *Narragansett Club Publications*, V, 213.

<sup>2</sup> *R. I. Court Records*, I, 26.

## The New England Governors vs. Lincoln: The Providence Conference

By WILLIAM B. HESSELTINE and HAZEL C. WOLF\*

In its constitutional aspects the American Civil War involved a readjustment of the relations between the national government and the several States. The South seceded in the name of States' rights, and the Southern Confederacy failed, in part, because States' rights doctrines weakened the power of Jefferson Davis's government. But in the United States, as well, States' rights constantly hampered, and occasionally threatened to wreck, the war effort.

In the long conflict between Lincoln and the Radical Republicans for the control of the northern government's policies, both Moderates and Radicals, as occasion demanded, attempted to use the power of the States against each other. One such attempt by the Radicals came to a focus at the Brown University Commencement on September 3 and 4, 1862.

The year 1862 was a crucial one for Abraham Lincoln's relations with the Radicals. The Radicals entered the year with definite plans for uprooting slavery, eliminating the dangers of Southern domination, and expropriating Southern wealth for Northern emigrants. To accomplish this, their schedule called first for replacement of "Southern sympathizers" like General George B. McClellan with "strong" men like John C. Fremont whose 1861 proclamation freeing the slaves and confiscating other property in his Missouri command had so thrilled Radical hearts. Such men then were to help bring the administration to a general emancipation and confiscation program supplemented by the use of Negro combat forces.<sup>1</sup>

\*This article is based in part on work which Mr. Hesselstine, Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin, has been doing in connection with his forthcoming *Lincoln and the Governors* (Knopf), and in part on Miss Wolf's M.A. Thesis. She is a teacher of history in the Manual Training High School, Peoria, Illinois.

<sup>1</sup> *Congressional Globe*, 37 Congress, 2 session (1862), 195; 229; 243-244; 262; 286; 306; 327-332; 334; 401-403; 440; 505; 552-554; 568-574; 594-596; 940; 942; 1015; 1063-1064; 1118; *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the*

By spring the Radicals noted their progress and renewed their hopes for accomplishing their aims ere the Confederacy collapsed before the strength of Union arms. McClellan's assignment included only the Army of the Potomac, while Fremont had returned to active service with command of troops withdrawn from that army to the new Mountain Department in West Virginia. In addition, emancipation and confiscation measures appeared to be making headway in Congress.<sup>2</sup>

If some of the Radicals suffered delusions about a short and easy war, Abraham Lincoln did not. The 1795 law which gave him only those forces which the governors might supply from their militias had him constantly struggling to keep an army in the field. Enlistments fell off within a short time after the initial call; they dropped still more after first Bull Run and other Union defeats. By early summer the governors' replies to repeated requests for men were hopelessly pessimistic.<sup>3</sup>

A reply from Governor John Andrew of Massachusetts, however, brought home to President Lincoln the full import of the dangers he faced as his quarrel with the Radicals over war policies became entangled with the governors' efforts to forward regiments. The roads from the Bay State would swarm with recruits, said Andrew, only if Lincoln would free the slaves and put them in the army. Presently the Chief Executive had good reason to recall the threat inherent in such "conditional patriotism."<sup>4</sup>

By mid-year of 1862 the main issues on which Lincoln and the Radicals differed—"pro-slavery" generals, con-

*Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (128 vols., Washington, 1880-1901), Series 1, 3:467-468. Hereafter cited as *O. R.*; T. Harry Williams, *Lincoln and the Radicals* (Madison, 1941), 5-18; 53-140; *New York Tribune*, February 4, *New York Herald*, January 8, February 6, 8; *Columbus (Ohio) Crisis*, February 12, 1862; *Detroit Post and Tribune*, *Zachariah Chandler An Outline Sketch of His Life and Public Services* (Detroit, 1880), 336; George W. Julian, *Political Recollections* (Chicago, 1884), 154-180; 204-205.

<sup>2</sup> *Congressional Globe*, 37 Congress, 2 session (1862), 1955; 1957-1960; 1965; 2042; 2164; 2188-2197.

<sup>3</sup> *O. R.*, Series 3, 1:67-68; 2:44-49; 61-64; 68-73; 76-78; 80-82; 86; 97; 100-102; 106; 933; 935-937; 940-942.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, Series 3, 2:45.

fiscation, emancipation and the use of Negro troops—were thoroughly involved with the President's dependence upon the governors for soldiers. Worst feature of the involvement was the fact that other governors and Republican politicians shared Andrew's "conditional patriotism" sentiment. Indeed, it was this whole situation which eventually sent Radical citizens to conferring with Radical governors at Providence.

Conditional patriotism immediately received a denial from Boston's Democratic mayor Joseph Wightman. The mayor emphatically informed Lincoln that Andrew's views did not coincide with the opinion of Massachusetts citizens. The mayor would be glad to raise troops so long as the President adhered to his Border State policy and eschewed abolitionism.<sup>5</sup>

Mayor Wightman's letter opened Lincoln's eyes. From the beginning, citizens' committees had rendered valuable aid in stimulating enlistments and furnishing fuel to the fires of patriotism. Lincoln and Secretary of State William H. Seward—both adept in the wiles of politics—devised a scheme to use the mayors and citizens' committees to force the hands of the governors.

Seward appeared in New York, and with ostentatious secrecy began to confer with the mayors of New York and Philadelphia. He let it be known that he was going on to consult with Wightman and the mayors of New England cities. Promptly Andrew G. Curtin, governor of Pennsylvania, arose from a sick bed in a New York hotel and appeared at Seward's door. He thought that governors, not mayors, should call troops. Seward thought so too and showed Curtin a letter which the governors might sign. The letter was a request from the governors to Lincoln. If the governors would ask Lincoln to call more troops, Lincoln would respond. Seward brought forth Lincoln's already prepared reply. Both the gubernatorial letter and the presidential reply were appropriately predated.

<sup>5</sup> *Columbus Crisis*, May 28, June 25, 1862.

Curtin hurried out to telegraph the governors that Lincoln must be asked to call for greater numbers of men. Knowing the political consequences to them if Lincoln teamed up with the Democratic mayors and the bi-partisan citizens' committees, the governors wired approval and sat down to figure out how they were going to meet the new levies. Neither the letter nor the reply had mentioned numbers, but Seward had talked of 100,000 men. The governors were amazed to find that Lincoln, in response to their artificially-inspired letter, had called for 300,000!<sup>6</sup>

Meanwhile, after long debate, a confiscation bill was clearing the final hurdles in Congress. But the Radicals, despite repeated demands for complete subjugation and colonization either with Negroes or with Northern soldiers, fell far short of their goal. The Confiscation Act which became law on July 17 applied only to property in slaves and left discretionary power to the Chief Executive in the matter of using Negro soldiers. Against such half-way measures the Radicals prepared a new offensive.

If Abraham Lincoln could turn to private citizens for aid for his program, so could the Radicals. It was time Northern business men learned of the profits which might be theirs in Texas and other Southern regions if the President would prosecute a real abolitionist war under Radical supervision. To outwit the President, the logical solution to the situation was Radical control of the bi-partisan citizens' committees with which Lincoln was threatening the Republican governors.

When Seward had gone to New York on July 1, he had found the old Union Defence Committee preparing to dis-

<sup>6</sup> O. R., Series 3, 2:163-164; 168-169; 175; 177; 179; 180; Frederick W. Seward, *Seward at Washington as Senator and Secretary of State* (New York, 1891), 100-101; 103-104; 108-109; Adam Gurowski, *Diary from March 4, 1861 to November 12, 1862* (3 vols., Boston, 1862 and 1864), 1:210-211; 230; A. K. McClure, *Abraham Lincoln and Men of War Times* (Philadelphia, 1892), 270; Frederic Bancroft, *The Life of William Henry Seward* (2 vols. New York, 1900), 2:352; William B. Weedon, *War Government Federal and State in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Indiana 1861-1865* (Boston, 1906), 211-212; Henry G. Pearson, *The Life of John Andrew, Governor of Massachusetts 1861-1865* (2 vols., Boston, 1904), 2:29-30; *New York Tribune*, May 31, June 11, 24, 30, July 2, 1862.

band. He assembled some of them at the Astor House, however, and convinced them that Lincoln still needed their assistance. But Seward had not reckoned with Radical astuteness. Later, when the committee had reorganized and begun to function, he discovered that the Radicals dominated it.

On July 15 a huge Radical-planned "war meeting" drew New Yorkers from their work to hear business leaders and Radical politicians, led by John A. Stevens, Jr., and Prosper Wetmore, acclaim pre-arranged resolutions which demanded an abolitionist war program. Recruiting stands invited enlistment, and solicitors urged men of property to contribute to bounty funds. Two weeks later the old Union Defence Committee's Radicals were prepared to go all out for their program.<sup>7</sup>

In early August a delegation from the reorganized committee joined with New York City's Common Council and the Chamber of Commerce to set up a 10-member Committee on National Affairs. Radicals closely allied with Secretary of Treasury Salmon P. Chase dominated this group. The committee entered with officious enthusiasm into correspondence with Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton, praised his work, made suggestions for improving the recruitment system, and applied for permission to become an enlistment agency. The Radicals had here an effective agency and a good start on their revamped program.

As they became more and more concerned that Lincoln might return McClellan to command all of the Union forces and that a combination of moderate Republicans and Democrats might threaten the fall elections, Radical leaders moved toward stronger measures against the President's vacillating policies. Illustrative of their laments was

<sup>7</sup> *Proceedings at the Mass Meeting of Loyal Citizens on Union Square, New York, 15th day of July 1862, Under the Auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, the Union Defence Committee of the Citizens of New York, the Common Council of the City of New York, and Other Committees of Loyal Citizens. Letters and Speeches* (New York, 1862); George W. Smith, *Generative Forces of Union Propaganda; A Study in Civil War Pressure Group*, 164, unpublished doctoral dissertation in the library of the University of Wisconsin, dated 1939.



the charge of James A. Hamilton, son of the first treasury secretary and a Radical, that Seward had talked Lincoln out of issuing an emancipation proclamation. It was "in contemplation," said Hamilton, that a hundred substantial men should call upon the President to tell him how things should be done and to force cabinet members to a show-down on Radical tenets. Shortly thereafter Hamilton assisted with preparations for the Providence conference.<sup>8</sup>

On September 1, 1862, the National War Committee met secretly in the rooms of the New York Chamber of Commerce to organize for the tremendous job of applying more intensive pressure to the Administration. Plans matured quickly and the wheels began to move. A committee of seven was to urge citizens to support new levies for the army; another group was to subdivide to appeal personally to Northern governors for support for Radical projects attired in patriotic raiment. One man went to the North-western governors, two went to the capitals of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and three went to the New England States.

On September 3 Charles Gould, Prosper Wetmore, and Nehemiah Knight swung off the train at Providence to meet Governors William Sprague of Rhode Island, Israel Washburne of Maine, John Andrew of Massachusetts, Nathaniel Berry of New Hampshire, and Samuel Buckingham of Connecticut at the Brown University Commencement. John Andrew, concerned over Wightman's intransigence, had assembled the governors in hopes of consolidating their support in the abolitionist "conditional patriotism" program. He came to Providence fresh from a meeting on Boston Common. There, far from abandoning conditional patriotism he had re-emphasized the Radical demands.

Although the governors hoped to keep their purposes and activities secret, there could be no doubt about the meaning of their speeches at the university commencement dinner on the evening of September 3. Washburne, called

<sup>8</sup> Smith, *Generative Forces of Union Propaganda*, 169-170.

upon first, set the pace by declaring himself tired of speeches in times which called for work and "resolute and determined action." After references to his faith that eight million Southerners could never destroy twenty million Northerners, no more than ignorance and slavery have ever subdued intelligence and liberty, he proclaimed:

"We now are to have, I trust, a policy in this war. . . . Not only must it be our desire to preserve the Union, but before we can do that we must understand how it is to be preserved."

Pointed as were Washburne's remarks, it took Massachusetts' Andrew to aim his shafts directly at the President. Said the stocky New Englander, his head thrown back and his chin up as he peered through his little gold-rimmed spectacles, whoever stands and guides the policy of his country in peril and hesitates whether it is the duty to strike the enemy where he is tender is incapable of leading a war. "Let us of New England," he cried, "rally behind the mountains and preserve on our own blessed soil the vestal flowers of religion and liberty." He concluded with a resounding declaration that the present was no time for special demurrers or for respect for particular rules of warfare. Nathaniel Berry's remarks were as plain and unadorned as his personal appearance as he resorted to the regular Radical line of urging "vigorous prosecution" of the war and then added bluntly that if the men in power had not courage enough to do it alone, "we should help them on." Sprague's remarks, mild for him, indicated that he would follow wherever other Radicals led.

In another unpublicized meeting the next morning the governors solemnly agreed that "the unanimous choice of New England was for a change of the cabinet and a change in the generals" and they instructed the New Yorkers to proceed to Washington with that message.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Vermont's Governor Frederick Holbrook did not attend the Providence meeting. Smith, *Generative Forces of Union Propaganda*, 170-171; Weeden, *War Government*, 228-231; 326; 328; Pearson, *Andrew*, 249; *Addresses by His Excellency Governor John A. Andrew, Hon. Edward Everett, Hon. B. F. Thomas, and Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, Delivered at the Mass Meeting in Aid of Recruiting, Held on*

The committee, therefore, led by John E. Williams and James A. Hamilton, went to Washington. First they called on Chase, who welcomed them warmly but advised them to approach Lincoln cautiously. But on September 10, when they interviewed the President, they lashed out furiously against Secretary Seward, and Williams blurted out a request for the removal of McClellan. Lincoln took advantage of their intemperance and accused them of being willing to do anything—even to ruining the country—to get rid of Seward, and dismissed them. By the next day's conference between the President and James A. Hamilton, however, Lincoln was in a different mood. He listened patiently to the New York Radical and asked him to formulate and transmit to him a suitable plan for the emancipation of the Negro.<sup>10</sup>

The Providence meeting encouraged the agitation for a meeting at which the governors of all the loyal States would discuss all the problems of the war, its aims and its proper prosecution. The Radicals longed to devise some scheme for direct leverage upon the Administration. Governor Andrew confided to the Radical, Count Gurowski, that he was trying to organize a movement to save the President from ruining the country. Zach Chandler wrote Senator Lyman Trumbull that he feared "nothing will save us but a demand of the loyal governors, *backed by a threat*—that a change of policy and men shall instantly be made. . . ."<sup>11</sup>

But Moderates among Lincoln's supporters watched hawk-like to stop any such move. Even as the Radical governors were meeting at Providence, Pennsylvania's Gov-

*the Common Under the Auspices of the Committee of One Hundred and Fifty, on Wednesday, August 27, 1862* (Boston, 1862), p. 6; *New York Tribune*, September 12; *New York Herald*, September 5, 14, 29; *New York Journal of Commerce*, September 5, 6, 23; *New York World*, September 5, October 1; *Philadelphia Press*, September 3; *Boston Daily Advertiser*, September 4, 1862.

<sup>10</sup> James A. Hamilton, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton; or Men and Events, at Home and Abroad, During Three Quarters of a Century* (New York, 1869), 529-533; Robert B. Warden, *An Account of the Private Life and Public Services of Salmon P. Chase* (Cincinnati, 1874), 467-468; Smith, *Generative Forces of Union Propaganda*, 173.

<sup>11</sup> Andrew to Gurowski, September 6, 1862; Andrew Mss. Letterbooks; Chandler to Trumbull, September 10, 1862; Trumbull Mss.

ernor Curtin was consulting with Lincoln about forestalling a Radical-sponsored gubernatorial conference. With the President's consent, Curtin organized a meeting for September 24 at Altoona, Pennsylvania, and Andrew led the governors who had perfected their program at Providence to the Altoona Conference.

Perhaps the Providence delegation would have dominated the Altoona Conference, had not Lincoln cut the ground from under them. Two days before the governors met in the Pennsylvania city, the President issued the Emancipation Proclamation. At Altoona, the New England governors made a vigorous fight to force their views on their colleagues, but Lincoln had strengthened the Moderates' hands—and the convention could only agree to approve the Proclamation and pledge the governors' continued support to the Administration.<sup>12</sup>

Thus passed one of the more serious threats to Lincoln's control of the policies of the northern government in the Civil War.

<sup>12</sup> John G. Nicolay and John Hay, *Abraham Lincoln: A History* (10 vols., New York, 1890), 6:158-160; *New York Tribune*, September 25; *New York World*, September 26; *New York Herald*, September 25, 26, 27, 28, 29; *New York Journal of Commerce*, September 23, 26, 27; *Detroit Advertiser*, September 24, 25; *Philadelphia Inquirer*, September 25, 26; *Philadelphia Press*, September 30; *Columbus Crisis*, October 1, 1862; *O. R.*, Series 3, 582-584.

## Grants-in-Aid Available

The Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia, announces that it is prepared to provide a limited number of Grants-in-Aid of Research in the field of Early American History and Culture to the year 1815. These grants will be available to those who have a definite project of research in progress. Applications must be received by April 15, 1947; announcements of awards will be made June 1, 1947. Information and forms for application may be procured from the Director of the Institute, Goodwin Building, Williamsburg, Virginia.



CAPTAIN CORNELIUS SOULE

Portrait painted at Canton, China, ca. 1813.

Gift of Cornelius Soule Dyer

## Captain Cornelius Soule

By WILLIAM GREENE ROELKER

Captain Cornelius Soule, whose portrait, painted in China, is reproduced on the opposite page, was a distinguished mariner of Tiverton, Rhode Island, and one of several ship captains from this region who took part in the China trade.

Between 1798 and 1805 he was in command of the ship *Palmyra*,<sup>1</sup> owned by John Innes Clark and William F. Megee, Providence merchants. About 1806, while in command of the brigantine *Taber*,<sup>2</sup> also owned by Clark, he rescued the survivors of a wrecked Osaka junk and landed them at Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands.

But his most important voyage was in command of John Jacob Astor's favorite ship, *Beaver*, which was sent to reinforce the struggling settlement at Astoria with men and supplies. *Beaver* was built at New York by Eckford & Beebe and was registered on 7 May 1805. She was described as a "full flat bottomed ship" of 427 tons, and had a live oak frame which gave her such remarkable longevity that when she was finally broken up about 1850 some of her timbers were put into a new vessel.<sup>3</sup>

*Beaver* arrived at Oahu on 26 March 1812 and sailed on 6 April for the Columbia River, where she arrived 5 May. The passage of the bar was not attempted until a cutter had buoyed the channel. On 9 May, McLennan, one of the clerks at Astoria, piloted her safely over the bar although she struck twice during the adventure.

After much consultation it was agreed that Captain Soule should make a coasting voyage in *Beaver* to the Russian

<sup>1</sup> She was built at Swansea, Massachusetts, in 1798 and was rated at 227 49/95 tons. See *Ship Registers and Enrollments of Providence, Rhode Island, 1773-1939*, prepared by the W.P.A., vol. I, part 2 (N-Z), p. 827, No. 2609.

<sup>2</sup> Built at North Providence, 1804. She rated 185 8/95 tons. *Ibid.*, p. 1034, No. 3317.

<sup>3</sup> Kenneth W. Postler, *John Jacob Astor, Business Man* (Cambridge, 1931), p. 138.

posts in Alaska. Accordingly he sailed from the Columbia on 4 August, again grounding twice as he slipped over the bar. He is supposed to have remarked: "I'll never cross you again!" Arriving at New Archangel on 19 August he sold a cargo which had been invoiced at New York for \$22,342.38 to Governor Baranoff for \$56,465.87½. In accordance with his orders payment was to be made in seal skins, but as there were none at New Archangel, W. P. Hunt, one of the partners, ordered *Beaver* to the Island of St. Paul in Bering Sea. There, when she had loaded only half her cargo of 74,541 seal skins, valued at 75 cents to \$1 each, she was blown off shore by a gale and badly damaged. She was able, however, to return and complete the loading.

Washington Irving states in his *Astoria* that Hunt and Soule had been ordered to return to Astoria. But *Beaver*, in their opinion, was so badly damaged that it was unsafe for her to attempt the Columbia River bar with such a valuable cargo. Also they believed that the trip back to the Columbia would take so long that *Beaver* would arrive at Canton in an unfavorable season for disposing of the peltries and getting a return cargo. Since Astor had planned to send a reinforcing ship to Astoria each year Hunt concluded it was better for the post to wait a few months for supplies than for *Beaver* to risk the loss of her market. Hence *Beaver* was taken to the Hawaiian Islands by Captain Soule under Hunt's order. There she was repaired and on 1 January 1813 sailed for Canton without knowing of the declaration of war between the United States and Great Britain.

The war had prevented Astor from sending another ship from the East Coast, leaving Astoria in a precarious position. When an armed force from the Canadian Northwest Company called upon the post to surrender, Duncan McDougall, a Canadian temporarily in charge, sold out the post and its property for \$58,000, a mere fraction of the value.

Irving makes Captain Soule a subsidiary scapegoat for the failure of Astoria, stating that he had refused an offer of \$150,000 for his peltries, an offer which he should have accepted in order to buy nankins which would have brought \$300,000 in New York. Instead, says Irving, Captain Soule held his furs until they had fallen in price, and laid his ship up at Canton for the duration of the war. He finally sailed for home in November, 1815, and *Beaver* arrived in New York after a passage of 114 days.<sup>4</sup>

In 1818 Captain Soule was lost at sea, going down with his ship and all hands.

The genealogy of Captain Cornelius Soule is not definite, but it appears that he was descended from George Soule, the Mayflower Pilgrim, through Nathaniel of Dartmouth, Cornelius of Tiverton, and Abner of Tiverton. Captain Soule was a twin of Seabury Soule and they were born at Tiverton on 15 October 1769.

Cornelius Soule had a daughter Delia, who was married to Charles Dyer 4th of Providence on 16 April 1823. Cornelius Soule Dyer, a son of Charles and Delia (Soule) Dyer, presented the Chinese portrait of his grandfather, probably painted at Canton, to the Rhode Island Historical Society on 21 September 1893, the same day that he presented portraits of his parents.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 199-236.

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### *Museum Exhibitions*

*October* RHODE ISLAND ON THE SEA IN THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY.

*November* PROVIDENCE POSTMASTER STAMPS.

*December* MINIATURE TEA SETS  
*loaned from the collection of Mrs. Howard Johnson Greene.*

## Book Review

LETTERS OF SULLIVAN DORR. Edited by Howard Corning. *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, Volume LXVII, Boston, 1945. pp. 178-364.

These letters are from two letter books on deposit in the Rhode Island Historical Society. They were written from Canton, China, between September 10, 1799 and September 21, 1803, and are believed by Mr. Corning to be the "earliest continuous records still in existence of an American merchant's participation in the China trade."

Sullivan Dorr, the writer of the letters, was the son of Ebenezer Dorr, a Boston merchant, who early became interested in the fur trade on the Northwest Coast. As the best market for the furs was in China, the elder Dorr was naturally drawn into the trade at Canton. With the gradual expansion of the business it became desirable for him to have a permanent representative at Canton, and young Sullivan Dorr spent four years there in that capacity.

The letters are richly descriptive of life in Canton and of the ways of the China traders of that time. In the main, they are addressed to the father and brothers of Sullivan Dorr, and they pertain largely to the mercantile affairs of the Dorr family. Nevertheless, they throw much light on the China trade generally. They list the names, and the home port, of ships which happened to be in the harbor at the moment of writing. They contain detailed accounts of cargoes of furs and their sales, as well as full particulars regarding return cargoes of Chinese products.

This correspondence is not without items of special interest to Rhode Islanders. A number of the letters are addressed to Brown and Ives, the well-known Providence mercantile firm, which was extensively engaged in the China trade. Furthermore, Sullivan Dorr subsequently settled in Providence, where he became a prominent citizen and successful business man. Last, but not least, he was the father of Thomas Wilson Dorr, one of the storm centers of Rhode Island history in the 19th Century.

Rhode Islanders should take pride in the fact that these letters are housed in a Providence library. In conjunction with similar material in the Brown Papers in the John Carter Brown Library, they make the city an important center for the study of our early commercial contacts with China.

Brown University

JAMES B. HEDGES

## Rural Economy in Rhode Island 200 Years Ago

By CARL R. WOODWARD, PH.D.

(Concluded from RHODE ISLAND HISTORY, Vol. IV, p. 106.)

The account book is of more than popular interest to the student of the history of economics. A good picture is given of prevailing prices in Rhode Island during the decade of the 1730's. Also, it is possible to discover certain trends in prices during this period. A general trend upward in the prices both of commodities and of labor appears between 1733 and 1739. For example, a bushel of corn sold for 6 shillings in 1734 and 8 shillings in 1738. Flax rose from 2 shillings 6 pence to 3 shillings between 1734 and 1740. Barley was sold at 6 shillings a bushel in 1734, 9 shillings in 1739. Potatoes are listed at 4 shillings a bushel in 1736, 6 shillings in 1737. Tobacco, on the other hand, seems to have fluctuated irregularly. It sold for 6 pence a pound in 1734; 10 to 12 pence a pound in 1736; 8 pence in 1738; 6 pence again in 1739.

As to livestock and meat, beef sold at 5 pence a pound in 1735, 6½ pence in 1739; veal at 4½ pence a pound in 1734; 6½ in 1739. Tallow is listed at 12 pence in 1735 and 1736, and 14 to 15 pence in 1737, per pound. Butter sold as low as 1 shilling, 6 pence in 1735, and as high as 2 shillings, 6 pence in 1736, 1737 and 1739. Cheese, likewise, appears to have risen from a low of 5 pence in 1736 to a high of 12 pence in 1738 and 1739.

One record of the sale of milk is listed in 1737, at 4 pence per quart. Hens' eggs appear in 1739 at 1 shilling per dozen, and "Dunghill fowls" from year to year seem to have brought a standard figure of 1 shilling, 6 pence.

Flour sold in 1735 at 2 pounds per hundredweight, and rye meal at 9 shillings per bushel. In 1735 and 1736,

candles were sold at 1 shilling, 8 pence per pound. Salt was sold at 7 shillings per bushel.

A mowing scythe could be bought for 16 shillings and a pair of shears for 7 shillings. Cord wood rose from 14 shillings per cord in 1735 to 20 shillings in 1739. Doubtless this was due, in a measure, to the rising cost of labor. Men were paid 3 shillings per cord for chopping wood in 1734, and in 1736 were receiving 3 shillings, 6 pence.

A farm hand mowing hay received 5 shillings, 6 pence in 1734, 7 shillings in 1739. Five to seven shillings per day seems to have been a common wage for the heavier and skilled types of farm work, such as shearing sheep, killing hogs, splitting rails, picking apples, threshing barley, and hoeing corn.

Work which involved the use of equipment, farm animals, and extra hands, of course, commanded proportionally higher pay. For example, Waterman received 15 to 20 shillings a day for plowing and carting with an extra hand and three cattle. For carting rails with a man and team, he received 12 shillings a day.

For the benefit of those who are interested, the detailed prices of the various commodities and services for the years covered in the account book have been tabulated at the end of this article. Because of the incompleteness of portions of the record, some of the dates are approximated. Likewise, a list of the names of the persons with whom Waterman had accounts is given.

A glimpse of the sort of produce exported from Rhode Island in Benoni Waterman's day is given in the manifest of *The Little Mary*, Captain Stuckley Stafford, Master, which sailed from Warwick December 5, 1730. Probably she took on her cargo within a stone's throw of Benoni's store; perhaps he helped supply her; doubtless her cargo was similar to that subsequently carried by the vessels of the Waterman Brothers:

Shipped in Good Order & well conditioned by Capt. Joseph Stafford & Company owners, . . . in and upon the good sloop called *The Little*

Mary . . . whereof is master for the present Voage Capt. Stuckley Stafford and now riding at Anchor in the harbour of Warwick . . . and bound for Antigua or Lecard Islands . . . To say five horses, 56 hogs 84 gees 190 hens Boards 4460 ft Staves 1900 Shingles 5500 11 bar<sup>n</sup> fish Seven BB apples 1700<sup>lb</sup> Cheese

Dated in Warwick this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of Decemb<sup>r</sup> 1730

Capt. Stuckley Stafford

Benoni Waterman's account book is typical of the treasures of historical information that lie tucked away in obscure corners, awaiting the skilled eye of the student of social and economic history. Doubtless the attics of many an ancient Rhode Island house still contain material of this sort. Preservation of documents like these for the benefit of posterity is one of the principal functions of the Rhode Island Historical Society. Possessors of such material will perform a valuable public service by placing it in the keeping of the Society.

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#### PERSONS RECORDED IN BENONI WATERMAN'S ACCOUNT BOOK

John Apline, schoolmaster	Meribe Lee
Francis Atwood	Jeremiah Lippitt, Warwick
Mr. M. E. Beeles, of Boston,	John Lippitt, Warwick
Drover	Capt. Amos Lockwood, Warwick
Jos. Cahoon	Adam Lowe
Capt. Jonathan Chase	Miah (Indian man)
Debiah Cole	Master William Schreich
Nathaniel Cole	(Schreich)
Samuel Collings	Isaac Setuke
John Davis	Ezekiel Smith
Charles Faynes	Mr. Smith, of Taunton, boatman
Abraham Frances	Samuel Stafford
John Gereardy, Warwick	Hugh Stone
Robert Gibbs, Providence	Peter Tailer (Taylor)
Barlow Green, Warwick	Samuel Warner, Warwick
Elisha Green	Susannah Warner, Warwick
Philip Green	Capt. John Waterman, Newport
Charles Haynes	Capt. Resolved Waterman,
Mr. Hunt, the boatman	Robert Westgate, Warwick
Indian Margery	William Wood, mariner

PRICES OF COMMODITIES LISTED IN  
BENONI WATERMAN'S ACCOUNT BOOK, 1733-1740

	Year*	Low	High
		L - s - d	L - s - d
I. Farm Products			
A. Grain and other crops:			
Barley (bu)	1734		0- 6- 0
	1739		0- 9- 0
Corn (bu)	1734		0- 6- 0
	1735		0- 7- 6
	1737	0- 7- 0	0- 8- 0
	1738		0- 8- 0
Rye (bu)	1736		0- 7- 6
Hay (cwt)	1734		0- 3- 0
	1736		0-10- 0
Hay Seed (lb)	1736		0- 2- 0
Flax (lb)	1734	0- 2- 6	0- 2-10
	1739		0- 2-10
	1740		0- 3- 0
	1743		0- 3- 3
Flax seed (peck)	1733		0- 1- 0
Apples (bu)	1737		0- 2- 6
	1739		0- 1- 6
Beans (white and speckled) (qt)	1737		0- 0- 5
Cabbages (head)	1738		0- 0- 9
Potatoes (bu)	1736		0- 4- 0
	1737		0- 6- 0
Turnips (bu)	1734		0- 2- 6
	1736	0- 2- 6	0- 4- 0
Tobacco (lb)	1734		0- 0- 6
	1736	0- 0-10	0- 0-12
	1737		0- 0- 8
	1738		0- 0- 8
	1739		0- 0- 6
B. Farm Animals, Meat and Livestock Products			
Beef (lb)	1735		0- 0- 5
	1736	0- 0- 5½	0- 0- 6
	1737		0- 0- 6½
	1738		0- 0- 5
	1739		0- 0- 6½

\* Because of the incompleteness of portions of the record, some of the dates are approximated.

	Year*	Low	High
		L - s - d	L - s - d
Beef (bbl)	1736		5- 5- 0
	1737		6- 0- 0
Beef's Pluck	1736		0- 1- 3
Beef's Belly	1736		0- 1- 6
Beef's Head and "Hartslite"	1737		0- 4- 0
	1738		0- 2- 0
Veal (lb)	1734		0- 0- 4½
	1736		0- 0- 5
	1737	0- 0- 4½	0- 0- 6
	1739		0- 0- 6½
Tallow (lb)	1735		0- 0-12
	1736		0- 0-12
	1737	0- 0-14	0- 0-15
Sheep (ea)	1736		0-17- 9
Large wethers	1736		1- 8- 0
	1737		0-24- 0
Mutton (lb)	1736		0- 0- 5
Lamb Mutton (lb)	1737		0- 0- 6
	1739		0- 0- 8
Pork (Hogs) (lb)	1735	0- 0- 7	0- 0-12
	1736		0- 0- 8
	1737		0- 0- 9½
Salt Pork	1737		0- 0-11
Butter (lb)	1734		0- 0-20
	1735		0- 0-18
	1736	0- 0-18	0- 2- 6
	1737	0- 2- 0	0-24- 6
	1739	0- 1- 6	0- 2- 6
Cheese (lb)	1735		0- 0- 7
	1736	0- 0- 5	0- 0-10
	1737	0- 0- 7	0- 0-11
	1738		0- 0-12
	1739	0- 0- 8	0- 0-12
Sage Cheese (lb)	1739		0- 0-14
Milk (qt)	1737		0- 0- 4
Dunghill Fowls (ea)	1734		0- 1- 6
	1737		0- 1- 6
Hen's Eggs (doz)	1739		0- 1- 0
Geese (ea)	1734		0- 3- 3½
(Sheep's) Wool (lb)	1735	0- 2- 6	0- 3- 0
	1736		0- 3- 0
	1737		0- 2- 6
Roan Horse	1736		17- 0- 0

	Year*	Low L - s - d	High L - s - d
<b>II. Foods and Household Supplies</b>			
Flour (cwt)	1735		2- 0- 0
Rye Meal (bu)	1739		0- 9- 0
Meal (bu)	1736		0- 7- 0
	1737	0- 8- 0	0- 9- 0
Malt (peck)	1734		0- 1- 7
Sugar (lb)	1735		0- 0-16
(cwt)	1736	6- 0- 0	7- 0- 0
Brown (cwt)	1736		6- 0- 0
Molasses (qt)	1734		0- 1- 3
	1735		0- 1- 4½
(gal)	1736	0- 4- 0	0- 5- 0
	1739	0- 5- 0	0- 5- 6
Chocolate (lb)	1736		0-16- 0
Salt (bu)	1734		0- 7- 0
	1736		0- 7- 0
(qt)	1737		0- 0- 3
Candles (lb)	1735		0- 0-20
	1736		0- 0-20
Indigo (oz)	1735		0- 2- 6
Epsom Salts (oz)	1737		0- 0- 8
Resin (lb)	1736		0- 2- 0
<b>III. Beverages</b>			
Coffee (lb)	1735		0- 0- 8
Cider (bbl)	1733		0-10- 0
Beer (bbl)	1735		0- 5- 0
Rum (gal)	1734		0- 8- 0
	1735	0- 7- 0	0- 9- 0
	1736	0- 7- 0	0- 8- 0
	1737		0- 9- 0
	1740		0- 8- 0
(qt)	1736		0- 3- 7
Sweetage (gill)	1734		0- 1- 0
<b>IV. Dry Goods</b>			
Wool (yd)	1734		0- 2- 6
Flannel (yd)	1736		0- 5- 6
Cotton Wool (lb)	1735		0- 4- 8
	1737		0- 4- 4
Felt Wool (lb)	1738		0-18- 0
Tow (lb)	1740		0- 0-12
Sheard Cloth (yd)	1738		0- 0-26

	Year*	Low L - s - d	High L - s - d
Linen Cloth (yd)	1735		0- 6- 6
Wide Linen (yd)	1736		0- 7- 0
	1737		0- 7- 0
Straining Cloth (yd)	1735		0- 5- 0
Thread (oz)	1736		0- 1- 2
Thread (skein)	1736		0- 5- 6
Coverlet (ea)	1734		1- 0- 0
Worsted Stockings (pair)	1736		1- 0- 0
Silk Handkerchief	1736		0- 7- 6
Paper pins	1737		0- 0- 3
Shoes (pair)	1736	0-11- 6	0-15- 0
	1737		0-14- 0
	1739		0-19- 0
Pattens (pair)	1736		0- 4- 0
Soling for shoes	1734	0- 3- 0	0- 3- 6
	1736	(women's)	0- 2- 6
	1739		0- 2- 0
			(boy's)
<b>V. Hardware and Supplies:</b>			
Board Nails (per C)	1733		0- 1-10
Old Scythes (ea)	1737		0- 2- 6
Scythes (ea)	1736		0-16- 0
	1737		0-16- 6
Shears (pair)	1734		0- 7- 0
Bricks (per C)	1736		0- 5- 0
Gunpowder (lb)	1735		0- 6- 0
	1736		0- 7- 0
Shot (lb)	1736		0-18- 0
Cards (pr)	1736		0-16- 0
Leather apron	1739		0- 9- 0
Hair (bu)	1739		0- 1- 0
Quohog Shells (bu)	1738		0- 0- 6
	1739		0- 0- 6
Cheese press	1736		0- 9- 0
Rum Hogshead	1736		1- 0- 0
Firkin	1736		0- 4- 0
Tin Pan	1736		0-10- 6
<b>VI. Wood and Lumber</b>			
Wood (cord)	1735		0-14- 0
	1736	0-12- 0	0-16- 0
	1737		0-16- 0



	Year*	Low	High
		L - s - d	L - s - d
	1738	0-16- 0	0-18- 0
	1739		0-20- 0
(load)	1735		0- 6- 0
Bark (cord)	1736		0-30- 0
Shingles (per M)	1736		2- 1- 0
Clapboards (per C)	1736		0-16- 0
Cedar Rails (per C)	1734		0-55- 0
White Pine Plank (per C ft)	1737		1-10- 0
Window Frames (ea)	1736		0- 7- 0
Garden Posts (ea)	1736		0- 0-10
<b>Labor:</b>			
Mowing (per day)	1734	0- 5- 0?	0- 5- 6
	1736	0- 6- 0	0- 7- 0
	1739		0- 7- 0
Raking hay and stacking	" "	1735	0- 5- 0
Making hay	" "	1735	0- 4-10
Planting Corn	" "	1734	0- 4- 6
Hoeing Corn	" "	1736	0- 5- 0
		1743	0- 7- 0
Weeding Corn	" "	1734	0- 5- 0
"Crap" Corn (boy)	" "	1734	0- 2- 0
Gathering Corn	" "	1735	0- 5- 6
Cribbing Corn and gathering	" "	1736	0- 5- 0
Thrashing Barley	" "	1736	0- 5- 0
Hoeing Tobacco	" "	1734	0- 4- 6
Picking up apples, fencing and gathering in corn	" "	1736	0- 5- 0
Mending hedge	" "	1734	0- 5- 0
Splitting rails	" "	1734	0- 5- 0
Chopping wood (per cord)	1734		0- 3- 0
	1735		0- 3- 6
	1736		0- 3- 6
(per day)	1734		0- 4- 6
Cutting and Carting wood (cord)	1739		0- 8- 0
(load)	1739		0- 2- 0
Carting Wood (per day)	1735	0-13- 0	1- 0- 0
Carting Wood and Rails (per day)	1736		1- 0- 0
Carting Timber (per day)	1735		0-17- 0

	Year*	Low	High
		L - s - d	L - s - d
<b>Labor—continued</b>			
Carting Limekiln wood, pumpkins and stones (per day)	1735		1- 0- 0
Carting Stone (per day)	1735		0-15- 0
Carting Dung (per day)	1734		0- 9- 0
Beating Dung, and making hedge and fence (per day)	1736		0- 5- 0
Swingling Flax (per bb)	1733		0- 0- 4
Dagging Sheep (per day)	1736		0- 3- 0
Washing Sheep (per day)	1736		0- 5- 0
Shearing Sheep (per day)	1734		0- 6- 0
	1735		0- 5- 0
	1736		0- 5- 0
Killing Beef (per day)	1736		0- 5- 0
Killing Hogs " "	1736		0- 5- 0
Gelding Horse	1733		0- 2- 0
Weaving Blanketing (per yard)	1734		0- 0-14
	1738		0- 1- 6
	1739		0- 1- 6
Weaving Linen Cloth " "	1734		0- 0-12
Weaving Plain Cloth " "	1738		0- 1- 8
Weaving Plain Cloth and Cotton " "	1735		0- 0-14
Weaving Cotton and Linen " "	1736		0- 0-12
Weaving Worsted " "	1735		0- 0-18
Weaving ? Bedticking " "	1734		0- 2- 0
Weaving Bagging " "	1739		0- 0-16
Weaving Tow Cloth " "	1735		0- 0-12
Making Shirt	1736		0-10- 6
Making Britches	1736		0- 8- 0
Making Pair Women's Shoes	1736		0-17- 6
Making Pair Shoes (for "Benny")	1736		0- 5- 0
Making Pair Heels	1739		0- 0- 6
Making Cheese Press	1735		0-15- 0
Making Oven (per day)	1739		0- 8- 0

	Year*	Low L - s - d	High L - s - d
Labor—continued			
Mending Cartwheel (per day)	1739		0- 8- 0
Shingling House (per day)	1739		0- 7- 0
Whitewashing (per day)	1739		0- 9- 0
Man's labor (6 months)	1736		24- 0- 0
Services and Use of Property:			
Plowing (per day)	1734		0-16- 0
	1735		0-15- 0
	1737		0-20- 0
(with one hand & 3 cattle) “ “	1739		0-16- 0
Plowing and Carting “ “	1735		0-16- 0
(self and Negro) “ “	1734		1- 0- 0
Carting “ “	1736		0-14- 0
(with three cattle) “ “	1736		0-13- 0
Carting Rails (man and team) “ “	1735		0-12- 0
Carting Timber “ “	1736		1- 1- 0
Work of Oxen “ “	1736		0- 3- 0
Use of Mare “ “ (“wride”)	1734		0- 2- 0
Hiring horse to ride “ “	1734		0- 3- 6
Tanning Calf Skin (ea)	1736		0- 3- 0
	1738		0- 2- 6
Tanning Sheep Skins (ea)	1738		0- 1- 6
Tanning Dog Skins (ea)	1738		0- 2- 0
Tanning Woodchuck Skins (ea)	1738		0- 0- 6
Tanning Leather (lb)	1738		0- 0-12
Pasturing Calves (per week)	1735		0- 0- 8
	1737		0- 0- 8
Pasturing Ox “ “	1736		0- 3- 0
Pasturing Horse “ “	1737		0- 3- 0
Pasturing Young Horse “	1736		0- 3- 0
Pasturing Old Mare and Colt (per week)	1736		0- 3- 0
Wintering Mare (per week)	1737		0- 4- 0

## Book Review

### THE FIRST CENTURY OF THE JOHN CARTER BROWN LIBRARY. *A history with a guide to the collections.*

By Lawrence C. Wroth

Providence, Rhode Island. 1946. vi, 88p.

The Associates of the John Carter Brown Library have here published in a dignified and worthy form an account of the formation and growth of the Library, a survey of its resources, and a statement concerning its stewardship of these treasures in the service of scholarship. Very few libraries founded upon the collection of a private individual have so long and so faithfully continued their growth within the bounds of the founder's original limits. But the wisdom and virtue of this policy are amply demonstrated in this account of the Library's riches in the field to which it has restricted its acquisitions, viz. the history of the Western Hemisphere to the year 1800.

Mr. Wroth has, with modest pride, recounted the many divisions of the Library's holdings which have, through this century of collecting, been brought to a state of completeness which in many cases excels that of any other institution. It is perhaps trite to mention that it is possible to collect only those books which are available, but the remarkable achievement of the John Carter Brown Library has been that when the desired books have been available the opportunity has so seldom been lost.

Entire completeness in every department will, of course, never be attained, but it is not impossible that Mr. Wroth and his successors will someday have assembled in the Library records of every important book and manuscript concerning the history of the Americas to the end of the eighteenth century, and that by a continuation of the photostat and microfilm projects already well established the useful part of that vast literature will be available to the scholar in one place. Such grandiose projects have often been dreamed of by other scholars and librarians, but seldom with such a solid foundation of achievement as this.

It is good to know, also, that as the Library enters upon its second century it has the enthusiastic and generous support of the newly organized "Associates", for the John Carter Brown Library is not merely a Rhode Island institution, it now serves the whole community of scholars throughout the world and deserves and will be given the widest support.

W. A. JACKSON

The Houghton Library

New Members of the  
Rhode Island Historical Society

Since July, 1946.

Dr. Sinclair W. Armstrong	Lady Helen Louise Herbert Monmouthshire, England
Mr. John M. Bond Bayside, N. Y.	Herman A. Lawson, M.D.
Mrs. E. Donaldson Clapp Auburn, N. Y.	Mr. Paul B. Metcalf
Mr. George F. Colby West Barrington, R. I.	Mrs. John O'Kane
Mr. Johns H. Congdon, 2nd	Mr. Oliver G. Pratt
Mr. Ellery W. French	Mr. Harvey S. Reynolds
Mr. Donald Gardner Rumford, R. I.	Miss Elizabeth I. Richardson
Mrs. William T. Halloran Edgewood, R. I.	Mr. Milton C. Sapinsley
	Mr. Clarke Simonds
	Mrs. Ashbel T. Wall

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*Fall Lecture Program*

*Wednesday, November 20, 1946 . . . 8:15 P.M.*

THOMAS ALLEN JENCKES, Esquire  
Providence, R. I.

FAMOUS RHODE ISLAND INVENTORS.

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*Sunday afternoon in December*  
*Date to be announced later*

ADMIRAL RAYMOND A. SPRUANCE

WAR IN THE PACIFIC.