Published Books and Articles
by
Richard LeBaron Bowen, Sr.

Publications of Richard LeBaron Bowen, Sr. between 1939 and 1960.

Dec 22, 2016

© Nicholas Bowen 2015
RICHARD LeBARON BOWEN

Richard LeBaron Bowen, historian and manufacturer, was born on April 4, 1878, in East Providence, Rhode Island, son of Thomas LeBaron and Clara (Carpenter) Bowen. After his years in the local schools he studied for a while at Brown University and then moved down the hill to the Rhode Island School of Design where he graduated in 1898. Shortly afterward he served during the Spanish-American War and then went to work in the textile business, rising by 1912 to vice-president and general manager of the O’Bannon Corporation. After a decade during which he served a term in the Rhode Island House of Representatives he left the firm to found and head the Coated Textile Mills in Providence and toward the end of the twenties founded and headed the Bowen Mills of Pawtucket.

His interest in local history was fostered during the thirties and early in the forties Bowen wrote to the Society for sources for his history of Rehoboth. Librarian Clifford Shipton suggested he ‘run up to Worcester and copy out yourself such sections as you find of interest’ from the materials here. Bowen was happy with the suggestion but was a little slow in getting to the library. In the meantime he had gotten to work on the colonial currency of Rhode Island and its counterfeiting which he saw through the press in 1942 and asked Clarence Brigham, whom he had known when Brigham was with the Rhode Island Historical Society before coming to our Society, if he would review it for a journal. Brigham had to beg off because he was busy indeed with his work on newspapers. Bowen con-
continued to turn out his work on local history, his next contribution being a study of the signers of the Providence oath of allegiance, another hundred-page book. His next work was a genealogical article, one of many to appear in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Also in this period Bowen and Sydney Philip Noe exchanged letters about colonial currency.

In 1945 the first of four volumes of his *Early Rehoboth* came out and Shipton wrote Bowen to say that he thought the work was ‘scholar’s history’ and that he was looking forward to the volumes on the eighteenth century. Shortly thereafter at the Boston meeting in April 1946 Bowen was elected to membership in this Society and he wrote in reply that ‘no greater honor could come to any man.’ In the first few years he had a fine record of attendance at meetings but in a few years it slipped considerably because of a bad heart which ‘made it necessary for me to avoid all excitement.’ In the late forties Bowen’s index to the twenty-one volumes of the early records of Providence was published at a time when he was president of the Rhode Island Historical Society. The index was a by-product of his having had to compile an index of the records in order to do his history of Rehoboth, the fourth volume of which came out in 1950. Also that year Bowen had published an article on armorial silver.

Throughout the fifties he kept in touch with the Society through the mails and with a generous annual contribution. In April 1951 at the spring meeting he was host for luncheon. He continued to write that his health was slowly improving and that he would be back in circulation soon. In the late fifties he wrote from Bowen Farm in Rehoboth that he was ‘writing continually and have much work in progress, including four more books which I am in hopes of living long enough to publish.’

In 1957 and drawing upon a life’s effort in local history and genealogy he published a handbook for Massachusetts records and the next year an article on the tax revolt of 1690 in Plymouth colony. In 1959 Bowen published *Collected Papers*, a compilation in book form of a number of articles and reviews he had written dating back twenty years. His membership in societies reflected his interests very well, as he was a corresponding member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, vice president from Rhode Island of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, member of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, and a Fellow of both the Society of Genealogists of London and the American Society of Genealogists.

At an annual meeting of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts Bowen had a ‘little upset’ which turned out to be ‘only a combination of a big dinner, too much pipe, and the pressure of a boiled shirt on a full stomach’ but Bowen took it to be ‘Nature’s little warning to an old fool to slow up and take it easy. To one who has always prided himself on his ability to do two men’s work it comes a little hard to follow the doctor’s orders,’ for Bowen always said that ‘I would rather wear out than rust out.’ On August 9, 1969, and at ninety-one years Richard LeBaron Bowen did wear out. He is survived by a daughter and a son and many in Rhode Island and elsewhere who are indebted to him for his work in the sources of local history.

J. E. M.
He published 9 books between 1942 and 1959 on history and genealogy of Rehoboth Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island. These books contain 1,263 pages!

He had an obsession on proving his lines to English heraldry which is a theme that runs through much of his work.

When he died in 1969 he had three books in preparation (at least!).

He self-published all these books and the family still has many pristine copies from the published.

He copyrighted all his books.
The **Early Rehoboth** Series was his most famous work. It focused on the founding of Rehoboth Massachusetts and covered the time period from the mid1600’s into the 1700’s. They were published between 1945 and 1950, and the research for these books started in the 1930’s.

The books are collections of independent chapters - - in total 29 chapters and 716 pages.
CONTENTS

CHAPTER I—Population Estimates

A 1688/9 population estimate, on the basis of heads of families, for the eight towns of Rehoboth, Swansea, Taunton, Bristol, Freetown, Little Compton, Dartmouth, and Providence, in the 1,000-square-mile area, which included all of the old Bristol County, Plymouth Colony, and nearly half of the present State of Rhode Island—A population estimate for Plymouth Colony for 1690, on the basis of the soldier draft—Population estimates for Plymouth Colony for 1675 and 1653 also, 1690, 1675, and 1653 population estimates for the United Colonies of Massachusetts, Plymouth, and Connecticut.

CHAPTER II—Town of Swansea, Plymouth Colony

A brief historical sketch of its early history commencing in the town of Rehoboth—Proprietors' lists for 1668/9 and 1670/1; freemen's list for 1670; divisions of land lists for 1686—Rehoboth proprietors' list for 1653; freemen's list for 1670; tax list for 1671; list of proprietors of Rehoboth North Purchase, 1672—Somerset proprietors' lists for 1683 and 1698.

CHAPTER III—Major William Bradford's Quitclaim Deeds

To the towns of Rehoboth, Swansea, Taunton, Little Compton, and Dartmouth, Plymouth Colony, listing the inhabitants and proprietors in 1689, 1692/3, and 1694.

CHAPTER IV—Town of Bristol, Plymouth Colony

A brief sketch of its early history—Proprietors' lists for 1681, and census for 1688/9.

CHAPTER V—Town of Freetown, Plymouth Colony

A brief sketch of its early history—Tax lists for 1688 and 1690.

CHAPTER VI—Providence Tax Lists

Real estate and poll tax lists for 1688.

CHAPTER VII—An Early Epidemic

A detailed account of the Rehoboth 1690 epidemic—A genealogy of the Perrin Family.

CHAPTER VIII—The Redway Family

INDEX

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Plate

I. House of Philip Walker—finished in 1679. Frontispiece
II. Folding map showing original towns in Bristol County, Plymouth Colony, and Providence, Rhode Island Colony opposite 22
III. Major William Bradford's Quitclaim Deed to Rehoboth opposite 52
IV. Major William Bradford's Quitclaim Deed to Swansea. opposite 58
V. "Old man of Joshua's Mountain", Freetown. opposite 96
VI. Providence Tax Warrant opposite 106
VII. Sketch of the ancient attic staircase in the Philip Walker house opposite 148
VIII. Indian Arrowheads and Coin found on the old Redway Farm opposite 148
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter I—The Name Seekonk</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A study of the meaning of the Indian place-name—Previously printed definitions and studies—Recorded spellings from 1634 to 1812—Topographical description of the township—New location-data evidence—A new definition for the name Seekonk.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter II—The Name Rehoboth</th>
<th>25</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A study of the Biblical name—Previously printed definitions—The first and second settlements—A new theory for the application of the name.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter III—The Original King Philip's War Lists</th>
<th>39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lists of Rehoboth inhabitants who advanced money for defraying the cost of King Philip's War and clothing for the soldiers—List of soldiers in the Narraganset Expedition—List of soldiers under Major Bradford.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter IV—Rehoboth Counterfeiting</th>
<th>57</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter V—Genealogies</th>
<th>85</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bessie, Bishop, Camp, Carpenter, French, Hunt, Lyon, Noble, Peck, Pullen, Smith, and Stevens.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter VI—Rehoboth Book of Laws</th>
<th>119</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abstracts of various horse, cattle, earmark, and other miscellaneous original Rehoboth records from 1697 to 1759.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter VII—Warning Out Notices</th>
<th>133</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete transcripts of all Warning Out Notices found in the original Rehoboth Records from 1643 to 1778.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| INDEX | 167 |
| LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS | viii |

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plate</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Title page of Samuel Newman’s first Concordance to the Bible, 1643</td>
<td>Frontispiece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Coat of Arms of the Town of East Providence</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Outline Map of Seekonk</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Seal of the Town of Rehoboth</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Counterfeit 1715 Colony of Rhode Island £5 public Bill of Credit, made at Rehoboth by Mary (Peck) Butterworth and passed at Newport by her brother Nicholas Peck of Rehoboth</td>
<td>opposite 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Reverse of the counterfeit 1715 Colony of Rhode Island £5 public Bill of Credit</td>
<td>opposite 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 12 pence (one shilling) public Bill of Credit, 1715–1737</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 3 shilling public Bill of Credit, 1715–1737</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX. Original Province of the Massachusetts Bay Ten shilling public Bill of Credit, 1713–1716</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X. Counterfeit 1713 Colony of Connecticut £5 public Bill of Credit of the type counterfeited at Rehoboth</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI. Original Province of the Massachusetts Bay £2 (40 shilling) public Bill of Credit, 1714–1724</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 4 shilling 6 pence public Bill of Credit, 1715–1737</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII. Old Congregational Church, built in 1723 and later used by Providence as a Town House</td>
<td>opposite 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIV. Photograph of a Rehoboth 1718/9 Earmark record</td>
<td>opposite 126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS

CHAPTER I—NEW SOURCE MATERIAL FOR KING PHILIP’S WAR

CHAPTER II—DEACON PHILIP WALKER, POET
Captain Perse and his Courageous Company, a poem—The Stratagem of the Indians—The First Smile of God in this Land, a poem.

CHAPTER III—THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY EXPEDITION TO MOUNT HOPE

CHAPTER IV—KING PHILIP’S TWO ESCAPES

CHAPTER V—RICHARD WRIGHT
A study of an important Massachusetts Bay man who was a leader in the Seekonk settlement of 1643.

CHAPTER VI—CAPTAIN GEORGE WRIGHT
A study of his flights through Massachusetts, Plymouth, and Rhode Island colonies; Gravesend, Westchester, and final settlement at Flushing, Long Island, New Netherland.

CHAPTER VII—REHOBOTH DEEDS
Excerpts of deeds recorded in Plymouth Colony and in Bristol County, Massachusetts Colony, from 1640 to 1705.

INDEX

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Plate
I. Photograph of the life portrait of Maj. Thomas Savage, owned by Henry L. Shattuck, Esquire. Frontispiece

II. Photograph of the life portrait of Gov. Josiah Winslow, in the gallery of the Pilgrim Society opposite

III. Facsimile of John Kingsley’s letter to the minister of the Church at Hartford, Conn. opposite

IV. The Deacon Philip Walker house, from a photograph taken about 1860 opposite

V. Facsimile of five stanzas of Deacon Philip Walker’s poetry and autograph.

VI. Photograph of the life portrait of Gov. Joseph Dudley, in the gallery of the Massachusetts Historical Society opposite

VII. Map of Tiverton, R. I., and Fall River, Mass., showing the Pocasset Swamp opposite

VIII. Photograph of the life portrait of Gov. John Leverett, in the gallery of the Essex Institute opposite

IX. Facsimile of a part of Mr. Noah Newman’s letter and letter of Lieut. Nathaniel Thomas, written to Capt. Daniel Henchman on 30 and 31 July 1675


XI. Facsimiles of twenty-six autographs, principally of men engaged in King Philip’s War

XII. Map showing the Nipsachuck country, in the north of the town of Providence, where King Philip was defeated on 1 Aug. 1675 opposite

XIII. Autographs of Richard Wright and his sons-in-law, William Sabin and James Clark, signed to the Rehoboth compact, 1644

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I—EARLY SURVEYS AND MAPS ................................................................. 1

CHAPTER II—THE 1790 MAP .................................................................................... 21
Highways—great gates—training field—ministerial land—schoolhouse lot—burying place and additions of 1680, 1737/8, and 1790—the three meeting houses built in 1646, 1680, and 1715—present newman congregational church built in 1810—the 1712/13 organization of the proprietors of rehoboth common and undivided lands.

CHAPTER III—THE 1795 MAP ................................................................................ 51
The earliest known map of the town of rehoboth—the disputed boundary line in the northwest corner of rehoboth—a study of the eastern boundary line of rhode island—the boundary line between north providence, rhode island, and rehoboth, massachusetts—other features of the map.

CHAPTER IV—THE VILLAGE OF Pawtucket ................................................................ 69
The Pawtucket Falls settlement—Samuel Slater—the first water-power cotton spinning in the united states was successfully established at Pawtucket Falls, north Providence, Rhode Island, in 1790 by Samuel Slater—the first successful cotton mill in the united states built by Slater in the village of Pawtucket, town of rehoboth, Massachusetts, in 1793.

CHAPTER V—REHOBOTH TAX LISTS ....................................................................... 87
Three complete lists of the polls and ratable estates of the town of rehoboth as taken by the assessors on 5 Nov. 1759, 28 Oct. 1765, and 28 Nov. 1769.

CHAPTER VI—REHOBOTH CENSUSES .................................................................. 113
The first Massachusetts Census (summary only), 1765—the first United States Census, 1790—the second United States Census, 1800.

CHAPTER VII—THE FEDERAL DIRECT TAX OF 1798 .................................................. 143
Two general lists of all dwelling houses and out-houses owned, possessed, or occupied in rehoboth on 1 Oct. 1798.

INDEX ......................................................................................................................... 173

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Plate Page
I. Silhouette of Moses Brown, Providence merchant, made about 1835 ............................................. frontispiece
II. The 1790 Map of the Ring of the Green showing the highways, Meeting House, Cemetery, Training Field, etc. ................................................................. 22
III. A section of the 1944 U.S. Geographical Map showing the old Ring of the Green ................................................. 23
IV. A 1949 plan showing the locations of the various meeting houses and additions to the old cemetery ......................... 39
V. A 1795 folding map of the Town of Rehoboth ................................................................. facing
VI. A section of the 1741 Boundary Commissioners' Map showing the area around Pawtucket Falls ................................................................. 61
VII. A 1949 map of a section of Pawtucket, R.I., showing the 1663 Rhode Island charter line due north from the Pawtucket Falls ................................................................. 65
VIII. The northeastern corner section of the 1795 Harris Map of the State of Rhode Island ................................................................. facing
IX. A 1790 Map of the Town of Providence ................................................................. facing
X. The wooden bridge over the Pawtucket River at the Falls as it appeared about 1799 ........................................................................................................................................ 71
XI. A map of the Town of Pawtucket, Massachusetts, surveyed by L. M. E. Stone, Engineer, by order of the Town July 1848 ........................................................................ 75
XII. The old Slater Mill built in 1793. From a picture published in 1881 ........................................................................................................................................ 83
XIII. An 1838 folding map of the Town of Pawtucket, Mass., from a survey made when the area was a part of Rehoboth ........................................................................ 84
XIV. Facsimile of the Bristol County part of the 1765 Massachusetts Census ........................................................................................................................................ 116
RHODE ISLAND
COLONIAL MONEY
and Its
COUNTERFEITING
1647-1726

By
RICHARD LEBARON BOWEN

Contributed by
FREDERICK STANHOPE PECK, LL.D.
Governor of the Rhode Island
Society of Colonial Wars

Issued from the General Court of the Society of Colonial Wars
in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

PROVIDENCE
30 December 1942
Rhode Island Colonial Money and its Counterfeiting: 1647-1726.
Rhode Island Colonial Money and its Counterfeiting: 1647-1726.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

1. Counterfeit Colony of Rhode Island £5 public Bill of Credit, made at Rehoboth and passed at Newport by Nicholas Peck of Rehoboth. From the original bill in the collection of Colonial Money in the Library of Frederick Stanhope Peck, Belton Court, Barrington, Rhode Island Opposite Page 40

2. Shell beads washed out of an Indian grave at Tiverton, Rhode Island. In the Museum of the Rhode Island Historical Society and here illustrated for the first time Opposite 43

3. String of copper beads, made in imitation of Indian wampum, unearthed from an Indian grave at Burr Hill, Warren, Rhode Island. In the Museum of the Rhode Island Historical Society Opposite 71

4. Province of the Massachusetts Bay Ten Shilling, 1713–1716, public Bill of Credit; here illustrated for the first time. Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society 77

5. Arms of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations engraved on the 4 shilling 6 pence, 3 shilling, 2 shilling 6 pence, and 12 pence, First 1715 Bank, public Bills of Credit. Opposite 90

6. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 4 shilling 6 pence public Bill of Credit of the First 1715 Bank, and also used for the emissions of 1721, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1731, 1733 and 1737, printed from the original copper plate in the Rhode Island Historical Society Opposite 91

7. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 3 shilling public Bill of Credit of the First 1715 Bank, and also used for the emissions of 1721, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1731, 1733 and 1737, printed from the original copper plate in the Rhode Island Historical Society Opposite 28

8. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 2 shilling 6 pence (half crown) public Bill of Credit of the First 1715 Bank, and also used for the emissions of 1721, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1731, 1733 and 1737, printed from the original copper plate in the Rhode Island Historical Society Opposite 8

9. Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 12 pence (one shilling) public Bill of Credit of the First 1715 Bank, and also used for the emissions of 1721, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1731, 1733 and 1737, printed from the original copper plate in the Rhode Island Historical Society Opposite 40

10. Province of the Massachusetts Bay 40 shilling, 1708, public Bill of Credit of the type of the 50 shilling bill first counterfeited at Newport by Freelove Lippencott and later by the Greenmans; here illustrated for the first time. Courtesy of the Connecticut Historical Society 43

11. Counterfeit Colony of Connecticut, 1713, £5 public Bill of Credit of the type counterfeited at Rehoboth; here illustrated for the first time. Courtesy of the Connecticut Historical Society 71

12. Province of the Massachusetts Bay £2 (40 shilling), 1714–1724, public Bill of Credit, counterfeited at Rehoboth and passed by Nicholas Camp to James Dexter, merchant, at Providence; here illustrated for the first time. Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society 77

13. Old Newport Pillory in the Museum of the Newport Historical Society; here illustrated for the first time. Courtesy of the Newport Historical Society 90

14. Old Congregational Church, built in 1723, and later used by Providence as a Town House. From an old photograph, taken prior to 1860, in the Library of Frederick Stanhope Peck, Belton Court, Barrington, Rhode Island, here reproduced for the first time. Opposite 91
THE PROVIDENCE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE and Its SIGNERS 1651–2

By RICHARD LEBARON BOWEN

Contributed by FREDERICK STANHOPE PECK, LL.D.
Governor of the Rhode Island Society of Colonial Wars

TABLE OF CONTENTS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

Contents

I. The Providence Oath of Allegiance: a description, and its significance—Hugh Bewitt's trial for heresy at Boston—Organization of the towns of Providence, Portsmouth, Newport, and Warwick before and after the first charter—Coddington's efforts to obtain a commission as Governor of the Island—The gold and silver mine at Portsmouth—Warrant issued by John Smith, President of the Colony, for the arrest of Hugh Bewitt, Commissioner, of Providence—The arrest at Lynn of John Clarke, Obadiah Holmes, and John Cran dall of the Newport Church, and their sentence by the Boston Court—John Clarke and Roger Williams sent to England to obtain the restoration of the Providence Plantations Charter—William Coddington's return from England with a life Commission as Governor of the Island—The case of William Almy vs. John Smith, President of the Colony

1–26


27–50

III. A study of the signers of the Providence Oath of Allegiance, their homes and life events as shown by the original source records—Thomas Harris, William Wickenden, John Browne, Samuell Bennett, Henry Browne, Thomas Hopkins, Arthur Fenner, James Ashton, Thomas Angell, Gregory Dexter, Hugh Bewitt, and Edward Inman

51–86

Index

87–92

List of Illustrations

I. The Providence Oath of Allegiance to the Commonwealth of England without King or House of Lords

Frontispiece

II. Map showing the First Division of Home Lots of the early settlers at Providence, by Charles Wyman Hopkins

50

III. Map showing the houses standing on the Providence Home Lots in 1650, by John Hutchins Cady, F.A.I.A.

87

Issued from the General Court of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

PROVIDENCE 30 December 1943
INDEX
TO
THE EARLY RECORDS
OF THE
TOWN OF PROVIDENCE
VOLUMES I-XXI

Containing also a summary of the contents of the volumes and an appendix
of documented research data to date on Providence and other
early seventeenth century Rhode Island families

By
Richard LeBaron Bowen
President of the Rhode Island Historical Society

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PROVIDENCE
MCMXLIX
PROVIDENCE RECORDS: ORIGIN OF WORK AND CONTENTS.

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

This volume is printed under authority of the following ordinance passed by the City Council of Providence, approved 20 January 1949:

“CHAPTER 200

“No. 59—An Ordinance Amending the appropriation Ordinance, Chapter 128, by adding the Sum of Two Thousand ($2,000) Dollars to the Appropriation Contained Therein for City Clerk, Item 1.”

The Rhode Island Historical Society expresses its sincere appreciation to the Honorable Dennis J. Roberts, Mayor of the City of Providence, for his assistance in the publication of this consolidated index to the twenty-one volumes of the Early Records of the Town of Providence, and to the Providence City Council for its co-operation in appropriating the money necessary to defray the cost of printing and binding.

RICHARD HEBRON BOWEN
President

WILLIAM GREENE ROEHLER
Director

CONTENTS

Summary of contents of the twenty-one volumes of the Early Records of the Town of Providence

Table showing the earliest and latest records in each of the twenty-one volumes

Index to Persons (Whites, Indians, and Negroes) in volumes I to XVII inclusive and volumes XX and XXI

Index to places, including Indian names

Index to persons in volumes XVIII and XIX. These are North Burial Ground records and are not a part of the early town records

Appendix containing documented research data to date on Providence and other early Rhode Island families
MASSACHUSETTS RECORDS

A Handbook for Genealogists, Historians, Lawyers, and other Researchers

By

RICHARD LeBARON BOWEN

Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists; Fellow of the Society of Genealogists, London; Vice President of the New England Historic Genealogical Society and member of its Committee on Heraldry

PRIVATELY PRINTED

REHOBOTH, MASSACHUSETTS

1957
CONTENTS

I

Introduction—The four Massachusetts Bay counties—The three New-Plymouth counties—Reference books for original Commonwealth records ................................................. 1

II


III

Massachusetts Colony—Organization of the Province of Massachusetts—The printed original records—Records of Boston Record Commissioners—State archives—Census lists—Early maps—Court records—Vice-Admiralty court records—Apprentice Indenture papers—Nationalization papers—Bibliography of early court records—The Andros Administration—Town records—Proprietor's records—Vital records—Town rate lists—Federal Tax—Genealogical publications—Microfilm records—Other records ......................................................... 7

IV

Division of Commonwealth by counties, giving location of the Registry of Deeds, clerk of the Courts, together with the records in the cities and towns in each county ........................................ 19

V

The extant original seals of seven Commonwealth counties ........................................ 42

VI

The great seal of New-Plymouth—The great seal of Massachusetts Bay and the successive seals of the Commonwealth ........................................ 47

Index—Numbered pages for Additional Memoranda ........................................ 55

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Plate

I. Seal of New-Plymouth, 1620; Massachusetts Bay, 1628-9; arms of William III; arms of Queen Anne; Massachusetts Seals under George I, George II, and III; Seal of 1775; Seal of 1780; and present seal . . . Frontispiece

II. Seal of the Dominion of New England (1686-1689) ........................................ 13

III. Seal of Barnstable County ........................................ 19

IV. Seal of Berkshire County ........................................ 20

V. Seal of Bristol County ........................................ 22

VI. Seal of Dukes County ........................................ 26

VII. Seal of Essex County ........................................ 27

VIII. Seal of Franklin County ........................................ 29

IX. Seal of Hampden County ........................................ 30

X. Seal of Hampshire County ........................................ 32

XI. Seal of Middlesex County ........................................ 33

XII. Seal of Nantucket County ........................................ 35

XIII. Seal of Norfolk County ........................................ 36

XIV. Seal of Plymouth County ........................................ 37

XV. Seal of Suffolk County ........................................ 38

XVI. Seal of Worcester County ........................................ 40

XVII. Original Seal of First Massachusetts Court ........................................ 43

XVIII. Original Seal of Bristol County ........................................ 44

XIX. Original Seal of Bristol, England ........................................ 44

XX. Original Seal of Hampshire County ........................................ 44

XXI. Original Seal of Middlesex County ........................................ 45

XXII. Original Seal of Nantucket County ........................................ 45

XXIII. Original Seal of Plymouth County ........................................ 46

XXIV. Original Seal of Suffolk County ........................................ 50

XXV. Arms of England under William III ........................................ 50

XXVI. Arms of William III used by Queen Anne . . . The official map of Massachusetts Counties and Towns 57
This is a reprint of most of his articles; Except the “Gray-Ide Bible Records.”
CONTENTS

I
THE LATEST ENGLISH RESEARCH ON THE SCOTT FAMILY.

II
THE ARMS OF RICHARD SCOTT, published July, 1939. The Scott arms on a deed dated 25 July 1712 from John Scott of Providence, Rhode Island, grandson of the emigrant Richard Scott, transferring a mansion house, 113 acres and other lands in Providence to Charles Dyere of Dartmouth, blacksmith, for £ 600—The first known use of the Providence family Scott arms in America.

III

IV
THE SCOTT FAMILY NEEDLE WORK, published April 1943. A study adding considerable to our knowledge of the Providence Scott family. JOHN SCOTT, merchant, published July, 1945, is added.

V

VI
# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

**SCOTT FAMILY ENGLISH RESEARCH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The five generation pedigree chart of Frederick Scott</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Arms of Richard Scott (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Scott arms in color</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Scott seal on 1712 deed</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The claimed pedigree of Richard Scott</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Arms of Richard Scott (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Scott arms, quarterly of eight in colors, facing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Scott seal on 1712 deed, facing</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ancient Scott Pedigree in nine generations</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Scott arms, facing</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><strong>SCOTT FAMILY NEEDLE WORK</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Elizabeth Scott 1741 sampler</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Embroidered Scott arms, quarterly of eight</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Embroidered memorial of John Cookson Scott, 1808</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Miniature of Sarah Cookson (Scott) DeBlois</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><strong>THE MOTHER OF CHRISTOPHER HELME</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>The Helme arms</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Chart showing relationship of nine armigerous families, Marbury, Hutchinson, Wentworth, Elmes (Helme), and Scott, facing</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td><strong>GODFREY MALBONE’S ARMORIAL SILVER</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Thomas Scott arms</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Richard Scott arms</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>(2) Malbone armorial 1742 silver half-pint mugs</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Malbone armorial silver salver</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>George Malbone arms</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td><strong>THE ARMS OF THE REV. DAVID LINDSAY OF VIRGINIA</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Lindsay arms</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Collected papers
Official reprints of all articles: *note the two “Arms of Richard Scott are different!”*
I am not exactly sure his specific role in these.
This is the inside jacket from Early Rehoboth Volume 4 published in 1950 when he was 72 years old.

He clearly had confidence there would be four future books.

Although I have thousands of files from his work, there is no “near final draft” of any of these books.

The good news is he saved everything. The bad news is he saved everything — sometimes there is a single file with 5 copies of a manuscript with no markings of the latest version!

Other books by the author:

**Early Rhode Island Colonial Money and Its Counterfeiting, 1647–1726.**

**The Providence Oath of Allegiance and Its Signers, 1651–2.**

**Early Rehoboth, Vols. I, II, and III.**

**Index of Early Records of The Town of Providence, Vols. I–XXI.**

Books in preparation:

**Early Rehoboth, Vol. V.**

**Documentary History of Rehoboth.**

**Life of Rev. Samuel Newman.**

**Documentary History of Swansea.**