



The Colonial Society of Massachusetts

September 2008 Volume IV, Number 1

Books to Crow About: A Brief Report on Publications

THIS PAST SUMMER saw the publication of the third volume of Vice-President Dan Coquillette's remarkable series, *Portrait of a Patriot: The Major Political and Legal Works of Josiah Quincy Jr.* Volume 2: *The Law Commonplace* (which paradoxically appeared after Volume 3: *The Southern Journal*) illustrates the process through which aspiring lawyers learned their profession in the days before law schools. Quincy had placed himself under the tutelage of Oxenbridge Thacher, the acknowledged dean of the Boston bar in the early 1760s. Thacher then recommended a list of titles that Quincy carefully read while copying down key quotations for future reference during his later legal career. Given the way Quincy carefully indexed his commonplace book, he had generated, while still a student, a handbook for ready access to the broad principles of English common law and the insights of the greatest legal minds of the past. Useful notes indeed!

The queries noted in the margins of *The Law Commonplace* make clear Quincy's remarkable aptitude for his chosen profession, just as *The Southern Journal* marked him as a keen observer of the social institutions of his day. Volumes 4 and 5 in the series, a newly annotated edition of Quincy's *Reports of Cases Argued and Adjudged before the Superior Court, 1761-1772*, has just entered design work and should appear before the next newsletter rolls around. *The Reports of Cases*, the first set of systematic legal reports in continental North America, has long been a staple source both for historians and lawyers, but has never been reannotated since it first appeared in 1865. Taken together, the five volumes in Dan's series focus renewed attention on a too-often neglected member of the patriot pantheon. Despite his death at an early age, Quincy deserves a place in American history of equal recognition alongside John and Samuel Adams as a key figure in the Revolution in Boston.

The fall also saw the distribution of *The Eighteenth Century Records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor*, surely

the most long anticipated volume in the Colonial Society's recent publications. Fellow Members Eric Nellis and Anne Decker Cecere had begun work on the project in the early 90s, and the transcriptions of the Overseers' records went through many careful drafts before the editors were fully satisfied that they were ready for publication. Transcription is not an easy business, and the Colonial Society is fully aware of its responsibility to future scholars to produce accurate, authoritative texts. *The Records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor* are the most comprehensive set of surviving records on poor relief of any major city in early America and contain a wealth of information that social historians can mine in any number of imaginative ways for decades to come.

Volume 1 of *The Papers of Francis Bernard, Governor of Colonial Massachusetts, 1760-1769*, covering the years 1759 to 1763 was among the first fruits of the New Year for Colonial Society members. Suffice it to say that the Bernard Papers and the Hutchinson Papers together constitute THE most comprehensive sources on Boston politics in the pre-Revolutionary period and have been consulted by every major scholar working on the subject, yet perhaps because of their Loyalist taint, they have never been printed. Fellow Member Colin Nicolson of the University of Stirling in Scotland has finally begun to remedy that deficiency by producing a superb beginning volume of Bernard's papers. Nicolson displays a thorough knowledge of both British imperial politics and Massachusetts sources, a rare combination among those who write about the period. As an editor, Nicolson is deft and delicate, never overly intrusive; the result is a highly readable collection of letters just as suited for the interested general reader as for the specialized scholar.

And now for the crowing: surely the Quincy series, the Bernard Papers, and *The Records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor* are each major contributions to the field of early American studies. Taken together, they constitute a booklist surpassing the output of any other learned society for scholarly importance, usefulness and readability. Meanwhile the CSM has not stinted on the physical quality of its books: the same archival paper, smyth-sewn bindings, and handsome design.

Perhaps this is the moment to note that *The Law*

Commonplace was one of the last books to be produced by the legendary Stinehour Press of Lunenburg, Vermont. For many decades (not years!), the Stinehour Press was the Colonial Society's faithful partner in producing fine books. Production standards at Stinehour were true to the best traditions of craftsmanship in making books and its proofreading and design teams were unexcelled. We regret the passing of this New England institution.

But the work of the Colonial Society still goes on. In addition to Volumes 4 and 5 of Quincy, the coming academic year is likely to see the appearance of *The Letters of John Cotton Jr.* edited by Fellow Members Sheila McIntyre and Len Travers. The son of John Cotton, one of the most admired clergymen of the Founding Generation of New Englanders, John Cotton Jr. was the minister of the Plymouth Church for thirty years from 1669 to 1699. He wrote at a time when most authors assumed their letters would be circulated far beyond the addressee, thus his letters read more like newsletters than private correspondence, and they are full of the tumultuous events of his time: King Philip's War, the Dominion of New England, and the merger of the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colonies. Fellow Member Kate Viens has finished her copyediting of the work, the bids from printers and designers are in, and as soon as new funds are available at the beginning of the CSM's fiscal year on October 1, the book will go into production.

Fellow Member Neil York has been waiting patiently for his completed manuscript on *The Writings of Henry Hulton* to go into production in October as well. An Englishman, Hulton was a member of the American Board of Customs Commissioners established as part of the Townshend reforms in 1767. Not only was he a lively correspondent, but he also wrote a manuscript history of the Revolution, now owned by the Princeton University Library. Neil's will be the first printing of this work, which takes a more dispassionate view of the coming of the Revolution than other Loyalist historians like Peter Oliver.

Fellow Members Gigi Barnhill and Martha McNamara announce that they believe they have a sufficient number of publishable essays from the "Fields of Vision" Conference, jointly sponsored by the CSM and the American Antiquarian Society last November in Worcester, to make up a volume of proceedings concerned with the material and visual culture of New England from its earliest beginnings through 1830. The selected essays have now gone back to their authors for revisions after a careful reading by Gigi and Martha.

While keeping all the other CSM projects moving along toward publication, Editor of Publications John Tyler is still pressing forward with revisions to volume 1 of *The Correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson*. Fellow Members Bernard Bailyn, John Catanzariti, Pauline Maier, Colin Nicolson, and Celeste Walker all con-

tributed greatly by reading an early version of the manuscript. John Catanzariti, longtime Senior Research Historian and Editor of the Papers of Thomas Jefferson, was particularly helpful comparing the transcriptions with his own copies of the documents and providing insights that only come with a lifetime of experience. As a result, new texts are being added and the manuscript reorganized.

Colin Nicolson is already hard at work on Volume 2 of the Bernard Papers and Fellow Members David Hancock and Mark Peterson continue with *The Collected Writings of John Hull* (1624–1683), silversmith, ship owner, captain of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, member of the Court of Assistants, and perhaps most importantly treasurer and mint master during the crisis of King Philip's War.

While there is no dearth of Colonial Society projects underway, members should not hesitate to suggest ideas for new conferences and documentary editions to either the Chair of the Publications Committee Pauline Maier (pmaier@mit.edu) or Editor of Publications John Tyler (jtyler@groton.org). It's always helpful if these ideas come with suggested editors, but if you've recently come across a documentary collection related to early Massachusetts that you think is worthy of publication, do let us know.

Corporate Takeover — 1920s-Style

During the summer of 1923, Waldo Lincoln, the president of the American Antiquarian Society was worrying about how to close the gap between the cost of a \$100,000 addition to his building in Worcester and the \$40,000 he had been able to raise thus far when what seemed to be a great idea occurred to him: why not merge the Antiquarian and the Colonial Societies? The CSM, thus far in its history, had never had a permanent meeting space and was always moving from place to place like some itinerant poor relation. The AAS would provide the CSM with a home and, not incidentally, it would also absorb the \$100,000 endowment of the Colonial Society. Lincoln thought he could manage that CSM members (assuming they were willing) could all be elected to the AAS, and that once such elections were complete, the Colonial Society would cease to exist. It was a win/win situation, no? And to sweeten the idea, he would name the new addition to his building after Henry Herbert Edes, the Colonial Society's redoubtable founder who had just died the previous year.

In proposing the idea to Fred Norris Robinson, the president of the Colonial Society, he wrote, "It seems to me, having consulted no one else, that the work of the Colonial Society can be just as well continued in the name of the Antiquarian Society." "Perhaps if Mr. Edes

2008 Graduate Students Forum

had lived,” he continued, “the Colonial Society might have established a museum or library of its own, but in doing so it would only duplicate what is already in Massachusetts, and it is far better to continue its activities as a publishing society.”

Polite but skeptical, Robinson wrote back, “Your suggestion . . . is quite new to me, though I have sometimes heard it said that the Colonial Society and the Massachusetts Historical Society ought to merge.” (The Colonial Society had its origin in 1892 with the frustration of its founders at failing year-after-year to be elected to the MHS because of its tight limits at that time on the number of its members.) There had never been any formal proposal of a merger with the MHS, Robinson observed, and “In such casual discussion . . . as I have heard the most active members of the Colonial Society have always been opposed to the suggestion. I should expect them to feel the same objection to combination with the Antiquarian Society.”

It was true, Robinson granted, that Henry Edes had been “warmly interested” in both the AAS and CSM, yet Robinson was certain, “He would have deplored any arrangement which terminated the separate existence of the Colonial Society.” “Moreover,” argued Robinson, “it has been my own opinion that there was work enough for both organizations, together with the Massachusetts Historical Society, and that the community should be able to support all three.”

Robinson’s concluded, “I agree with you that the main activity of the Colonial Society should continue to be publication. But for that very reason I should be reluctant to see a large part of its funds used for a building.” Indeed, without consulting the records, Robinson was uncertain how much of the CSM treasury might be used for a building since many bequests to the Society were restricted to use for publications.

So hooray for Fred Robinson! Otherwise the Colonial Society might have passed out of existence less than thirty years after its founding. And perhaps Lincoln’s proposal was partly the reason that the CSM soon after received the Sarah Louise Edes Fund, one of its largest endowments, the income from which underwrites our publications program today.

This pivotal moment in Colonial Society history which was not included in Walter Whitehill’s “Historical Sketch” of the first sixty years of the Colonial Society’s history and would have remained unknown had not the exchange of letters been carefully folded away in a CSM volume (presumably Robinson’s?) that came into the hands of George Caledonia, a bookseller in Milton, Massachusetts. He thoughtfully passed along the originals to the American Antiquarian Society, and Fellow Member Ellen Dunlap, president of the American Antiquarian Society, then gave copies to us.

On May 2, nine young scholars gathered at 87 Mount Vernon Street to present preliminary reports on the progress of their dissertation research for an audience of interested Colonial Society members. Fellow Member Susan Lively of Harvard chaired the first session of the day entitled “Mind, Body and Soul.” The panel included papers from: Brittany Adams of UCLA on “Judith Sargent Murray and the Universalists,” Katherine Jorgensen Gray, of Johns Hopkins on “Mixed Company: Youth in Philadelphia, 1750-1815,” and Linda Meditz of the University of Connecticut on the “Diary of Stephen Williams.”

The second session, “Oceans and Rivers: Barriers and Bridges,” featured Andrew Lipman of the University of Pennsylvania on “The Saltwater Frontier: Indians, English, and Dutch on Long Island Sound, 1609-1674,” Strother Roberts of Northwestern University on “Valley of Contention: An Environmental History of the Connecticut River Valley, 1614-1788,” and Ken Shefsiek of the University of Georgia on “Stone House Days: Constructing Dutch Identity in the Hudson Valley.” The session was chaired by Fellow Member June Namias, formerly of the University of Alaska.

After lunch Vice President for Outreach Bob Allison, who had arranged the days events, took the chair for a program on “Race and Revolution, Freedom and Liberty.” Devethia Guillory, of the University of Houston spoke on “Step by Step: African-Americans Pursuit of Freedom during the American Revolutionary Era 1760-1800” followed by Christy Clark of the University of Iowa on “The Business of Slavery and the Struggles of Emancipation: Bondage and Liberty in Rhode Island, 1650-1850,” and Justin Pope of George Washington University on “A ‘Most Barbarous Undertaking:’ The Nantucket Indian Conspiracy in the British Atlantic World”

Gary B. Nash, Professor of History, Emeritus, at the University of California-Los Angeles, who had been present all day as the senior scholar and commentator, finished the day with a paper on his own new area of research: the sometimes contorted relations between Thomas Jefferson, Thaddeus Kosciusko, and Agrippa Hull.

Next year’s graduate forum will take place on May 1 with Resident Member Pauline Maier, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as the senior scholar and featured speaker.



Annual Fund, 2007-2008

When the Colonial Society's newly-created Development Committee, chaired by immediate past president Fred Ballou, launched the 2007-2008 Annual Appeal last fall, the hope was for a moderate increase in gifts. We are all delighted at the enthusiastic response of our members and the 141% rise in Annual Fund contributions from \$7,385.00 in 2006-2007 to \$17,784.69 in 2007-2008. We are most grateful to all members who have contributed. There are numerous first-time contributors, in the Sustaining Circle many have increased their gifts, and a significant number has subscribed to the new leadership donor groups, the Samuel Eliot Morison Circle and the Frederick Jackson Turner Circle.

Gifts to the Annual Fund have strengthened the financial position of the Society and the confidence of the Council as it continues to plan and implement programs and to fulfill our mission.

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Anonymous (4)	W. Dean Eastman	J. McNamara	Myron O. Stachiw
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Bernard Bailyn	H. A. Crosby Forbes	Melvoine	Charles M. Sullivan
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Whitfield J. Bell, Jr.	<i>In Memory of Mildred P.</i>	Robert L. Middlekauff	C. James Taylor
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Lawrence Coolidge	Robert W. Mack	D. Brenton Simons	

Conferences, Conferences, Conferences!

Although the chief purpose of the Colonial Society is to publish documents related to early Massachusetts history, we do from time to time convene conferences on promising topics for new research. Last fall on November 9 and 10, the Colonial Society, together with the American Antiquarian Society and Worcester Polytechnic Institute, co-sponsored "Fields of Vision: The Material and Visual Culture of New England, 1600-1830." "Fields of Vision" helped to mark the founding of the Center for Historic American Visual Culture at the AAS, an initiative of CSM stalwart Georgia Barnhill, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the landmark exhibition "New England Beginnings" at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in which so many Colonial Society members played a leading role. Together with CSM Corresponding Secretary Martha McNamara, Barnhill convened a program committee for "Fields of Vision" that selected eighteen essays that presenters delivered over a day and half. Topics ranged from talking automatons to the depiction of Native Americans in map cartouches to underwater archaeology to waxworks to the reflection of light on mica-flecked tombstones and the highly polished surfaces of bombé furniture. Margaretta Lovell of the University of California at Berkeley concluded the conference with a masterful review of the development of the field of material and visual culture over the last half century. Midway through the conference the Colonial Society hosted a festive dinner amidst banners and suits of armor in the Great Hall of Worcester's Higgins Armory Museum. By happy coincidence, the Worcester Art Museum was also featuring at the same time a travelling exhibition of some of the most important items in the collection of the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum & Country Estate. Barnhill and McNamara have begun editing the papers delivered at the conference in preparation for a forthcoming CSM volume.

On June 6 through 8, 2008, the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture held their fourteenth annual conference in Boston. Since our Beacon Hill neighbor Suffolk University hosted the proceedings, the Colonial Society joined as a cosponsor. Indeed our indefatigable Vice-President for Outreach Bob Allison was the head of the program committee for the conference. Consequently, the plenary session focused on introducing early American history in the classroom and included CSM members Dean Eastman and Kevin McGrath talking about their work on *The Eighteenth-Century Records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor* [See article elsewhere in this newsletter] and Resident Member Charles Newhall presenting a remarkably polished video on the Great Swamp Fight produced by a high school junior as an assignment in his American history class at St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers, Massachusetts. To round things off, yet another CSM member, Ted Widmer of the John Carter Brown Library, supplied the comment for the session.

On the next day, two conference sessions took place at the Colonial Society's headquarters at 87 Mount Vernon Street. The first session concerned "All the King's Men: New Perspectives on the Loyalists" and began with a paper by James Corbett David of the College of William & Mary (also an alumnus of the 2007 CSM graduate students forum!) on "John Murray, Fourth Earl of Dunmore: A Case for the Biographical Exploration of Empire," followed by Maya Jasanoff of Harvard on "Voyagers to the Rest: Loyalist Refugees in the British Empire," and Cassandra Pybus of the University of Sydney on "People of a Wranglesome Nature: Loyal Black Methodists in Revolutionary Virginia." Fellow Member Robert Gross of the University of Connecticut supplied the comment.

After a welcome interval of lemonade and cookies in the midst of Boston's first heat wave of the summer, the second session, "New England's Revolution: Impacts and Outcomes" began with Daniel Scott Smith of the University of Chicago, Illinois, discussing "Fighting for Independence: the Importance of Region," Gregory T. Knoff of Keene State College on "The Enemy Within: Loyalists, Language, and Power in Revolutionary New Hampshire," and Walter L. Sargent of the University of Maine, Farmington, on "The Impact and Experience of Veterans on the Maine Frontier." That evening the Colonial Society joined Suffolk University in sponsoring a gala reception at the meeting hall of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company at Faneuil Hall. Other CSM participants in the conference included Stephen Bullock of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, David Hall of Harvard University, Neal Salisbury of Smith College, Daniel Silverman of George Washington University (an early veteran of the Graduate Students Forum), and Conrad Wright of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Strother Roberts of Northwestern University, this year's Colonial Society Fellow as part of the New England Regional Consortium Fellowships was also a presenter. So the Colonial Society's fingerprints were all over this year's Omohundro Conference, but particular thanks are due to the energetic leadership of Vice-President Bob Allison for his role as the driving force behind the conference.

Letter from the President

Dear Fellow Members:

On Thursday, May 15 there was an uncustomary flurry of activity at 87 Mount Vernon Street. The Colonial Society's book sale for members drew many Boston-area scholars to the Society's headquarters to seize the opportunity to buy books published between 1910 and 1995. The Society's *Transactions*, church records, Harvard College archival documents, account books and court records, as well as proceedings of major conferences in early New England history, were snapped up by eager readers. The book sale reduced inventory and crowding

in the Society's headquarters, and raised some cash for forthcoming publication projects, but—most importantly—it put 1,126 volumes that had been gathering dust into circulation, thus contributing to the fulfillment of the Colonial Society's mission.

We hold conferences and Graduate Students' Forums, we offer programs to school teachers and their students, we provide a platform for scholarly presentation and discussion, but our core mission and central activity remain the publication of early Massachusetts history. That has continued this year with yet another volume of *Portrait of a Patriot: The Major Political and Legal Papers of Josiah Quincy Junior* — his *Law Commonplace Book* — and the first volume of the *Papers of Francis Bernard: Governor of Colonial Massachusetts, 1760-1769*. Our mission is further extended by seeking ways to incorporate our publications in school curricula. A committee chaired by member W. Dean Eastman, a recently retired Beverly High School teacher, is exploring how to use the *Eighteenth-Century Records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor* in high schools.

It is encouraging to see our Colonial Society of Massachusetts publications on the scholar's desk and in the teacher's class, where early American history can be brought to life.

I thank you for your commitment to the Colonial Society.

Sincerely,
Donald R. Friary, *President*

New Members

Resident Member

Thomas R. Wilcox Jr., of Dedham. Thomas Wilcox is the Chief Operating Officer of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He was the former Executive Director and CEO of the Maine Maritime Museum in Bath, ME, and has more than twenty years of experience in the financial services industry. He is a past president of the Council of American Maritime Museums and a past trustee of the Mystic Seaport Museum.

Non-resident Members

Colin Calloway, of Hanover, N.H. Professor Calloway is a Professor of History and Samson Occom Professor of Native American Studies at Dartmouth College. He is the author of numerous books including *One Vast Winter Count: The Native American West Before Lewis and Clark* (2003), which received the Ray Allen Billington Prize, the Merle Curtis Award, and was named one of *Publishers Weekly's* Best Books of the Year. His newest book, *The Scratch of a Pen: 1763 and the Transformation of North America*, was published in 2006. He also was the co-editor of the Society's *Reinterpreting New England Indians and the Colonial Experience*, published in 2004.

Alice Nash, of Amherst. Alice Nash is an Assistant Pro-

fessor of History at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She received her Ph.D from Columbia University in 1997 and her dissertation was published as *The Abiding Frontier: Family Gender and Religion in Wabanaki History, 1600-1763*. She was the Fulbright Distinguished Chair at the Université de Montréal in 2003-2004 and co-author of *Daily Life of Native Americans from Post-Columbian through Nineteenth-Century America*. Professor Nash is also the author of numerous journal and anthology articles.

Neal Salisbury, of Northampton, MA. Neal Salisbury is a Professor of History at Smith College. His teaching and research interests are early American and Native American history. He is the co-author of numerous books and textbooks and published, in 1997, an edition of the captivity narrative of Mary Rowlandson, *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God*. He also was the co-editor of the Society's *Reinterpreting New England Indians and the Colonial Experience*, published in 2004.

News of Members

Richard Bushman has been appointed Howard W. Hunter Chair of Mormon Studies in the School of Religion at the Claremont Graduate University beginning September 2009.

Jeannine Falino has moved to New York City, where she is guest curator for the Museum of Art and Design for "Revolution: The American Studio Craft Movement 1945-1970," which opens in 2010. She was lead author and co-editor of *Silver of the Americas, 1600-2000*, published by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in 2008 and a contributor to *Artistic Luxury: Fabergé - Tiffany - Lalique*, to be published by the Cleveland Museum of Art in September 2008. Falino was also co-author, together with Yvonne Markowitz, of *American Luxury: Jewels from the House of Tiffany* to be published by Antique Collectors Club in 2008, and a contributor to *Craft in America: Celebrating Two Centuries of Artists and Objects* (New York: Clarkson Potter, 2007). She served as curator of "Edge of the Sublime, Enamels by Jamie Bennett," currently at the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, Massachusetts.

Will Fitzhugh formed the Consortium for Varsity Academics® last year to support *The Concord Review*, the only journal in the world for the academic history papers of secondary students. There are now 23 Members/National Partners. For more information, contact CSM member Will Fitzhugh, at fitzhugh@tcr.org.

Mary Fuller recently published *Remembering the Early Modern Voyage: English Narratives in the Age of European Expansion* (Palgrave, 2008).

David Greene writes that he retired in May 2007 from Piedmont College after 37 years. His current scholarly project is a study of Episcopalianism in Georgia during the nineteenth century. (The Episcopal denomination was one of two socially acceptable churches of the antebellum planter class [the other was the Presbyterian] and the major church of the postbellum romanticized "Lost Cause.")

Susan Gogonian has been appointed director of the Beverly Historical Society & Museum.

Philip Gura's recent book, *American Transcendentalism: A History*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in nonfiction this year. He is now completing a book-length history of the American Antiquarian Society for its upcoming bicentennial (2012).

David Hall completed *Ways of Writing: The Practice and Politics of Text-Making in Seventeenth-Century New England* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, August 2008), which looks at, among others, Winthrop and Bradford and the Antinomian controversy. It is the book form of the Rosenbach lectures he gave at the University of Pennsylvania in February 2007.

Thomas A. Horrocks announces the publication with the University of Massachusetts Press of *Popular Print and Popular Medicine: Almanacs and Health Advice in Early America*. Approaching his subject as both a historian of the book and a historian of medicine, Horrocks contends that the almanac, the most popular secular publication in America from the late eighteenth century to the first quarter of the nineteenth, both shaped and was shaped by early Americans' beliefs and practices pertaining to health and medicine. Horrocks effectively demonstrates that the almanac was a leading source of health information in America prior to the Civil War.

Brock Jobe has, for the past four years, overseen a study of the eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century furniture of southeastern Massachusetts. On March 21, 2009, Winterthur Museum & Country Estate will open an exhibition entitled "Harbor and Home: Furniture of Southeastern Massachusetts, 1710-1850." A comprehensive catalogue, published by the University Press of New England, will accompany the show. The volume will illustrate more than 200 pieces of furniture—all in color. After the show closes at Winterthur on May 25, it will travel to the Nantucket Historical Association, where it will remain on view from early July through mid-November.

William Martin's latest novel, *The Lost Constitution*, appeared this past June on the *New York Times* Best Seller List. While it ends on the first night of a modern World Series at Fenway Park, it begins shortly after the Revolution, with the young nation's first domestic political crisis, Shays's Rebellion.

Eric Nellis has published *The Long Road to Change: America's Revolution, 1750-1820* (Broadview/University of Toronto Press, 2007).

Karen Nipps recently attended the 2008 annual meeting of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP), held in Oxford, England, where she presented a paper entitled "The Self-Education of Lydia Bailey, Last of the Widow-Printers."

Carl R. Nold, president of Historic New England, was elected chairman of the American Association of Museums for a two-year term, May 2008-2010. Founded in 1906, the AAM is the only organization representing the entire scope of museums and professionals and nonpaid staff who work

for and with museums in the United States. AAM currently represents more than 15,000 individual museum professionals and volunteers, 3,000 institutions, and 300 corporate members. As AAM chairman, Mr. Nold also serves as ex-officio chair of ICOM-US, the United States membership committee for the International Council of Museums, based in Paris.

Mary Beth Norton contributed an essay to the forum, "Salem Repossessed," in the July 2008 issue of the *William & Mary Quarterly*, which reconsiders Paul Boyer and Stephen Nissenbaum's *Salem Possessed*. During the 2008-2009 academic year, she will be the *Los Angeles Times* Senior Fellow at the Henry E. Huntington Library.

Jane Nylander has been elected a Trustee of the New Hampshire Historical Society, where she began her New England career in 1962.

Richard Nylander has retired from his position of Senior Curator with Historic New England after 40 years working there.

Robert F. Rothschild has written *Two Brides for Apollo*, the first biography of Samuel Williams (1743-1817). Williams was a minister, astronomer, newspaper editor, social historian and philosopher. He assisted John Winthrop on an expedition to Newfoundland to observe the 1761 transit of Venus. Following Winthrop as Hollis Professor of Natural Philosophy, Williams modernized the teaching of science at Harvard and led a Harvard expedition to observe the solar eclipse of 1780. He wrote one of the first histories of the American Revolution and one of the first state histories, *The Natural and Civil History of Vermont*.

Brian Sullivan, former senior reference archivist in the Harvard University Archives, became Archivist of Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in February 2007. He can be reached at basullivan@mountauburn.org.

David Whitsell, in September 2007, was one of 12 invited speakers at the symposium, "Libraries and Their Users 1650-1850," convened at the Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbuettel, Germany, where he delivered a paper on "The Harvard College Library and Its Users 1762-1764." In July 2008 he taught for the first time a new week-long course at Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville: "Bibliographer's Toolkit: Printed Books to 1800."

Nina Zannieri, Director of the Paul Revere Memorial Association, writes that the Association is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Paul Revere House to the public in 1908. 8.5 million visitors later, the house is the tenth most visited historic home in the country. The Association has also purchased an abutting property that sits on land originally owned by Paul Revere. 5 and 6 Lathrop Place will be renovated in a manner that retains its historic character and interpretive value as a local row house (once serving as a boarding house) while allowing it to function as a 3,600 square-foot museum annex. The Association has launched a crucial fund-raising campaign in order to carry its work forward into its second century. CSM members who would like to support this effort should contact Zannieri at nina@paulreverehouse.org.

The Colonial Society of Massachusetts Meeting Schedule

November 20, 2008 — Annual Meeting at 5:30 PM at 87 Mount Vernon St., followed by dinner at the Algonquin Club

December 18, 2008 — Fellow Member Mary Fuller, Associate Professor of Literature, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, speaking on her recently published book *Remembering the Early Modern Voyage: English Narratives in the Age of European Expansion* at 3:00 PM

February 19, 2009 — Alan R. Hoffman, Independent Scholar, speaking on his translation and new edition of Auguste Levasseur's *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825*, 3:00 PM

April 16, 2009 — John W. Tyler, Editor of Publications, CSM, speaking on “‘One of the best finished houses in the Province.’ The Furnishings of Thomas Hutchinson’s House at the Time of the Stamp Act Riots,” 3:00 PM

May 1, 2009 — Graduate Students Forum, Fellow Member Pauline Maier, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of American History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, presiding, 9:30 AM

May 21, 2009 — A publication party for *The Papers of Francis Bernard, Volume 1: 1759-1763*, edited by Colin Nicolson of the University of Stirling, Scotland, 5:00 – 7:00 PM

All events (except the Annual Dinner) are at 87 Mount Vernon St., Boston, Massachusetts.
Guests are welcome at all events except the Annual Meeting and Dinner.



THE COLONIAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS
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