



The Colonial Society of Massachusetts

September 2010 Volume VI, Number 1

Letter from the President

Dear Fellow Members:

THIS HAS BEEN a celebratory year for the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. When volumes four and five of *Portrait of a Patriot: The Major Political and Legal Papers of Josiah Quincy, Junior* were issued in January, we were delighted to see a newly annotated edition of *The Reports of Cases Argued and Adjudged in the Superior Court of Judicature of the Province of Massachusetts Bay between 1761 and 1772* and to complete our Quincy series. Our only other five-volume set is of the papers drawn from the Harvard College Archives issued in 1925, 1935, and 1975.

That the Quincy Papers are a contribution both to historical knowledge and to legal scholarship was recognized in a memorable afternoon on June 8 at the John Adams Courthouse in Pemberton Square. The Honorable Margaret Marshall, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, who had recently been elected to Honorary Membership in the Colonial Society, planned a salute to the Quincy Papers and their principal editor, Daniel R. Coquillette. More than 150 gathered in the SJC court room for a presentation to the court of the five-volume *Portrait of a Patriot* that was followed by most gracious and thoughtful remarks by the Chief Justice and a stirring discussion by Dan Coquillette of Josiah Quincy Junior and his significant contributions to American development. The assembly adjourned to the Society's house at 87 Mount Vernon Street for refreshments and conversation.

Josiah Quincy will be recognized once again at the Massachusetts Historical Society in an exhibition, *Josiah Quincy: A Lost Hero of the Revolution*, opening on Wednesday, October 20 with a lecture by Dan Coquillette. The exhibition presents letters, diaries, drawings, artifacts, and paintings from MHS's substantial archive of Quincy family papers.

We thank the Supreme Judicial Court and the Massachusetts Historical Society for joining us in applauding Josiah Quincy Junior and the Colonial Society's publications program.

Sincerely,
Donald R. Friary
President

Josiah Quincy's Day in Court

On June 8, Chief Justice Margaret H. Marshall of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court convened a special session in the John Adams Courthouse when Vice-President Daniel Coquillette presented the court with in his five-volume series *Portrait of a Patriot: The Political Writings of Josiah Quincy*. Coquillette's work had particular significance for the SJC, since the last two volumes of the series are a newly-annotated edition of *Quincy's Reports of Cases Argued and Adjudged before the Superior Court of the Province of Massachusetts between 1761 and 1772*. The *Reports* constitute the first systematic legal reporting in North America, and the SJC, the oldest court in the United States, has been in continuous existence since 1692. "These books are the living spirit of the rule of law and the heritage of this great court," Coquillette told the audience that filled the chamber for the ceremony. "Josiah Quincy Junior, at age 18, had the vision that if America was going to be a great legal country, it needed to have its own legal reports."

CSM President Donald F. Friary, who opened the program with his remarks, commented that by publishing *Portrait of a Patriot*, the CSM was continuing "our long tradition of making available to scholars, students, and the reading public significant historical documents. We also present to the bench and bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and indeed of the nation, a useful and citable source from the early years of our judicial interpretation." Turning to Vice-President Coquillette, he said, "I congratulate our principal editor, Daniel R. Coquillette, J. Donald Monan, S. J., University Professor at the Boston College Law School and Charles Warren Visiting Professor of American Legal History at the Harvard Law School, as we celebrate this remarkable achievement."

In accepting the volumes, Chief Justice Marshall likened Coquillette to Josiah Quincy himself, calling him "a brilliant, thoughtful, learned and ethical" lawyer and scholar. "I am extremely honored to accept this remarkable set of books. Your work is a great contribution to our collective education," she declared.

In commenting on the content of Volumes four and five, the Chief Justice noted, "Many of the cases in these volumes are of great significance: the Writs of Assistance and Boston



Chief Justice Margaret Marshall and Daniel Coquillette
at the John Adams Courthouse.

Massacre cases to name only two. . . . We are accustomed to thinking of this as the ‘pre-Revolutionary era.’ That name, of course, signifies our knowledge of the war that would follow. *Quincy’s Reports* allows us to view this time through the eyes of Royalists and Patriots who did not know what the future would bring. . . .”

“Most of the cases deal with the ordinary interactions of daily life. That is so often the case, even when momentous events may be looming. Encounters with ship owners, shop keepers, doctors, thieves, magistrates, and others capture, as you put it, ‘the great and petty affairs of the time, warts and all.’ Still others illustrate how the law perpetuated slavery, the low status of women, and social stratification. And what cases they are. They are a window never opened before on colonial life. *Quincy’s Reports* is a mine of historical gold nuggets.”

“As you have emphasized today, the judges and lawyers who populate these volumes shared, above all, a commitment to the rule of law. With assistance from your wonderful, insightful and informative introductions and annotations, *Quincy’s Reports* permits us to trace the origins of our nation’s embrace of a government of laws and not of men. Of an independent judicial branch of government. And ultimately of a constitutional form of government. An understanding of constitutional democracy, what it is and what sustains it, is not, as retired Associate Justice Sandra Day O’Connor reminds us, ‘passed down from generation to generation through the gene pool; it must be learned anew by each generation.’ Your work is a great contribution to our collective education.”

“Constitutional democracy is living democracy,” the Chief Justice said in her moving conclusion. “It presumes an ever-changing world. Justice has no pinnacle. Its work is

never done. ‘Justice, justice shall you pursue,’ commands Deuteronomy. We do not know what tomorrow’s work of justice will demand. We do know that Josiah Quincy and his peers, . . . , seeded in Massachusetts perhaps the best system ever devised to make possible a just society where all people are free and equal. Trials by jury, not mob violence. Judges and lawyers constrained by rules of law and rules of professional ethics. A legal system that allows for both stability and change, that permits for self-correction when new facts and circumstances arise. A legal system that is the model for free societies everywhere.”

Chief justices from the US Appellate Court, US District Court, Massachusetts Superior, Family and Probate and District courts also attended the presentation event.

A Brief Report on Publications

2009–2010 has been another busy year for Colonial Society publications. Fall 2009 saw the appearance of the final two volumes of Vice-President Daniel Coquillette and Neil York’s five-volume set, *Portrait of a Patriot: The Political and Legal Writings of Josiah Quincy Jr.* These final two volumes were a newly annotated edition of *Quincy’s Reports of Cases Argued and Adjudged before the Superior Court of Judicature of the Province of Massachusetts Bay*, long a staple research tool for both historians and lawyers. The *Reports* were never an easy source to use, but Coquillette’s new annotations and summaries of the cases greatly clarify a work that was previously opaque to all but the most specialized legal historians, and in doing so, Coquillette has opened up a rich source on the economic and social history of Boston in the pre-Revolutionary era, since many of the cases revolve around issues of slavery and gender, as well as the usual docket of property rights and criminal actions. Coquillette presented the members of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court with a copy of his work on 8 June 2010, and the Massachusetts Historical Society will exhibit many of its Quincy manuscripts as well as a number of important family portraits beginning 20 October 2010. (For more on both events, see elsewhere in this issue.)

Early in the winter of 2010, the Society published Fellow Member Neil York’s *An Outsider’s Inside View: The Writings of Henry Hulton*. Hulton, an imperial bureaucrat, is best known as a member of the American Board of Customs Commissioners, established in 1767 as part of Chancellor of the Exchequer Charles Townshend’s efforts to extract more revenue from Britain’s North American colonies. Hulton’s position made him a conspicuous target for patriot wrath; his house in Brookline was attacked by a mob, and he and his family had to flee on a number of occasions to the security of Castle William in the middle of Boston harbor. Hulton eventually left Boston with the evacuation of Howe’s troops in March 1776, but he kept a meticulous diary of events during the eleven-month siege that is one of our best accounts of that period. The real gem among Hulton’s writings, however, is his manuscript history of the

American Revolution, which reflects on the events in Boston since his arrival as a customs commissioner. Hulton takes a more detached view of what happened and is more inclined to see the Revolution as a result of structural weaknesses in imperial administration rather than the result of willful demagoguery that tends to be the view of Peter Oliver and other Loyalist historians. Hulton does, however, include several tart character sketches of some key actors, most notably Surveyor General of North American Customs John Temple and Benjamin Franklin.

In 2010-2011, CSM members should look for the publication of "Fields of Vision," the proceedings of the 2007 conference on North American Visual Culture co-sponsored by the Colonial Society and the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. The volume is edited by Fellow Members Georgia Barnhill and Martha McNamara. The table of contents includes the following essays: Martha J. McNamara, Introduction; Emerson Baker, "The Archeology of 1690: Material Life on New England's Northern Frontier;" Steve Bullock, "Often concerned in funerals': Ritual, Material Culture, and the Large Funeral in the Age of Samuel Sewall;" Kevin Muller, "Navigation, Vision, and Empire: Eighteenth-Century Engraved Views of Boston in a British Atlantic Context;" Martin Bruckner, "The 'New England' Cartouche: Tablets, Tableaux, and Theatricality in Eighteenth-Century Cartography;" Katherine Rieder, "The Remainder of Our Effects We Must Leave Behind': American Loyalists and the Meaning of Things;" Katherine Stebbins McCaffrey, "'Hares Haeredem': The Spectator Through Samuel Dexter's Spectacles;" Pat Johnston, "Books, Objects, and Friendships: Sharing World Views in Salem, Massachusetts, during the Early Republic;" Kevin Murphy, "Buildings, Landscapes and the Representation of Authority on the Eastern Frontier;" Catherine Kelly, "The Color of Whiteness: Picturing Race on Ivory;" and Wendy Bellion, "New England Ends."

Also, sometime before the end of 2011, we should see the second volume of *The Papers of Francis Bernard*, edited by the ever-industrious Colin Nicolson of the University of Stirling in Scotland.

Graduate Forum Alumni

As our Tenth Graduate Forum approaches, we began to wonder what has become of the graduate students who have participated in the previous sessions. Nearly fifty of our Graduate Forum alumni have responded enthusiastically to our contact, and they offer an impressive affirmation of the program's value. All warmly remembered their experience—for many, it was their first academic conference, the first time they were treated like professional scholars, with warm words about the Colonial Society members and their questions, their program moderators, and the other panelists. The alumni are at various stages of academic careers—lecturers, assistant, associate, and full professors; directors of undergraduate programs, and a few who have left academia



A panel at the Graduate Student Forum: Left to right: Kevin Doyle, Brandeis University; Jessica Parr, University of New Hampshire; Rachel Smith, University of Colorado; Alan Rogers, Boston College.

but maintain their passion for history. Since the first Graduate Forum in 1999, the Colonial Society has fulfilled the injunction Edmund S. Morgan gave us to encourage younger scholars.

Plans are underway for a reunion — either at the A.H.A. meeting in Boston, or perhaps in conjunction with next year's Graduate Forum, which will be our tenth.

Books by Graduate Forum Alumni

Chris Grenda (2000) and Chris Beneke (2000) *The First Prejudice: Religious Tolerance and Intolerance in Early America* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010)

Kate Carte Engel (2000) *Religion and Profit: Moravians in Early America* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009)

Robin DeRosa (2000) *The Making of Salem: The Witch Trials in History, Fiction and Tourism* (McFarland & Co., 2009)

Jonathan Beecher Field (1999) *Errands into the Metropolis: New England Dissidents in Revolutionary London* (Dartmouth, 2009)

Patrick Griffin (1999) *The People with No Name: Ireland's Ulster Scots, America's Scots Irish, and the Creation of a British Atlantic World* (Princeton, 2001)

American Leviathan: Empire, Nation, and Revolutionary Frontier (Hill & Wang, 2007)

Benjamin Irvin (2002) *Clothed in Robes of Sovereignty: The Continental Congress, the People Out of Doors, and the Making of National Identity during the American Revolution* (Oxford, 2011).

Robert Martello (1999) *Midnight Rider, Industrial Dawn: Paul Revere and the Growth of American Enterprise* (Johns Hopkins, 2010)

Tim Milford (1999) *The Gardiners of Massachusetts: Provincial Ambition and the British-American Career* (University Press of New England, 2005).

Eileen Hartigan O'Connor (2002) *The Ties that Buy: Women and Commerce in Revolutionary America* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009)

David Silverman (1999) *Red Brethren: The Brothertown and Stockbridge Indians and the Problem of Race in Early America*. (Cornell University Press, 2010)

Faith and Boundaries: Colonists, Christianity, and Community among the Wampanoag Indians of Martha's Vineyard, 1600-1871. (Cambridge, 2005).

Kyle Zelner (1999) *A Rabble in Arms: Massachusetts Towns and Militiamen during King Philip's War* (NYU Press 2009)

News of Members

Vice-President Bob Allison has published two new titles: *A Short History of Cape Cod* (Commonwealth Editions, 2010). Though it covers the history of the Cape to the present, it has chapters on exploration and on the Pilgrims, and on the Revolution; and "Before 1776: Life in Colonial America," (The Teaching Company, 2009) is a 36-lecture set, on DVD, CD, audio-tape, or available for downloading, covering North America in the 17th and 18th centuries, from Jamestown to the Boston tea party. He was also inducted as an honorary member into the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati in February and received the Distinguished Teaching Award from the Suffolk Student Government Association in April.

Peter Benes announces his new book, *Meetinghouses of Early New England*, will be issued by the University of Massachusetts Press in 2011. He is now working on a book on early American popular culture, entitled *For a Short Time Only*.

Timothy Breen is currently the William Smith Mason Professor of American History and serving as the director of the Nicholas D. Chabreja Center for Historical Studies at Northwestern University. This year saw the publication of his *American Insurgents, American Patriots: The Revolution of the People*.

Miriam W. Butts researched, designed, and mounted two exhibits of photographs, reproductions of documents, books, and artifacts and prepared bibliographies and brief guides to the exhibits for viewers in the Boston Room of The Boston Public Library for the annual Boston Charter Day programs sponsored by The Partnership of the Historic Bostons: "Boston, Lincolnshire, Comes to Boston, Massachusetts Bay, 1630-1710" (2007) and "Native Americans in the Time Before Now: Perceptions from Boston and Beyond." (2008).

Benjamin Carp was promoted to Associate Professor at Tufts University in May and his next book comes out in October: *Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America* (Yale University Press.)

Jeannine Falino is presently a curator at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City. She is preparing a catalogue on American craft and design in the mid-twentieth century, which includes a resource list at the back of more than 500 artists, institutions, shows, and galleries.

President Donald Friary has been elected to the Council of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. In November he was appointed to the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Philip F. Gura, a native of Ware, Massachusetts, was the featured speaker in September at the town's 250th anniversary celebration at the historic Ware Center meetinghouse. He has completed the bicentennial history of the American Antiquarian Society, to be published in 2012.

Michael Kammen published in May 2010 *Digging Up the Dead: a History of Notable American Reburials* (University of Chicago Press). It features an array of colonial figures who were exhumed, including Roger Williams, Joseph Warren, George Whitefield, James Wilson, John Paul Jones, and many others.

Marcus McCorison published "Printers and the Law: The Trials of Publishing Obscene Libel in Early America" in Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America, vol. 104, no.2, June 2010.

Pauline Maier's *Ratification, The People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788* will be published by Simon and Schuster on October 19. It got a terrific, starred review in *Kirkus Reviews*. Maier adds that the reviewer even "got" the book!

Carl R. Nold, president and CEO of Historic New England has completed a two-year term as chairman of the board of directors of the 20,000-member American Association of Museums, a period that included the establishment of the Center for the Future of Museums, initiating a remake of the national program of museum accreditation, and a focus on diversity and inclusivity in association governance and activities. Nold will serve for two more years as immediate past chairman, one of the three officers of the association.

Colin Nicolson of the University of Stirling, Scotland, is delighted to announce that he has been awarded a major research fellowship. The UK's Arts and Humanities Research Council has recently awarded him £66,000 to fund a nine-month sabbatical from teaching in 2011 that will enable him to complete volumes 3 and 4 of the *Papers of Francis Bernard, governor of Colonial Massachusetts*. The award complements generous funding already provided by the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. Nicolson is also presently on

research leave with a university sabbatical, working on volume 2 of the *Bernard Papers*; volume 1 was published in 2007. The support of both the Colonial Society and Stirling University were vital in securing the AHRC award. The AHRC described the *Bernard Papers* project as “An outstanding proposal meeting world-class standards of scholarship, originality, quality and significance.”

Karen Nipps, Head of the Rare Book Team at Houghton Library, is one of the many contributors to the final volume to appear in print of *A History of the Book in America*. Nipps’ essay, entitled “A Case Study: Urban Printing”, documents the work of the active 19th Philadelphia printer, Lydia Bailey. The volume, entitled *An Extensive Republic: Print, Culture, and Society in the New Nation, 1790–1840*, is actually number 2 of the much-lauded five-volume series, whose General Editor is Fellow Member **David D. Hall**, Bartlett Research Professor of New England Church History at the Harvard Divinity School. Nipps received two Bryant Fellowships in support of her work on Bailey and is currently putting final touches on a monograph on the same subject — which she hopes to see in print soon!

Mary Beth Norton has finished her latest book, which completes her trilogy on gender and power in early America (the other two volumes are *Founding Mothers & Fathers*, and *Liberty’s Daughters*.) This volume falls chronologically between the other two and is titled *Separated by their Sex: Women in Public and Private in the Early Modern Atlantic World*, starting in the seventeenth century and ending c. 1760. It will be published in spring 2011 by Cornell University Press. She was also elected a member of the American Philosophical Society this year.

Carla Gardina Pestana published *Religion and the Making of the British Atlantic World* (Penn Press, 2009), is currently a Guggenheim Fellow, finishing a book on the English conquest of Jamaica. At the Folger Shakespeare Library during fall 2010, she is co-directing a seminar on the Early Modern English Caribbean.

Anne Rand, while still at the USS *Constitution* Museum, steps into a new role as President. She writes, “Last year we opened a new exhibit called “All Hands on Deck: A Sailor’s Life in 1812.” It is based on more than 10 years of research on the enlisted crew who served on board during the War, with 1,182 sailors identified. The exhibition is designed for all ages and highlights about forty of these sailors. The new exhibit includes hands-on elements; visitors are invited to scrub the deck, furl a sail and then rest in a hammock. One nine-year old boy commented, “This is better than Disney World!” At the other end of the spectrum, we received this message: “So my thanks to all of you. You managed to keep two octogenarians and three teenage boys thoroughly engaged. No mean feat in either case!” Rand writes, “I extend an invitation to all CSM members to visit the Museum & Ship with their families — there’s no charge for admission. USS CONSTITUTION is just concluding her repair period this fall. Next spring she will again have the towering

masts befitting America’s Ship of State. We look forward to commemorating the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 with the visit of tall ships to Boston on July 4th.”

Alan Rogers was honored by the Boston College chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, as the “History Professor of the Year.” (2010)

Caroline Sloat edited, together with Jack Larkin, *The Diary of Christopher C. Baldwin 1929–1835*. She was also involved with the production of *Cultural Narratives* (with Sandra Gustafson) and the final volume of the American Antiquarian Society’s series, *A History of the Book*.

Reiner Smolinski reports that the first of his ten-volume edition of Cotton Mather’s holograph manuscript *Biblia Americana* (1693–1728) has just been published. Volume 1 (Genesis) will be released on October 10, 2010. Co-published by Baker Academic (US) and Mohr Siebeck (Germany), Mather’s *Biblia Americana* is the first complete commentary on all books of the bible by a colonial American. See the website at www.bibliaamericana.gsu.edu.

David Wylie’s book, *City, Save Thyself! Nuclear Terror and the Urban Ballot* is out. For more information, visit www.citysavethyself.com, which leads to the Independent Press Group website. It won two Indie Book Awards Finalist categories — Social Change and Current Events. His blog, “Idea Ransacker”, is at <http://thewylieblog.blogspot.com>.

Neil York has published two books within the past year: for the Colonial Society, of course, *An Outsider’s Inside View of the American Revolution: The Writings of Henry Hulton* and for Routledge, *The Boston Massacre: A History with Documents*. He anticipates two articles coming out in 2009: one in *American Studies* (on Howard Fast and his Revolutionary War novels) and the other in *Law and History Review* (on “treason” in 1774 Massachusetts. York also writes, “I have started an essay on the June 1778 peace proposal sent by Charles de Weissenstein (an admitted alias) to Franklin in Passy (mentioned in Labaree and Butterfield), which has been attributed to Sir Philip Jennings Clerke. He is fairly elusive; establishing authorship may be impossible. Still, perhaps someone in the Society knows something that could be passed along.”

New Members

Resident Members

Miriam W. Butts, of Lexington, is a history lecturer and seminar leader. She is a founding member of The Partnership of the Historic Bostons, Inc., an organization established to foster public understanding of the founders of Boston and to preserve the historical links with Boston, England. She was associated with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, for over 40 years, and has organized exhibitions and is the author of publications devoted to Anne Bradstreet, the 17-century poet.

Kevin McGrath, of Hudson, is the library teacher at Newton North High School, where is responsible for all aspects of the operation of the library media center. He has collaborated with fellow member Dean Eastman creating a website with documents and supporting material based upon the Society's volume of the *Overseers of the Poor*. In addition, they have also collaborated on other projects introducing students to primary document research. These include "Sagas in Stone," "Civic Engagement of African Americans," and "Portals to the Past."

Ondine E. Le Blanc, of Boston, is the Director of Publications at the Massachusetts Historical Society, where she has worked since 1997. She earned her Ph.D. in Literature from the University of Michigan. She is responsible for the Historical Society's publications and plays a central role in the digitizing of both the *Adams Papers* and *Winthrop Papers* series, while at the same time developing digital standards for future publications.

Edward S. Cooke, of Newton, is the Charles F. Montgomery Professor of American Decorative Arts at Yale University. Before going to Yale he was a curator in American Decorative Arts and Sculpture at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. His focus is upon American material culture and decorative arts, and he has published extensively on both historical and contemporary furniture. His *Making Furniture in Pre-industrial America: The Social Economy of Newtown and Woodbury, Connecticut*, explores the artisanal world of colonial and early national America. He is also the co-curator and catalog publication author of five exhibitions, the most recent of which is *Inspired by China: Contemporary Furnituremakers Explore Chinese Traditions* at the Peabody Essex Museum in 2006.

Owen Stanwood, of Chestnut Hill, is an assistant professor of history at Boston College. He is the author of numerous articles and his forthcoming book, *From Rebels to Subjects: The Glorious Revolution and the Imperial Transformation of British America*, examines how fears of Catholicism galvanized and transformed Anglo-American political culture during the last decades of the seventeenth century.

Benjamin L. Carp, of Medford, is an Associate Professor of History at Tufts University, where he also serves as the history advisor for the Museum Studies Program. His first book *Rebels Rising: Cities and the American Revolution* focused on the five largest British American cities as case studies for Revolutionary activities. His new book *Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America* explores the local and global history of the event, as well as its causes and legacy.

Non-resident Members

William N. Hosley, Jr., of Enfield, CT, is now the principal of TerraFirmaNE, a Connecticut-based consulting business that assists communities, museums and historical organiza-

tions in strategic planning. When at the Wadsworth Athenaeum he staged the influential exhibition *The Great River: Art and Society in the Connecticut Valley, 1635-1820*. He created other significant exhibitions, on Japanese influence in American art and the Colt family as collectors. He is the former Director of the Connecticut Antiquarian and Landmarks Society and the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

Reiner Smolinski, of Atlanta, GA, is a professor of Early American Literature at Georgia State University. He is the author of *The Threefold Paradise of Cotton Mather*. His "Israel Redivivus: The Eschatological Limits of Puritan Typology in New England" was awarded the Colonial Society's Walter Muir Whitehill Prize in 1989. He is currently the general editor of the projected 10-volume authoritative edition of Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana*.

Barbara McLean Ward, of Portsmouth, N.H., is Director/Curator of the Moffatt-Ladd House in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. She has had a long and distinguished career as a scholar and teacher in early American material culture. Barbara has specialized in American silver, and presented and published "Continuity and Change in New England Church Silver and Communion Practices, 1790-1840" in the Society's 1996 conference and 2001 volume on *New England Silver & Silversmithing, 1620-1815*.

Suggested Reading

Via email, we asked our members to tell us what they were reading this summer. Here are a few answers:

Bob Allison speaks well of two books by Fellow Members. One is Marla Miller's *Betsy Ross and the Making of America* (2010). Betsy Ross may not have made "the" flag, but she made flags, and in this extraordinarily well-researched and well-written book, Marla Miller introduces us to Elizabeth Griscom Ross Ashburn Claypoole and Philadelphia in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. A dissident Quaker, a working upholsterer, Betsy Claypoole (as she was known for most of her adult life) would be forgotten today but for the legend; Marla Miller's biography makes her unforgettable for her very ordinary life—marriages and widowhood, raising children, and working as a skilled upholsterer. "A terrific book," he says. And for historical fiction, he commends Fellow Member William Martin's *City of Dreams* (2010) as a vivid recreation of New York in the late eighteenth century, late nineteenth century, early twentieth century, and today. Its characters range from Alexander Hamilton and J. P. Morgan to the waterfront toughs of the 1770s to the slums of Hell's Kitchen and the anarchists of 1919, with the Russian mafia and a shady book-dealer for good measure. And also, if you have trouble understanding public credit and deficit spending, here is a primer.

Benjamin Carp swears he would never recommend historical fiction set in the period he studies except M. T. Anderson's two-volume fiction series, *The Astonishing Life of Octa-*

vian *Nothing*, is so good. “Anderson really gets a lot of the language, the background and the history just right—while still offering a riveting fictional account,” Carp writes.

Susan Goganian praises *Mannahatta: A Natural History of New York City* by Eric Sanderson (author) and Markley Boyer (illustrator.) Using both computer modelling and analysis of human and botanical evidence, Sanderson reconstructs Manhattan as it appeared when Henry Hudson arrived in New York. Extensively illustrated, including spectacular color images.

Peter R. Haack recommends Robert Richardson’s *William James: In the Maelstrom of American Modernism* (Houghton Mifflin 2006, now in paper) as deeply understanding of the conflicting directions in philosophy and psychology that busied James. The William James Society just held their 2010 Symposium in two places: Chocorua, NH near James’s home there and near his home Salter Hill in Madison, the former residence of his friend William Salter of the Ethical Culture Society.

Pauline Maier praises Woody Holton’s *Abigail Adams* as a “beautifully written book. He was probably attracted to Abigail by her consciousness of the constraints her gender put on her, but Woody is ready to be surprised. In an age of *couverture*, for example, Abigail found marriage a liberation: finally she was out from under her controlling mother and could do what SHE wanted to do. He is also continually trying to imagine her world and the things people assume so much they rarely write about them. It deserved the Bancroft Prize!”

Carl R. Nold has been reading: Charles Glass, *Americans in Paris*. This is a riveting account of a variety of Americans who remained in Paris throughout the Nazi occupation, with special attention to New Englander Dr. Sumner Jackson, head of the American Hospital of Paris, who lost his life after long success treating and aiding members of the Resistance amidst the Nazi presence. The book documents stories that would otherwise soon be lost with the declining numbers of living participants of World War II.

Annie Robinson, *Peabody & Stearns: Country Houses and Seaside Cottages*. In a work of architectural history that includes descriptions of summer hours and brief vignettes about the owners, Maine author Robinson focuses attention on New England’s premiere designers of country houses. Many of the buildings will be familiar, even to those with limited experience with architectural history. The book is a very useful reference, and a read that is especially enjoyable during the summertime, for which these homes were built.

Jill Jonnes, *Eiffel’s Tower*, New York, Viking, 2009. M. Eiffel’s tower was constructed as the centerpiece of the 1889 Universal Exposition and Centennial of the French Revolution. Its story is the centerpiece of a lighthearted social history that incorporates nineteenth-century characters from James Whistler to Annie Oakley and Thomas Jefferson. Learn how Buffalo Bill took Paris by storm!

Mary Beth Norton recommends Tony Horwitz’s delightful *A Voyage Long and Strange*, a personal account of the author’s search for the sites and events of American history between Columbus’s voyages and the landing of the Pilgrims. While visiting Plymouth Rock, Horwitz tells his readers, he started to wonder about what happened between 1492 and 1620. And he took to the skies and the roads to find out.

Alan Rogers enthusiastically recommends John Sensbach, *Rebecca’s Revival: Creating Black Christianity in the Atlantic World*.

John W. Tyler thinks members might enjoy Richard H. Gassan’s *The Birth of American Tourism: New York, the Hudson Valley, and American Culture, 1790–1830*. Gassan argues that the first American tourists traveled up the Hudson River Valley to Ballston Spa and Saratoga Springs for their health. A whole network of hotels, steamboats, and guidebooks grew up to support the fledgling industry. He also maintains that the tales of Washington Irving and James Fenimore Cooper, as well as the canvases of the Hudson River painters, were a response rather than a cause of this phenomenon.

Quincy Manuscripts on Exhibition at MHS

TO MARK the publication of the concluding volumes of *Portrait of a Patriot: The Major Political and Legal Papers of Josiah Quincy Jr.* by CSM Vice-President Daniel R. Coquillette, the Massachusetts Historical Society is staging an exhibition of the manuscripts on which the five volumes were based: Quincy’s political commonplace book, his London journal, the legal commonplace book, the Southern journal, and his legal reports. The exhibition may also include sketches by Eliza Quincy of the Quincy house and farm, also owned by the MHS. Dan Coquillette will speak at the opening of the exhibition at 7 P.M. on Wednesday, October 20. CSM members who would like to attend, but are not members of the MHS need to pre-register by responding positively to an email that the CSM will send out closer to the date of the event. The manuscripts will be on exhibition through the early winter 2011.



THE COLONIAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS
87 Mount Vernon Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dates to Remember

20 October 2010 at 7:00 PM — Opening of the Josiah Quincy Jr. exhibition at the Massachusetts Historical Society. The exhibition continues through the early winter of 2011.

18 November 2010 at 5:30 PM — Annual Meeting followed by the Annual Dinner at the Somerset Club.

16 December 2010 at 3:00 PM — “Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America”
by Benjamin Carp, Assistant Professor of History, Tufts University.

17 February 2011 at 3:00 PM — “Occupying Boston: An Intimate History of the Boston Massacre”
by Serena Zabin, Assistant Professor of History, Carleton College.

21 April 2011 at 3:00 PM — “Cod and the Atlantic Origins of the American Revolution”
by Christopher P. Magra, Assistant Professor of History, University of Tennessee.

Annual Fund, 2009-2010

The Colonial Society's membership has responded with great generosity to this year's Annual Appeal. We are pleased to report that gifts in the September 1, 2009-August 31, 2010 period reached \$16,735 as compared to \$16,349.16 in 2008-2009. We are grateful to all who have participated this year, especially to our leadership donors in the Samuel Eliot Morison Circle and Frederick Jackson Turner Circle and to the donors of special purpose gifts for the Walter Muir Whitehill Prize Fund and the William M. Fowler, Jr., Outreach Fund.

The Annual Fund complements our endowment and rental income, members' dues, and sales of books to maintain the Society's financial position and the high quality of our publications and programs.

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Please Help with the Whitehill Prize

In 1990, members of the Colonial Society established a prize of two thousand five hundred dollars, in memory of Walter Muir Whitehill, for many years Editor of Publications for the Colonial Society and the moving force behind the organization. It is be awarded for an outstanding essay on colonial history, not previously published, with preference being given to New England subjects. A distinguished committee of members of the Colonial Society act as judges: Bernard Bailyn, Adams University Professor and James Duncan Phillips Professor of Early American History, Emeritus, Harvard University; Robert Middlekauff, Hotchkiss Professor of U.S. History, University of California, Berkeley; and Edmund Sears Morgan, Sterling Professor Emeritus, History, Yale University. By arrangement with the editors of *The New England Quarterly*, the winning essay is published in an appropriate issue of that journal.

For the past several years, the numbers of submissions has been declining, and in some cases, because of disappointing quality, there has been no award. CSM members should please be on the lookout for authors with essays suitable for consideration for the prize. The deadline for receiving submissions for the 2010 prize is 31 December 2010. The Society expects to announce the winning candidate in the spring of 2011. For further information on this prize, please contact the Whitehill Prize Committee, c/o Linda Smith Rhoads, Meserve Hall, Second Floor, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115.

