THE THOMAS POYNTON IVES HOUSE
by John Hutchins Cady, F.A.I.A.*

Thomas Poynton Ives was born in Beverly, Massachusetts, in 1769. He entered the house of Brown and Benson in Providence as a clerk, in 1782, and ten years later married Nicholas Brown’s daughter, Hope. He then became a partner in the firm, which later took the name of Brown and Ives.

Mr. Ives acquired a two-acre tract on Power Street to the east of the estate on which John Brown, brother of Nicholas, had erected a mansion in 1786. Both estates were a part of the original home lot of William Wickenden to whom it was allotted in 1640. According to tradition Thomas Ives sent to England for plans of a house, which came designated as “a Georgian manor house with paved court yard, stable and coach house.” The street number at first was 37 Power and was changed to 66 when the highway was re-numbered in 1870. The estate is now bounded by Brown Street on the west and Charles Field Street on the north, these highways having been laid out after the house was erected.

The house stands on the southwest portion of the lot. North of it is a courtyard flanked on the north and east by a two-story L-shaped outbuilding, doubtless erected when the house was built and substantially unchanged since that time. The north wing was originally used for a stable, harness room and coach house, and the east wing for a laundry and servants’ quarters. The brick fireplace and adjacent brick boiler in the laundry and the wide floor boards and small paneled windows in the second story are so typically New England that a local planner would seem to have had a hand in the design. Farther north, on the Charles Field Street border, is the original cow barn. The easterly part of the lot is a landscaped area. A

*Mr. Cady was architect of the 1954 restoration.
granite wall, topped by an iron fence, is built along the sidewalk on the westerly half of the lot on Power Street and along Brown Street, and a high brick wall curves from the southeast corner of the house to Power Street. The remainder of the estate is enclosed by a wall of brick and stone.

The house, as originally erected, was a square block, 55 feet wide and 57 feet deep, three stories high, with a flat hipped roof. The walls were built of imported brick, laid in Flemish bond (except American running bond on the rear) and rising from a marble underpinning. Three of the chimneys are in the outside walls, two on the west and one on the east; the fourth chimney, which has back-to-back fireplaces in the library and smoking room, as well as in the rooms above, is set back a few feet from the wall. The windows, symmetrically spaced, have marble caps and sills, the splayed caps having double keys except in the third story and on the rear where they are plain. The front entrance has side lights and an elliptical top light over which, in the second story, is a window of the Palladian type. The main cornice is decorated with modillions and is crowned by an eaves balustrade. The plain rectangular form of the house is relieved by a round bay on the east and a semi-circular entrance porch on the south, the latter in the Corinthian order surmounted by a classic balustrade. The side bay, now rising full height and crowned by an extension of the main cornice and balustrade, originally was only one story in height.

The plan is large and imposing in scale with a wide central hall extending through the house and divided into front and rear sections by a partition with a doorway behind the stairs. The stairway, starting with a straight run, spirals at the rear to the second story, and the spiral from the second to the third story is free-standing. All of the rooms have fireplaces. The wood finish throughout the house is simple and delicately moulded, reflecting a departure from the baroque trend of the late eighteenth century. The principal rooms have elaborate plaster cornices.

Some data relative to the construction of the house have recently been revealed in Brown and Ives records now in the custody of John Carter Brown Library. A page of a ledger for the year 1803 with the caption “Memo of Rum to be ch'd. T. P. Ives dcl'd Mr. Ormsbee for the Labourers & Masons &c &c” includes entries from August 5 to September 30 showing a total of 1374 half pints distributed. It had long been a custom to hand out rum to workmen at significant stages of construction and Mr. Ives appears to have been particularly generous. The entries are of value both in determining the period of the erection of the house and in identifying Caleb Ormsbee as chief of construction. He was one of the leading master builders in Providence at that time as well as a self-trained architect and is reputed to have designed and erected in 1794 the second meeting house of the First Congregational Society which was destroyed by fire in 1815. With no architect's representative on the spot it is quite likely that Ormsbee himself was responsible for a considerable amount of the detail work of the house and possibly for the design of the out-buildings, or he may have delegated this work to John Holden Greene who later rose to fame as an architect and was apprenticed to Ormsbee at that time. Subsequent entries for rum were as follows: May 8 to September 29, 1804, 3755 half pints; February 14-15, 1805, 9 half pints; and June 19 to December 26, 1805, 2495 half pints. All in all the records show a total of 7633 half pints, or 477 gallons!

In addition to the days of the rum handout there must have been periods of alcoholic drought. The dates above noted indicate that excavations were made and foundations laid in 1803, the walls and roof erected in 1804, and the interior work done in 1805.

Aside from the expenses for rum, the earliest surviving document with respect to the house is a proposal made by James B. Walcott dated February 13, 1804 to furnish certain building materials. This proposal included 24 window caps with double keys and 26 window caps without keys. All of these are now accounted for except five unkeyed windows eliminated when the north wing was built. Walcott's proposal also included marble underpinning as follows: 350 running feet of stone 16 inches wide and 160 to 180 feet of stone eight inches wide, all intended for three sides of the house. The present underpinning do not entirely accord with this schedule. They are composed of two courses of marble, the lower ten inches high above grade and the upper 16 inches high, with small window openings on the south and west, a total length of 136 feet exclusive of the front curved porch and the east curved bay.

The curved bay was doubtless original, but was at first only one
story high, as evidenced by the slightly different color of brick on the upper stories. The date of the enlargement is not known, but was before 1884. The curved Corinthian entrance porch was either original or an early addition. The vestibule was added in 1884.

Thomas P. Ives wrote to his agent, Amos T. Jenckes, in Italy November 26, 1894, asking him to purchase in Leghorn four marble chimney pieces and about 600 feet in length of marble slabs four inches thick and 14 inches wide. Of the chimney pieces one was to be "handsome and neatly ornamental for a drawing room," one "somewhat ornamental," and the others "plainly wrought." Shipments of the four chimney pieces and slabs were made from Leghorn in May, 1895. One of these, described in the invoice as "statuary marble, made according to the models, 36 inches high and 42 inches in breadth" (referring to size of fireplace opening) is evidently the one now in the parlor. Mr. Jenckes wrote Mr. Ives from New York July 22, 1895, that he had, at his own initiative, shipped from Leghorn 22 plain chimney pieces and various other items noted, for Mr. Ives' use or for sale in New York, of which Mr. Ives selected four chimney pieces, four alabaster lamps and one alabaster oval lamp cord. The disposition of the marble slabs is unknown. Evidently they were not used on the main block as the walls had been erected prior to their arrival.

The original plumbing system was probably confined to the kitchen sink, supplied with water from a well by means of a hand pump and drained into a cesspool. Candles and oil lamps provided illumination; a crystal candelabrum still hangs from the parlor ceiling. The rooms were heated from the fireplaces. It may be supposed that these facilities were improved from time to time as other types became available. The manufacture of gas commenced in Providence in 1848 and the Ives house was doubtless piped for gas lighting a few years later. Central heating was probably installed at that time, as well as the built-in range still standing in the kitchen. Plumbers were advertising the installation of water closets, bath tubs and "lifting pumps" in the 1850's, in which period one or more bath rooms may have been installed with water first pumped from the well, and piped from the city water system when Pawtuxet reservoir was put in use in the early seventies. Street illumination by electricity started in 1882 and domestic electric lighting was available by the early nineties.

Thomas P. Ives died in 1835 and his wife Hope survived until 1855. She left the estate to her son Moses B. Ives who had married Anne Allen Dorr in 1833. He died in 1857, shortly after moving into the house, having bequeathed a life interest in the property to his wife Anne, to go to his son Captain Thomas P. Ives on her death. Captain Ives died before his mother, however, and left his interest to her and to his sister Hope Brown Ives who married Henry G. Russell in 1864. At Mrs. Moses Ives' death in 1884 Mrs. Russell became sole owner.

The annals of the Thomas P. Ives house are closely linked with those of the neighboring house at 10 Brown Street which Mrs. Ives built for her son Moses about 1835. Following its vacancy by Moses Ives about 1856 it was occupied by his nephew Thomas P. I. Goddard until 1870. In that year Mrs. Russell took possession and remodeled the house. The main entrance, originally on Charles Field Street (No. 22) was shifted to the opposite side, facing a driveway entered from Brown Street (No. 10). Bay windows and a wide piazza were added to the main block and the east wing was enlarged. After the Russells had moved out, about 1886, the house was occupied for a few years by Mr. and Mrs. William G. Roelker. In 1898 Mrs. Russell gave the estate to the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island for a bishop's residence.

Certain alterations and additions were made to the Thomas P. Ives house after the original owner's death. In the seventies, during Mrs. Moses Ives' occupancy, the dining room and the library were elaborately redecorated by Marcott of New York. The original pine finish and the marble mantels were removed. The library was altered to provide an oval west wall, lined with book shelves, matching the curve of the east bay, and the room was finished in black walnut. The dining room was done over in mahogany, including heavy window and door finish with bracketed caps rising nearly to the plaster cornice, a five-foot wainscot, and a mantel and over-mantel extending from window to window, carried to the height of the window caps.

In 1884 Mrs. Russell added a service wing and terraces. A drawing is preserved with the caption "Sketch showing proposed addition to the house corner of Power & Brown Sts., Stone and Carpenter, Architects, 65 Westminster St., April 21, 1884." The sketch has
been identified as the work of Edmund R. Willson who shortly afterwards became a member of the firm. It shows the present north wing, about 25 feet square and three stories high and the adjoining piazza on the east, with Corinthian columns and a cornice balustrade, providing a rear entry to the main hallway. The sketch also shows the addition of the vestibule in the front entrance porch and various interior changes. Indicated roughly in pencil are the lines of the present garden terrace. Later in the century an electric elevator was installed, north of the stairway, and the walls of the rear part of the main hall were lined with wood paneling.

Mrs. Russell, whose death in 1909 came a few years after that of her husband, bequeathed the property to her cousins, Robert H. I. Goddard and William Ames. R. H. Ives Goddard, Jr., took title to the estate in 1910 and has since lived there with his wife Margaret Hazard Goddard. During their occupancy an over-mantel of pseudo-Adam design was erected in the parlor and alterations were made by Jackson, Robertson and Adams, architects, including French doors in the library and wainscot paneling in the smoking room. More recently, in 1954, the dining room was restored to an approximation of its original status.

In this latter project, executed by Frank N. Gustafson and Sons, building contractors, the removal of the mahogany finish and mantel, the tapestry-type wall hangings, and the wall laths and plaster revealed certain aspects of the original construction. The two interior partitions were built of brick, the north one of which was interlaced with studding in the form of half-timber work. The outside brick walls were lined with rough boards. Plaster was applied directly to the brick on the partitions and to laths nailed to the boarding on the outside walls. The original fireplace had been entirely reconstructed and no clue remained as to its original status. The wall hangings had been attached to cleats, nailed to the plaster, and had been lifted from time to time for the installation of gas pipes and electric cable between the cleats. In the reconstruction work the walls were re-covered with plaster, laid on wire laths.

In planning the restoration the original wood details of the parlor wainscot and door and window trim were closely followed. The former fireplace, with its yellow marble facing and hearth, was retained and a wood mantel built around it in adaptation of the work
of Samuel McIntire of Salem. This was surmounted by an over-mantled with carved mouldings to frame a portrait. The original moulded plaster cornice and the original wood floor boards were preserved. The mahogany doors and window shutters were retained, but a section of louveres in each set of shutters was replaced by a panel. The doorways were crowned with caps, decorated in flat relief, originally over doors in the central hall. The Victorian electric wall brackets were replaced by fixtures furnished by Edward F. Caldwell of New York.

The wood finish was painted white, except for the mahogany finish of the doors, window stools and wainscot cap. The floors were given a natural finish and the plaster walls were painted a dark blue-gray.

On August 31, when the work was nearing completion, Rhode Island was visited by a hurricane which felled a large branch of an elm tree standing southwest of the house, carrying away the chimney top over the dining room fireplace and severely damaging the wall and fence along Brown Street. When the tree was later sawed down its age was estimated at 144 years, indicating that it was planted very shortly after the house was completed.

The outward aspect of the original house is practically unchanged after standing nearly a century and a half, and the additions are in architectural conformity. The same may be said of the interior finish with the single exception of the library where the rather extravagant Victorian style provides a sharp, but not inharmonious, contrast with the simpler motives of the other rooms. In many respects the Thomas Poynton Ives house is the finest example of the Early Republican period of architecture in Providence.

### THE NEWPORT GAZETTE

**TORY NEWSHEET**

by Ralph Adams Brown
Contributing Editor, American Heritage

[concluded from October, 1954, v. 13, no. 4, page 108]

**The Desirability of Peace**

In what would appear to be a conscious attempt to convince the rebels of the futility of their cause and the desirability of peace, there are three types of propaganda employed by The Newport Gazette. These include stories to the effect that the people are growing weary of the war; attempts to convince the rebels of the futility of their cause, and efforts to persuade the masses of the Whigs that their leaders are inefficient and selfish.

On January 16, 1777, John Howe states that a Boston paper which had arrived in Newport admitted that “their [rebel] Affairs begin to wear a Melancholy Aspect.” In the same issue are New York items taken from a paper of December 30th which report large numbers of people coming into the city, laying down their arms and receiving a full pardon. In February, Editor Howe reports frequent stories of the hardships suffered by the rebel population, with more and more objection to the war, and an especial difficulty among the farmers due to the shortage of salt with which to preserve their meat. In March there is the report of dissatisfaction among the rebels over their heavy taxes.

On May 15, 1777, John Howe reprints from the *North American Gazette* an appeal by a refugee “to those who are influenced by the Congress,” in which the writer asks the people to realize their situation and return to the allegiance of their King. On August 14th "G.G." addresses "Gentlemen Rebels" pointing out their tremendous losses, growing weakness and dissension, and closing with this admonition:

> As to my Part, I can conceive your Difficulty; you must either put up with such Gentry [i.e. leaders] as you have, or none; and a worse Dilemma still is, you must either perish or submit. Such Minds as yours, so warmed and clarified with enthusiastic Fire, so intelligent in

94 Ibid., January 16, 1777.
95 Ibid.
96 Ibid., February 6, 1777.
97 Ibid., March 12, 1778.
98 Ibid., May 15, 1777.
99 Ibid., August 14, [1778].
the Art of true Policy, which consists in the entire free Agency of every Individual, so justly determined to resign every solid Benefit for a vague Term, which cannot exist, according to the Idea you annex to it: I say, such Minds, in such a Case, will presently determine which Side they will incline to, leaving the rising Generation in Astonishment at the Effects of Avarice and Superstition.

A year later the entire front page is devoted to an editorial on "The Power of England," pointing out the absurdity of the colonies' position. 100

A third type of propaganda, that dealing with the attempt to weaken the influence which the leaders held over the masses of Whigs, was used much more by The Newport Gazette than were the types just mentioned. On April 10, 1777, John Howe prints a two-column article by "A.A." in which the author attacks the leaders of the colonial cause, Franklin especially, for their attempts to delude the multitude. 101 Franklin, the article argues, had gone to France not to get the assistance of that nation, which he was smart enough to know was impossible. Rather he had gone so that he could live in luxury on the money he had taken from his deluded followers. 102 Much of the hard currency had been sent out of the colonies, maintains this writer, and in a short time all of the leaders will go to Europe to remain there the rest of their lives. 103 In the next July there is an article on the scandalous inadequacy of the rebel medical service, closing with the comment that "such a . . . Collection of Fools and Rogues, have never made their appearance in history." 104

On February 19, 1778, Howe reprints from a Philadelphia paper of January 3d, an extract on the deplorable condition of the Americans, compared with their fine condition before this trouble began. It opens with this attack on the rebel leaders: "The pains taken by the leaders in the present rebellion, with a view solely to the promotion of their own ambition, and the establishment of their intolerable tyranny, is not to be paralleled in any history." 105 Three months later a London dispatch reports that the cargo of a rebel prize recently taken to Gibraltar by an English ship contained "an elegant CROWN, intended it was said for Mr. Washington." 106 A week later the editor of the Gazette prefaces a reprint from a Boston paper

100Ibid., August 27, 1778.
101Ibid., April 10, 1777.
102Ibid.
103Ibid.
104Ibid., July 17, 1777.
105Ibid., February 19, 1778.
106Ibid., May 21, 1778.
107Ibid., May 28, 1778.
108Ibid.
109Ibid., January 16, 1777.
110Ibid., March 6, 1777.
111Ibid. 112For one example, among many, take the case of the Exeter, New Hampshire printer, Robert Luist Fowle.
113Newport Gazette, April 17, 1777.
114Ibid.
A week later John Howe reprints the report of a special town meeting held in Boston on March 31st, at which it had been proposed to publish the names of all people trying to discredit the currency.\(^{115}\) The editor prefaced it with this statement: "The following sho\[sic\] shows that a set of Rogues are trying, to give an Appearance of Value to a Currency which hath no intrinsic Worth, and which in a few Months more will sink with its Authors into Destruction."\(^{116}\) On July 3d there is printed the statement that the farmers everywhere are refusing to take the currency. It goes on to assert that farmers will keep their produce rather than sell for such worthless money.\(^{117}\)

The last reference to the worthlessness of the rebel currency published in The Newport Gazette was on the seventeenth of July, 1777.\(^{118}\) Editor Howe prefaced a reprint from a Boston paper dealing with the urgent need for remediating the currency situation, with the following remarks:\(^{119}\)

The following Piece, which is extracted from a Boston Paper of June the 16th is a sufficient Proof of the miserable Situation the deluded Wretches are in, who yet continue to suffer themselves to be duped by a Set of Men, who appear to be satisfied with nothing, but the Misery of the whole Continent. Their Paper, they see, will no longer answer the Purposes of Money; for they frankly say, 'The soldier cannot subsist, nor will he engage [enlist], if his Wages will not now purchase one Quarter so much as formerly.' — How long Men in these Circumstances, can continue their Opposition to a powerful Army, we submit to the Consideration of our Readers.

**British War News**

As with all newspapers during the war years, regardless of political complexion, The Newport Gazette devoted considerable space to British war news. Such reports fall into one or more of three classes. In the first place, there are the copies of official reports and letters from the various British commanders to their superiors. Such for example as a report from Lord Howe on the activities of the Navy,\(^{120}\) or letters from Burgoyne concerning his surrender.\(^{121}\) Secondly, and much more numerous, are the unofficial reports of battles and skirmishes, many of them rather vague and frequently contradicted in

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115*ibid.*, April 24, 1777.
116*ibid.*
117*ibid.*, July 3, 1777.
118*ibid.*, July 17, 1777.
119*ibid.*
120*ibid.*, March 26, 1778.
121*ibid.*, April 2, 1778.
122*Newport Gazette*, October 50, 1777.
The Newport Gazette, Tory Newsheet

experienced from the Americans."125 In the following February the Gazette takes from a New York paper of the 14th a letter written in London in December, telling of the first feeling of despondency and discouragement upon hearing of Burgoyne's surrender, which had been followed by a reawakening of optimism and determination.124 Again in April John Howe reprints an extract which demands that Britons stop being disheartened over Burgoyne's defeat, and make a new effort to subjugate the ungrateful rebels.126 On May 14th the Gazette's editor devotes the entire first page and a part of the second to an article from London telling how indignation aroused at the defeat of Burgoyne has caused a wave of enthusiasm to sweep through Scotland, with large numbers of volunteers coming forward.128

In the spring and early summer of 1777, much of the London news has to do with the outfitting and embarking of new troops for the war in America.127 Later, in November, John Howe selects for his entire front page and a part of the back page an article which had first appeared in a London paper. This set forth the terms which England should give the colonies after their subjection.128 A week later there is an essay, perhaps aimed at the minority in Parliament, pointing out that the war is necessary, since the rebellion was premeditated, at least on the part of New England, and must be put down.129 Again in the following May, an "address" by "Marcellus" to the people of Great Britain, attacks Burke and demands that the rebellion be put down.130 Late that fall, after the French Alliance has brought a threat to the security of the English West Indies, a London news item reported that every seacoast town in America must be laid waste, and all of the troops sent to the West Indies.131

The West Indies were an important link in much of the neutral trade which was carried on, and which was vitally necessary to the United States. It was largely because of this neutral trade that England finally became involved in a controversy with Holland. On September 11, 1777, John Howe chose for his paper a complaint which had been sent to the Dutch in regard to their trade with the rebels, and also the answer which was received.132 Over a year later, from an English paper of August 8th, the editor of the Gazette copied a news item which complained of the effort of French and American agents to persuade British soldiers to desert and enlist in their armies.133 At two different times during the life of The Newport Gazette there were reprints in regard to the hiring of more foreign mercenaries by England: once it was Hessians,134 and another time it was reported that arrangements had been made for 25,000 Russian troops.135

Loyalist Troops

In The Newport Gazette, as in all of the papers printed by Loyalists, there are calls for enlistment in Tory regiments. During the winter and spring of 1777, there are three different calls for such troops in the pages of John Howe's paper. On January 30th he announces that volunteers are wanted for a "Tory Brigade" to serve for "three years, or during the Rebellion. . . ."136 On March 20th his readers are informed that enlistments are being received for a Tory regiment to be known as the "Regiment of LOYAL RHODE-ISLANDERS."137 Four weeks later another regiment is being formed, this time the "Loyal New-Englanders."138

Satire

Satire, aimed at the rebels, is far from being absent in this newspaper printed and edited by John Howe. On February 6, 1777, he chose from a New York paper of the 27th of January, the following satire on the rebel troops north of New York City.129

Mr. Heath of Roxbury[,] Butcher, has brought a Drove of Lean Cattle to browse in Westchester County, during the Winter. Colonel Rogers, who claims a prior Right to the Woods, has pounded many of them. Mr. Heath's Loss, it is thought, will be very great, as most of them have got a Notion, of strolling Home wards.

On March 20th the readers of the Gazette may have been amused by an anecdote which their editor had taken from the Nova Scotia
from the Loyalist standpoint—reprints are those which will be mentioned in the next three paragraphs.

On July 24, 1777, the Gazette reprints a long letter written by Washington to Sir William Howe on the 20th of June, dealing with the exchange of prisoners.\footnote{146} Washington asserts that he has had no part in the unfortunate treatment of certain British officers held prisoner by the Americans, and that he has done all in his power to have them treated more humanely.\footnote{147} On August 7th the editor reprints, from a Boston paper, an article by Marcus Brutus condemning the cowardice of the Americans in leaving Ticonderoga without a struggle.\footnote{148} A week later there are several reprints dealing with various attempts to stop desertion from the colonial army.\footnote{149}

On the 21st, Howe reprints the exhortation of a Boston “Deacon” to aid the colonial cause since it was God’s cause and he would surely guide the colonies to victory.\footnote{150} The reprint is prefaced by the following comment on the introduction of religion into the controversy: \footnote{153}

The following Composition of Blasphemy and Absurdity, is taken from a Boston Paper of the 11th instant—It is really surprising that any Number of Men should have their Understanding so blinded as to receive it with Approbation and Applause. The canting Deacon who wrote it, would stand appall’d should he hear a Volley of unmeaning Oaths utter’d by a thoughtless Fellow who made no Prettions to Religion: but without any Scruple [he] can blaspheme his Maker by . . . Words which breath’d the Peace and Philanthropy of the Gospel to excite to Murder, Cruelty and Rebellious.\footnote{154}

On September 4th, the readers of The Newport Gazette are given the records of the Congress in regard to the recall of Generals St. Clair, Schuyler and Poor.\footnote{152} There are no further examples of this intelligent selection of rebel items until the following March, when the much discussed Act of Congress making all enlistments and drafts permanent for the duration of the war is reprinted.\footnote{153} Two months later there is a reprint of the draft law passed by Massachusetts on April 17th.\footnote{155} On May 28th Howe reprints, from a Boston paper, a letter in which the writer protests the neglect of the army, and mentions especially their great lack of supplies.\footnote{156} Another Boston
A QUERY CONCERNING THE OLD STONE MILL AT NEWPORT

In July 1667 — the General Assembly ordered beacons to be set up at Wanomikonimo Hill, Sachuest Rocks, Newport, Mill Hill, Portsmouth; Pettaquamscutt and Watch Hills, King's County; and Moshawset Hill, Providence. (Rhode Island Colony Records, 1646-1669, Volume 1, page 293.)

In July 1762 — the Governor and Council ordered Lt. Colonel Samuel Freeway and Lieut. Nathaniel Mumford to wait on Mr. John Banister and desire liberty to build a watch tower upon his stone mill. (Governor and Council, 1755-1772, page 19.)

Query — Did it take the colonists nearly one hundred years to find out that the Stone Mill was a suitable place for a watch tower or was it in existence in 1667?

In June 1742, when John and Hermione (Pelham) Banister were cutting the entail on the estate left to Hermione by her father Edward Pelham, they cited one piece of real estate as being — "one Lott of Land containing Eight Acres be the same more or less with..."
centenary Committee of two books by Roger Williams, and of the
recent acquisition of the entire records of the Blackstone Mill. He
also described a gift of several pieces of furniture which once belonged
to John Brown.

Mr. Clifford P. Monahan then presented his annual report as
Director of the Society. Mr. Monahan emphasized the responsibility
of the Society “to see to it that the people of Rhode Island appreciate
our historical heritage.”

Mr. Monahan described some of the highlights of the past year,
mentioning in particular the publication, in conjunction with the
Rhode Island Board of Education and the Rhode Island Develop-
ment Council, of Mr. Earl C. Tanner’s Rhode Island, a Brief History,
and the meeting here and in Newport last fall of the National Trust
for Historic Preservation.

The Director told something of the upkeep of John Brown House
last year and described the work done in the attic through a grant
from The Rhode Island Foundation. He went on to list several of
the needs of the Society foremost among which are the need of
increased endowment and more library space.

In the President’s address, Mr. Flather reported that the Society
had had a successful year, but urged that we not be content with the
status quo, but “look forward to growing even more in service to
our members and as an influence in the State.” Among the require-
ments of the Society which he noted in particular were the pressing
need for a new library building and the ever present need of new
members. Mr. Flather went on to report on the appointment last
fall of Mr. Clifford P. Monahan as Director, and Mr. Clarkson A.
Collins, as Librarian of the Society.

Mr. Frederick Lippitt, chairman, then read the report of the
Nominating Committee.

There being no further nomination and upon motion, the nomi-
inations were closed, and the Secretary instructed to cast one ballot
for the slate as read. The new officers being duly elected, Mr. George
L. Miner, President, then took over the chair.

Mr. Miner said a few words of appreciation and the meeting
adjourned at 8:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

IVORY LITTLEFIELD, JR.
Secretary

1955 | Report of the Treasurer

THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF OPERATING RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

For 12 Months Ending June 30, 1954

INCOME

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Securities Income: Dividends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest on Bank Deposits</td>
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<td>State of Rhode Island Appropriation</td>
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<td>City of Providence</td>
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<td>Corporate</td>
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<td>Special</td>
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<td>Patriotic</td>
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<td>Sale of Publications, Books, etc.</td>
<td>389.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>30.16</td>
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OPERATING SURPLUS                      $301,335.00

BALANCE SHEET — June 30, 1954

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<td>Books and Manuscripts</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Brown House Fund Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Membership Reserve</td>
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<td>Net Worth</td>
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$277,593.26}

HAROLD H. KELLY, Treasurer
OFFICERS

elected at the Annual Meeting, September 29, 1954

George L. Miner .......................................................... president
Bruce M. Bigelow, Albert E. Lownes ...................... vice presidents
Frank L. Hinckley, Jr. ............................................... secretary
Douglas W. Franchot ........................................ assistant secretary
Harold H. Kelly ................................................... treasurer
Kenneth N. Hill ................................................... assistant treasurer

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
LeBaron C. Anthony, chairman
Edmund J. Canning
Miss Dorothy D. Dunlop
Townes M. Harris, Jr.
Charles R. Makepeace, Jr.

GROUND AND BUILDINGS
Robert H. I. Goddard, Jr., chairman
Conrad E. Green
Mrs. William G. Roeker
Norman B. Smith
John C. B. Washburn

LIBRARY COMMITTEE
Mrs. Clifford K. Rathbone, chairman
Knight Edwards
Robert L. Knight, Jr.
Paul C. Nicholson, Jr.
Bradford F. Swan

COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY
Benjamin L. Cook, Jr., chairman
Mrs. Axel A. Christoph
Mrs. Charles E. Hardis
G. Andrews Moriarty
Mrs. George C. Scott

LECTURE COMMITTEE
Ivory Littlefield, Jr., chairman
William F. Buffum, Jr.
Miss Nancy A. Dyer
James L. Hazley
Mrs. Albert Harkness

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Harry B. Freeman, chairman
William W. White
Bayard Ewing
S. Foster Hunt
Charles B. Rockwell

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE
Paul C. Nicholson, chairman
Houghton P. Metcalf, Jr.
Francis H. Chafer, M.D.
Clarence H. Philbrick
Lawrence C. Wroth

The Executive Committee is composed of the officers; chairmen of committees; Richard LeBaron Bowen, Charles B. Mackinney, and Addison P. Munroe, members at large; Dr. Grace M. Sherwood and the director of the Society, ex officio.

OFFICERS

BLOK10 ISLAND CEMETERY RECORDS

ROSE

Annie L., daughter of Elihu W. and Jane D. Rose, born Aug. 21, 1879; died Jan. 5, 1890.

Lydia, wife of Erastus Rose and daughter of Richard and Susanna Steadman, died May 20, 1871, ae. 30 yrs., 2 mos., 8 da.

Ezekiel Rose, died Nov. 1, 1807, in 72nd yr. of his age.

Warren, son of Edgar E. and Annie J. Rose, died Nov. 18, 1900, ae. 7 yrs., 7 mos.

Frederick Rose, died Apr. 28, 1863, ae. 69 yrs., 1 mo., 2 da.

Welthy Rose, wife of Frederick Rose, died May 26, 1852, in 56th yr.

Frederick A. Rose, 1843—1911.

Sarah Frances Rose, 1850—1875.

Effie Campbell Rose, 1866—

George Rose, died Sept. 17, 1854, ae. 39 yrs., 11 mos., 24 da.

Sophronia L. Rose, wife of George Rose, died Sept. 22, 1854, ae. 39 yrs., 1 mo., 18 da.

Memory of my father Gideon Rose, Sept. 17, 1854, ae. 39 yrs., 11 mos., 24 da.

Gideon Rose, who died Dec. 12, 1862, ae. 68 yrs., 9 mos., 12 da.

Matilda, wife of Gideon Rose, died June 7, 1889, ae. 90 yrs., 13 da.

Capt. George A. Rose, died Feb. 18, 1880, ae. 3 yrs., 11 mos.

Herbert M. Rose, Apr. 29, 1885—Oct. 23, 1912.

Mary Frances, his wife, Mar. 23, 1881.

James Rose, died Dec. 7, 1791, in 60th yr. (Slate Stone)

In memory of Hannah, wife of Mr. James Rose, who departed this life Dec. 1, 1791, in 60th yr. She was a kind wife, a tender parent and beloved by all her acquaintances.

James E. Rose, 1841—1918.

His wife, Armenia B. Rose, 1845—1929.

Rose
Jane F., his wife, Nov. 19, 1840—Sept. 19, 1931.
John Rose, 1763—1841.
Margaret Rose, 1762—1822.
John M. Rose, died May 27, 1892, ae. 71 yrs.
Eunice, wife of John M. Rose, died Apr. 25, 1889, ae. 61 yrs., 21 da.
Capt. John E. Rose, Sept. 6, 1845—Sept. 6, 1894.
His wife, Amanda L. Rose, July 2, 1832—Feb. 5, 1906.
Henry, son of John and Catherine Rose, born Feb. 13, 1857; died
Nov. 29, 1899.
Joseph Rose, died May 2, 1823, ae. 35 yrs., 5 mos.
Tamer R. Rose, consort of Joseph L. Rose, died Mar. 5, 1821, in
29th yr.
Joshua Rose, died Nov. 11, 1883, ae. 60 yrs., 11 mos.
Nancy T., wife of Joshua Rose, died July 25, 1862, ae. 44-6-15.
Franklin R., son of Joshua and Nancy T. Rose, born at New Shore-
ham, Sept. 10, 1852; died at Providence, R. I., June 17, 1870, in
18th yr.
Mary E., eldest daughter of Joshua and Nancy Rose, died Dec. 12,
1885, in 41st yr.
Lemuel B. Rose, died Oct. 24, 1865, ae. 46 yrs.
Catherine D. Rose, died Sept. 23, 1903, ae. 84 yrs.
Ida G., daughter of Lemuel B. and Catherine D. Rose, died Dec.
15, 1837, ae. 2 mos., 10 da.
Littlefield Rose, died May 10, 1874, ae. 82 yrs., 3 mos., 20 da.
Abby, wife of Littlefield Rose, died Oct. 29, 1865, ae. 66 yrs., 3 mos.,
2 da.
William Crook, son of Littlefield Rose, died in 1838.
Martin W. Rose, died Apr. 6, 1849, ae. 39 yrs., 9 mos.
Martin L. Rose, Jan. 6, 1838—June 23, 1925.
Their son, Edward B. Rose, Dec. 5, 1895.
Moses Rose, died Mar. 6, 1821, in 50th yr.
Moses D. Rose, died Sept. 1, 1838, in 20th yr.
Moses Rose died Mar. 18, 1891, in 58th yr.
Rose
Elizabeth M. Rose, wife of William Rose and daughter of Rev. Enoch and Elizabeth Rose, died Dec. 28, 1893, ae. 90 yrs.
Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of William and Elizabeth M. Rose, who died Sept. 22, 1855, ae. 6 yrs., 9 mos.
William M. Rose, Feb. 19, 1838—Nov. 4, 1897.
Sarah A. Rose, his wife, Nov. 13, 1842—May 11, 1909.
William M. Rose, Jan. 7, 1856—July 14, 1918.
His wife, Evelyn A. Rose, May 3, 1875—Apr. 13, 1926.
Wealthy M. Rose, born July 1, 1900; died Sept. 26, 1901.
Infant child, born and died Nov. 4, 1902.
Children of William M. and Evelyn M. Rose.
Rose died 1844 in 72

ROUND TREE

RUTLEDGE
John T. Rutledge, Jan. 14, 1877. (on Wm. P. Dodge stone)
His wife, Lydia M. Willis, June 17, 1879—June 15, 1940.

SANDS
Table Stone
Here lyeth interred the body of Cap'n. Edward Sands
who departed this life June ye 14, 1708, in ye 36th yr. of ae.
Edward Sands, Esq., died Oct. 21, 1778, ae. 66 yrs.
Having sustained several offices of public trust and discharged the relative duties of life, with credit to his country and Honor to himself. (Slate Stone)
Memory of Hannah, wife of Edward Sands, Esq., who died Jan. 18, A.D. 1760, in the 52nd yr. of her ae.
Edward Sands, who died Aug. 17, 1858, in 59th yr. of his ae.
Rosina R., wife of Edward Sands, died Jan. 21, 1880, in 76th yr., 8 mos.

1955]
Block Island Cemetery Records
James T. Sands, son of Edward and Rosina Sands, died Oct. 1, 1866, ae. 30 yrs., 1 mo., 14 da.
Sacred to the memory of Capt. Edward Sands who made his exit the 11th of Mar. 1820 in 72nd yr. of his ae.
Erected by William P. Sands.
Memory of Deborah, wife of Edward Sands, Esq., who died 11 of Jan. 1817, ae. 66 yrs.

Table Stone
Here lyeth the body of Mr. James Sands, Senior, ae. 73 yrs., departed this life Mar. 13, 1693.

James Turner Sands who made his exit 13th Oct. 1818 in the 10th yr. of his ae.
Memory of John Sands, Esq., who died Dec. 27, 1820, in 76th yr. He held for more than 40 yrs. the office of Head Warden, Town Treasurer and First Representative.
Elizabeth, wife of Mr. John Sands, who died Aug. 3, 1765, in 19th yr. of her ae.
Stop Reader spend a mournful tear upon the dust that slumbers here and while you read the slate to me think on the glass that runs for thee.
Memory of Phoebe Sands, wife of John Sands, Esq.; who died Mar. 27, 1818, in 93rd yr. of her ae.

John E. Sands, born May 25, 1785, died Apr. 23, 1855.

John R. H. Sands, who died Aug. 7, 1843, in 37th yr. of ae.
Jane S. Sands, wife of John R. H. Sands, who died Oct. 7, 1840, ae. 31 yrs.
Memory of Mrs. Francis M. Sands, the amiable and much beloved consort of Mr. Nathaniel G. Sands, who was born Apr. 10, 1790, and died Oct. 2, 1806, in 28th yr.
Sacred to the memory of Col. Ray Sands, who died Feb. 1, 1808, ae. 71 yrs.
He was who looked up us in the defense of his country in the hour of difficulty and obtained liberty.
Sacred to the memory of Ann Sands, wife of Col. Ray Sands and daughter of Jeremiah Niles of So. Kingstown, who died Mar. 23, 1827, in 84th yr. of ae.
Sacred to the memory of Ray Sands, Esq., who died Mar. 21, 1848, in 73rd yr. of his ae.
Block Island Cemetery Records

Sands
Seraphine A. Sands, his wife, Mar. 9, 1827—Nov. 24, 1862.
William E., their son, May 12, 1852—Mar. 29, 1907.
Simon Ray Sands, born Dec. 12, 1815—April 19, 1889.
Mary Ann Gorton, wife of Simon Ray Sands, died Dec. 5, 1866, ae. 44 yrs., 1 mo., 19 da.
Tamar Rose Sands, wife of Simon Ray Sands, born Nov. 18, 1836; died Feb. 8, 1913.
Infant son of S. Ray and Tamer R. Sands, born and died June 18, 1871.
Simon Ray Sands, U. S. Coast Guard, World War I & II, May 5, 1875—
His wife, Frances Perry Sands, Dec. 31, 1877—
Memory of Treadwell Sands, died Jan. 7, 1838, ae. 75 yrs.
Memory of Phebe, amiable consort of Treadwell Sands, who died Mar. 27, A.D. 1805, in ye 39th yr. of her ae.
William P. Sands, Esq., who died Dec. 18, 1846, in 73rd yr.
Catherine, wife of William P. Sands, who died July 27, 1834, in 52nd yr.
Phebe Ray, daughter of Wm. Pitt and Catherine, his wife, died Apr. 19, 1813, ae. 5 yrs.
Turner Sands died Oct. 13, 1818, in 10th yr.

SHAW
Beatrice Thomas Shaw, 1904—1935.

SHEFFIELD
His wife, Hattie Willis, July 9, 1869—June 3, 1936.
Children
Corridon E., Apr. 22, 1891—July 4, 1891.
Edna A.
Mary A.
Chauncey II., Mar. 11, 1904—July 30, 1905.
Corridon E., daughter of Arthur N. and Hattie A. Sheffield, born Apr. 22, 1891; died July 4, 1891.
Chauncey H., son of Arthur N. and Hattie A. Sheffield, Mar. 11, 1904; July 30, 1905.

1955]
Block Island Cemetery Records

Memory of Mr. Edmund Sheffield, who died Apr. 1, 1815, in 49th yr.
Memory of Mercy Sheffield, the amiable consort of Edmund Sheffield, who departed this life Apr. 3, 1850, in 82nd yr.
Lucy Ann, wife of Edmund Sheffield and daughter of Peleg C. and Lucy P. Champlin, died Apr. 21, 1866 in 36th year.
Homer Augustus Sheffield, 1862—1933. (on William Littlefield stone)
His wife, Rose Idelle Littlefield.
Nettie Littlefield, wife of Homer Sheffield, born Nov. 9, 1866; died Mar. 29, 1893.
Merwin C., infant son of Homer C. and Nettie L. Sheffield, born Dec. 2, 1892; died Aug. 29, 1893.
James, son of Jeremiah and Mary Sheffield, died Sept. 8, 1736, ae. 2 yrs., 6 mos.
John G. Sheffield, born Apr. 26, 1819, died June 21, 1886.
Lucinda Ward, wife of John G. Sheffield, born Feb. 27, 1820; died May 26, 1848.
Corridon C., wife of John G. Sheffield, born Oct. 23, 1826; died Apr. 23, 1884.
Lucinda Ward, wife of John G. Sheffield, who died May 26, 1848, in 28th yr.
Alice Lucinda Sheffield, born Mar. 4, 1854—died Mar. 4, 1877, daughter of John G. and Corridon C. Sheffield.
Lila T. Sheffield, born Apr. 16, 1860, died May 7, 1885, daughter of John G. and Corridon Sheffield.
Annie Payne, wife of John G. Sheffield, Jr., and daughter of John R. and Phebe C. Payne; born May 9, 1859, died Apr. 2, 1886.
Fannie E., wife of John G. Sheffield, born Aug. 9, 1861; died Nov. 30, 1899.
Sarah Frances, daughter of John G. and Fannie E. Sheffield, Nov. 26, 1894—Sept. 14, 1900.
Josiah Sheffield, died July 24, 1870, in 80th yr.
Sarah F., wife of Josiah Sheffield, died Nov. 9, 1865, in 73rd yr.
Edmund, son of Josiah Sheffield and Sarah F., died Oct. 8, 1823, ae. 3 mos.
Lamson, son of Josiah Sheffield and Sarah F., died Aug. 12, 1825, ae. 3 wks.
SHEFFIELD
Mr. Nathaniel Sheffield who died Sept. 2, 1821, in 28th yr. of ae.
Mrs. Mary Ann Sheffield, wife of Mr. Nathaniel Sheffield, who
died Dec. 4, 1821, in 30th year of her ae.

SHERWOOD
William E. Sherwood, Sept. 6, 1888—June 16, 1942.

SLATE
Fred Slate, Rhode Island Ch. f. Bos'n Mate, U.S.N.F.F., Nov. 6,
1934.

SMITH
Albert W. Smith, 1860—1930.
Maria E., his wife, 1868—1933.
Deborah J. Hayes, wife of Benjamin P. Smith, died Nov. 12, 1852, ae. 19 yrs., 2 mos., 6 da.
Mary Elizabeth, wife of Benjamin Smith, 1837—1921.
Charles E. Smith, died Jan. 10, 1937, ae. 74 yrs.
Elizabeth McConnell, wife of Charles E. Smith, died Apr. 24, 1912, ae. 44 yrs.
Earl A. Smith, 1886—1920.
His wife, Deborah A., 1886—.
Ezra C. Smith, born Dec. 4, 1852, died Mar. 5, 1897.
G. Elwood Smith, 1853—1928.
Mary M., his wife, 1857—1922.
Thomas C. Smith, son of George E. and Mary M. Smith, drown Feb. 28, 1902, in 23rd yr.
John Smith, son of George and Mary Smith, who died July 9, 1889, ae. 19 yrs., 4 mos.
George R. Smith, Apr. 25, 1892.
Mary Chase Smith, wife of George R. Smith, Aug. 26, 1891—July 14, 1912.
Elise Redfern Ball, Feb. 8, 1892, 1st wife of Eugene Ball.
Capt. John W. Smith, Jan. 29, 1834—June 19, 1918.
Bertha B. Sprague, May 14, 1876.
Grace E., wife of John W. Smith and daughter of George and
Eunice Jelly, born Mar. 21, 1859, died June 28, 1882.

Joshua C. Smith, died Sept. 10, 1883 ae. 58 yrs., 7 mos., 7 da.
Elizabeth M., wife of Joshua C. Smith, died July 28, 1893, ae. 63 yrs., 4 mos., 5 da.
Desire Willis, daughter of Joshua C. and Elizabeth M. Smith, died July 26, 1863, ae. 44 da.
Addie L., daughter of Joshua C. and Elizabeth M. Smith, died July 27, 1877, ae. 19 yrs., 9 mos.
Lewis E. Smith, 1887—1943.
His wife, Catherine A. Dickens, 1889—.
R. Hollis Mitchell, 1907—.
His wife, Stella C. Smith, 1907—,
Mary T. Smith, born Kingstown, R. I., died Oct. 29, 1883, in 72nd yr. of her ae.

SPRAGUE
Hannah, wife of Abel Sprague, died May 21, 1863, in 50th yr.
Alvin H. Sprague, 1838—1921.
Harriet L., his wife, 1862—1941.
Mary, wife of Alvin Sprague, died Nov. 7, 1887, ae. 42 yrs., 8 mos., 24 da.
Benjamin Sprague, formerly a representative for the Town, who
died May 2, 1838, ae. 62 yrs.
Benjamin Sprague, Co. D. 12 R. R. Inf.
Channing Sprague, died May 11, 1921, ae. 50 yrs.
Her husband, Charles F. Sprague, born Apr. 14, 1853; died June 1, 1884.
Edward P. Sprague, died Oct. 20, 1881, in 36th yr. of ae.
Armond F., son of Elford L. and Mary A. Sprague, Aug. 11, 1899—
June 27, 1817.
Adelaide Sprague, his wife, Mar. 30, 1845—July 30, 1910.
Myrtle A. Sprague, 1871.
J. Rose Sprague, 1873—1939.
Erastus Sprague, Oct. 22, 1867.
Mary Ida Steadman, his wife, 1869—Dec. 5, 1934.
Estella Ball Sprague, May 3, 1864—Aug. 17, 1945. (beside Wm. S.
Ball stone)
[to be continued]
NEW MEMBERS

September 28, 1954 — November 29, 1954

Mr. Garrett D. Byrnes
Mrs. John M. Canavan
Edgewood, R. I.
Mr. and Mrs. John S. Chafee
Mrs. Leroy Palmer Cox
North Providence, R. I.
Mr. James Doak
Bristol, R. I.
Mr. Arthur F. Fontaine
Pawtucket, R. I.
Miss Frances A. Foster

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Webber

LECTURES

January 12, 1955, Wednesday

Ezra Stiles

Stated Meeting 8:15 p.m.

EDMUND S. MORGAN, Professor of History, Brown University

February 13, 1955, Sunday

At the Sign of the Bunch of Grapes 3:00 p.m.

LEONARD JOHNSON, Secretary of Gladding's

March 13, 1955, Sunday

Early American Dyeing 3:00 p.m.

MRS. G. LAURENCE SCHETKY
Illustrated with plant material and dyed wool