



The Scituate Historical Society

BULLETIN

Cudworth House file

VOLUME XVII

SCITUATE, MASS., JUNE, 1966

NUMBER 1

WILLIAM H. EATON, EDITOR

59 Gilson Rd., Scituate, Mass.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST OR HISTORIC VALUE ALWAYS WELCOME; ADDRESS THE EDITOR.

IN MEMORIAM

FRANK MERTON COLMAN

Our Society President, Frank Merton Colman, passed away at his home May 21, 1966, after being seriously ill only four days. Prior to that, though, he had been in declining health for some months. Mr. Colman was born in Scituate August 20, 1883 a son of Frank N. and Priscilla Litchfield Colman. He graduated from Scituate High School, class of 1901 and for many years lived in Neponset and worked for Tubular Rivet and Stud. Upon retiring he moved back to Scituate where he became active in the affairs of our Society. He served several years as Vice President, and upon the death of President Wilmet Brown in 1963, was elected to the office which he held until his death. He survived his wife of over 50 years, Addie L. Cushing, by a year and a half. She too was very much interested in the Society and both will be missed in the years to come. The sympathy of the Society is extended to their only daughter, Avis, who is one of the Society's Curators.

-0-

ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 18

The Annual business meeting of the Scituate Historical Society will be held on Saturday, June 18. The Cudworth House will be open at about one-thirty and the meeting will get under way about two. Reports will be heard and the nominating committee will present a slate of officers for the members consideration. New members are invited to join at this time, (to get the benefit of their dues) altho' membership is always open all year. after the business meeting we will have a very interesting program. The subject will be Conservation in Scituate, and it will be presented by Mr Arthur Crosbie of Clapp Road, who is very active in local conservation matters.

Most of our members in Scituate are aware that there is a movement in progress to save our swamps, marshes and other spots before such areas can become developed.

This promises to be an unusual and interesting program. There will probably be an opportunity to ask questions after the talk.

Our "Day" will end with the usual social hour and collation.

-0-

The 49th Anniversary meeting of the Society was held September 11th, 1965 at the Junior High School Auditorium, necessitated by the fact that both the Unitarian church and GAR Hall were in use. Scituate Centre can indeed be a busy place! The Invocation and Benediction were delivered by Rev. Donald McPeck of the Harbor Methodist Church. The speaker of the day was Dr. Richard Hale, Archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He spoke on, "Historical preservation in Massachusetts". The gist of the lecture was that; Massachusetts has more historical landmarks than any other state and that 80% of the tourists come to this state to see them. Dr. Hale described the Massachusetts Historical Commission and its purposes, which is preserving historic districts and houses and also working with the Department of Public Works and the Department of Commerce in preserving valuable historic buildings. A question and answer period followed and then those present went back to the Cudworth House for the Collation and social hour. Mrs Philip Wood was in charge of the goodies and Mrs Ralph Clapp and Mrs Wight poured the coffee.

-0-

The Cudworth House will be open for the summer starting June 29th. Wednesdays thru Saturdays, 2-5 p.m. Mrs Dorothy Shoemaker will again be our hostess for the season.

-0-

Since the last Annual Meeting the following have passed away:

- Mr. Frank Merton Colman
- Mrs Doris Eeals Ward
- Dr. Edward Schott
- Mrs Helen Welch Warren
- Mrs Grace Waterman Vines

-0-

Since the last Annual Meeting the following have become members of our Society:

- Mrs Jane Cudworth Kean
- Mrs E. Gertrude Conant
- Mrs John Gagnon
- Mrs Carleton M. Ruiter
- Miss Gladys Roberts
- Dr. and Mrs Blake M. Lombard
- Mrs Rose F. Noonan
- Mrs William D. Atwill
- Mr. Ralph M. Litchfield
- Mr. and Mrs Francis Gillis
- Mr. Robert Fraser
- Mrs Lester Gammon
- Mr. Lowell Ames Norris
- State Representative Lester J. Gates

Some of these were mentioned in last September's Bulletin as the list was omitted last June.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS..... In the September, 1965 Bulletin mention was made that the Editor had received permission from the June meeting to put out a Midwinter issue and skip the June one. If some of you wondered where it was, it never got off the ground due to a mixed-up winter for the Editor. Next year, things will work out a little better.

-0-

The Society gave a sum of money to the town which helped purchase a nice spruce tree for the front lawn of the Town Hall complex. It was planted May 16 in memory of Mr. Wilmot Brown, a former President of the Society and for many years, Chairman of the Board of Public Welfare. A very nice picture of three of our members appeared in the "Mirror".

-0-

You have all heard of the famous "Purple Panes" of Boston's Beacon Street. Well, while doing some work for our former Town Clerk William Wade, the Editor discovered two panes of glass in a back bedroom that have a lavender cast. Apparently, they are noticeable from the outside looking in but not the other way as the Wades were unaware of the oddity. Who knows, maybe in 50 years time, we will really have something!

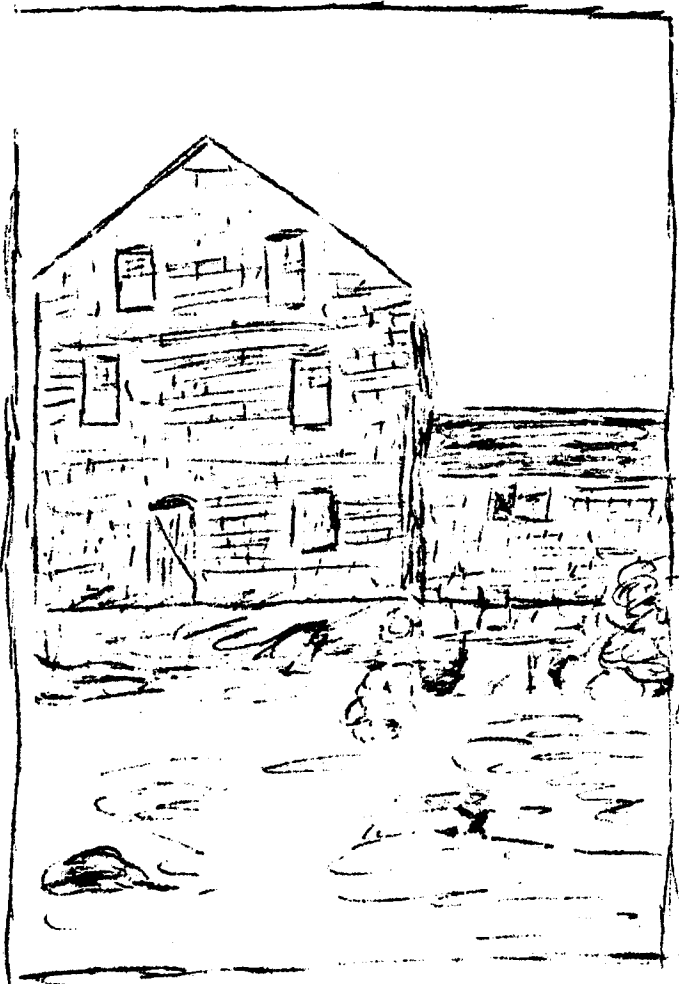
Incidentally, the Wades will observe their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September.

-0-

One of our new members, Mr. Robert Fraser of Cohasset has donated several old record books of the expenditures of the Old Cedar Point lighthouse and breakwater. The period covers 1891-1911 and the keepers during that period were John E.O. Prouty, (father of Mrs Mary Prouty Stenbeck) and John F. Cushman, who I think was the father of Mrs Chester Spear of Lighthouse Road. In addition to the expenses, there was a daily report on the weather and for the Portland Gale of '98, the report read for the two day period; N.E. (winds) cloudy, snow. Highest tide ever here, and, N.N.E. gale heaviest ever known, snow. (THAT report was the understatement of the century!) Mr. Fraser's father found them in a second hand bookstore and the Society thanks both Mr. Frasers! They will be on display at the meeting.

-0-

Interest has been indicated by several persons this year in the history of the bottling works at Beaverdam Springs. It was hoped that I could write an article about it in this Bulletin, but I was not able to gather all the information that I was seeking. I have some, but not enough so over the summer I hope to gather the rest and have something for you in September.



If some of you older members are as smart as I think you are, tell me where this building is, (or was) It was drawn from a post card and I know its identity. Part of it can be seen in our town today. For our readers at a distance, the answer will appear in September.

-0-

An 1892 Norwell Town Report tells us that real estate valuation was \$687,250. and the personal estate valuation was \$202,349. The tax rate was \$13.00 a thousand. There were 442 dwellings and 12,201 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land assessed. 289 cows, 3,409 fowl and horses, 429.

I have in my possession three post cards taken many years ago of Third Cliff. One of them was taken from Pegotty Beach which includes about where my house is but wasn't. As a matter of fact, on the ocean side up on the cliff there is only one house. It looks lonely! Seen in the picture are several houses on Bassin Lane which are still standing.

The other two photos are taken on Collier Road and several present houses in the vicinity of Cliff and Parker Avenues are shown. There was a lot more cliff then then there is now!

-0-

In 1894 there was a club in Scituate called the Browning Club which met tuesdays at 2 p.m. at the homes of members. Rev. Watson Weed President, Mrs E.O. Cooke vice-president and Miss Alice Northey, Secretary.

-0-

There were two U.S. Life Saving Stations:

North Scituate Beach. Manned from September 1st to May 1st. G.F. Brown; captain; John Murphy, J. P. Murphy, E.T. Ward, T.J. Maddock, E. Landers, G.F. Edson, J. F. Murphy surfman.

Fourth Cliff Station, manned September 1st to May 1st. Frederick Stanley; Captain; Marcus J. Barbour, J. Flynn, William H. Murphy, Dennis Quinn, Edward Graham, Richard Wherity, G. H. McDonald, surfman

-0-

The Satuit Library Association was organized in 1882 Central St. corner of Union Scituate Harbor. The Allen Library of today wasn't built yet. George H. Webb was President and vice-president was Andrew J. Waterman., Secretary Charles Manson and Treasurer was George O. Allen. Open Saturdays 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. Free to members who pay 50 cents per year.

The 49th Anniversary meeting of the Society was held September 11th, 1965 at the Junior High School Auditorium, necessitated by the fact that both the Unitarian church and GAR Hall were in use. Scituate Centre can indeed be a busy place! The Invocation and Benediction were delivered by Rev. Donald McPeck of the Harbor Methodist Church. The speaker of the day was Dr. Richard Hale, Archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He spoke on, "Historical preservation in Massachusetts". The gist of the lecture was that; Massachusetts has more historical landmarks than any other state and that 80% of the tourists come to this state to see them. Dr. Hale described the Massachusetts Historical Commission and its purposes, which is preserving historic districts and houses and also working with the Department of Public works and the Department of Commerce in preserving valuable historic buildings. A question and answer period followed and then those present went back to the Cudworth House for the Collation and social hour. Mrs Philip Wood was in charge of the goodies and Mrs Ralph Clapp and Mrs Wight poured the coffee.

-0-

The Cudworth House will be open for the summer starting June 29th. Wednesdays thru Saturdays, 2-5 p.m. Mrs Dorothy Shoemaker will again be our hostess for the season.

-0-

Since the last Annual Meeting the following have passed away:

- Mr. Frank Merton Colman
- Mrs Doris Feals Ward
- Dr. Edward Schott
- Mrs Helen Welch Warren
- Mrs Grace Waterman Vines

-0-

Since the last Annual Meeting the following have become members of our Society:

- Mrs Jane Cudworth Kean
- Mrs E. Gertrude Conant
- Mrs John Gagnon
- Mrs Carleton M. Ruiter
- Miss Gladys Roberts
- Dr. and Mrs Blake M. Lombard
- Mrs Rose F. Noonan
- Mr. William D. Atwill
- Mr. Ralph M. Litchfield
- Mr. and Mrs Francis Gillis
- Mr. Robert Fraser
- Mrs Lester Gammon
- Mr. Lowell Ames Norris
- State Representative Lester J. Gates

Some of these were mentioned in last September's Bulletin as the list was omitted last June.



The Scituate Historical Society

BULLETIN

Cudworth House file

VOLUME XVII

SCITUATE, MASS., DECEMBER, 1966

NUMBER 2

WILLIAM H. EATON, EDITOR

59 Gilson Rd., Scituate, Mass., 02066

ARTICLES OF INTEREST OR HISTORIC VALUE ALWAYS WELCOME; ADDRESS EDITOR.

Our Fiftieth Anniversary

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Scituate Historical Society was celebrated with a full afternoon of activities, on September 10, 1966. Starting with the playing of the Lawson Chimes by Richard Burt at noon, a delicious catered dinner was served in the Old Sloop Room of the First Parish Church by the Unity Club of the church. Grace was delivered by the church's minister, Rev. Carl Whittier. Nearly seventy sat down to dinner with about twenty more coming in for the program that followed. Our President, Mrs. Elliott Laidlaw extended greetings from the Society, and the gathering was welcomed by Mr. William Muller, Chairman of the Anniversary Committee. Bringing greetings from the Town of Scituate was the Honorable Lester Gates, Chairman of the Scituate Board of Selectmen and former State Representative. Mr. John Chipman, President of the Forwell Historical Society brought greetings from Forwell and presented our Society with a map of historic Forwell more about will be said later.

Seated at the head table, Mr and Mrs Laidlaw, Mr and Mrs Chipman, Selectman Gates and the speaker of the day, The Reverend Dr. Robert M. Bartlett of Plymouth Plantation who gave a fine illustrated lecture on, "Four Hundred Years of the Pilgrim Story". He traced the history of the Pilgrim Fathers from England to Holland to America.

(Anniversary meeting, continued)

Skipping to the present century, Dr. Bartlett traced the History of Plimoth Plantation. It was founded in 1947 as a non-profit educational organization to create a better understanding of the Pilgrims. The Plantation, located off Route 3-A at Bel River, already has a number of homes completed and several more in the making. Plans are to have 21 homes and an exhibit hall finished by 1970. Plimoth Plantation also owns and exhibits the Mayflower II, the Pilgrim Gallop and the two Pilgrim houses near Plymouth Rock. Everyone present has commented favorably on a very interesting program.

Present at the meeting was one of our surviving Presidents, Nathaniel Tilden and one Charter Member, Paul Litchfield, who was also the Society's first Treasurer.

Also on the program was a barbershop quartet who rendered "The Old Oaken Bucket" and "The Stein Song", both written by Scituate men. In the quartet were; Philip Bolster, Robert Carley, Arnold Madeau and George Richardson.

After the meeting the Cudworth House, Barn and the Stockbridge Mill were open to the public with hosts and hostesses in attendance.

Featured in the Cudworth House were Antique Bottles from the collection of Mrs Allen Bates; Sandwich Glass from the collections of Mrs Joseph Tecley and Mrs William Muller; Indian Artifacts from the Scituate collection of Mr. Robert Tilden and the Wedding Gown of Mrs Isabelle Northey Murray, Descendent of the poet Samuel Woodworth. Featured in the Barn was a foot powered wood turning lathe in use at the Briggs Shipyard in 1773 and recently restored and in working condition.

And so, as we pass from our 50th year and enter our second half century, may we dedicate ourselves to the task of making the history of Old Scituate come alive for future generations.

-0-

Our June Business meeting was attended by over 50 persons and was held in the First Parish Church. After the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read the annual election of officers took place. Elected were: President, Mrs Elliott Laidlaw; Vice-President, Nathaniel Tilden; Secretary, Mrs Edwin Sullivan; Treasurer, Mrs Howard Young and Trustees, Major Lester Blair, Ralph Clapp, Ellsworth Kent, Mrs Robert Tilden and Mrs Philip Wood. A moment of silence was observed for departed members, President F. Merton Colman, Mrs Doris Ward, Dr. Edward Schott, Mrs Helen (Welch) Warren and Mrs Grace Waterman Vines. A tribute to President and Mrs Colman from the Trustees was read by Mrs Laidlaw. It was voted to become a Life Member of the Scituate Land Conservation Trust and the membership fee of \$100.00 was approved. It was announced that the Society had put out a historical brochure with map of points of interest in Scituate. The program was about the aims and purposes of the Scituate Land Conservation Trust and was ably presented by Mr. Arthur Crosbie. The private organization is concerned with preserving four areas: South Swamp, between Clapp and First Parish Roads; Strawberry Point at the Glades; North River Marshes, which they will not be directly responsible for as this now comes under Federal Control; and Water sheds for the Town.

After the very informative program, refreshments were served in the Cudworth House under the direction of Mrs Philip Wood.

0

MARY F. PROUTY STENBECK

The members of the Society were saddened to learn of the passing of our Clerk-Meritus, Mrs Mary Prouty Stenbeck on August 16, 1966 after a short illness. Mrs Stenbeck was born January 11, 1873, the daughter of John Prouty and Mary Reed. Mr Prouty for some years kept the lights burning at the old Scituate Light prior to it being made automatic. Despite her having attained the age of ninety-three years, Mrs Stenbeck was quite active and attended our June meeting. She was considered "good Company", and could recall many happenings on the local scene of days gone by. Married to the late Harry Stenbeck in 1890, she is survived by two children, Miss Hilda Stenbeck and H. Victor Stenbeck. She was the mother of the late Karl Stenbeck and Mrs Adelle S. Callahan.

WOODWORTH N. MURRAY

Woodworth Northey Murray, owner of the Old Oaken Bucket Homestead and a collateral descendant of Samuel Woodworth, the author of "The Old Oaken Bucket", passed away September 11th after a long illness. His death occurred the day after our 50th Anniversary Meeting.

The original part of the Homestead was built in 1674 and has always been in the family. Shortly before his death, he and Mrs Murray gave to the Society in honor of the 50th Anniversary, the wedding gown worn by his mother, Isabelle Northey Murray worn by her in 1894. The wedding took place at the Homestead. The sympathy of the Society is extended to his widow, Mrs Marie (Drew) Murray.

-0-

The Society is pleased to list the members who have joined during the past year.

ANNUAL MEMBERS

Ralph Bangs, Jr., Scituate
Mr and Mrs J. Loring Bradlee, Scituate
Mr and Mrs John Chipman, Norwell
Mrs Sidney Gates, Scituate
Hon. Lester J. Gates
Robert M. Fraser, Cohasset
Mr and Mrs David Tilden, Scituate
Mrs Fred Gilley, Scituate
Mrs Elmer Kettell, Scituate
Elliott C. Laidlaw, Scituate
Mrs Fred Messinger, Scituate
Mrs John Oliver, Scituate
W. A. Schlosser, Marshfield
Mrs Woodworth N. Murray, Scituate
Mrs Addison Pratt, Scituate
Mrs Egerton McNear, Scituate
Mr and Mrs Samuel Parsons, Scituate
Mr and Mrs Alden Torrey, Scituate
George C. Young, Scituate
Miss Elizabeth Shaw, Scituate
Miss Doris Boothby, Scituate

Life member,-- Arthur Crosbie, Scituate

Transferred from Annual to life;
Ralph S. Brown, Markham, Virginia
John D. Luttmann- Johnson, Scituate
Miss Evelyn Herritt, Scituate
Mrs Elliott C. Laidlaw, Scituate

-0-

Mrs Charles M. Wilson of Hingham has passed away.

-0-

The Historical Brochure of the Cudworth House and other historical points in Scituate has been very well received in many quarters, including use by the Scituate public schools to send to prospective teachers. Stacks of copies are in the Cudworth House and different locations around town. The Committee is to be congratulated for a fine job.

-0-

The Society would like to thank one of our members, Lowell Ames Norris for the many nice things he said about the Society and the Anniversary in his column, "South Shore Byline", seen in the South Shore Mirror. Thanks is also extended to the various local papers for their cooperation.

A number of donations have been made to the Society:

Collection of dresses of the 1900-1910 period including a wedding dress given by Mrs Robert H. Parker, Scituate, Mass.

A complete Genealogy of the Ancestors and Descendants of Tirus Prouty and Mary Agnes Thompson, 1566-1965, compiled by Ilene Prouty Andrews and given by Mrs A.C. Andrews, Pasadena, Texas.

A sherraton secretary believed to be the property of Ellen A. Litchfield born 1848- donated by Richard M. Vines, Scituate, William F. Vines, Waterville, Maine and Sister Maristelle, Sacred Heart Convent, Kingston, Mass.

A sign for the Herb Garden given by Mrs Bertram Waldo Litchfield, Quincy, Mass. She was treasurer of the Germantown Garden Club for 17 years.

The wedding dress and wedding invitation of Isabelle Northey Murray born in Scituate on March 27, 1870. Graduated from Scituate High School in 1887 and in 1892 from Wellesly College and married Charles T. Murray. She was married in the Old Oakon Lucket Homestead. Her Grandfather, Joseph Northey was a step-brother of the Poet, Samuel Woodworth (1784-1842) who wrote the immortal, (Old Oakon Lucket) This dress was presented to the Society as a special gift on their 50th Anniversary by Mr and Mrs Woodworth Northey Murray.

A map of Historic Norwell, formerly South Scituate. Part of Scituate 1636- 1849, presented to the Society at their 50th Anniversary luncheon meeting by Mr John Chipman, President of the Norwell Historical Society. The map was drawn by Mrs Ann Henderson of Norwell.

Portrait of a Family, by Susan Elizabeth Tilden. Written for Thayer Academy, Emerson Essay Contest, 1965- Received Honorable Mention.

The Society wishes to thank Mr. William D. Muller and the J.J. Henry Co. Inc., Marine Engineers of Cohasset Mass. for refurbishing and putting in working condition a foot operated wood turning lathe donated to the Society by Mr John D. Luttmann-Johnson at an earlier date. The lathe was in use in the Brig's shipyard on the Scituate side of the North River in 1773 and was used in the construction of the 212-ton ship COLUMBIA, which under the command of Capt. Robert Gray, discovered and explored the Columbia River. The lathe was donated in 1959 by Mr Luttmann-Johnson present owner of the Brig's Shipyard property, which includes as a guest house the original shipyard workshop built in 1645.

-o-

The Cudworth House has a library and the Society has a Librarian. She is Mrs Philip Wood of 16 Ann Vinal Road, North Scituate, Mass. The Library has been used by many for reference and members and other persons are welcomed to do so when the House is open. Articles and genealogies pertaining to Scituate and vicinity are earnestly solicited. Contact Mrs Wood. Many of you may not know this, but there is a pretty complete set of Scituate Town Reports at the Allen Memorial Library and the Editor also a collection plus many Cohasset and South Scituate-Norwell ones. I also have in my book form the Scituate Vital Records from 1863 -1922. Inquiries are invited.

-o-

The Society again opened the Cudworth House in conjunction with the Scituate Art Festival with members of the Society volunteering as hostesses. The Cudworth House guestbook shows over 900 visitors from all over the United States and Canada.

-o-

Just room enough on this page for the solution to the picture in the last issue. It is the back side of the old mill in Greenbush. The large building on the left was a shingle factory and a number of "boys" living locally with either gray hair or no hair recall working there. The "ell" on the right is the mill that is still there. I'll try again.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR SOCIETY

On Saturday, September 2, 1916 the Scituate Historical Society was organized by some sixty people at a meeting called by Henry Turner Bailey in the old Town Hall which was then located next to the present Junior High School. The Articles of Association drawn up by Harvey Pratt, a Scituate town counsel, and already signed by 179 interested persons stated that the organization should be formed for the "purpose of promoting the study of local and colonial history, the preservation of the antiquities of old Scituate and of those municipalities which were anciently part of the town". The Articles were adopted and the following officers were unanimously elected: Silas Poirce, president; Miss Mary Ann Ford, vice-president; Paul T. Litchfield, treasurer; and Howard C. Frye, clerk. The original five trustees were Henry Turner Bailey, Harvey Pratt, Miss Ella Turner Bates, Mrs Sarah R. Stoddard and Charles H. Tilden.

During the first two years the Society's anniversary meetings and luncheons were held at the First Parish Church with various exhibits displayed at the old Town Hall. In 1916 the Cudworth House was purchased by the Town of Scituate and at the March 1917 town meeting it was voted to give the house into the custody of the Society. The Town and the Society then appropriated funds to restore and redecorate the house, and contributions of money and furnishings were made by interested persons.

In July 1919 the Cudworth House was first opened to the public, and that August the Society had its third annual meeting in its new home.

Beginning in 1922 the house has been open during the summer months with a custodian in attendance. That same year William H. Clapp deeded the Stockbridge Mill built in 1640 to the Society. Since the mill's restoration in 1923 and again in 1948, the grinding of grist corn has taken place periodically.

On August 30, 1919 under the auspices of the Society, a boulder with portrait tablet was dedicated to Judge William Cushing, Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1789 to 1810. This boulder, located in Greenbush on Route 3A, is on land donated by Thomas Farmer, then a trustee and later president of the Society. The same year the Society was given the Cushing burial lot by the Paine trustees and later received a gift of surrounding land from the Atwood family. This entire property was turned over to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the Society in 1955 and dedicated as the Cushing Memorial State Park in 1957.

The Scituate Garden Club made its first contribution to the Society in 1922 when the mill was restored. Since that time the Club has donated money, plants of trees and flowers for the Cudworth House site and is presently maintaining flower and herb gardens there. This spring the Historical Society contributed toward the purchase of an evergreen tree which was planted at the Town Hall in memory of Wilnot Brown, the Society's president from 1945 to 1963.

In 1929 the Society financed the publication of Harvey Pratt's "Early Planters of Scituate", a history of the town. Since 1948 the Society has published "The Bulletin", a newsletter of historic facts and anecdotes.

In June, 1966 the Society edited and published a brochure containing descriptions, pictures and map of Scituate's places of historic interest.

In 1933 Dr. L. Vernon Briggs of Mt. Blue, Norwell, gave the Society his barn which was built in 1750. With funds voted by the Society the structure was taken down, moved and reconstructed on the Cudworth House lot. It is used to display many farm and shop tools of earlier days.

Through the Society's sponsorship of an article in the 1935 town warrant, "The Old Oaken Locket" was adopted as Scituate's official town song. At the Society's request, the early cemetery on Meetinghouse Lane has been preserved and the town cattle pound was rebuilt in 1953 on its present location beside the Briggs Barn.

Although the cost of major maintenance items for the Cudworth House is borne by the Town, the Society through loans and gifts, has acquired, inventoried and restored many priceless historic articles. During the past fifty years the Society has been fulfilling its purpose of "Promoting the study of local and colonial history and the preservation of the antiquities of old Scituate"

As this bulletin is going to press, we are pleased to receive a water color sketch of the Stockbridge Mill executed by Henry Turner Bailey when he was 20 years of age. It was donated by his daughter, Mrs Max D. (Margaret Bailey) Miles of North Scituate.

-0-

The Thanks of the Society go to the Scituate Garden Club for planting and maintaining the old fashioned flower garden in front of the Cudworth House and the herb garden in back. Also to the following ladies who were responsible for supplying the Cudworth House with floral arrangements this summer: Mesdames Leon Browne, Kenmore Hoffatt, George Johndrow, Blake Lombard, Loring Bradlee, William Muller, Herbert Blanchard, Alden Torrey, David Tilden, Stanley Curtis, Dwight Agnew, Sr, and Addison Pratt.

-0-

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, MRS LAIDLAW

"I was Thrilled at our 50th Anniversary Luncheon and Meeting by the enthusiasm of the many who attended. I wish to thank personally Mr William H. Muller, chairman of the Anniversary Committee for a most successful day. I am sure the enthusiasm we all felt that day is just a beginning of the many things we can and will do to keep the history of Scituate alive".

.... Well, alright Mrs Laidlaw, the Society has a message for you too. We feel very fortunate to have you at the helm and we know that in the past your abounding interest has been responsible for accomplishing many things. We just know the future is going to be the same. Good Luck!

-0-

Recently the Editor was handed an interesting article concerning a restored antique cape on lower Clapp Road which boasted EIGHT doors in one room, the old kitchen, now the dining room. The house belonged to "Crazy Nat" Vinal at one time and is now owned by Mr and Mrs Harry McCarty

Well, I hate to spoil a good story, but I can report better, Dr. Miles has NINE doors in his KITCHEN and Rev. Alden Cook has SEVEN in the KITCHEN and THIRTEEN in his upstairs hall. His House was a new england cottage that got added on to about the turn of the century. I have seen at least two capes with seven doors in room.

-0-

Word has just been received of the passing of Stephen T. Bittenbender of Brookline and Norwell. Mr Bittenbender was a life member of the Society and was the husband of the late Susan Elizabeth (Peirce) who was the daughter of Silas Peirce our first President.

-0-

GENEALOGIST

A truly clever mental twist
Imbues the genealogist;
The perservering sleuth and sage
Who finds your roots in any age.
Who splinters in his learned dome
A Carthaginian chromosome
And isolates a mite or two
Way down deep inside of you!
He roams the prehistoric scene
To spot you in the Pleistocene
Or links, thru some forgotten clan
Your grandma and the Pilydown man

(No more space, rest next issue, more to come!