

RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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NO. 2



CAT-BOAT *Lillie*

built ca. 1885

Richard W. Comstock Collection

Rhode Island Historical Society

ISSUED QUARTERLY AT PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

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RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

VOL. VI APRIL 1947 NO. 2

HENRY D. SHARPE, *President* HOWARD W. WILSON, *Treasurer*
M. RANDOLPH FEATHER, *Secretary* WILLIAM G. ROELKER, *Director*
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John Brown House Endowment Fund

Statement of the president, HENRY D. SHARPE, ESQ.

Our Society enjoys as its home a structure of historic importance, beautiful in design, located in a setting appropriate to an institution of culture dedicated to the perpetuation of events and developments of historical importance. Few state historical societies are better housed than are we. The Society is the custodian of records and collections of great importance to be maintained under conditions of security in the years to come.

This is a trust which we must and will maintain, but the doing will require more funds than we now enjoy. Without doubt the mere administration of the Society can be taken care of through continuing membership interest wisely stimulated. The maintenance of our house itself, of historic importance, is an undertaking of special provision, and this should be initiated forthwith. I recommend for your consideration the creation of a fund to be known as the John Brown House Endowment Fund, in which many persons will naturally take an interest either by special contribution as the years go on, by testamentary gifts in wills to be made, or even by casual giving following visits to our beautiful home.

Historical interest is on the increase in this land, especially among the older Colonial estates located on the Atlantic seaboard, and this historical interest is notably

prominent in the preservation of fine examples of Colonial architecture, such as John Brown House exemplifies.

John Quincy Adams wrote in his journal on September 9, 1789, "Mr. John Brown's house . . . is the most magnificent and elegant private mansion that I have ever seen on this continent."

Provisions of such a fund should ensure that income be available for the maintenance and repair of the home itself, for the upkeep, for repair or improvement of the grounds, together with fences, paths, trees, etc., and for the cost of suitable insurance against fire, etc., of the structure itself. Already minor gifts are in hand which can be assigned to such a fund. Once set up, however, there will be a steady increase in the years ahead. This suggestion should properly have the attention of the Society.

Wanted

Both new and old members of the Society, as well as our many friends, need to be reminded occasionally of the kind of things a historical society collects. Anything that helps picture a Rhode Island town, institution, family, or individual; such as, pictures, diaries, records, letters, certificates, account books, genealogical data should be added to our collection.

Our files are sometimes incomplete. Our wants are numerous. The following list gives a sample of what we need:

The Readers' Digest, December, 1946.
Rhode Island States plate (for the museum).
Examples of dishes used by Rhode Islanders in the eighteenth century.
Providence City Directory, 1945, 1946.
Antiques, (magazine) v. 29, Jan., 1936—v. 46, Dec., 1944.
Histories of New England towns.
Tax books, treasurers' reports, school reports, etc., of Rhode Island towns.
Encyclopaedia, pub. by Thomas Dobson (1798-1803) Philadelphia.

GENEALOGIES:

The *Abbe* genealogy, by F. J. A. Wallace.
The *Abeel* and allied families, by Henry Whittemore.
Family memorial of John Philip *Achenbach* and descendants in the United States, by Sarah Jane Houtz.
History of the *Adams* and *Evarts* families, by J. M. Adams.
The ancestry of *Henry Adams* of Braintree, New England, by Hiram Francis Fairbanks.
The descendants of *James* and *William Adams*, of Londonderry, now Derry, N. H., by Andrew N. Adams.
A sketch of the life of the *Hon. Phineas Adams*, of Manchester, N. H., by Arthur P. Dodge.

Robert Feke, Portrait Painter

by HENRY WILDER FOOTE*

The Rhode Island Historical Society has received a notable accession in the gift of the Late Self-Portrait of Robert Feke and the portrait of his wife, Eleanor Cozzens of Newport, presented in memory of Mrs. Frank A. Sayles of Pawtucket, by her three eldest daughters.¹ Robert Feke, who was the best American-born artist before Copley, is closely associated with Rhode Island, although he was born at Oyster Bay, Long Island, about 1705 or a little later. There was much intercourse between Oyster Bay and Newport, where he had a married aunt, and when Feke married Eleanor Cozzens in 1742, he is recorded as "of Newport," indicating a previous residence of some length there. The marriage was performed by the noted Baptist minister, Rev. John Callender, whose fine portrait, painted by Feke in 1745, is also owned by the Society. Mr. and Mrs. Feke lived in the house on Touro Street which had been built by her father. It stood on what is now the open lot immediately above the Newport Historical Society and was not torn down until about 1920.

Feke is an enigmatic figure, about whose career very few facts are recorded. Not a line of his handwriting is known to survive, his only signatures being those painted on his portraits. Aside from the mention of his name in the Newport *Mercury* notice of the death of his widow in 1804, and Dunlap's note in his *History of the Arts of Design in America* (1834) that a portrait signed by him was owned in Philadelphia, no printed reference to him has been found prior to the appearance of three letters in Dawson's

* HENRY WILDER FOOTE, Unitarian minister; b. Boston, Feb. 2, 1875; A.B. Harvard, 1897; A.M., 1900; S.T.B., 1902; S.T.D., Pacific Unitarian School for Ministry, 1929; D.D. Meadville Theological School, 1941. Pastor First Church, Belmont (Mass.), 1924-40; pastor emeritus since 1940.

Author: *Robert Feke, Colonial Portrait Painter*, 1930; (with H. F. Clarke) *Jeremiah Dummer, Craftsman and Merchant*, 1935.

¹ Mrs. Mary Ames Sayles Booker, Mrs. Martha Freeman Sayles Nicholson, Mrs. Nancy Sayles Day.

Historical Magazine for 1859-60, giving a rather confused medley of family traditions about him. In 1878 the *History of the State of Rhode Island*, brought out by Hoag, Wade & Co., gave a brief account of him, based on the family traditions, and included a crude lithograph of the Late Self-Portrait now donated to the Society.

Professor William Carey Poland, in a paper entitled *Robert Feke, the Early Newport Portrait Painter, and the Beginning of Colonial Painting*, which he read before this Society on April 5, 1904, and which was printed in 1907, for the first time sought to disentangle fact from legend about the painter, and listed thirteen portraits attributed to him. Using Professor Poland's excellent paper as a foundation, the present writer in 1930 published a full-length study of the painter, *Robert Feke, Colonial Portrait Painter* (Harvard University Press), with a *catalogue raisonné* of about seventy portraits which could reasonably be attributed to him.

It was Professor Poland who unearthed the record of Feke's marriage, and of the marriages in Newport of his aunt and his daughters, and the records of his wife's death and those of his children. Very few additional facts about him have since come to light. The most important item is the entry in the journal of a Dr. Alexander Hamilton, who made a tour of the Colonies from Maryland to New Hampshire in 1744. He made the following note of his arrival in Newport on July 16. "I dined at a tavern kept by one Nicolls at the Sign of the White Horse . . . and in the afternoon Dr. Moffatt,² an old acquaintance and schoolfellow of mine, led me a course through the town. He carried me to one Feake, a painter, the most extraordinary genius ever I knew, for he does pictures tolerably well by the force of genius, never having had any teaching. I saw a large table of the Judgment of Hercules, copied by him from a frontispiece of the Earle of Shaftesbury's³ which I thought very

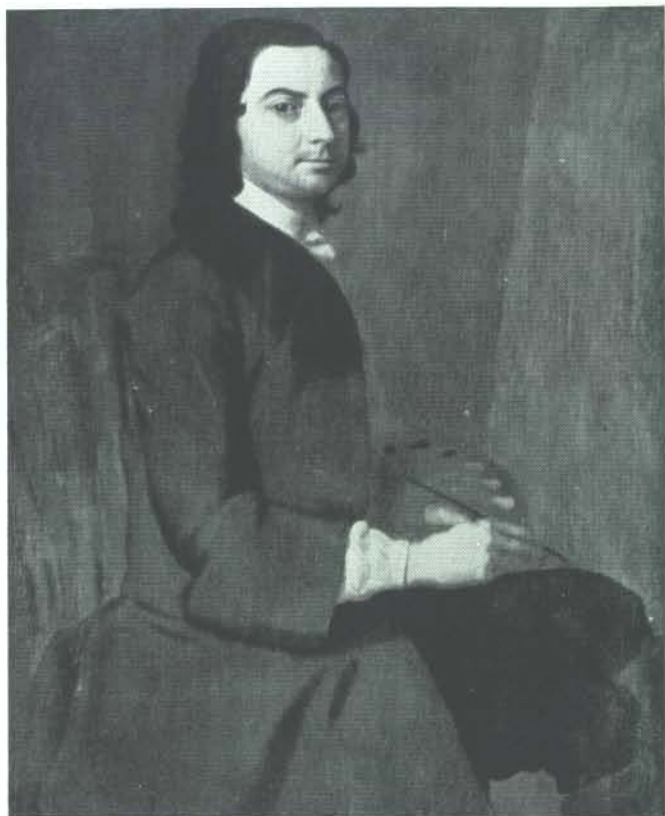
² Thomas Moffatt, a physician, long resident in Newport, a nephew of John Smibert, who was then living in Boston, and himself something of an art connoisseur.

³ The engraving from which Feke had painted a large picture is a vignette at the head of an essay on art in the 1714 edition of Shaftesbury's *Characteristicks*.

well done. This man had exactly the phiz of a painter, having a long, pale face, sharp nose, large eyes with which he looked upon you steadfastly, long curled black hair, a delicate white hand, and long fingers." This pen-picture of Feke is invaluable and exactly describes the man shown both in Feke's well-known Early Self-Portrait, probably painted between 1725 and 1730, and in the Late Self-Portrait, which shows him from the same angle as he appeared some twenty years later.

One later reference to Feke is found in the brief entry in the diary of John Smith of Philadelphia which records that on April 7, 1750, Smith and his brother-in-law, William Logan, "went to Fewke's the painter's and viewed several pieces and faces of his painting." This entry dates Feke's third and perhaps most important visit to Philadelphia and is also the latest reference to him during his life-time which has been discovered. Thereafter he disappears from sight and no man knows when or where he died. Family tradition reported that he went to Bermuda for his health and died there, but the records in both Bermuda and Barbados have been searched without finding any trace of him. The earliest record that he had died is found in the marriage certificates of his daughters in 1767 in which their father is described as "Robert Feke, Mariner, deceased."

Since his youngest child, Charles, was born in the same month of 1750 that Feke is recorded as having been in Philadelphia, it is reasonable to suppose that Feke may have returned to Newport and that the Late Self-Portrait and the portrait of his wife, both of which he left unfinished, may have been painted there that summer. Certainly they are among his latest works. He finished the head in each and sketched the figures, but left much of the canvas untouched. The Self-Portrait shows a man in his forties, apparently in good health, his left hand holding the faintly sketched palette and his right hand the brushes of the painter. Mrs. Feke is shown sitting very erect, her right arm upon a table beside her, her strong but rather austere



ROBERT FEKE, SELF PORTRAIT, *ca.* 1750

Portrait in Oils

Rhode Island Historical Society



ELEANORE (COZZENS) FEKE

Portrait in Oils

Rhode Island Historical Society

face looking older than her thirty-two years. The portraits were obviously intended as a pair, facing each other. They descended in the family of one of his daughters until that line died out. About 1857 they were purchased by Mr. W. P. Bullock of Providence, whose wife was also a descendant of the painter.⁴ Some time after 1878 Mr. Bullock, not liking their unfinished appearance, employed James S. Lincoln to "complete" them. He did so without touching the heads, merely filling in the figures and the background, but it is a pity that the pictures were not preserved exactly as the artist left them.

As a result of the scantiness of authentic records or references to Feke it is necessary to trace his career so far as possible by unravelling the rather confused family traditions about him, and by placing as accurately as possible the provenance and dates of the portraits attributed to him

⁴ PROVENANCE OF THE SELF-PORTRAIT OF FEKE AND THE COMPANION PORTRAIT OF HIS WIFE, ELEANOR

Robert Feke was the son of the Reverend Robert Feke of Matinecook, Oyster Bay, Long Island, and Clemence Ludlam of Oyster Bay, Long Island. He was the great-grandson of Lt. Robert Feke, who came in the fleet with Winthrop in 1630.

Robert Feke		Eleanor Cousins
	m. Sept. 23, 1742	
Philadelphia Feke (1748-1802)		John Townsend (1732-1809)
	m. Oct. 15, 1767	
Solomon Townsend (1776-1821)		Ann Pearce (1786-1874)
	m. Nov. 26, 1806	
Fila Feke Townsend (1812-1866)		William Peckham Bullock (1805-1862)
(2nd wife)	m. Oct. 9, 1838	
Mary Townsend Bullock (1847-1895)*		Sullivan Dorr Ames (1840-1880)
	m. Feb. 21, 1870	
Mary Dorr Ames (1871-1946)		Frank Arthur Sayles (1866-1919)
	m. June 9, 1892	
		Mary Martha Nancy Hope

*A sister, Rhoda Peckham Bullock, had the two Feke portraits in her home at the corner of Angell and Brook Streets. On her death they went to Mary Dorr Ames Sayles.

The above has been contributed by Mr. Paul C. Nicholson to show how the Feke portraits came into the possession of Mrs. Mary D. A. Sayles, mother of the donors of the portraits to the Rhode Island Historical Society.

which serve as historical documents giving clues as to his whereabouts from time to time.

We know that his father, also named Robert, was a Baptist preacher living comfortably at Oyster Bay. In 1730 "Robert Feke, Jur." was one of two men who made a survey in the town. It is reported that he went to sea on several voyages, which may well be true, and which may explain why years later he was described as a "Mariner" on his daughters' marriage certificates. The family tradition also says that on one of his voyages he was captured and imprisoned by the Spaniards, and that while in prison he managed to secure paint and brushes to paint pictures which he sold and thus secured the means of returning home. If this story is well founded, it at least suggests the possibility that he may have had some opportunity to see European paintings.

These vague legends no doubt have some foundation. A prolonged absence from America would explain the entire lack of any portraits attributable to him between about 1730 and 1740. In the latter year he paid his first visit to Philadelphia, and in 1741 he was in Medford, just outside Boston, painting his only known group picture, that of Isaac Royall and Family, now owned by Harvard University. John Smibert was then in Boston, at the height of his prestige, and it seems strange that Royall should have engaged an unknown young "mariner" to paint his family instead of employing Smibert. The most plausible explanation may be that Feke had acquired some reputation of having recently studied art in Europe. At this stage, however, Feke was still a beginner and his portrait of the Royall Family is obviously painted in imitation of Smibert's masterpiece showing Dean Berkeley and his Entourage, now owned by Yale University. It has naive charm, but is only half-way between the work of a travelling limner and that of an accomplished artist. One of the women pictured is almost an exact copy of a figure in Smibert's picture. Feke could easily have seen the Berkeley group in Smibert's studio in Boston, or, if he were in Newport in the autumn

of 1729, he could have seen it there when it was first painted. Feke's Early Self-Portrait in its pose bears so much resemblance to the Self-Portrait of Smibert in the Berkeley group that some critics feel certain that in that picture also Feke was imitating Smibert. The resemblance may only be a coincidence, but, if the conjecture is well founded, then Feke must have seen the Berkeley group in Newport in 1729, for the Early Self-Portrait cannot be dated as late as 1741. Feke's dependence on Smibert was short-lived, and from this time on his skill in portraying the character as well as the accessories of his subjects developed rapidly. He doubtless returned from Medford to Newport where he was married the next year, and where he certainly painted a number of pictures, two of the best being the excellent one of Rev. John Callender and the strikingly different one of another Baptist preacher, Rev. Thomas Hiscox. Both are dated 1745 and bear the unusual signature, "R. Feak." In 1746 he paid his second visit to Philadelphia, as is indicated by portraits of Philadelphians bearing that date. No pictures attributable to him can with assurance be dated 1747, which has led Professor Oskar Hagen to assume that Feke in that year visited London and studied the work of portrait painters there. The conjecture is plausible though there is no record to sustain it.

Certain it is that his workmanship during the years 1748-50 shows a great advance. In 1748 he must have spent many months in Boston, for more than twenty of his finest portraits can be assigned to this visit. They include his best-known pictures — those of the Bowdoin family — and his only known full-length portrait, that of General Samuel Waldo,⁵ all of which are now owned by Bowdoin College. In 1749 Feke was back in Newport, painting his latest portraits of persons living there. Late in that year he went to Philadelphia for his third and last visit to that city, as already noted.

Aside from the Early Self-Portrait, and the naive, prim-

⁵ The portrait of Waldo is an outstanding picture. It has also been claimed for Smibert, but seems clearly in Feke's style, his finest picture.

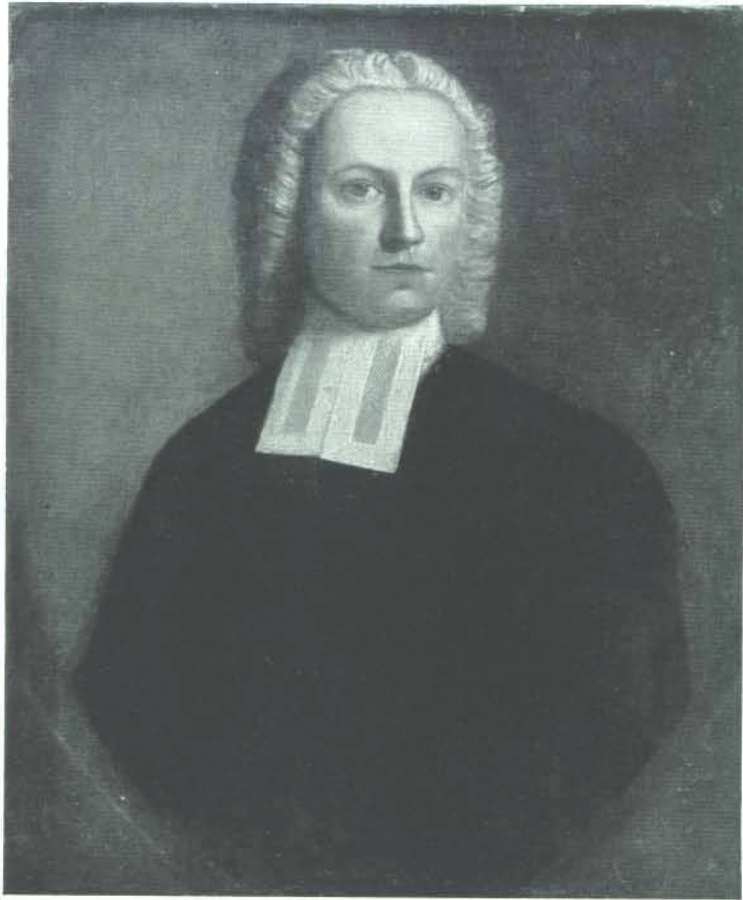
itive picture of his little niece which may have been done about 1730 or a little later, all the known portraits by Feke were painted in this decade, 1740-1750. They show a remarkable development of his talents, the later ones being unequalled by any of his contemporaries in the Colonies. Some of them were later supposed to be early works by Copley, and Copley may be said to have begun where Feke left off. Had Feke lived another ten years instead of disappearing into the unknown, he might well have rivaled Copley.

It is rather surprising that in the seventeen years since the publication of *Robert Feke, Colonial Portrait Painter*, no additional records about him have been unearthed, and not more than three or four pictures attributable to him have been found which were not listed in that book, although other writers, especially Professor Hagen and Mr. James Thomas Flexner, have advanced various more or less untenable theories to fill in the gaps in his career. Perhaps we shall never know much more than we now do about this elusive but attractive man, who made so rich a contribution to our colonial culture. In any case it is gratifying that the Rhode Island Historical Society should own three exceptionally interesting specimens of his work, all of which are important documents in Rhode Island's colonial history.

Spring Lecture Program

On Thursday, April 24, at 8:15 p. m., Mathias P. Harpin, editor and pulisher of the *Rhode Island Pilot*, will lecture on *Patterns on the River*, the origin, growth, etc., of the American cotton factory system.

Mr. William Davis Miller, author, historian, and a former president of the Rhode Island Historical Society, will give a lecture at the Society on Wednesday, May 21. Mr. Miller's topic is Shepherd Tom and the Narragansett country.



THE REVEREND JOHN CALENDER, 1706-1748

Portrait in Oils by Robert Feke

Rhode Island Historical Society

Signed and dated R. Feak, Pinx A. D. 1745

John Callender

By CLIFFORD K. SHIPTON

Reprinted by permission from Sibley's *Harvard Graduates*, Volume VII, pp. 150-55.
1722-1725.

JOHN CALLENDER, the historian, was born in 1706, the son of John and Priscilla (Man) Callender, who kept a shop in the north end of Boston. His grandfather, Ellis Callender, was a lay preacher who presided over the First Baptist Church of Boston between 1708 and 1726. At Harvard, John was distinguished by his promise and by the fact that he was a Baptist, which together induced the college authorities to recommend him as "a sober diligent Youth" for the bounty of Thomas Hollis.¹

As a junior he asked to room with Jeremy Gridley, another Boston boy, but one who was anything but sober and diligent.

The fact that there were Baptist boys in the colleges greatly interested the churches of their persuasion, which were suffering under the stigma of having no college-bred ministers. Consequently the church at Swansea, the oldest Baptist church in Massachusetts, approached both Callender and John Comer, a Yale student, when it found itself without a minister. Callender was not at college between September, 1723, and June, 1724, but it is more likely that he was keeping school than that he was preaching at Swansea, for he was not yet baptised. On April 18 he "commonplac'd" in the college hall to demonstrate his scholarly qualifications. When Thomas Hollis heard that he was living in Cambridge again, he wrote to Benjamin Colman:

As to Mr. Callender, I have been informed he abides at the College and Studies Divinity; I confirm my former orders that he have my 10/ Exhibition this year. And if he continues another year and learns Mathematicks the better — I do positively order him the same for next year, 1728. And I entreat you to let him know and also Mr President, that it is my orders. I desire none of your College money to assist a son

¹ Benjamin Colman Mss. (Mass. Hist. Soc.) July, 1720.

of a Baptist, while I live. I think I have [authority to] dispose of my own Exhibitions but I have little prospect of desiring your favours for the poor Baptists, I wish heartily that I had.²

As it turned out, the Hollis money was not sufficient, so the college authorities aided Callender out of the funds left by that good Congregationalist, Thomas Brattle. At the Commencement of 1726, when the members of Callender's class took their second degree, he was given the honor of performing one of the speaking parts, an argument to the effect that "Scriptura credendi et agendi est norma perfecta et sola."

In June, 1727, Callender was baptised in the millpond (on the site of North Station) by his uncle Elisha Callender (A.B. 1710), who was now the minister of the First Baptist Church. During the fall he preached for a while in Newport,³ and in August, 1728, he was called to Swansea, which Comer had left to go to Newport. In November, after a preliminary trial at preaching, he gave up his chamber at Cambridge and removed to Swansea. His letters back to Tutor Nathan Prince indicate that he was homesick among the simple and uneducated folk to whom he was preaching.

As it is with the greatest satisfaction I call to mind & remember the Many pleasing & profitable Hours I have Enjoy'd in your Company, So there is nothing makes my absence from College so tedious & Irksome as the Want of such a gentleman to Converse with.⁴

Perhaps this was why, on the day when his congregation met to give him a formal call to settle, "he signified his design to desist the service, to the great trouble and surprise of the church."⁵ On February 15, 1729/30, he preached his farewell sermon and married Elizabeth Hardin, one of the Belles of the town. To Nathan Prince's letter of congratulation he replied:

I am Engaging in the Practice of Phisick tho' my Illness stops me at present but hope it won't last very long. Have for the Present laid down

² Hollis Letters and Papers (Harvard University Archives), p. 78.

³ John Comer, Diary (Coll. Rhode Island Hist. Soc. VIII), p. 47. He was again called to Newport on Feb. 14, 1728/9. Isaac Backus Mss. (Andover-Newton Theological School).

⁴ Misc. Mss. Bound (M.H.S.).

Preaching, whether I shall ever take it up again If I have an oportunity I hardly Know.⁶

However, Callender was not the kind of man to be satisfied with the limited field of social service which the practice of medicine offered. Comer had left the First Baptist Church of Newport, the second of that faith in America, and over it Callender was ordained by Uncle Elisha on October 13, 1731.

A glance at Feke's portrait of Callender will explain the young preacher's reputation for charm and intelligence. Of his qualifications for the ministry a friend wrote:

The purity and evangelic simplicity of his doctrine, confirmed and embellished by the virtuous and devout tenor of his own life, endeared him to his flock, and justly conciliated the esteem love and reverence of all the wise, worthy and good. Much humility, benevolence and charity, breathed in his conversation, discourses and writings, which were all pertinent, seasonable and useful.⁷

His scholarship, (as witnessed by his book borrowings and not by painful erudition in his sermons), his modulated and gentle religion, his Old-Light sympathies at the time of the Awakening, and his affectionate intimacy with the Congregational leaders of Massachusetts mark him as a "typical" Harvard man, meaning by that one thoroughly imbued, for better or for worse, with the culture and attitude which then prevailed in the college community. To the simple and earnest artisans who made up the bulk of the Baptist sect it seemed that excess of learning had bred vital religion out of such men. Probably only in the wealthy congregation at Newport would he have been appreciated; certainly he was wise to decline the invitation to succeed his uncle at Boston. He differed with the Congregational leaders only in certain points of theology which neither he nor they considered of any importance. He saw eye to eye with his classmate Samuel Mather, son of the great Cotton, in the matter of the threat of the Church of England to

⁵ Comer, p. 101.

⁶ Misc. Mss. Bound (M.H.S.).

⁷ *Rhode Island Hist. Mag.* VI, 180.

the "Constitution of the Churches in this country."⁸ He was more accurate than his hearers realized when, at the ordination of Jeremiah Condy (A.B. 1726) over the Baptist Church at Boston, he described Nathaniel Appleton (A.B. 1712) of the First Church at Cambridge as his "Reverend Father."⁹

A friend of Thomas Prince, he was deeply interested in the Boston pastor's project for a history of New England. Having less confidence in his own scholarship, he restricted his historical labors to the writing of a comparatively simple history of Rhode Island, which, because of that simplicity, is still a useful source, while Prince's work is of interest only as an example of the scholarship of his time. Indeed his volume was so good that more than a century elapsed before anyone produced another work in that field. Callender's history of Rhode Island began as a centennial sermon which he preached in 1738 to celebrate the founding of the colony. When the gentleman of Newport enthusiastically demanded that the sermon be expanded into a history, the parson was somewhat distressed, for how could he treat of the relations of the Baptists with Massachusetts in the days of Increase Mather without treading on the toes of Mather's grandson, Samuel? Fortunately Cotton Mather had already showed the way to conciliation by offering the hand of friendship to Elisha Callender and had frankly said that the old Puritans had erred by not paying more attention to the Inner Light. The Newport pastor wrote a letter to Samuel Mather regarding his work which illuminates some of the passages of the book as they stand in print:

As I was obliged to mention the names of your nearest and most Honored Relations I intended to have shewn you my Notes, for I would by no means suffer any thing to go out into the world that might be justly offensive to you. I dont suppose you would find fault with Historical Truth if necessary to be told, but 'tis only the particular Mode of Expression which I am or rather have been apprehensive of . . . The printers will have Orders to let you see the Coppy . . . I submitted the Coppy

⁸ Curwin Mss. (Am. Antiq. Soc.), II, 110, *et passim*. He subscribed for Samuel Mather's biography of his father.

⁹ Callender, *A Sermon Preach'd . . . Feb. 14th. 1738*, 9 (Boston, 1739), p. 31.

to Mr. Prince's Correction as the best Judge of our New English History, & expressly desired him to tell me of any hastiness and Bitterness of Expression as well as Errors in matters of fact. He was so good as to do more than I could desire him . . . for, by many Remarks & Informations as the Coppy shows, & some perhaps are Expunged & others altered at his Notices.¹⁰

As it came from the press the volume was a model of historical impartiality and a plea for liberty of conscience. Cotton Mather was treated with great respect, and "the Principles of a too rigid Separation planted by Mr. Williams" were deprecated. Coming, as it did, on the eve of a great outburst of religious strife, and rancor, this passage on the situation a century before was most apt:

In Reality the true Grounds of Liberty of Conscience, were not then known, or embraced by any Sect or Party of Christians. . . . So that it was not singular, or peculiar in those People at the Massachusetts, to think themselves bound in Conscience, to use the Sword of the civil Magistrate, to open the Understandings of Hereticks.¹¹

Callender's attitude appealed to the educated class of that and the next generation, who united in his praise. "No writer exhibits a fairer mind, or greater love of truth," declared Dr. John Eliot, and added that the author's work made him shine "with great lustre among the worthies who have lived in this country."¹² Curiously enough the only critical word came from Benjamin Colman, the kindly patron of Callender's college days, who, in sending Isaac Watts a copy of the volume, set certain "guards" upon it.¹³ Possibly the liberal old gentleman thought that Prince and Mather had done too much diplomatic editing of the work, but in truth it is all of a piece with the author's attitude throughout life. The volume is a mark of the passing of the old horizontal social and religious division between Baptist and Congregationalist and the appearance of a vertical split cutting both sects into camps which differed in their attitudes toward education, revivalism, and insistence on points of dogma.

¹⁰ *New England Hist. Gen. Reg.* XXIV, 115-6.

¹¹ Callender, *Historical Discourse* (Boston, 1739), pp. 15, 16.

¹² *2 Coll. M. H. S.* 1, 210, Biographical Dictionary (Salem and Boston, 1809).

¹³ *2 Proc. M. H. S.* IX, 364.

John Callender enjoyed to the full the social and intellectual life of Newport and was an early member of the Society for Promoting Virtue and Knowledge by a Free Conversation, which later became the Redwood Library. Here, President Stiles complained, his innocent tolerance proved unfortunate, for, although the founders of the institution had "really designed it should be catholic & without respect to Sects. Thro' the Blindness of Mr. Redwood & [Thomas] Ward & Callender (the 2 last Men of great Learning & Penetration) the Episcopalians slyly got into it & obtained a Majority which they are careful to keep."¹⁴ The General Assembly in 1743 did the minister the honor to place him on the committee to revise and print the laws. In 1746 the town of Newport elected him schoolmaster,¹⁵ a capacity in which he served until his death on January 26, 1748. "Antipaedobaptist" though he was, Massachusetts joined in the mourning:

A Gentleman of fine natural Accomplishments, and extensive Learning; of the greatest Integrity and Modesty; very diligent and very useful: of an open, chearful, benevolent, catholic & christian Temper: unaffectedly religious, & a shining Example of submission to Providence, thro' a long Series of Afflictions. — It is almost unnecessary to add how greatly and how generally he was beloved; or how much such a Man must be regretted.¹⁶

A Gentleman of superior good Sence, and very Extensive Knowledge. . . . He was an entire Stranger to Cunning and Artifice, to Flattery and Temporizing: as honest as he was learned. Enthusiasm and Bigotry were his Aversion, and he was sometimes their Scourge, whilst he pitied the Enthusiast and the Bigot. His Religion was genuine, manly, and remote from all Affectation. . . . He did often serve the Public with his Advice . . . sought for by Gentlemen of a public Character, who knew him to be a zealous Friend to the Interests of that Colony.¹⁷

The Callenders appear to have had nine children: (1) Elizabeth, b. July, 1730; m.—English. (2) Mary, b. Dec. 10, 1731. (3) John, b. Jan. 12, 1733/4; d. in infancy. (4) John, b. Sept. 1735; d. Jan. 26, 1747/8. (5) Elias,

¹⁴ Ezra Stiles, *Literary Diary* (New York, 1901), 1, 166.n.

¹⁵ *Newport Hist. Soc. Bulletin* No. 96, p. 15.

¹⁶ *Boston Gazette*, Feb. 9, 1748.

¹⁷ *Boston Evening-Post*, Feb. 15, 1748.

b. Dec. 27, 1737. (6) Elisha, b. July 17, 1738. (7) Sarah, b. Feb. 7, 1739/40. (8) Abigail, b. Apr. 1741. (9) Josias. A portrait by Feke is owned by the Rhode Island Historical Society and is here reproduced from Henry Wilder Foote, *Robert Feke* (Cambridge, 1930), p. 64, where a full discussion of its history may be found. Callender left a considerable collection of historical manuscripts which Isaac Backus used in the preparation of his church history. Some of these are now in the Yale University Library.

WORKS

AN HISTORICAL DISCOURSE on the Civil and Religious Affairs of the Colony of Rhode-Island. . . . Boston, 1739. (2), 14, 120, (1) pages. AAS, BA, BPL, EL, H, HEH, JCB, MHS, NYH, NYP, WLC, Y.

———Providence, 1838.

———Boston, 1843.

A SERMON PREACH'D at the Ordination of Mr. Jeremiah Condy . . . in Boston, Feb. 14th. 1738, 9. . . . Boston 1739. (4), 32 pages. AAS, BPL, CL, H, JCB, NYH, Y.

THE ADVANTAGES OF EARLY RELIGION. . . . Preached at Newport. . . . To a Society of Young Men. . . . Jan. 3rd. 1741, 2. . . . Newport, [1742]. (4), 37 pages. AAS, HEH, JCB, NYH.

A DISCOURSE OCCASIONED by the Death of . . . Nathaniel Clap. . . . Newport, 1746. 36 pages. AAS, BA, BPL, CL, JCB, MHS.

Tuesday Evening Hours

The Society is open from seven till nine on Tuesday evenings for the benefit of those who find it a convenient time to use the library. During the winter few have taken advantage of this opportunity, and there have been many evenings when no workers have appeared. If a different evening in the week is preferable to Tuesday, we shall be glad to consider it; otherwise it seems wise to avoid the expense of heating and lighting the building. May we hear from members who are interested in this matter?

C. P. M.

Genealogical Notes

By BRADFORD F. SWAN

ESTANCE—SUGARS

Mercy Estance¹ of Providence had a daughter, apparently illegitimate, named Jerusa Sugars, who was born 25 Jan. 1707/8. This child was apprenticed by her mother on 11 Jan. 1708/9 to Thomas Joslin of Taunton, Mass., and his wife Hannah, to learn "the art & mistry of a Tailor."²

SAFFIN—WILLETT

Much genealogical material on John Saffin of Bristol is to be gleaned from *John Saffin His Book*,³ and can be added to his name on pp. 426-7 in Austin's *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island*.

John Saffin was born about 1632, possibly on 6 October, the first son of Simon Saffin of Exeter, England, merchant, and Grace, only daughter of Mr. John Garrett, sometime of Barnstable in the county of Devon. This Grace (Garrett) Saffin apparently married, secondly, a man named Ellsworth, and died in London.

John Saffin married thrice. His first wife, and the mother of all his children, was Martha, second daughter of Capt. Thomas Willett and his wife Mary (Brown) Willett. Martha (Willett) Saffin died 11 Dec. 1678 at Boston, of smallpox, and Saffin married as his second wife, Mrs. Eliz^a [beth?] Lidgett, née Hull. This second marriage was performed 4 June 1680 at Boston by Joseph Dudley. The second Mrs. Saffin died 1 Nov. 1687.

On 23 March 1687/8, "I landed my goods and household stuff at my house att Boundfield in the Township of Bristol," Saffin writes. And: "In March 1688 I began to plant my orchard at Boundfield and finished it in 1691."

¹ Austin, *Gen. Dict. of R. I.*, p. 295.

² *Providence Town Records*, V, 17-19, 20-22.

³ *John Saffin His Book* (New York: 1928), *passim*. This is a printed transcript of Saffin's commonplace book, which is among the manuscripts at the Rhode Island Historical Society.

As early as 1654/5 Saffin was on a voyage to Virginia. Again, on 29 Sept. [1659?], he sailed from New London in the ketch *Hopewell*, Xtopher [i.e., Christopher] Moss, master, and on 4 October he arrived at Manhattan. On 8 October he passed Sandy Hook, and on 15 October he anchored "between Virginia Capes." "On the 17th day," he writes, "we arrived at Wicocomico."

About eight months after he arrived in Bristol, Saffin married, on 16 Nov. 1688, as his third wife, Rebecca, daughter of Rev. Mr. Samuel Lee of Bristol. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Samuel Angier, minister of Rehoboth.

John Saffin's children by wife Martha, all born in Boston:

John, b. 13 Sept. 1659; d. 10 Dec. [1661?].

John, b. 14 Apr. 1661 [should be 1662?];⁴ d. 9 Dec. 1678 of smallpox.

Thomas, b. 18 March 1663/4.

Simon, b. 14 Apr. 1666; d. 23 Nov. 1678 of smallpox.

Josiah, b. 30 Jan. 1667/8.

Joseph, b. 2 Feb. 1669/70; d. 5 Sept. 1676.

Benjamin, b. [15 June] 1672; d. 16 June 1672, aged 30 hours.

Joseph, b. 24 Jan. 1676[?].⁵

SAMUEL WILBORE

Benjamin F. Wilbour of Little Compton reports in the *New England Historic and Genealogical Register*⁶ that Samuel Wilbore, the immigrant, who left many descendants in Rhode Island, came from co. Essex, and was married at Sible Hedingham, that county, in 1620, to Ann Smith. Mr. Wilbour is also able to give us the names of Samuel's parents, for his mother, Elisabeth, who was also of Sible Hedingham, mentions a son Samuel in her will, dated 1624. She was the widow of Nicholas Wilbore and former wife of Robert Harrington.

This discovery completely refutes Savage's claim that Samuel Wilbore came from Doncaster, Yorkshire, England, and that his wife was Ann, daughter of Thomas Bradford.⁷

⁴ Austin gives this date as 1662, which seems correct.

⁵ The double date seems to be correct here, as the first Joseph did not die until Sept. 1676.

⁶ Vol. XCIX, No. 394 (April, 1945), pp. 175-6.

⁷ Austin had doubted this identification of Ann because of the 1607 date on Thomas Bradford's will.

Governor Samuel Ward Farmer and Merchant

By WILLIAM GREENE ROELKER

Anna Ray married Samuel Ward, December 12, 1745, soon after he purchased from her father Simon a 300-acre farm fronting on Block Island Sound nearly opposite to Montauk Point and about five miles south of Westerly Village. Thomas, grandfather of Samuel, had come to Newport from Gloucester, England, about 1671. His only son Richard served for several years as Secretary and afterwards as Governor of the Colony from 1740 to 1743. Two of his sons, Thomas and Henry, occupied the position of Secretary of State from 1746 till 1797, both dying in office. Samuel, the middle brother, was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court when he was elected Governor in 1762; he was again elected to the chief magistracy in 1763. He was the leader of the group which sought to retain the political control of the Colony in opposition to the faction led by Stephen Hopkins and the leading merchants of Providence. This internecine struggle, which rent the Colony from 1754 till pressure from without caused a settlement in 1768, is known to history as the Ward-Hopkins controversy. It was a contest between Newport and Providence for political and economic domination in which each party acted in accordance with its belief as to what was right and to the best interest of the Colony.

Though he was an officeholder, Samuel Ward was dependent upon his farm and his store for his livelihood. His farm was his pet and to it he devoted much time and attention. His principal money crop was cheese. A letter from his brother-in-law, Thomas Hubbard,* at Boston reports on the sale of something more than 1500 pounds of cheese in December, 1756, and other documents among the Ward Papers in the Rhode Island Historical Society indicate shipments to New York and other points.

* Later spelled Hubbard.

Like all New England farmers Ward tried to produce everything his family needed for subsistence, but there were some things he could not raise; for example, sugar. To purchase it and other luxuries some cash or credit was necessary. How hard this was to come by is disclosed in a letter to his wife: "I have sent 20 Dollars & 2 half Guineas which is all the money I can now spare, for what I receive daily goes away for Cheese," and again: "Money [is] exceedingly scarce & I am determined to get some before my return [to Newport]." To eke out his income he operated a store in Westerly. He asked his wife "If I had some Shalloons [woolens] & Buttons & hair of the Colour of the Cinnamon Broadcloth I could sell some.

"Dockray has some but asked me too much for them, if you can get them at a reasonable Rate You [must] send some, We want some silk Handks any Sort that you cant sell there [Newport] send here Needles are much wanted Piece or two of Ribbon; as you know the Nature of Business here you may find anything which you think will do."

Even among the great ones of Rhode Island life was very primitive in the 18th Century. Some of Samuel Ward's problems are illustrated in the following letters.

[Thomas Hubbard to Samuel Ward]

Boston Dec^r 20 1756

M^r Ward

I have rec^d yours of the 9 Inst and was glad to hear you got home well and had the Pleasure to find Sister and yo^r Children well give our Love to them and your Sister and all friends at Newport Yo^r two Kinsmen are well we have had the Pleasure to see them we Shall be Pleased with their Company they behave very discreetly, as for any little thing I have don it is not worth men^{sh} I do not think any thing a trouble If in my Power to do that may be of Sarvice to you but a Pleasure. I have rec^d your Chees Some is a little Damaged but only two much broke there is Some Beans lost I have rec^d 20 bushels M^r Smith Says you Said he Should have the Chees @ 2/6 and the Beans @ 25/6 pr bu^{sh} I have delivered to him 6 Bu^{sh} of Beans and 219^{lb} of Chees HardCashel 502^{lb} of Chees he Says You Said he Should have it @ 2/6 I told him I Could not Sell it so I leave the Price for you to Settle I have Sold Miss Leveritt 12 1/2 Bush^{ll} of Beans @ 30/16 pr and 228 1/2^{lb} of Chees @ 2/9 I Shall take rec^{ts} for the delivery to

them delivered M^r Pope 706 1/2^{lb} M^r Chamberland on Acc^o or M^r Borland 141^{lb} of Chees @ 2/7 550 1/2^{lb} I have Sold for Cash @ 2/9 Miss Simpions [?] are to have Some I Shall Ship y^e Oars & Brimston[e] on the Vesell the Dec^{br} Goods are in, the frait of the Chees I have don all I Could to get it reasonable but Can not get it lower then 7/6 Old Ten[or] Cap^t Stone from Newport had 8^s pr hundred You must allways agree for the frait @ Newport. I Shall do the Best I Can to Sell the next of y^e Chees Soon M^r Greenleaf [goldsmith] has Changed the Gold I Shall Pay M^r Borland as I Can Collect the money two days ago we had a bad Storm but this day have a much Harder Storm a fine New Ship of 300 Tons is lost and many Souls lost — a Ship from London got in yesterday has lost masts one of her Men dead and a [nother?] Froze let me hear from you all the family give their love to You

I am y^r Affectionate friend

Tho^s Hubbart

* * *

[Samuel Ward to Mrs. Ward, presumably at Newport]

Westerly, 14th Jan^y 1765

My better half

The Letters which you mention in your Last I have received with Pleasure & tho I did not mention it I have purchased five barrells of Beef & one of Pork but cant get them to Town without great Expense until the Spring if the Price it bears will allow them to come by M^r Parks I will send them. I have sent you a Pig of about 100 weight 2 Geese, 1 Turkey 11 Quails & 3 1/2 dozen Fowls all which I hope you will receive well: I have sent you a small Piece of Towcloth, Flannel I have not received yet: I have sent 20 Dollars & 2 half Guineas which is all the money I can now spare, for what I receive goes daily away for Cheese, You'll let me know what advice you have from New York concerning our Cheese there; Amos Pendletons & John—[?] I have not received but want much in order to settle with them, write me particularly what I must allow Betty for her whole Work & what I must charge for her lying in &c, send the acct of what you rec^d of John Stanton that I may settle with him, he lost the Minute you gave him: dont fail to send the 2 1/2 y^{ds} of Velvet for Miss Maxon for they have been for it and I promised them it would be ready this Week without Fail, send by M^r Parks Boat 1 bbl Rum & 1 bbl Molasses, if I had some Shalloons [woolens] & Buttons & hair of the Colour of the Cinnamon Broadcloth I could sell some Dockray has some but asked me too much for them, if you can get them at a reasonable Rate You—send some, We want some silk Handks any Sort that you cant sell there send here Needles are much wanted Piece or two of Ribon: as you know the Nature of Business here you may find anything which you think will do

I observe you allow me three Weeks from your last but I would not have you expect us quite so soon for the Roads are almost impassible and Money exceedingly scarce & I am determined to get some before my Return; I have set this Day three Weeks but if possible shall be sooner but shall govern myself by my Business

Do write to M^r [Thomas] Hubbart to know what Beans will fetch in Boston I am in Hopes they will answer there I am thinking you may borrow half a dozen back^s [?] Corn of Kenyon or Vose [?] as we can pay them as good again when the Boats go I dont know how to think of being absent so much longer but shall endeavour to submit with as much Philosophy as possible: tell Hannah I am pleased with her Letter & shall write her soon but am too much fatigued now to do it but hope she'll be pleased that I have sent something to keep the Spirit employed Remember me to all our Family Friends & as I dont know how to take Leave but as it grows late shall wish You a very good Night but must add that I desire you will take all possible Care of yourself and will enjoy yourself as much as possible notwithstanding the Difficulties of our Affairs & surely a Woman who has a man of Sense & Spirit to assist her and is under the particular Care of an all gracious Being may & for ever ought to be chearful. May Heaven grant you every thing valuable & desirable Adieu my dearest

I am

Your most affect^d. Husband

Sam Ward

The Children are very well but complain of the Want of their Clothes which desire you to send

* * *

[Samuel Ward, Newport, 21st March 1765, to Mr. John Bliven Junr in Westerly]

Sir

I recd your Letters by Majr Bliven & am well pleased that you are so forward in your breaking up & believe it is best to finish the Island & all except round the Edge of the Swamp before you plough the old Ground: remember the Dung in the Barn Yard should be all pitched over & well heaped again & the other Dung beat as soon as the Weather will admit let all your Fences be up well & particularly the wheat Field Fence, let the white plain be fenced & desire Mr. Gavet to make their Part immediately for its Time the Sheep were in now & I would not let it alone a Fortnight longer upon any Account I depended upon Wm Scriven & dont take it well of him that he dont do the Carpenters Work for me

but you may get Hiscox & old Mr Peckham to make the Room that Jedh Austin used to live in comfortable & would have nothing more done until I come up which will be very soon. Let William Greene [his brother-in-law] have the cow I bought at Eben[ezer illegible] Vendues, that which I bought of Thos Sisson & For Jos. Greene, a browne white backed & white faced young Cow which I had of your Brother James when she was a yearling these two last mentioned came in last Summer & let him have two of the Heifers that have Calves and the Men that I would choose to View them Stephen Saunders, James & Edwd & Ichabod Clarke or Capt. Babcock or any three of them; You had as good make a Minute yourself of every thing that passes.

Let the men view the outside Fences also. You must receive the Land which I have hired of Sanford Noyes take neighbours David & Stephen or Isaiah with you for I Choose you should have two Witnesses to see the receiving it & what Order the House Fences &ca are in & deliver all but the old Field to Mr Rathbun; see that the old Field is Kept clear of all Creatures whatever after it comes into our Possession; you'l remember to send us all the Things we wrote for. The Goods you want I believe I shall not send up until the Sloop comes; Nancy wants her Earnings, &c &c we want what Tea Spoons [there are] sent by first good Opportunity Tell David Burdick I expect he will go to clearing the Swamp in Sanford's old Field immediately Let some body look out daily for Seaweed & if any Comes up cart as much as possible; the Sand which you carted into the middle meadow I believe should be better [tear] opened Dag¹ your Sheep if it is not already done let great care be taken of them the Lambs Calves & every thing so that there be no Loss nor Waste space Peace be with You all

I am
Your Friend
Sam Ward

I entirely forgot when I wrote to You that Mr Greene should have John Clarkes Land that I had promised it to Majr Bliven but I really did & if Mr. Greene will let him have it I shall be obliged to him

To
Mr John Bliven Junr
In
Westerly

¹ To Dag sheep "To cut off the Skin of the Fleece," *An Universal Etymological English Dictionary*, Seventeenth Edition, by N. Bailey Philologos (London, 1759).

Recent Accessions

From Mrs. Jesse H. Metcalf, two horn cups formerly belonging to the Crawford family.

From Miss Eliza Taft, *The Woodruffs of New Jersey*, by Francis E. Woodruff.

From Franklin R. Cushman, fourteen work books of Moses Brown, Obadiah Brown, and William Jenkins Harris.

From Paul C. Nicholson, a Masonic apron formerly belonging to William T. Nicholson.

From the Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, twenty missing numbers in our files of the annual catalog.

By purchase, a microfilm of *The Benson family of Newport*.

From Mrs. Warren H. Durkee, a daguerreotype of Oliver Hazard Perry.

From Randall A. Harrington, a Rocky Point Hotel Register.

From Mrs. Herbert Dow, *Dow, Ball, Eaton, and allied families*.

By purchase from the author, *The Neal family*, comp., by Emma E. (Neal) Brigham.

From Miss Marie F. Hall, *Descendants of Robert Francis of Wethersfield, Conn.*, comp. by Charles E. Francis.

By purchase, *Genealogy of the descendants of Thomas Lord*, comp. by Kenneth Lord.

From James H. Richardson, snapshots, illustrations, and notes about Rhode Island lye stones.

By purchase, *Index to v. 39-76 of the New York genealogical and biographical register*.

By purchase, *America 1355-1364*, by Hjalmar R. Holand.

From the compiler, *The Ballous in America, an addendum*, comp. by Myrtle M. Jillson.

By purchase a MS. journal of Amos Perry written while in foreign countries.

From Frank Malley, *Fifty years of Boston*, ed. by Elizabeth M. Herlihy.

From the author, Addie E. Loomer-Shepard, *The Loomer family ancestry*.

From John H. Wells, *Field genealogy, v. 1*.

By purchase, *English colonies in America*, by J. A. Doyle. 5. v.

From Miss Elizabeth Robinson, two scrap books relating to the project of making a harbor of refuge at Point Judith.

From Miss Ellen D. Sharpe, a piece of cotton cloth of the Civil War period.

From Misses Hannah and Jennie Barton, almanacs, broadside (*Mr. Samuel Gorton's ghost, 1728*. Newport. James Franklin) and account book of Benjamin Barton, dated 1777.

The 125th Annual Meeting

The 125th annual meeting of the Rhode Island Historical Society was held January 20, 1947. The following officers were elected:

<i>President</i>	Henry D. Sharpe
<i>Vice Presidents</i>	Richard LeB. Bowen, Westcote H. Chesebrough
<i>Secretary</i>	M. Randolph Flather
<i>Treasurer</i>	Howard W. Wilson
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Harold H. Kelly

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Johns H. Congdon, 2nd., *Chairman*
 Mrs. Marshall N. Fulton
 Mrs. Ronald C. Green, Jr.
 Mrs. Leonard B. Colt
 Mr. Clarke Simonds
 Mr. Thomas F. Gilbane
 Mr. Paul C. Nicholson, Jr.
 Mr. John C. A. Watkins

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Albert E. Lownes, *Chairman*
 Roger T. Clapp
 Mrs. Henry C. Hart
 Mrs. C. K. Rathbone
 Bradford F. Swan

LECTURE COMMITTEE

William Davis Miller, *Chairman*
 Mrs. Charles D. Cook
 James H. Hanley
 Dr. Dudley A. Williams
 J. Walter Wilson

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Paul C. Nicholson, *Chairman*
 J. J. Bodell
 Dr. Madelaine R. Brown
 Mrs. Hugh F. MacColl
 Dr. Lawrence C. Wroth

COMMITTEE ON GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS

Kenneth Shaw Safe, *Chairman*
 Miss Jean B. Bodell
 Mrs. Ashbel T. Wall
 Frederick P. Austin, Jr.
 Stanley Livingston, Jr.

COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY

Joseph G. Henshaw, *Chairman*
 Mrs. William H. Eddy
 Mrs. Axel A. Christensen
 Mrs. J. P. Thorndike
 G. Andrews Moriarty, Jr.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Albert H. Poland, *Chairman*
 Foster B. Davis
 Charles B. Rockwell
 S. Foster Hunt
 Bayard Ewing

AUDIT COMMITTEE

J. Cunliffe Bullock, *Chairman*
 Harold J. Field
 Edward C. Palmer

Executive Committee is composed of the officers, chairmen of committees, Charles B. Mackinney and Addison P. Munroe, members at large; Miss Grace M. Sherwood and William G. Roelker, ex officio.

The nominations were submitted by a committee consisting of Chairman Ronald C. Green, Jr., Mrs. G. Maurice Congdon, Mrs. Leonard B. Colt, Dr. Francis H. Chafee, and Kenneth D. MacColl.

Mrs. James C. Carmack, chairman of the Membership Committee, announced a substantial gain in the number of members, making a new high of 1,264. There were 131 new members enrolled; twenty-four lost by death, twenty-two resigned, and seven dropped for various reasons, making a net gain of seventy-eight.

Mr. Albert E. Lownes, as chairman of the Library Committee, reported that progress was being made in cataloging the library, but that a competent, trained cataloger is desirable as soon as finances permit. He also drew attention to the need for more space to care for the huge volume of material being received.

Mr. Lownes announced the gift of two portraits by Robert Feke from the three eldest daughters of Mrs. Frank S. Sayles, as a memorial to their mother. These are illustrated and described in another place in this issue. He also announced the acquisition, by subscription, of another Roger Williams letter, bringing the Society's holdings to twenty-two.

Mr. William Davis Miller, chairman of the Lecture Committee, reported that 517 persons attended the eight meetings of the Society, 835 attended twenty-five meetings of patriotic societies and family associations, and 491 attended 11 miscellaneous meetings. Mr. Roelker spoke at five places in the State during the year.

In the report of the Publication Committee, Mr. Paul C. Nicholson, chairman, announced that an index to the first five volumes of *Rhode Island History* (1942-46) had been compiled, published, and was being distributed, and that the compilation of an index for Rhode Island Historical Society Collections had been begun. Mr. Bradford F. Swan has resigned as associate editor because of pressure of other duties. Mr. Swan has done a fine job of editing; we are glad to announce that he will continue to submit frequent

articles to *Rhode Island History*. In future the quarterly will be edited by the Staff, under the direction of Mr. Roelker.

Mr. A. Livingston Kelley, for the Committee on Grounds and Buildings, reported that the fence had been repaired and painted, the cost of the work being covered by subscription. New lighting has been installed and is very satisfactory.

Mr. Joseph G. Henshaw presented the report for the Committee on Necrology. Mr. Charles J. Hill gave the Audit Committee's report.

"An ever increasing number of persons are being served by the library" said Mr. Clifford P. Monahan, assistant librarian. In order to care for our fine collection, he recommended the purchase of cases for pictures, broadsides, and maps. With the installation of fluorescent lighting in the stack rooms, the library passed from being "the worst lighted library in the world to one of the best," he announced. Among the important accessions were: *Mr. Samuel Gorton's Ghost*, the earliest extant Rhode Island imprint, printed by James Franklin at Newport, 1728; the Harrison S. Taft Papers; and other items too numerous to report.

Mr. William G. Roelker, making his 6th annual report as director and librarian, remarked that a large part of the gain in membership was among veterans of World War II and grew out of the exhibit of souvenirs promoted by a committee led by Westcote H. Cheseborough. The number of corporate memberships increased 45% and the amount of money 19%, totaling \$1,225. This is expected to continue to grow.

He voiced the opinion that the membership would approve of the appointment of Clifford P. Monahan as librarian, a position which he has earned.

Mr. Roelker again called attention to the crying need for a new lecture room. There are several bequests of fine furniture which the Society will inherit in the foreseeable future and there is no place to put it.

"Whenever during the past six years I have been in a strange city, I have made it a point to visit the local historical society. I now have seen a large number extending from Maine to California and southeast as far as Charleston. Let me say at once that my travels make it clear that the RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY has every reason to be proud of itself. Other organizations such as New York and Chicago have buildings better designed from a functional standpoint, but no other compares with this house in atmosphere and that intangible something which we call personality.

"Nor do I think any other society tries to give more service to the general public. Many others have better museums, and many outdistance us in various forms of specialized service. But we pay much more attention to lectures than other societies; many of them have only an annual meeting, and but a few invite outside organizations to use their facilities. When I told some of my friends about the numbers which really make use of John Brown House, they marvelled at our enterprise. I can say in all sincerity that I know of no other society which would have ventured to put on an exhibit like World War II, to which we devoted the whole of the main floor throughout last June."

He concluded that an historical society which derives its support from membership, public money, and endowment must provide the service required by the public. Such a society is more "up and coming" than a society solely dependent upon endowment or state appropriation.

W. G. R.

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report — 1946

RECEIPTS

OPERATING

Dues	\$ 6,801.00	
Corporate Memberships	1,225.00	
State Appropriation	5,000.00	
Interest and Dividends	3,883.14	
Sale of Publication and Books	393.65	
Contributions	3,283.07	
Insurance Refund	225.00	
		<u>\$20,810.86</u>

NON-OPERATING

Contributions for: Roger Williams Letter	\$ 400.00	
Contributions for: Taft Papers	350.00	
Contributions for: Allen Memorial	278.43	
Bequests (Including Balance of Charles and Sarah Wilbour)	16,061.48	
State of R. I. for Purchase of Newspapers	537.66	
Sundry Receipts	178.41	
		<u>17,805.98</u>
Total Receipts		<u>\$38,616.84</u>

EXPENDITURES

OPERATING

Salaries (Including \$288.40, Tax)	\$11,885.19	
Librarian's Discretionary Fund	501.00	
Supplies, Light, Telephone	2,469.28	
<i>Committees:</i>		
Membership	189.24	
Lecture	288.01	
Library	952.17	
Publication ("R. I. History")	1,728.05	
Grounds and Buildings	4,095.21	
Audit	40.00	
Insurance (Less \$225.00 refund)	1,087.65	
		<u>\$23,235.80</u>

NON-OPERATING

R. I. Newspapers Binding and Microfilm	\$ 497.84	
Restoration of Building and Ell	3,880.79	
Expended for Allen Memorial	278.43	
Peck Collection	267.25	
Roger Williams Letter	400.00	
Taft Papers	350.00	
Securities Purchased	19,132.36	
Sundry Expenditures	320.95	
		<u>25,127.62</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$48,363.42</u>

ASSETS

CASH ACCOUNT:

R. I. Hospital National Bank and Petty Cash	\$ 9,235.93	
Providence Institution for Savings	306.06	
U. S. Treasury Bonds, Series "G"	10,000.00	
		<u>\$19,541.99</u>

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT:

Securities	\$90,926.77	
Savings Bank Deposits	6,070.78	
		<u>96,997.55</u>

PROPERTY:

John Brown House	\$50,000.00	
Library Books and Manuscripts	50,000.00	
Furniture and Museum Material	2.00	

Land:

Four Parcels	4.00	
		<u>100,006.00</u>
		<u>\$216,545.54</u>

RESERVES AND SURPLUS

General Endowment	\$182,266.04	
John Brown House Endowment	2,000.00	
Charles Wilbour & Sarah Wilbour Fund	21,069.70	
Reserves for Special Purposes	8,270.58	
Surplus and Profit on Securities	2,939.22	
		<u>\$216,545.54</u>

Examined and found correct

CHARLES J. HILL, Chairman Auditing Committee; HOWARD W. WILSON, Treasurer

News-Notes

The library of the Society will be closed from August 2 to September 2, 1947. For special appointments during that period call the Librarian at DE. 8575. The John Brown House will not be open on Sundays from July 6 through August 31.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society held in Boston, December, 1946, Mr. William Greene Roelker, Director, of the Rhode Island Historical Society, was made a corresponding member.

Mr. Clifford P. Monahan was appointed Librarian of the Society at the annual meeting in January of this year.

Mr. Bernhard Knollenburg, former Librarian at Yale University, is at present working on the Letters of Governor Samuel Ward. The Society through its Publication Committee contemplates the publication of Mr. Knollenburg's volume sometime this year.

New Members of the Rhode Island Historical Society

Since October, 1946

Mrs. William Adams Seattle, Washington	Mr. Robert H. Goff
Miss Marguerite Appleton	Mr. George L. Green
Mrs. Albert A. Baker	Miss Marian Hubbard
Mr. Henry L. Ballou Woonsocket, R. I.	Mr. Robert L. Knight, Jr., Hope, R. I.
Mr. A. Watson Cocroft	Mr. William T. LeValley West Warwick, R. I.
Mr. Raymond A. Creegan	Mrs. Kenneth D. MacColl
Miss Helen M. Daggett East Providence, R. I.	Mr. Lewis Madeira Rumford, R. I.
Mrs. Arthur A. Day	Mrs. Samuel A. Markoff
Mrs. Lee Garnett Day West Cornwall, Conn.	Mrs. Paul C. Nicholson, Jr.
Mr. Duncan H. Doolittle	Mr. Stephen B. Nicholson, Jr.
Mrs. George Downing	Mr. W. Sayles Nicholson
Mrs. LeRoy V. Elder Rumford, R. I.	Miss Mary M. Pike
Miss Edith C. Erlenmeyer	Miss Mary T. Quinn
Mr. Thomas F. Gilbane	Mrs. Elmer J. Rathbun
	The Rev. Paul Van K. Thomson
	Mrs. F. A. Wallace, Jr.

This brings the Society's membership to 1,275.