

ADDRESS.

DELIVERED AT THE COGGESHALL FAMILY REUNION,
NEWPORT, R. I., SEPT. 9, 1884,

BY HON. HENRY T. COGGESHALL, OF WATERVILLE, N. Y.

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FRIENDS AND KINDRED ALL:

Not for the sake of sentiment only, nor for mere social enjoyment, have we gathered here to-day from our various homes in town and country, from hillside and valley, seashore and prairie, in this most beautiful and peaceful of cities. It is our first reunion; a duty perhaps too long neglected, and we are here to-day to do homage to the family name, to recount the brave deeds, the self-sacrifices, the sufferings and hardships of our worthy ancestors, and to strengthen the invisible links of patriotic pride which bind our common kindred.

Mr. Drake says:—"Rightly to estimate the present we must invoke the past, of which we ourselves are the product, and its study cannot fail to teach us the importance of perpetuating those elements of true greatness in New England character, bequeathed to us by our Puritan ancestry, and in which their descendants take a justifiable pride. The old church, the old schoolhouse, the old burial place, the old homestead, even "The old oaken bucket that hangs in the well." All these have their

lesson to impart and recall memories of the past, which, though not always pleasurable, are yet not devoid of interest, and have a charm for us even in their sadness."

The name of Coggeshall is of very ancient origin. As early as the reign of King Stephen, or previously to 1155, there was living at the manor of Little Coggeshall Hall, Essex Co., England, Sir Thomas De Coggeshall, who took his name from his place of residence, as was the custom of the time.

The town of Coggeshall is very pleasantly situated on the northeast bank of the Blackwater river, about 44 miles from London, and contains an area of about 2770 acres. In old records and deeds it is often called Sunny Bank, from the beauty of its location. It stands partly upon the low grounds on the north side of the river, and partly upon the slope of an agreeable hill. The town is ill built, and the clothing trade, especially the manufacture of baize, which was formerly carried on, has almost entirely disappeared; but some branches of the silk manufacture have been introduced, and a few of the inhabitants are engaged in the making of toys. The church, a spacious structure in the perpendicular style, has a large square tower. The river is here crossed by an ancient bridge of three arches. There seems always to have been more or less difficulty in spelling the name correctly, even by those living in the town, the old records showing it written upwards of a dozen different ways, such as Goggeshall, Hoggeshall, &c. Morant, the able historian of Essex Co., says: "The true and original name seems to me to have been Cocks-hall." He also adds that the town owed its origin to the Abbey, which drew around it numerous inhabitants and dependents. Ralph Coggeshall, the learned monk, first canon of Barnwell, near Cambridge, subsequently joining the Cistercian order, became Abbot of Coggeshall Abbey, the sixth in line from its foun-

dation. He was a man of great learning and abilities, employing most of his leisure hours in writing chronicles, more especially additions to the Rodulphus Niger. Failing in health, he resigned his position and retired to private life, dying about 1230. He was a crusader, and is supposed to have been present at the siege of Jerusalem, as he afterwards wrote a history of it, as well as a history of England, both in Latin; a copy of the latter may be found in the Astor Library, also in the Congressional Library at Washington.

Sir Thomas, of Little Coggeshall Hall, from whom we are all descended, had three sons: Sir Thomas, Sir Roger and John. From these is traced a long line of worthy progeny, men of distinction and ability, filling numerous positions of honor, responsibility and trust. Some were knighted, some sheriffs of Essex and Hertfordshire counties, members of Parliament, &c.

In the King's book of Inquisition, a copy of which was given by the British Government to the Redwood Library, Newport, mention is made of the Coggeshalls during the feudal ages, especially in the wars with Scotland. In one instance a Coggeshall is ordered by the King's requisition to raise a quantity of men for the invasion of Scotland, to rendezvous at New Castle on the Tyne. Another to furnish men from his own estates to rendezvous at Berwick upon Tweed. The family were large landed proprietors, possessing at one time ten estates in the counties of Essex and Suffolk, among them Cobham Hall, the family seat. The remnants of these vast estates passed out of the family name by the marriage of the daughters of Sir William about the twelfth generation from the original. Sir Thomas Weever, in his monuments of London, remarks, "the Coggeshalls in former ages were gentlemen of exemplary regard and knightly degree, whose ancient habitation was in the town. Among the

monuments in London is one erected to John Coggeshall who died in 1334, another to Thomas Coggeshall died July 17, 1415, and to Henry, son of Thomas, died Jan. 9, 1427.

Thus far, all attempts have proved unsuccessful to determine from which branch of Coggeshalls, descended our common ancestor John, the first to emigrate to this country. It is even doubtful if any of this once extensive and prominent family now reside within the Queen's domains. In the "seccional papers," a voluminous work, published by an order of Parliament, giving the names of every land holder possessing an acre or more outside of boroughs of 20,000 inhabitants, not a single Coggeshall appears.

Samuel Gardner Drake tells us, that, "In a large volume, bound in vellum, now in the Rolls Office Chancery Lane, London, are records of a few of the early emigrants to New England. On the cover of the volume, containing the earliest of such records yet discovered, is this inscription :—

'A Book of Entrie for, passengers by ye commission, and souldiers according to the Statutie passing beyond the seas, begun at Christmas, 1631, and ending at Christmas, 1632.' In it were originally about two quires of paper, all of which are filled with the records indicated on the cover. The front of the book appears to have been intended for the entry of names of soldiers. The other end for emigrants, travellers, traders, &c. The part containing these entries is entire. The volume is not paged, but the dates follow in order, which is ample for reference. The first entry of names of persons for New England which I find on leaf 6, and is as follows: 'XXIj, Junij 1632. The names of such men transported to New England to the Plantacon there, p'r. cert, from Capt. Mason, have tendered and taken the oath of allegiance according

to the Statute.' " Then follows a list of names, the fourth being that of John Coggeshall, which is the earliest mention of him.

At this time there existed in England the most cruel and relentless persecution of the Puritans, occasioned by the attempted emancipation from Popish rule. We are told that, "working strong in all the years since the conquest of the island by William of Normandy, was the inherited love of liberty. This freedom had been checked by foreign invasion and priestly domination, but the manhood of the race chafed beneath the yoke. The free Anglo-Saxon spirit asserted itself again and again, in society and in politics. This is seen, particularly in the eastern counties, which have from the beginning, been the chief strongholds of English liberalism in church and state. In this people was inborn, from generation to generation, a constitutional love of right. Wycliffe, in 1380, gave the Bible to the People, despite Papal opposition. John Tyn- dal translated it anew in the sixteenth century, for which he was strangled and burned. With the truths and teachings of the Bible made accessible, Puritanism rapidly increased. Under Henry the Eighth, the English church separated from Rome and the sovereign became its head. But the spirit of the reformation was still working in the hearts of the masses of the people. Many of the forms and ceremonies of Romanism had not been discarded, which to the Puritans stood for principles which he hated, and he refused to conform to them. Then came strife and persecution." During the short reign of Queen Mary, Palfry says, "the history of Protestantism is the history of the sufferings of its confessors. Nearly three hundred persons, among them five bishops, were burned; imprisonments and confiscations followed one upon another; numbers of dissentents sought safety in exile, and those who remained at home were reduced to silence. Mem.

bers of the Lower House were fined for absenting themselves from Parliament, where they could not with good conscience promote the policy of the court, and could not with safety oppose it."

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth were passed the memorable acts of "Supremacy" and of "Uniformity"; these, with the persistent tyranny of Archbishop Whitgift and the "Court of High Commission," spread grief and dismay throughout the land. There were executions, long imprisonments, and disastrous fines, and many ministers with their followers withdrew to Amsterdam and other cities of the United Provinces.

The accession of the Scottish King James to the throne of England brought no relief. Three hundred ministers were deprived of their pulpits, some were imprisoned, while others escaped to the continent. In 1625 Charles the first ascended the throne and matters grew worse. Under the ecclesiastical administration of Archbishop Laud, every corner of the realm was subject to a constant and minute inspection. Every little congregation of dissenters was tracked out and broken up. He whipped them, put them in pillory, slit their noses, branded their cheeks, cut off their ears, executed them and confiscated their property. Even the devotion of private families could not elude the eager watchfulness of his spies and many thousands of upright, industrious and law-loving men were forced to emigrate to New England to escape this indomitable and heartless persecution.

Amid such scenes of strife and conflict, John Coggeshall, the Puritan, bidding adieu to the shores of *Old* England, the land of his birth and home of his children, sought to find in the wilds of a *New* England, that civil and religious liberty which he deemed it his right and privilege to enjoy and to obtain which, no sacrifice seemed too great or hardship too severe.

How can we contemplate the early history of our Puritan fathers with any but feelings of wonder and admiration! Men of position and means, delicate women and young and tender children, leaving their English homes of luxury and comfort, braving the dangers of the stormy seas, seeking homes on the bleak and desolate shores of a far-distant land, exposed to the discomforts and perils of the wilderness, all for a stern devotion to principle, when the simple acceptance of a creed would ensure them peace and abundance on their own native isle.

“They sought not gold nor guilty ease
Upon this rock-bound shore,
They left such prizeless toys as these
To minds that loved them more;
They sought to breathe a freer air,
To worship God unchain’d,
They welcomed pain and danger here
When rights like these were gained.”

Taking passage on or about June 23, 1632, on the good ship “Lyon,” Capt. William Pierce, after a pleasant voyage of about twelve weeks, John Coggeshall arrived safely at Boston, Sunday, Sept. 16, or more properly speaking, Sept. 27th, new style. He was then about forty years of age, and his business had been that of a silk merchant in Essex County, England. With him came his wife Mary and their three children, John, Joshua and Ann. At this time the Plymouth colony had already been twelve years on the shores of Massachusetts Bay, and numbered about three hundred, while several smaller and less important settlements had been made at various other points on the New England coast, mostly for the purposes of fishing and trade. Endicott, with his company, had survived four winters of trials and sufferings at Naumkeag or Salem. Two years had passed since the ship “Arabella”, sailing from Yarmouth, England, brought Gov. Winthrop and his companions to the New England settle-

ments. On landing at Salem, Winthrop found the colony in the most discouraging condition ; "more than a quarter of their predecessors had died during the previous winter, and many of the survivors were ill or feeble. There was a scarcity of all sorts of provisions, and not corn enough for a fortnight's supply after the arrival of the fleet. Sickness soon began to spread, and before the close of autumn, had proved fatal to two hundred of this year's emigration." Winthrop, with his party, sought a more attractive place of settlement, and in the choice of a capital town, attention was turned to Mishawum, already called Charlestown. Here, ten weeks after landing, the first Court of Assistants on this side of the water was convened. Winthrop's infant colony at Charlestown passed through many vicissitudes of sickness and death, mostly ascribed to the want of good water. Hearing of the sufferings of his fellow-men, William Blackstone, the first white settler of Boston, (then called Shawmut), acquainted the Governor of an excellent spring and invited him to settle there. Upon Blackstone's invitation, many of the Charlestown settlers removed to Shawmut, and there was held the first general court of the company of Massachusetts Bay. Temporary habitations of the rudest character were erected. They were of wood, with thatched roofs, and chimneys built of pieces of wood placed crosswise, covered inside and out with clay. We may imagine the economy of the times, when in 1632 Governor Winthrop reproved his deputy for bestowing so much cost in wainscoting and adorning his house in the beginning of a plantation, both in regard to the public charges and for example. The answer was that it was for warmth of his house, and the charges but little, being simply clapboards nailed to the walls in the *form* of wainscot.

The plantations through which the Massachusetts settlers were scattered were then eight in number, namely :

Salem, Charlestown, Dorchester, Boston, Watertown, Roxbury, Mystic and Saugus (Lynn).

Coming to this land of poverty and want, wretched shelter and homeless associations, depending still upon the mother country for every article of domestic comfort, almost for very food, John Coggeshall with his young family united in the common interest. Just where he at first located is still a matter of conjecture, though it is presumed to have been Roxbury from his joining the First Church of that place, then under the pastoral charge of the apostle John Elliot. This must have been done very soon after his arrival as he was admitted a Freeman Nov. 6, 1632, and one of the necessary qualifications for this membership, was the fellowship of some one of the churches. On the list of church members, his name appears number thirty and that of his wife number thirty-one.

For some unknown reason, possibly want of congeniality, evidently some dissatisfaction, he withdrew from the Roxbury church and united with the First Church of Boston, April 20, 1634, Rev. John Wilson, pastor, where he was soon elected a deacon. Whether he changed his place of residence or not, with his change of churches, it is impossible now to determine, though it is most probable that he did, as his name becomes so prominent afterwards in Boston affairs. We note from old records, that in the allotment of lands for pasturage to the inhabitants of Boston, from territory adjoining the town, one William Townsend receives from Muddy River, now called Brookline, eight acres—"bounded on the northwest with a swamp by Mr. John Coggeshall's wigwam." Whether by this term "wigwam" was meant his residence, or merely a shelter for his cattle, is not easily explained, though very likely the latter. A further grant was allotted him of two hundred acres of pasturage at the south of Saugus River, which must have embraced a portion, if not the whole, of

the present summer resort known as "Point of Pines," though the land evidences of those early days are exceedingly meagre and indefinite, and consequently difficult to trace beyond the mere allotment. Wherever his name occurs, it invariably has the prefix, "Mr", signifying in those times, dignity and quality, and indicating something more than the simple form of polite address of the present day. His abilities were not long in being recognized, for Sept. 1, 1634, he appears as one of the board of selectmen, and at the meeting of the General Court, May 14, 1634, his name leads the list of deputies from Boston, the whole number being twenty-four, representing eight different towns. He was also a member for the years 1635, 1636, and 1637. We find him public spirited in various other ways. To assist in the erection of a fortification on Fort Hill, he is one of twelve to loan the colony five pounds.

In March, 1636, he is appointed, with others, to superintend the allotment of land to all new comers. On August 12, 1636, at a meeting of the richer inhabitants of the town his name is the tenth on the list of forty-five subscribers to the support of public instruction.

It might here be mentioned that the ship "Lyon," which brought John Coggeshall to this country, was quite a noted vessel, and under command of Capt. Pierce, made a number of successful voyages, including among her passengers many persons who afterwards became distinguished in colonial affairs. Dec. 1, 1630, she sailed from Bristol, England, and after a tempestuous passage, arrived safely at Boston, Feb. 5, 1631, bringing among others, no less a personage than Roger Williams, so prominently and inseparately concerned in the early history of Rhode Island. In the same year she brought the apostle Eliot with William Curtis and Sarah, his wife, Eliot's sister, and their children, in company with the wife of Governor

Winthrop. The voyage of 1632, however, appears to have been her last. Just before his return trip, Capt. Pierce entertained the Governor and others on board, and sailed for England by way of Virginia. On the night of Nov. 2, when near the cape of Virginia, by negligence of the mate, the ship was cast away and lost, with twelve of her passengers and crew. After this disaster, Capt Pierce settled in Massachusetts, and from him are descended many of that name living at the present day.

Before discussing the causes which led to the removal of John Coggeshall beyond the jurisdiction of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, it might be well to briefly outline the relationship of Roger Williams to the colony, and review the differences which occasioned his banishment, so intimately connected are they, with the existence and success of the Rhode Island settlements. Arriving, as is already mentioned, in Feb. 1631, a reputation for piety and learning having preceded him, he was almost immediately invited by the church at Salem to become their teacher. Williams, though a clergyman of many virtues, kind-hearted, courageous, not easily disheartened or discouraged, was possessed of one of those singular and uncomfortable dispositions which ever delights in conflict or strife, and is never so happy or self-satisfied as when engaged in some controversy or quarrel. During his short stay of some four years in Massachusetts, whether at Boston, Salem, or Plymouth, he seems to have kept the public mind in a constant state of agitation, and after winning a few adherers to his latest novelty, would start off in some new direction, irresistably impelled by the ever present desire for excitement. At one time refusing to join the Boston Church "because they would not make public declaration of their repentence for having communion with the church of England while they lived there." At another, disputing their title to the lands they pos-

sessed under the King's grant, unless they had treated with the natives. Even matters of the smallest moment did not escape his contentious spirit, such as pronouncing it the duty of women to wear veils at all public gatherings. But the most convincing proof of his uncomfortable society, was the teaching "publicly, that a magistrate ought not to tender an oath to an unregenerate person," a matter which would seriously effect the "Freeman's Oath" and "Residents Oath," measures prescribed for securing allegiance to the colony. The Magistrates and Deputies, fully satisfied that Williams and his associates were dangerous men to the community, ordered him on October, 1635, "to depart out of this jurisdiction within six weeks next ensuing." He passed the winter with the Pokanoket Indians, with whom he had been on friendly terms when at Plymouth. In the spring of 1636, with a few of his Salem friends, he commenced a settlement at Seekonk, but this was afterwards abandoned. In the following June, with five companions, he landed on the high point which divides the Seekonk River from the upper inlet of Narragansett Bay, and near to a spring of water, laid the foundation of the city of Providence.

The Massachusetts magistrates were scarcely relieved of the turbulent and obnoxious influences of Roger Williams when they became engaged in a conflict still more vexatious and perplexing, for the leader of the opposition was an intelligent and strong-minded woman. Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, with her husband William and seven children, left their home in Lincolnshire, near Boston, England, where they enjoyed a good estate, and came to New England in Sept. 1634. In England she had found no satisfactory ministrations of the gospel, but those of John Cotton and her brother-in-law, John Wheelright, and her desire to still enjoy the benefits of Cotton's preaching, induced her to emigrate. Singularly enough, the excitement and bit-

terness attending the banishment of Roger Williams, appears to have passed by her unnoticed ; at least no public demonstration of it, by tongue or pen, is recorded. Neal gives the origin of the Hutchinson controversy in the following words : "The members of the church at Boston used to meet once a week, to repeat the sermons they had heard on the Lord's day, and to debate on the doctrines contained in them. Those meetings being peculiar to the men, some of the zealous women thought it might be useful to them. One Mrs. Hutchinson, a gentlewoman of a bold and masculine spirit, and a great admirer of Mr. Cotton, set up one at her house. She taught that believers in Christ are personally united to the spirit of God that commands to work out salvation with fear and trembling, belong to none but such as are under the covenant of work ; that sanctification is not good evidence of a good estate. She likewise set up immediate revelation about future events, to be believed as equally infallible with the Scriptures, and a great many other opinions and fancies which, under a pretence of exalting the free grace of God, destroyed the practical part of religion." She displayed such a masterly comprehension of the subject, and expounded her views with so much power, intelligence and self-conviction, that she carried Cotton captive, and numbered among her followers, not only the members of her own family, including her brother-in-law, Mr. Wheelwright, but many of the best and most influential men in the town became her supporters. Even the strong-minded and conscientious Winthrop wavered for a time, but was finally rescued by the more convincing arguments of Rev. Mr. Wilson, and afterwards became her bitterest enemy.

The general court that met March, 1637, presented more the character of an ecclesiastical council than of a legislative or judicial body. Led by the treatment which Wilson

had received for a speech made at the last session, the court consulted the clergy as to its authority over the churches, and received from them the decision that the court might proceed independently in cases of heresy dangerous to the State. This advice they immediately acted upon by summoning Wheelright to answer for a sermon preached by him at Braintree, on a recent fast day, where they claimed he had employed an occasion designed to heal all differences, as a means for kindling and increasing them. The sermon was produced by his accusers, and defended by its author. A greater part of the original manuscript of the sermon is preserved in the archives of the Massachusetts Historical Society. A comparatively modern hand has written on a blank page, that it was left in the hands of Mr. John Coggeshall, who was a deacon of the church of Boston. After much debate, Wheelright was found guilty of sedition and contempt, but sentence was deferred until the next court. The Boston church petitioned in his behalf, and justified the sermon. So great was the excitement, and so overwhelming the forces of male and female tongues, that a motion was made that the next court of election should be held at Cambridge. At this court, the deputies from Boston were Coddington, Coggeshall and Aspinwall, the last two being deacons of the Boston church. The name of Aspinwall stood first upon the petition, and being a member of the General Court, the question arose as to his fitness to be a member. He was then called upon to affirm whether he justified the matter contained in the petition. He unhesitatingly and positively asserted that he did, and was thereupon expelled. Next was John Coggeshall. Though his signature was not to the paper, being a deputy to the court when it was promulgated, yet he expressed his mind boldly, telling them that as they had put out Mr. Aspinwall, they had best make clean work of it; that though his hand was

not to the petition, yet he had signed a protestation which was to the same effect, and he approved of it. This resulted, too, in his dismissal, and a request was sent to Boston for two men to fill the vacancies. These proceedings vexed the people of Boston, and for a while it appeared as if the expelled members would be returned. At the same session of the court, the case of Mr. Wheelwright was brought up for sentence, and he was required to leave the jurisdiction within fourteen days, upon penalty of imprisonment. Having purchased a tract of land some time before in New Hampshire, he removed there at once and founded the present town of Exeter.

The important event following the banishment of Wheelwright, and the final scene in this long protracted strife, was the trial of Mrs. Hutchinson herself, who was termed the "breeder and nourisher of all these distempers." This was commenced on Nov. 20, 1637, and lasted two days. The impartial reader, viewing this proceeding in the light of humanity, justice or common sense, cannot fail to be impressed with the weakness and unfairness of it. Of the various points of error submitted against her, many were ridiculous, a score or more were of no importance whatever, and many others too plainly untrue. The accusation upon which Mrs. Hutchinson was arraigned, was thus stated by Governor Winthrop, on the opening of her examination. "Mrs. Hutchinson", said the Governor addressing the lady, "your course is not to be suffered. You are leading souls astray at your meetings; and we know not that any have authority to set up any other exercises besides what are already established." Mrs. Hutchinson replied that this was a matter of conscience. "Your conscience" said the Governor, "you must keep, or it must be kept for you." She then repeated that she was arraigned, but had heard no offence laid to her charge, and asked her accusers for specifications, and for proof. Hugh Peters,

the future regicide, feeling the force of Mrs. Hutchinson's plea, that no charge had actually been proved against her, now stepped forward and volunteered his testimony. He had been to her house, and listened to her conversation, for the express purpose, it seems, of becoming a witness against her. Like an eves-dropper, he had treasured up her sayings; like a designing informer, he had put artful questions, with the view of extorting confessions that might be used against her. After giving an account of his interview with Mrs. Hutchinson at her house, Peters at length announced to the assembly the formidable accusation. It was thus, that she had said "there was a wide and broad difference between Mr. Cotton and the other ministers of the colony; that he preached the covenant of *grace*, and they the covenant of *works*, &c." Mrs. Hutchinson again asked for proofs. "Proofs!" exclaimed the Deputy-Governor Dudley, "why here are six undeniable witnesses, who say it is true, and yet you deny that you said that they preach the covenant of works, and are not able ministers of the gospel." "The ministers come in their own cause," said Mrs. Hutchinson, "they are not competent witnesses; but as the Lord hath said that an oath is the end of all controversy, I desire that those who have here witnessed against me, may speak upon oath." At this point of the examination Mr. Coggeshall, who had thus far been a silent spectator of the scene, rose and suggested to the deputies, that before they proceed to swear, they should confer with Mr. Cotton. "What!" exclaimed Governor Winthrop, "shall we not believe so many godly elders, in a cause wherein we know the minds of the party without their testimony?" "I will tell you what I say," interrupted John Endicott, addressing Coggeshall, in a passion, "I think that this carriage of yours tends only to cast dirt in the face of the judges." "Will you Mr. Coggeshall," continued Winthrop, "will you say that

Mrs. Hutchinson did not say what has been laid to her charge by these ministers?" "Yes," said he, "I dare say that she did not say all that which they allege against her." "How dare you," said Hugh Peters, stepping up to Coggeshall, his face crimson with anger, "how dare you look into the court, to say such a word?" Coggeshall, addressing the presiding officer Winthrop, contemptuously observed, "Mr. Peters takes it upon himself to forbid me; I shall be silent." The trial proceeded and the following is the sentence; as pronounced by the court. "Mrs. Hutchinson, the wife of Mr. William Hutchinson, being convicted for traducing the ministers and their ministry, in the country, she declared voluntarily her revelations, and that she should be delivered, and the Court ruined with their posterity, and thereupon was banished; and in the meanwhile was committed to Mr. Joseph Welde, (of Roxbury,) until the court shall dispose of her." Here she remained during the winter at her husband's expense and was kindly treated.

The Government, still feeling a sense of insecurity, issued the following order which had best be expressed in its own language: "Whereas the opinions and revelations of Mr. Wheelright and Mrs. Hutchinson have seduced and led into dangerous errors many of the people here in New England; in-so-much as there is just cause of suspicion that they, as others in Germany in former times, may, upon some revelation, make some sudden irruption upon those that differ from them in judgment; for prevention whereof, it is ordered, that all those whose names are underwritten shall (upon warning given or left at their dwelling houses,) before the thirtieth day of this month of November, deliver in at Mr. Cane's house, at Boston, all such guns, pistols, swords, powder, shot and match, as they shall be owners of, or have in their custody, upon pain of ten pounds for every default to be made thereof,"

Then follow the names of those sentenced, including 58 of Boston and among which, is that of John Coggeshall, who had also been disfranchised and bound over to keep the peace on pain of punishment.

Mr. John Clarke, one of the 58 disarmed church members, proposed to some of the other censured brethren, one of the number being John Coggeshall, to remove from the jurisdiction. Their purpose was to go southward, but while their vessel was passing around Cape Cod, they crossed by land, with a view to sail afterwards to Long Island or Delaware Bay. At Providence they met with Roger Williams, by whose recommendation and the advice of friends at Plymouth, they concluded to settle at Aquidneck, now Rhode Island. Acting upon this determination, they went back to Boston and prepared for their removal. Early in the spring they took their final leave of Massachusetts, and pursuing their tedious journey through the wilderness, which could not have been exempt from many difficulties and discomforts, reached their new point of settlement, the northern end of the island called by the Indians, Pocasset, which name was retained by the settlers till changed to Portsmouth.

The civil compact formed at Providence and signed by nineteen of the settlers, was as follows: "The seventh day of March, 1638, We, whose names are underwritten, do here solemnly, in the presence of Jehovah, incorporate ourselves into a Body Politick, and as he shall help, will submit our persons, lives and estates unto our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and to all these perfect and most absolute laws of his, given us in his holy word of truth, to be guided and judged thereby. —Exod. xxiv., 3, 4; 2d Chron., xi, 3; 2d Kings, xi., 17."

Of the signers to this compact, William Coddington's name heads the list, and John Coggeshall's comes the fourth. Callender says, that the Aquidneck settlers "were

Puritans of the highest form," and the peculiar phraseology of their civil compact verifies the remark. So peculiar indeed is the religious character of this instrument, that it has by some been considered, although erroneously, as being itself a church covenant, which also embodied a civil compact.

As was the universal custom of the first settlers, the town was built near the spring which was located at the cove, the entrance of which is crossed by the Old Colony Railroad, just before reaching the Railroad Bridge. They deemed it their first duty to build a place of worship, and John Coggeshall with John Sanford were appointed a committee to give it due attention. The church was located on the neck of land that leads to the main part of the island.

Perhaps it would be well to mention here, that William Hutchinson, who held various positions of honor and trust in the new colony, came to Aquidneck with the original nineteen settlers, and his signature is to the compact of March 7. But the banishment of his wife Anne was not consummated till March 28, when she left Boston by water for Braintree, where her husband had a farm. She then proceeded by land to Providence, and joined her friends for their new destination.

At the first general public meeting, the responsibility of allotting the land was entrusted to John Coggeshall, John Sanford and John Porter. The allotment to Coggeshall comprised six acres, twenty poles in breadth on the east, and ninety-six feet long, and was located west of the spring. On June 27, 1638, William Hutchinson and John Coggeshall were chosen treasurers of the company for one year. At all public meetings, every freeman was expected to be present, and whether summoned by call of drum or otherwise, forfeited twelve pence if even fifteen minutes late, and the same sum if he departed without leave.

As the town increased, more prudence was required in apportioning the land, and the size of house lots was reduced from six acres to three. Four truck-masters were appointed, among them John Coggeshall, whose duty it was to trade with the Indians for game, &c. The price to be paid for venison was fixed at three ha'pennies a pound; and the price to be charged was twopence, out of which one farthing went to the treasury, and the balance was their profit. As deer were plenty and the Indians friendly and well disposed, the business was easily managed and profitable. At a general meeting held Jan. 2, 1639, a proposition was submitted to change the manner of government, which up to that time had been a pure democracy; the judge and clerk having acted simply as chairman and secretary of the assembled townsmen. It was then directed to elect by ballot, three elders to assist the judge in his judicial duties, to have the entire charge of the public interest, and with the judge, govern the colony. Sealed ballots were used, and John Coggeshall, Nicholas Easton and William Brenton were chosen elders, and their election duly ratified.

About this time another settlement was commenced to the southeast of Pocasset, and to distinguish it from the original settlement, it was called Newtown. That portion of Portsmouth retains the same name at the present day, and many of the streets still remain as originally laid out.

The colony increased so rapidly that new territory was required. Accordingly, April 28, 1639, "It is agreed by us whose hands are underwritten, to propagate a plantation in the midst of the island or elsewhere, and do engage ourselves to bear equal charges answerable to our strength and estate in common, and that our determinations shall be by major voice of judge and elders, the judge to have a double voice." The signatures to this in.

strument are, Wm. Coddington, Judge, and three elders, among them John Coggeshall, comprising all the members of the Pocasset government. This new settlement was the corner stone of the present city of Newport, the dividing line between the two settlements being about the middle of the island. In the allotment of land at Newport, John Coggeshall received next to the largest share, embracing nearly four hundred acres, situated at the southerly part of the town. A portion of this property remained in the possession of his descendants until early in the present century. This vast estate included what is now some of the most valuable property in Newport, and though its original cost was but slight, yet its present value, with the added improvements, could not easily be estimated. The consideration paid for the fee of Aquidneck and for the grass upon the other islands, was forty fathoms of white peage, with ten coats and twenty hoes given the resident Indians to vacate the lands, and five fathoms of wampum to the local sachem.

The early settlers, after repeated wanderings, found in this location everything to be desired. The wonderful fertility of the soil, of which no place in New England can boast better to-day, with a climate quite as remarkable, the severe heat of summer tempered by the ever present ocean breezes, the cold blasts of winter, moderated by the warm winds of the gulf stream, truly it must have been a lovely spot even two hundred and fifty years ago. Add to its natural charms all the accessories of luxury, comfort and architectural beauty, which wealth and taste can supply, and it is not a surprise that it is becoming the resort of the continent.

The election of 1640 resulted in the choice of John Coggeshall as one of the four assistants, and he was also delegated with two others to lay out the remaining lands of Newport. He was one of the assistants too, for the

years 1641-42 and 43. In 1642 William Hutchinson died, and soon after Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, for the espousal of which cause John Coggeshall was banished, removed to a spot near Hell Gate, where, as is well known, she and her whole family, with the exception of one child were murdered by the Indians.

In 1644 the colony numbered four towns, Providence, Portsmouth, Newport and Warwick, and Roger Williams was sent to England to procure a charter. This he obtained from the Earl of Warwick, and a committee of the House of Commons. Charles the First, then being a refugee from both the capitol and Parliament, the government was not fully organized under it until May 1, 1647. The first General Assembly was in fact a meeting of the corporators to accept the charter, and to proceed to organization. It was not simply a convention of delegates, but of the whole people. A majority being present, their acts were binding upon the whole, as is expressed in the opening of the assembly, when, having first chosen John Coggeshall Moderator, "It was voted and found, that the major part of the Colony were present at this assembly, whereby was full power to transact." After unanimously adopting a code of laws, which had been prepared previous to the meeting, they proceeded to elect by ballot the general officers to continue for one year, or till new be chosen. John Coggeshall was chosen President of the province or colony, with one assistant from each town. Arnold says: "the preamble and bill of rights prefixed to the code of civil and criminal law adopted at this time, is a remarkable production for simplicity of diction, unencumbered as it is by the superfluous verbiage that clothes our modern statutes in learned obscurity, for breadth of comprehension, embracing as it does the foundation of the whole body of law on every subject which has since been adopted, and for vigor and

originality of thought and boldness of expression, as well as for the vast significance and the brilliant triumph of the principles it embodies, presents a model of legislation which has never been surpassed."

But the days of the brave and sturdy Puritan were numbered. He died while in office, on the 27th of the following November, in his fifty-sixth year. With his labors and fortunes he had assisted in founding two states. He had lived to see Rhode Island, the child of his heart, a corporate power under a parliamentary charter and a regularly organized government of which he stood at the head. Of irreproachable character, firm in his convictions of right regardless of personal sacrifices he died as he had lived, respected and honored, and his loss must have been deeply felt by the infant colony, to which he had so long been a leader, councillor and guide. His remains were interred in the Coggeshall burial place, which is situated at the corner of Coggeshall and Victoria avenues, and at the time of his death stood a few rods west of his house.

President Coggeshall at his death, left two sons, John and Joshua. The elder who is better known as Major John, at this time was in his 29th year, and beginning to take an active interest in the affairs of the colony. His father left him a portion of his farm at the south east of Newport, where he continued to reside until his death. His house with its stone chimney was standing early in the present century, but was pulled down to give place to a modern villa. June 17, 1647, he married Elizabeth Baulstone, daughter of William Baulstone, one of the original signers of the compact, and a disfranchised follower of Mrs. Hutchinson. Three children were the result of this union, but for some unknown reason, the marriage proved an unhappy one; for in Sept. 16, 1654, he petitioned for a divorce, and the privilege to marry again, was granted him in May, 1655. In the following June

she was granted the same privilege, and married Thomas Gould of North Kingston. For his second wife, John Coggeshall married Patience Throgmorton, daughter of John Throgmorton of Providence, who came over with Roger Williams in the ship Lyon.

Major John during his long life filled many positions of importance and trust. May 17, 1652, he was elected Treasurer of the Colony, and held the office several times after. He was chosen General Assistant in May, 1656; was one of the petitioners to the new charter granted the Government by King Charles II, in 1663, and one of the incorporators of the new government. Feb. 1664 in expectation of an anticipated visit from the King's commissioners, Major John was directed to receive them at Seekonk, with authority to contract for whatever might be necessary for their entertainment, and for their means of conveyance. May 6, 1673, he was chosen Deputy Governor, but for some unknown reason refused to accept the office. He was also elected for the following year, and again refused. He was appointed in 1677, one of the commissioners to settle the boundary dispute between Providence and Pawtuxet. In May, 1684, two Majors of the militia were appointed; John Greene for the main land, and John Coggeshall for the island; from this he derived his title.

James the 2d, on his ascension to the throne of England, attempted to inaugurate a new and uncomfortable policy toward the New England colonies, by the appointment of a Royal Governor. Consequently June 3, 1686, Sir Edmund Andros was commissioned Governor of all the New England colonies. He immediately entered upon the duties of his office, overthrowing the Colonial Governors, and making the seat of government at Boston. But the Rhode Island colony was determined to resume its former charter. The then Governor Walter Clark, not desiring

to assume the risk and responsibility of the situation, and the uncertainty with which the proceedings might be received in Europe, and the possible fear of personal consequences, refused to act; and John Coggeshall, the Deputy Governor, with several of his old assistants, boldly took charge of the Government, till the election in February, 1690; when the assembly convened for the first time in four years. Governor Clark was elected to his old office, but refused to act, when Henry Bull, the fearless Quaker, was elected in his stead, and John Coggeshall, Deputy Governor. In May, 1701, he was a deputy from Newport, and this was his last appearance in public life. He died Nov. 27, 1708 in his 91st year, and was buried in the family burying ground. In his will, he requested that he should be buried by the east side of his wife, Patience, which request was complied with, as is seen by the grave stones, the inscription upon each being still legible. His third wife, Mary, was also buried in these grounds.

John Coggeshall, at the time of his death was possessed of a large amount of real estate, a portion of which was left by his father, and the balance made up by purchases at different times; embracing at one time, according to an inventory made by order of the court, 510 acres. His will which is a long and curious document, shows him to have been a very eccentric person. James, his eldest son by his wife Patience, he cuts off with a very small legacy, and gives his reasons for so doing. The three children of his first wife Elizabeth Baulstone (John, William and Elizabeth) he disinherits altogether, but they had already been provided for by their grandfather, William Baulstone, who at his death bequeathed to them, his large farm of 240 acres, a portion of which embraced the well known Portsmouth Grove. The point at the northern part of it is known as Coggeshall's Point to-day.

Joshua, the youngest son of President Coggeshall, was

about 24 years of age at the time of his father's death. Although not as prominent in public affairs as his brother John, yet his name often occurs upon the records of Portsmouth. He was at various times presiding officer at town meetings, member of the council, served on important committees, and was several times elected assistant and deputy from Portsmouth. In March, 1670, owing to some disagreement or misunderstanding, there was no election at Providence, and Joshua Coggeshall with John Easton were deputed to settle the dispute. At one time he is recorded as contributing four shillings towards defraying the expenses of the commissioners sent to Connecticut. That he was temperate in his habits we may safely judge from his being appointed one of a committee to wait upon the neighboring Indians, and endeavor to dissuade them from the excessive use of the intoxicating cup, or rather, perhaps, to take less frequent pulls at the "Little Brown Jug."

Soon after coming in possession of his share of his father's property, he disposed of it, and by several purchases made up a farm of about 375 acres, situated partly in Newport and partly in Portsmouth, where he continued to reside till his death. He was among the early espousers of Quakerism in this country, the meetings often being held both at his house and Governor Coddington's. February, 1660, while in Plymouth colony, either on personal business or matters pertaining to the colony, he was seized and imprisoned for his religious views, and his horse sold for twelve pounds. He finally obtained his release and made his way back to Rhode Island as best he could. Dec. 22, 1652, he married Joan West, who was then but sixteen years of age. She died April, 1676, and the following year he married Rebecca Russell, a Quakeress from London. On May 2, 1676, he was elected assistant from Portsmouth, this being his last official care before withdrawing altogether from public life.

The spring by the side of which his house was situated is still to be seen at the northwest of his farm, near the shore, and the cellar of the house itself was visible the latter part of the last century. Not a great many years ago, mounds were easily distinguished a few rods to the southeast of his house, where it is supposed he, with other members of his family, were buried, though no gravestone or other monument to-day mark the spot.

At his death March 1, 1689, he left that portion of his farm where he resided, to his son Daniel, which is to-day known as the Redwood farm, it having been purchased by Abraham Redwood, who was connected with the family by marriage. A section of six score acres to the south of and adjoining the Redwood farm was given to his son John. Still another section of six score acres adjoining John's farm to the south was left to his son Joshua. This latter property has remained ever since in the possession of his lineal descendants, it having passed from generation to generation by will. It is located directly opposite the Prescott mansion of historic fame, and contains the usual family burying place, which ranks among the oldest upon the island. The farm house still standing upon the farms of both John and Joshua are very old, having been built some time during the last century.

One of the descendants of the first Joshua was Major John Coggeshall, who resided at New Bedford the latter part of his life, dying in 1830. He was an officer in the war for Independence, being present at the battle of Bunker Hill; afterwards assisted in throwing up the earthworks at Dorchester Heights, and at the evacuation of Boston, his was the first regiment to take possession of the town.

Another descendant of Joshua, was Jeremiah of Middletown; also a revolutionary patriot, who was captured by the British, and confined in the Jersey Prison ship at New

York. Upon his release, he was landed at Deer Island in Boston Harbor, where he was met by one of his family, who, placing the weak and weary soldier upon his horse, started for home, walking by his side the whole distance from Boston to Rhode Island. But starvation and confinement had done its work. All that native air, kind treatment and home attentions could do, were of no avail in restoring the shattered constitution.

We must not overlook the valuable services of Capt. George Coggeshall during the war of 1812. He was born at Milford, Connecticut, and was a descendant of the senior Major John. At an early age he imbibed a fondness for the sea, and during the war, was a commander under two "Letters of Marque." He made several captures, but was himself taken prisoner and confined at Gibraltar for trial. Making his escape by a bold move, requiring both courage and coolness, he succeeded in reaching Cadiz, where he remained some time; but finally effected a safe return to New York. Not only did he become distinguished by his naval success, but his books "Coggeshall's Voyages," and "American Privateers and Letters of Marque," will ever be esteemed as valuable contributions to our historical literature.

Thus have we reviewed the Coggeshalls of the past. Their high aspirations and proud achievements, illumine with credit the page of our family history. That the Coggeshalls of to-day, deserve honorable mention, it is needless here to say; but as many of them have joined in our jubilee, we will give them an opportunity to speak for themselves. Many others, detained by business, or prevented by distance, are with us in spirit, and are watching with eager eyes and longing hearts the success of this our first family gathering. Of the Coggeshalls yet to come, could the future be unfolded, we should see, whether distinguished by science or art.

literature or politics, a long line of deserving men and women, law abiding, liberty loving, trusting in man, brave in war, sincere in friendship, fond of home and its associations, for these are characteristics which do not die.

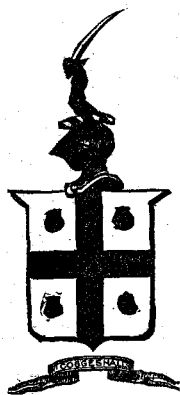
“Negro slavery existed in all the towns of Rhode Island at the time of the Revolutionary War, and more or less of them were to be found in them until within the last [sixty] years. All children of slaves born in Rhode Island after March 1, 1784 were, by law, declared free. During the Revolutionary War all who chose to enlist in the army were granted their freedom. From the census reports we have the following as the number of slaves in the state: in 1790, 952; in 1800, 381; in 1810, 108; in 1820, 48; in 1830, 17. The last one died as late as January 3, 1859, when James Howland ended this life at the residence of John Howland, of Jamestown, at the advanced age of one hundred years.”—*Fullers History of Warwick.*

During the winter of 1779-80 one hundred and sixty cords of wood was granted by the state for the use of the poor of Newport, and distributed under the direction of Caleb Gardner and Peleg Clarke. One hundred cords of said wood was cut in Bristol, and sixty cords in North Kingstown. £1000, lawful money, was appropriated by the state to pay for cutting, carting and transportation of the wood,

The Warren Association of Baptist Churches was formed at Warren, R. I. in 1767, and until 1843, was the only organization of its kind in the state. It originated with the Rev. Dr. Manning, at that time pastor of the Baptist Church in Warren, and also President of Rhode Island College, now Brown University.

MATERIAL TOWARDS A GENEALOGY OF THE COGGESHALL FAMILY.

CONTRIBUTED BY C. P. COGGESHALL, BOSTON, MASS.



THE name, Coggeshall, is of quite an ancient origin, dating from soon after the conquest, and at that time the family were large landholders.

It is not known from what part of England John Coggeshall, the common ancestor of the name in this country, came, although it is thought that his home was in Essex or some one of the adjoining counties, as in the early records the name is often found, especially in the county of Essex.

John Coggeshall arrived at Boston, Sept. 16, 1632, and in the following November was made a freeman of the colony. Soon after his arrival he connected himself with the church in Roxbury, on the records of which both his and the name of his wife, Mary, are found. He soon removed to Boston, but his stay there was short, being obliged to leave on account of his religious belief, he taking the side with Ann Hutchinson. He was one of the original settlers of Portsmouth, R. I., where after starting a settlement he, with others, removed to the southern part

of the island of Aquidneck, where the town of Newport now is. At the union of the four towns, Newport, Portsmouth, Providence and Warwick, he was made the first President.

JOHN COGGESHALL,¹ was born in England about 1591, died at Newport, R. I., Nov. 27, 1647, aged 56 years. He was buried on his own land in Newport, where his descendants have erected a monument to his memory, and enclosed the little family burial ground with a neat and substantial stone wall. It is situated on Coggeshall avenue, near Victoria avenue. The children of John and Mary Coggeshall were:

- I. John, b. England about 1618, d. Newport, R. I., Oct. 1, 1708.
- II. Joshua, b. 1623, England, d. Portsmouth, R. I., May 1, 1688.
- III. Ann, b. 1625, England, d. Newport, March 6, 1687, married Nov. 15, 1643, Peter, son of Gov. Nicholas Easton. He was born 1622, died Dec. 12, 1693. They had Nicholas, born November 12, 1644; John, born February 6, 1647; Mary, born September 25, 1648; Peter, Feb. 1, 1651; Ann, b. Feb. 9, 1653; Patience, b. Nov. 20, 1655; Wait, b. July 25, 1657; Peter, b. Jan. 11, 1659; Joshua, b. July 30, 1662; James, b. Jan. 29, 1665; Elizabeth, b. Feb. 18, 1666; Wait, b. Nov. 5, 1668; James, b. Oct. 7, 1671.
- IV. Hananiel, a daughter, baptized Boston, May 3, 1635, of whom nothing more is known.
- V. Wait, baptized Boston, Sept. 11, 1636, died May 9, 1718, married Dec. 18, 1651, Daniel Gould. He died Jan. 26, 1716, aged 90 years. His parents, Jeremiah and Priscilla Gould, were among the first at Newport, and after seeing their son settled they returned to their home in England. Daniel Gould was a

minister of good standing among the Friends. In 1659 he was imprisoned in the common jail of Boston and treated with great harshness, and received thirty lashes on his bare back. The children of Daniel and Wait (Coggeshall) Gould were: Mary, b. March 2, 1653; Thomas, b. Feb. 20, 1655; Daniel, b. Oct. 24, 1656; John, b. May 4, 1659; Priscilla, b. June 20, 1661; Jeremiah, b. May 5, 1664; James, b. Oct. 13, 1666; Jeremiah, b. Feb. 2, 1669; Content, b. April 28, 1671; Wait, b. May 8, 1676.

VI. Bedaiah, a son. baptized Boston, July 30, 1637.*

JOHN COGGESHALL² (*John*¹), was born in England and came to this country with his parents in 1632. He resided in Newport; his farm, left to him by his father, was situated at the southerly part of Newport. In May, 1684, he was appointed Major of the militia, and by which title he was ever afterwards known. He was buried in the family cemetery on his land. The inscription on his gravestone is as follows: "Here lieth the body of John Coggeshall, Major; he died Oct. 1, 1708, in the 90th year of his age." He was three times married, first to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of William Baulston, of Portsmouth, R. I., June 17, 1647. William Baulston was one of the original settlers of Portsmouth, he being one of the signers of the compact, Jan. 7, 1638. He was in Boston as early as 1630. On the records of the First Church of Boston is to be found the date of birth of a daughter of Wm. Baulston, 8th mo., 1630." The married life of John Coggeshall with Elizabeth Baulston seems to be an unhappy one. After having three children born to them,

*The baptism of Hananiel, Wait and Bedaiah is found on the records of the First Church, Boston, Mass.

he petitioned to the General Assembly for a divorce,* which was granted May 25, 1654. In 1655 he was given liberty to contract a new marriage, and the same privilege was granted to her, she marrying Thomas Gould of South Kingstown. The second wife of John Coggeshall was Patience, daughter of John Throckmorton† of Providence, R. I., whom he married December, 1655. She died Newport, R. I., Sept. 7, 1676, aged 36 years. Of his third wife, Mary, nothing is known, except the fact that she is so mentioned in his will.‡ Children by first wife, Elizabeth Baulston:

- I. John, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Feb. 12, 1649, d. Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 7, 1706.
- II. Elizabeth, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Feb. 12, 1649.
- III. William, died before 1696; married Rachel———.
Children by 2d wife, Patience Throckmorton.
- IV. Freegift, b. Newport, March 1, 1657, d. Feb. 27, 1728.
- V. James, b. Newport, Feb. 17, 1660, d. April 2, 1712, mar. Mary, dau. of Henry Bull. She died June 13, 1754, aged 93 years.
- VI. Mary, b. Newport, Mar. 10, 1661.
- VII. Joseph, b. Newport, May 30, 1665, d. Newport, Sept. 16, 1676.
- VIII. Rebecca, b. Newport, June 20, 1667, mar. John Reynolds.
- IX. Patience, b. Newport, Aug. 13, 1669, mar. Samuel Rathbone.
- X. Benjamin, b. Newport, July 27, 1672, d. East Greenwich, April 16, 1739.
- XI. Content, b. Newport, Mar. 28, 1674, d. Newport, Sept. 26, 1675.

*See Newport Historical Magazine, Oct. 1881, p. 120.

†John Throckmorton came with Roger Williams in the ship Lyon in 1631, and with him settled in Providence, R. I.

‡See Newport Historical Magazine, Jan. 1882, p. 189.

XII. Content, b. Newport, May 10, 1676, mar. Samuel Norton.

Children by third wife, Mary :

XIII. Joseph, b. 1679, d. Newport, Nov. 21, 1740.

XIV. Abraham, b. 1682, d. Newport, Aug. 25, 1758.

XV. Samuel, who was a sailor, and at the time of his father's death had been abroad many years.

XVI. Elisha.

JOHN COGGESHALL³ (*John*², *John*¹), born Portsmouth, R. I., Feb. 12, 1649, died Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 7, 1706, mar. Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Timberlake, Portsmouth, R. I., Dec. 24, 1669. He resided in Portsmouth, R. I., on the farm left to him by his grandfather, William Baulston. Children :

I. Eliza, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 27, 1670, d. Portsmouth, R. I., Feb. 22, 1678.

II. Baulston, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Sept. 29, 1672, d. Portsmouth, R. I., Dec. 1672.

III. John, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Sept. 23, 1673.

IV. Mary, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Sept. 18, 1675, mar. Wm. Anthony of Portsmouth, March 14, 1695.

V. William, b. Portsmouth, Sept. 7, 1677, d. Bristol, R. I., Nov. 2, 1752.

VI. Patience, b. Portsmouth, Jan. 1, 1680.

VII. Peter, b. Portsmouth, June 18, 1684, mar. Elizabeth ———.

VIII. Constant, b. Portsmouth, March 14, 1682.

IX. James, b. Portsmouth, May 29, 1686.

X. Rebecca, b. Portsmouth, Oct. 9, 1688.

XI. Baulston, b. Portsmouth, Oct. 6, 1690, d. 1720 ; he was a mariner.

XII. Daniel, b. Portsmouth, Oct. 25, 1692, d. May 9, 1777.

XIII. Job, b. Portsmouth, Nov. 16, 1694.

XIV. Abigail.

FREEGIFT COGGESHALL³ (*John*², *John*¹), born March 1, 1657, d. Feb. 27, 1728; married Elizabeth Matthews, daughter of Thomas, of Yarmouth, New Plymouth, Dec. 31, 1684. She died June 16, 1748, aged 84 years. He resided in Newport, having been admitted freeman July, 1686. Children:

- I. Patience, b. Newport, Dec. 6, 1685, d. Dec. 21, 1721.
- II. Thomas, b. Newport, Oct. 18, 1687, d. April 25, 1762.
- III. Freegift, b. Newport, Sept. 30, 1689, d. Aug. 5, 1767.
- IV. Sarah, b. Newport, Sept. 20, 1691, d. Feb. 2, 1719.
- V. Elizabeth, b. Newport, Oct. 4, 1693, d. Oct. 24, 1753.
- VI. William, b. Newport, June 24, 1695, died at sea.
- VII. Mary, b. Newport, Oct. 9, 1697, d. 1753.
- VIII. Nathaniel, b. Newport, April 19, 1700, d. Aug. 22, 1701.
- IX. Nathaniel, b. Newport, Jan. 28, 1702, d. Dec. 9, 1784.
- X. Rebecca, b. Newport, Jan. 26, 1703, d. July 28, 1714.

LIEUT. BENJ. COGGESHALL³ (*John*², *John*¹), born Newport, R. I., July 27, 1672, died East Greenwich, R. I., April 16, 1739; mar. Sarah Easton, Dec. 22, 1709. Children:

- I. Patience, b. Newport, —7, 1710.
- II. James, b. Newport, Feb. 12, 1712, d. East Greenwich, Oct. 12, 1789.
- III. Alice, b. Newport, July 14, 1719.
- IV. Rebecca, b. Newport, Dec. 19, 1721, d. Newport, April 15, 1782; mar. Robert Taylor, Newport, Dec. 30, 1742, by whom she had several children.
- V. Ruth, b. Newport, Jan. 25, 1724, d. Oct. 20, 1759, mar. 1741-2, Jonathan Easton; he died Dec. 9, 1795, aged 76 years.
- VI. Bathsheba, b. Newport, Jan. 18, 1725, d. July 6, 1795, mar. Capt. Benj. Church.

*See Newport Historical Magazine, April, 1882, p. 234.

JOSEPH COGGESHALL³ (*John², John¹*), born 1679, died Newport, Nov. 21, 1740, married Mary —. She died Oct. 20, 1763. Children:

- I. Mary, b. Newport, June 22, 1711, d. Newport, Jan. 29, 1792, mar. Hon. Thomas Cranston, Newport, Oct. 16, 1729; he died May 19, 1785. Children: Rhoda, Mary, Susannah, Rebecca, Samuel, Sarah, Thomas.

ABRAHAM COGGESHALL³ (*John², John¹*), born 1682, died Newport, August 25, 1758. Resided in Newport, R. I. Married Elizabeth —, and had

- I. Martha, born July 25, 1709, died Newport, May 8, 1760, married Abraham Redwood, of Newport, and had several children.*
- II. Elizabeth, born July 23, 1710, married Benjamin Wilson, March 4, 1729.
- III. Mary, born Jan. 31, 1712, married Joseph Frye, of Joseph, Nov. 13, 1729.
- IV. Constant, born July 27, 1713.
- V. Sarah, born January 8, 1715.
- VI. Catharine, born February 13, 1717.
- VII. Abraham, born January 29, 1720, died May 30, 1720.
- VIII. John, born January 7, 1722.
- IX. A daughter.
- X. Patience, born 1730, died October 4, 1792.

JOHN COGGESHALL⁴ (*John³, John², John¹*) born Portsmouth, R. I., Sept. 23, 1673; married Mary, daughter of Giles Slocum, March 18, 1697. Children;

- I. Elizabeth, born Portsmouth, R. I., Jan. 29, 1698, married — Smith.
- II. Ann, b. Portsmouth, R. I., July 30, 1699, mar. William Arnold, Jan. 12, 1719.

*For an account of the Redwood family, see Newport Historical Magazine, July, 1880, p. 7.

- III. John, b. Portsmouth, R. I., June 19, 1701, d. Oct. 9, 1795.
- IV. Giles, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Feb. 5, 1703, d. Dec. 8, 1703.
- V. Giles, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Oct. 3, 1704.
- VI. James, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Oct. 10, 1706.
- VII. William, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 31, 1708, d. Jan. 2, 1798.
- VIII. Mary, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 6, 1710, m. Portsmouth, R. I., Dec. 16, 1724, Thomas Fish.

WILLIAM COGGESHALL,⁴ (*John³, John², John¹*), born Portsmouth, R. I., Sept. 7, 1677, died Bristol, R. I., Nov. 2, 1752, mar. Elizabeth Newby, Portsmouth, R. I., Jan. 11, 1714. In early life he was a resident of Portsmouth, R. I., and held the position of Justice of the Peace. He removed to Bristol, R. I., where he had considerable property. Children.

- I. Elizabeth, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 6, 1715, mar. Thomas Lawton.
- II. Sarah, b. Portsmouth, R. I., March 31, 1717.
- III. William, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Oct. 20, 1719.
- IV. George, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 3, 1720.
- V. Patience, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Jan. 1, 1723, mar. John Walker, Aug. 18, 1746.
- VI. Newby, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Aug. 17, 1726.
- VII. Mary, b. Portsmouth, R. I., June 15, 1728.
- VIII. Abigail, b. Portsmouth, R. I., Oct. 16, 1730.
- IX. Job, b. Portsmouth, R. I., April 25, 1732.

DANIEL COGGESHALL,⁴ (*John³, John², John¹*), born Portsmouth, R. I., Oct. 25, 1692, died March 9, 1777, married Lucy Ann—, she died March 5, 1790. His son was a loyalist during the Revolution, and as he was suspected of having treasonable papers from him, an order was passed

that the sheriff, with five others, should proceed to his house and to inspect all documents and papers, he might have, and to seize all such papers, they may think proper. The children of Daniel and Lucy Coggeshall were:

- I. James, b. 1740, d. Nova Scotia, Feb. 14, 1786.
Resided in New York and was appointed Landwaiter for that port, March 8, 1770. At the close of the the Revolution, he went to Nova Scotia at which place he died.
- II. Abigail, b. 1743, d. April 3, 1793.
- III. Amy Ann, b. — d. Jan. 5, 1800, mar. Benjamin Gardiner, Dec. 1, 1799.

THOMAS COGGESHALL,⁴ (*Freegift*,³ *John*,² *John*,¹) born Oct. 8, 1687, died April 25, 1762, married first, Sarah Lancaster, Jan. 23, 1717, she died April 6, 1731, age 33 years. His second wife was Anstiss Ellery,* widow of John Almy, whom he married Oct. 3, 1735. She was born Feb. 19, 1697, died May 31, 1769. Children by first wife:

- I. John, b. Oct. 20, 1718, d. May 27, 1736.
- II. Sarah, b. Jan. 1721, mar. Benj. Almy, of John and Anstris.
- III. Samuel, b. Feb. 23, 1724, d. Aug. 27, 1724.
- IV. Bathsheba, b. June 19, 1725, mar. — Church.
- V. A son, b. Sept. 1727, d. July 22, 1728.
- VI. Mary, b. Nov. 1729, d. Sept. 20, 1730.
By second wife.
- VII. John, b. Oct. 27, 1736, d. Jan. 10, 1737.

FREEGIFT COGGESHALL,⁴ (*Freegift*,³ *John*,² *John*,¹), born Sept. 30, 1689, died Aug. 5, 1767, married Martha Nettleton, of Milford, Conn. He removed to Milford, Conn., in 1713, and was by occupation a master shipbuilder, and for

See Historical Magazine, Jan. 1884, p. 185.

a number of years was one of the magistrates of the town.

Children :

I. Martha.

II. Elizabeth.

III. Bellamy.

IV. William, b. Milford, 1732, d. Milford, Sept. 21, 1773.

NATHANIEL COGGESHALL⁴, (*Freegift³, John², John¹*), born Newport, Jan. 28, 1702, died Dec. 9, 1784, married, first, Sarah Billings, Jan. 20, 1726. She was born 1704, died Nov. 8, 1754. His second wife was Abigail Wanton, to whom he was married May 2, 1756. He was a deacon of the Second Congregational Church for a number of years. He was a distiller by occupation, Newport at that time being largely interested in exporting New England Rum. Children :

I. Nathaniel, born Newport, 1726, died April 14, 1728.

II. Freegift, born Newport, July 13, 1724, died Aug. 23, 1730.

III. Nathaniel, born Newport, Jan. 27, 1729, died before 1778.

IV. Elizabeth, born Newport, Aug. 9, 1730.

V. Billings, born Newport, Oct. 17, 1733.

VI. Thomas, born Newport, Dec. 5, 1741, died Aug. 9, 1757.

VII. William, born Newport, Nov. 27, 1746, died 1821.

VIII. Ruth, born Newport, married George Champlin.

JAMES COGGESHALL⁴ (*Benjamin³, John², John¹*), born Newport, R. I. Feb. 12, 1712, died East Greenwich, R. I., Oct. 12, 1789. For many years he resided in Newport. He married Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Brooks of Portsmouth, R. I., Nov. 25, 1736. She was born June, 1721. His eleven daughters were many of them, of more than ordinary height and he was often

heard pleasantly to remark that he considered himself more favored there most men, as he had "sixty feet of girls."

Children :

- I. Sarah, born Newport, Dec. 4, 1737, died Dec. 3, 1816, married, Middletown, R. I., Oct. 15, 1761, John Gould, of Thomas and Sarah.
- II. Benjamin, born Newport, march 2, 1743, married Sarah Anthony.
- III. Mary, born Newport, Aug. 15, 1739, married Newport, Dec. 4, 1760, John Gould, of John and Elizabeth.
- IV. Patience, born Newport, April 24, 1741, married Samuel Collins of Newport.
- V. Rebecca, born Newport, July 29, 1745, died Oct. 14, 1790, married, Newport, Nov. 11, 1762, James Easton of James and Alice.
- VI. Hannah, born Newport, Aug. 3, 1747, married Newport, Jan. 11, 1767, John Casey, Jr., of East Greenwich.
- VII. Katharine, born Newport, Sept. 1, 1749.
- VIII. Alice, born Newport, Aug. 20, 1752, married William Anthony of Newport.
- IX. Ruth, born Newport, Sept. 29, 1753, married, Nov. 25, 1783, James Greene.
- X. Susannah, born Newport, April 27, 1755, married Stephen Hix, of Tiverton.
- XI. Content, born Newport, Nov. 14, 1756, died Newport, May 28, 1779, married, Joseph Wanton Taylor.
- XII. Abigail, married, Nicholas D. Greene.

JOSHUA COGGESHALL,² (*John*¹), born in England, came to this country with his parents. After his father's death, he removed to Portsmouth, R. I., and purchased a farm on the western side of the island, where he resided till his death. A greater portion of the farm, included in the

original purchase, is still held by his descendants. He was twice married, first to Joan West, Newport, Dec. 22, 1652. She died April 24, 1676, aged 41 years. His second wife was Rebecca Russell, a Quaker from London, to whom he was married June 21, 1677. Children :

- I. Mary, born Portsmouth, Feb. 1655.
- II. Joshua, born Portsmouth, May, 1656, died 1723.
- III. Josias, born November, 1662.
- IV. Daniel, born Portsmouth, April, 1665.
- V. Humility, born Portsmouth, January, 1670.
- VI. John, born Portsmouth, December, 1659, died May 1. 1727.
- VII. Caleb, born Portsmouth, Dec. 17, 1672.
- VIII. Isaac.

JOSHUA COGGESHALL³ (*Joshua*², *John*¹), born Portsmouth, R. I. His first wife was Sarah ———, to whom he was married May 13, 1681. She died March 20, 1697. His second wife was Sarah ———, whom he married Aug. 26, 1697. His farm was situated in Newport (now Middletown) near Portsmouth. Children by first wife:

- I. Joshua, b. Newport, May 13, 1681, died Aug. 2, 1727.
- II. Thomas, born Newport March 29, 1686, died young.
- III. Elizabeth, born Newport, March 29, 1686, mar. ——— Spencer, of East Greenwich, July, 1708.
- IV. John, born Newport, December 14, 1683.
- V. Thomas, b. Newport, June 24, 1688, d. Jan. 26, 1771.
- VI. Josiah, born Newport, December 12, 1690.
- VII. Mary, born Newport, March 15, 1695, m. ——— Beard.
- VIII. Richard, born Newport, February 11, 1692, married Wait Gould, of John and Wait.

Children by second wife :

- IX. Caleb, born July 25, 1698, died July 31, 1745; married Barbara. daughter of Nicholas Easton, Newport, May 19, 1720.

- X. Sarah, born Newport, March 22, 1700, married Benjamin Richardson, Jan. 20, 1731.
 - XI. James, born Newport, March 17, 1701, died April 15, 1769.
 - XII. A daughter, born Newport, January 15, 1703.
 - XIII. Benjamin, born Newport, January 31, 1705, died December 17, 1710.
 - XIV. Ann, born Newport, November 18, 1707.
 - XV. Waite, born Newport, January 11, 1709.
 - XVI. Comfort, born Newport, April 22, 1711.
 - XVII. Benjamin, born Newport, Nov. 15, 1714.
-

DANIEL COGGESHALL,³ (*Joshua*², *John*¹), born April 1665, died May 17, 1717, married Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Wilbor Morey, of Jamestown, R. I., August 23, 1689. She was born Oct. 17, 1672. He was a farmer, his farm embracing, what is known as the Redwood farm in Portsmouth. Children :

- I. Waite, born Portsmouth, Oct. 14, 1692, died Portsmouth, April 28, 1713.
- II. Mary, born Portsmouth, Sept. 6, 1694, married April 8, 1713, Samuel, son of Latham Clarke of Jamestown. He was born April 8, 1713, died Oct. 18, 1761.
- III. Joshua, born Portsmouth, November 3, 1697, died April 30, 1735; married May —.
- IV. Ann, born Portsmouth, April 14, 1701, married Clark, son of Thomas Rodman, Newport, Jan. 3, 1717.
- V. Daniel, born Portsmouth, June 20, 1704, died East Greenwich, November 24, 1775. Married July 7, 1726, Mary, daughter of Michael Wanton of Scituate, Mass.
- VI. Phebe, born Portsmouth, Sept. 11, 1706, married Henry Bull, Newport, February 1, 1721.
- VII. Joseph, born Portsmouth, Nov. 3, 1709, died 1723.

VIII. Peleg born Portsmouth, Feb. 20, 1712, died Feb. 20, 1732.

JOHN COGGESHALL³ (*Joshua*², *John*¹), born December, 1659, died May 1, 1727, married Mary ———. She died May 11, 1747. His farm was situated partly in Newport and partly in Portsmouth, between his brother Joshua's on the south and Daniel's on the north. He and his wife were both buried on the farm; the stones erected to their memory are still standing. Children:

I. John.

II. Caleb.

JOSHUA COGGESHALL⁴ (*Joshua*³, *Joshua*², *John*¹), born Newport, R. I., May 13, 1681, died August 2, 1727, married first, Mary Freeborn, of Portsmouth; second, Deborah Reynolds, of East Greenwich, February 16, 1725. He resided in East Greenwich. Children by first wife:

I. Sarah, born November 22, 1704, married Samuel Greene of Apponaug, Nov. 10, 1724.

II. Hannah, born January 21, 1710, d. before her father married Joseph Nichols, Feb. 24, 1726.

III. Joshua, born March 13, 1713, died January 17, 1787, married Mary Spencer.

IV. Mariah, born Nov. 12, 1716, died before her father.

V. Mercy, born June 6, 1719, mar. John Spencer, Feb. 11, 1737.

VI. Thomas, born June 6, 1719, m. Elizabeth Nichols, January 6, 1736.

Child by second wife:

VII. Hannah, b. Jan. 1, 1727, married John Whitman.

JOHN COGGESHALL⁴ (*Joshua*³, *Joshua*², *John*¹), born December 14, 1683, mar. Mary ———. Resided at East Greenwich. Children:

- I. Joshua, born East Greenwich, Nov. 6, 1727.
- II. Sarah, born East Greenwich, 1728.
- III. William, born September 6, 1730, died East Greenwich, November, 1802.
- IV. Elizabeth, born February 2, 1731, died October 31, 1821, married William Hall.
- V. Benjamin, born September 6, 1734, d. 1791, married Sarah Gould.
- VI. Andra, born December 30, 1736, died 1791.
- VII. Christopher, born May 27, 1740 ; prob. lost at sea.

THOMAS COGGESHALL⁴ (*Joshuas*, *Joshua*², *John*¹), born June 24, 1688, d. Jan. 26, 1771, m. Mercy, dau. of Gideon Freeborn, Newport, March 11, 1708. She was born 1691, died May 26, 1776. He resided in Middletown, R. I., and was a farmer. He and his wife were both buried in the Coggeshall ground in Middletown. Children :

- I. Elizabeth, born August 30, 1710, died September 29, 1797 ; married July, 1731, Peleg Peckham.
- II. Comfort, born Sept. 17, 1712, died December, 1778, mar. Daniel, son of Joshua Peckham, Nov. 29, 1734.
- III. Mercy, born June 30, 1714, died young.
- IV. Sarah, born August 20, 1715, mar. Nov. 1, 1759, Thomas Weaver.
- V. Wait, born January 4, 1717, married first, James Easton ; second, Rouse Potter.
- VI. Mary, born March 27, 1720, married Samuel Allen, Middletown, January 16, 1745,
- VII. Joshua, born Middletown, March 11, 1722, died Sept. 24, 1786 ; married first, Sarah Bailey, Jan. 12, 1743. She died Nov. 4, 1750. His second wife was Ann, daughter of Joseph Dennis, to whom he was married January 2, 1752.
- VIII. Mercy, b. February 23, 1724, married first, Joseph

Dennis ; second, Samuel Allen, widower of the sister Mary.

- IX. Gideon, born April 20, 1726, died October 27, 1801, married October 5, 1749, Hannah, daughter of Jeremiah Lawton. He died July 17, 1780, aged 54 years.
- X. Thomas, born Aug. 26, 1728, died Jan. 17, 1803, mar. July 4, 1750, Hannah Cornell.
- XI. Hannah, born May 20, 1731, died March 22, 1811, mar. Joseph, son of Robert Dennis, June 21, 1750.

JOSIAH COGGESHALL⁴ (*Joshua*,³ *Joshua*,² *John*,¹) born Newport, Dec. 12, 1690, married first Comfort Freeborn, Feb. 14, 1714. She died Nov. 1, 1725, age 34 years. His second wife was Abigail Feakes, daughter of John, to whom he was married Jan. 5, 1727. Children by first wife :

- I. Gideon, born Newport, March 15, 1720, died July 15, 1720.
- II. Sarah, born Newport, July 3, 1721.
- III. Josiah, born Newport, May 8, 1722, died March 27, 1732.
- IV. Robert, born Newport, Oct. 14, 1724, died, Young-Children by second wife.
- V. Robert, born Newport, Feb. 1729, died Sept. 12, 1729.
- VI. Abigail, born Newport, July 14, 1730, died May 27, 1732.
- VII. Martha, born Newport, April 22, 1732, died Nov. 20, 1736.

JAMES COGGESHALL⁴, (*Joshua*,³ *Joshua*,² *John*,¹) born Newport, March 17, 1701, died April 15, 1769, married Phebe, daughter of Lawrence Turner, Nov. 24, 1723. Children :

- I. Joshua.
- II. James.

- III. Jonathan, born Middletown, R. I., Dec. 4, 1748, died July 26, 1796, married Sarah Wilcox.
- IV. Sarah, died 1795, married Oct. 19, 1749, William Heferman.
- V. Jonas, born Middletown, R. I., May 25, 1746.

JOSIAS COGGESHALL,⁴ (*Josias*,³ *Joshua*,² *John*¹). Of him, but little is known, his children were :

- I. John, born Oct. 5, 1757, died July 19, 1830, married Abigail Hayden. He was a Major in the Revolution, went to New Bedford in 1770. In 1773 was a member of the "train band," and in 1775 was one of the "minute men." Was at the Battle of Bunker Hill, at Dorchester heights and was in the first regiment to march into Boston after the Evacuation of the British.
- II. James, married Zilpah Shaw.
- III. Mary, married Hendrick Robinson.
- IV. Catharine, married Daniel Taber.

JOHN COGGESHALL,⁴ (*John*³, *Joshua*², *John*¹), married Ann —, died 1746. His will is dated Sept. 24, 1746. He resided in Portsmouth, R. I. Children :

- I. Matthew.
- II. Mary, married Middletown, Sept. 25, 1743, Joseph Nicholas, Jr.
- III. Amie.
- IV. Ann.
- V. Rebecca.

CALEB COGGESHALL,⁴ (*John*³, *Joshua*², *John*¹), married Mercy, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Mitchell, May 18, 1732. She was born Aug. 17, 1712, died July 30, 1744, age 32 years. Caleb died before his wife. She married, second, David Jarnigan, (Tailor) of Virginia. Children :

- I. Job, born Newport, Jan. 13, 1733, was twice married, first to Deborah, daughter of Tristram and Deborah Starbuck, second to Miriam, daughter of William Barnard and Widow of Tristram Macy.
- II. Peleg, born Newport, Sept. 29, 1734, married first Anna Folger, of Timothy and Anna, second, to Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Priscilla Fish.

Mr. C. P. Coggeshall, 266 Devonshire street, Boston, Mass., the compiler of the above, will be glad to correspond with any one having records of the Coggeshall family.—[Editor.]

TOWN CLERKS OF MIDDLETOWN, R. I.

Edward Easton,.....	1743 to 1749
Edward Tew.....	1749. Died in office.
John Barker.....	1749 to 1780
Parker Hall.....	1780, pro tem.
Oliver Durfee.....	1780 to 1783
Thomas Peckham.....	1783 to 1785
Elisha Allen	1785 to 1829
William Smith.....	1829 to 1839
Joshua Coggeshall.....	1839 to 1873
Albert L. Chace.....	1873 to —

EXTRACT FROM THE STATE LAW IN FORCE IN 1784, FOR PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF THE SMALL POX:—
 “And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any person or persons who shall be legally convicted of wilfully and purposely spreading the small pox within this colony, she or they shall be adjudged to suffer the pains and penalty of death, as in the case of felony, without benefit of the clergy. And all persons legally convicted of wickedly endeavoring to spread the same, shall be sentenced to be whipped, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, and suffer six months imprisonment, and to be kept at hard labor.”

NOTES.

THE EARLY USE OF MIDDLE NAMES.—The earliest record of the use of three names that the writer has seen is found in a former number of the Newport Historical Magazine (July, 1880), where it is stated that Jonas Langford Redwood died Oct. 18, 1724, age 18. It would be interesting to know if there is an earlier mention of the use of three names. Quite frequently the error is observed of giving a middle letter in a printed genealogy as part of a name, at a period when three names were never used. These mistakes must have occurred from copying signatures where marks were made without the declaration added that it was his mark, for instance Benjamin Congdon (born about 1650) signed his mark between the Christian name and surname, while his son Benjamin, Jr., signed his name by mark "O," but it was not always stated that these were their marks. J. O. A.

THE NINE O'CLOCK BELL.—It will be seen by the following abstract from the town records of Newport, that the custom of ringing the bells at nine o'clock at night dates back to 1772 at least : T.

"— 12, 1772. Whereas ye church bell rings at nine of ye clock at night without any charge to ye town, that for the future John Simms, who rings Dr. Stiles' bell, and had nine dollars a year for ye same, be not allowed anything for ringing the same."

ABSTRACTS FROM THE "YANKEE," BOSTON, 1815.—I have a copy of the "YANKEE," dated Boston, Friday, July 28, 1815, from which I copy the following Rhode Island items: T.

"*Providence. R. I., July 22.*—Mr. John Westcott, Jr., of this town, has lately returned to the land of his nativity, after an absence of 17 years, fourteen of which he was enslaved by the British, having been impressed in the year 1798. At the commencement of the late war, he refused to fight against his country, and was 'magnanimously,' thrown into prison, where he lingered.

three years more, when peace restored him to his country, his family and friends."

"*Newport, R. I., July 26.*—On the 21st inst., arrived in this harbor the sloop *Mary Ann*, (Diving Machine,) with a quantity of iron knees, and the best bower anchor of the British frigate *Syren*, which was lost on Point Judith in the Révolutionary war. The anchor weighs 4000 wt."

TOWN CLERKS OF RHODE ISLAND IN 1763.—The following list of the clerks of the several towns in Rhode Island in 1763, is taken from the records in the office of the Secretary of State, Providence, R. I.

Newport—William Coddington.	Bristol—Joseph Russell.
Providence—James Angell.	Hopkinton—Joshua Clarke.
Portsmouth—Robert Dennis.	Coventry—Caleb Greene.
Warwick—Jeremiah Lippitt.	S. Kingstown—William Potter.
No. Kingstown—Geo. Northup.	L. Compton—Jephthah Pearce.
Warren—John Kinnicut.	Scituate—Gideon Harris.
Johnston—John Fenner.	W. Greenwich—Thomas Rogers.
Richmond—John Tefft, Jr.	Dexter—Benjamin Reynolds.
Westerly—Joseph Crandall.	Jamestown—Benj. Underwood.
East Greenwich—Giles Pearce.	Gloucester—Richard Steere.
Charlestown—John Champlin.	Cranston—Joseph Harris.
Tiverton—Restcome Sanford.	Middletown—John Barker.
	Cumberland—John Dexter.

