April 1688, a party of unsolicited visitors arrived at the house of Baron Jean-Vincent d’Abbadie de Saint-Castin in Penobscot. English officials and soldiers led by Governor Edmund Andros had come to “inspect” the French merchant’s dwelling for evidence of anti-English activities.1 The Englishmen had sailed north along the coast from Pemaquid [New Harbor, Maine] in the frigate Rose. When the Rose anchored in the mouth of the Bagaduce River, Andros sent her captain to inform the French Baron of his arrival, “but upon notice of the Governor’s comeing, Casteen …[retired] and left his house shut.”2 Undeterred, Andros’s men broke in and seized Saint-Castin’s “armes, powder, shott, iron kettles and some trucking cloath and his chaires…” When the Rose returned to Pemaquid, Andros sent word to the Baron that his confiscated property would be returned after he swore obedience to England.3

When Andros raided his habitation in 1688, Saint-Castin was a retired military officer and successful fur trader who had cultivated economic relationships both with Penobscot Natives and colonial merchants (including Englishmen). He featured prominently in the historical memories of New Englanders and French Canadians into the twentieth century, and his name remains familiar to many residents of modern Castine, Maine.4 While the Baron is...
The Castine Visitor
Abbott School Exhibits
(17 School Street)
September 6 – October 14
Fri, Sat., and Mon. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sun. 1 – 4 p.m.
Risky Business: Square-Rigged Ships and Salted Fish
The Penobscot Expedition 1779: Making Revolutionary History
The Castine Community Bicentennial Quilt

Grindle House
(13 School St)
Staff Hours
Monday through Friday 9 – 5
Research appointments may be made by calling 207-326-4118 or emailing research@castinehistoricalsociety.org.

Virtual History Tour of Castine
Visit www.castinehistoricalsociety.org/castine-virtual-tour to download the app or access the web version.

Contributions received in memory of:
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Nancy Curtin
Frank Kneisel
Wendy Knickerbocker
Herbert Bailey Lilly Jr.
Michael Morrison

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We seek to invigorate our community through collaborative exploration and stewardship of our region’s rich history, engaging residents and visitors of all ages in Castine’s extraordinary past and, through it, that of New England and North America.

The Castine Visitor is published three times a year by the Castine Historical Society as a benefit of membership.

Karen V. Lyons, Editor
By the time you read this, fall will officially be here. The leaves around town will be changing and the air will be cool and crisp. The midshipmen will have returned and we will hear the recess bell ringing and the sounds of children playing from the Adams School. With the fall, the Historical Society also transitions to our shorter open hours, Friday – Monday from Labor Day through Indigenous People’s Day.

This summer has been another busy one. After last years’ record-breaking numbers, attendance has again increased. Everyone who visits is thrilled with the quality and content of our exhibit, Risky Business: Square-Rigged Ships and Salted Fish. Far-reaching publicity and advertising have helped bring new faces to our door including feature articles in Maine Boats, Homes and Harbors and The Island Institute’s Working Waterfront.

We’ve also been getting strong on-line reviews. Here’s a recent review a visitor left on TripAdvisor that made our day:

While we were visiting Castine last month, we walked over to the Historical Society to see their current exhibit, “Risky Business: Square-Rigged Ships and Salted Fish.” I was incredibly impressed by the quality of the exhibit and the accompanying catalog. The exhibit was well-researched and professionally presented. It was on a par with exhibits at the Maine Maritime Museum. I also bought the exhibit catalog, which is thoroughly researched, well-written, and well-illustrated.

In addition to the exhibit, we hosted a full slate of related maritime programs including lectures, a reading group, and even co-sponsored the Castine Town Band’s performance of maritime music.

While our exhibits and programs are the public face of the Historical Society, so much goes on behind-the-scenes year-round. On any given day the staff will be juggling website updates, press releases, assisting researchers with the collection, sending donation thank-you notes, or writing grants. Volunteers work the front desk greeting visitors, give Saturday walking tours, or help process new collection donations. Everyone keeps busy year-round attending to these projects that, taken as a whole, allow us to provide educational services to the public while growing and becoming more professional as an institution.

We know you take as much pride in the Castine Historical Society as we do. As members, you play a crucial role in supporting the Historical Society. How? By visiting our exhibits or programs, by telling your friends and family about us, and by supporting us through your membership and Annual Appeal donations. We couldn’t do it without you and we thank you!

— Lisa Simpson Luts
Castine’s Imperial Moment

often memorialized in the earlier literature as an “Indian Chief” who aided the French, historical documents indicate that he actually desired to “live indifferent” and continue his trade with French, English, and Natives. Andros and other colonial leaders tacitly accepted these sentiments when the “frontiers” were relatively calm. But when rumors of an Indian “rebellion” led by Saint-Castin incensed New Englanders in 1687-88, the governor went north to demand his allegiance. Andros may have intended to stabilize English-Native relations in the northeast and improve his dreadful political reputation in Boston. However, the Raid of 1688 accomplished neither aim and inadvertently incited a “frontier” conflict now called King William’s War (1688-97).

In June 1686, King James II appointed Andros Governor of the Dominion of New England, a “supercolony” that united eight northern colonies into a single political entity. Andros quickly centralized his new government by banning selectman councils. He also raised taxes, which soon made him widely despised in New England, especially among vocal ministers and ousted leaders in Boston. These prominent colonists were most alarmed by the new governor’s insistence on holding Anglican services in major Puritan churches in Boston. Because King James II was a Catholic, Puritan ministers like Cotton Mather raved that he had covertly instigated a “horrid Popish plot” in which Andros would incite war with the “Eastern Indians” that would destroy Protestant New England. In this way, anti-Catholic and anti-Indian sentiments were increasingly intertwined in late eighteenth-century New England.

The Raid of 1688 significantly heightened Puritan anxieties in Boston. Though Andros had few reservations about seizing the Baron’s property, his men also “…found a small [Catholic] altar in the common roome…and some pictures and ordinary ornaments,” which they left untouched. Ignoring Saint-Castin’s sacramental vessels likely constituted an effort to avoid adding a religious dimension to the already tense political situation. Yet Andros’s reluctance to destroy these “papist relics” was deemed further evidence of his involvement in the imagined Catholic conspiracy by Puritan ministers in Boston. Cotton Mather wrote that the governor was a “papist” for preserving Saint-Castin’s sacramental vessels and that his raid was intended to incite war with the French and Wabanaki Natives. While historians now understand that this “Popish” conspiracy theory was entirely the invention of Protestant leaders in Boston, to contemporary English settlers it was a persuasive justification to rebel against the new government. On April 18, 1689, about 40 Puritan Bostonians imprisoned the governor and his cabinet, quickly dismantling the Dominion of New England. Over the course of about twelve months, the Raid of 1688 ballooned from a small-scale “frontier” conflict into a colony-wide grievance that catalyzed political revolution in English North America.

Cotton Mather and other Protestant elites justified their revolution by collecting testimonies that legitimized their imagined Catholic plot. Many of these accounts were from Massachusetts soldiers who had been impressed into an expedition led by Governor Andros in the winter of 1688-89.

Endnotes


3. “Mr. Randolph to Mr. Povey,” Hutchinson papers, II:304-5.


5. “Mr. Randolphp to Mr. Povey,” Hutchinson papers, II:304-5.

6. King William’s War was the North American counterpart to the Nine Years’ War (1688-97), in which the Protestant monarchies of England (ruled by William III and Mary II), the Holy Roman Empire, the Dutch Republic, Spain, and Savoy fought as a coalition against Catholic France under Louis XIV. Although New Englanders closely followed the Nine Years War, there was little “official” military coordination between the northeastern colonies and London.


9. “Mr. Randolph to Mr. Povey,” Hutchinson papers, II:305.
Issac Miller claimed that the governor ordered him to deliver by sloop “a barrel of porck two hundred of Bread sixe or eight bushells of Corne & several rundletts…” to Saint-Castin, who “at that time looked at to be an enemy to the Interest of the Kings subjects & an aider & abetter of our enemies the Indians…”\(^\text{12}\) Andros may have sent these provisions to make amends for his raid the previous April, but his soldiers had to endure without adequate food or ammunition. Other men testified to the cruelty of Lieutenant John Jordan, a Catholic officer in the expedition. Jordan “Wickedly, Divellishly & after ye Popish Cruelty” beat and tormented a soldier accused of stealing food.\(^\text{13}\) Though Lieutenant Jordan’s brutality was evidently not religiously motivated, his “Popish Cruelty” became a convenient justification for the revolution in Boston.

In January 1690, the Committee of Safety published a list of causes for the renewed conflict in Maine. Their report places nearly all the blame on Andros, arguing that his: “…Seizing and Taking away the Goods of Monsieur St. Castine of Penobscot, the Summer before the War broke forth…hath been esteemed not a little to have stirred up and furthered the succeeding Troubles.”\(^\text{14}\) While there is some truth to this claim, it ignores the culpability of Protestant leaders in inventing a “papist” conspiracy that eventually incited the Boston Revolution in April 1689. As I have argued in this article, the Raid of 1688 underscores that a fractious moment in the northeastern “frontier” had the potency to fuel allegations of conspiracy and inspire revolution in colonial metropoles like Boston.

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11. By the time of the Boston Revolution, James II had been dethroned and replaced by the Protestant monarchs William III and Mary II in the Glorious Revolution. However, this news did not reach Boston until May 26, 1689. Williamson, *History of Maine*, I:594.


warning…Sold!” declared auctioneer Rick Armstrong as he garnered bids for half-a-dozen items during the "Summer in Full Bloom" fundraiser garden party on July 29th.

Armstrong, dapper in his Victorian waistcoat and top hat, deftly handled some spirited bidding on a box of wine that fetched $750. The star item of the event was a week in a home in Antigua, Guatemala that the hostess herself helped to promote. The item topped out at $3300 and the hostess immediately offered to double it, with the second-highest bidder agreeing to match the top bid. So a second week was sold and at $6600, that became the biggest item of the night.

In other auction action, there was a flurry of activity under the silent auction tent, with twenty items offering everything from a glamorous, long strand of pearls to a basket of Castine authored books.

The evening was warm and still, with the glow of the setting sun highlighting the colorful borders of the spectacular terraced
garden of the Parson Mason house on Main Street. The 140 guests filled the space and the buzzing of conversation was matched only by the buzzing of the honeybees covering the masses of blooming baneberry.

For the first time, this summer fundraising event was designed to offer support to the Adams School Calvineers, a group of seventh and eighth graders who are raising funds to take their North Atlantic Right Whale research to the second annual World Marine Mammal Conference in Barcelona this December. The Calvineers were represented at this event with a table attended by Principal Irvine, teacher Bill McWeeny, parent Natalie Griffith, and student Charlotte Griffith who served as spokesperson for the group. Other students in attendance, Erik Davis and Charlie Parker, pitched in to help serve the sumptuous hors’d’oeuvres provided by Markel’s catering service.

By all accounts the evening was a smashing success, with old-time Castine Historical Society members mixing with many newcomers, and everyone learning more about the impressive mammalian science happening at the Adams School. Total revenues before expenses exceeded $28,000.

This event was sponsored by Hinckley Yachts with Historical Society president emeritus Jim Day and wife Leila providing the spectacular venue. With a portion of the proceeds earmarked for the Calvineers, it was a win-win situation for all involved.

Our Members and Donors Are Important to Us!
by Angela Bonacasa

All of us have heard this at some point. Whether you donate to the arts, animal rescue, or the Castine Historical Society, every contribution that you make includes a thank-you that is some version of the statement above. But why are you so important?

At the core, we donate to organizations whose services we believe benefit us as a culture and as a community. Those who donate to the Castine Historical Society believe that the documentation and collection of Castine history is important, as are exhibits and programs that engage residents and visitors about Castine’s extraordinary past. So how does your contribution help us fulfill this mission?

Life here at the Society is always about balancing needs: the financial vs. the cultural, and the now vs. the future. Let’s say you pay your membership dues or donate to the Annual Appeal. Where does that money go? It might go toward the electric bill or toward purchasing a new item for the collection. It might go toward buying new light bulbs for the exhibit gallery or bringing in a speaker for the Pulliam lecture. All of it needs to happen, and it can’t happen without help from you.

When a member or a donor makes a large donation, it is always met with excitement. What future needs might it meet? Donations like these can move the Society forward in a substantial way, such as kickstarting a building construction project, or providing the funds to support a program that has been waiting for the right time to launch. Grants are always wonderful, but they are for very specific (and generally new) projects. When a grant helps a new project get off the ground, it’s a cause for celebration…followed by the creation of a plan to fund the project moving forward. From the “future” list to the “now needs” list it goes, so sustaining that project happens because of your contributions.

As our members and donors, YOU are the intersection point of all these needs. You allow us to keep our exhibits and lectures free, to collaborate with organizations like the Town Band and the Calvineers, and you keep us prepared to purchase that exciting Castine artifact that is waiting just around the corner. After reading in the Visitor about a successful fundraiser or coming to see one of the Historical Society’s exhibits, it might be tempting to think that your contribution doesn’t matter, and that we don’t need your financial support anymore. But we do. We always do. Every single day. Our organization exists for you, and because of you.
Edward Hale II (1818-1910) kept a daily diary at his home on Court Street in 1840s Castine, Maine. About twenty-two years old at the time and unmarried, Thomas worked his mother’s farm and managed their fields and wood lots “off the neck” (referring to Castine north of the salt marsh and bridge). His father, Thomas E. Hale, had died when the son was three years old. His mother, Agatha Hatch Hale, remained a widow as did his Aunt Lucy Hatch Hale and the two women maintained the family home until Agatha’s sons were old enough for that responsibility. The Historical Society holds a large collection of Hale Family Papers, the majority donated by the family, spanning from the early nineteenth century through the late twentieth century.

The Hale’s home commanded a view of Castine Harbor, the wharfs, shipyards, and businesses. In Thomas’s journal entries below he noted first the weather, second his principle work for the day, and third any local event of note. In early November 1840 he recorded that the Castine-built ship St Leon left the harbor, likely on a trading voyage carrying salted fish, hay, and timber to New Orleans.

A few days later, he began to follow closely the efforts made to launch the ship Adams, newly completed at a Castine shipyard. Enjoy this snippet of Thomas Hale’s journal.

November 1840

6 Friday cold & blowy Banking the House
The ship St. Leon sailed

7 Saturday pleasant went off and hauled rocks out of the orchard

8 Sunday pleasant rather cold Brother N B George delivered a lecture in the old Court House against Universalism this evening

9 Monday overcast strong southeasterly wind finished Banking the house hauled sand

10 Tuesday strong northerly wind unsuccessful attempt was made to launch the New Ship Adams today she started 14 1/2 Inches & stopped they Blocked her up again

11 Wednesday fine rain Another Attempt to Launch the ship She started and ran 45 feet and stopped. They immediately blocked & shored her up again

12 Thursday overcast kind of rainy & drisly Another attempt was made to Launch the ship she wouldn’t start at all

13 Friday they blocked and shored the ship up and took out the Bilge Ways found nothing to stop her except a bolt that stuck up about 1 inch in to the ways

14 Saturday Pleasant cleared off Last night another attempt was made upon the Ship which succeeded she went very [smooth] indeed she went but a short distance from the Wharf

15 Sunday overcast in the morning came on to rain about noon and blew very hard They have been putting Ballast aboard the Ship and carrying anchors off into the stream Wind southeast The Methodists held a meeting in the Court house all day
Making a Difference – Wendy Knickerbocker
by Paige Lilly

Sadly, we reserved this space to announce the death of Wendy Knickerbocker whose contributions of time, effort, and intellect made a difference. Wendy was known for her kindness, generosity and attention to details throughout her life and work from her childhood in Bar Harbor to her leadership of Nutting Memorial Library at Maine Maritime Academy. The Castine Historical Society was fortunate to involve Wendy in indexing and book cataloging projects and as an adviser to the Collections Committee on library policies. She gave her time to edit this publication from 2013 to 2018, including researching and writing several history articles, which she loved to do. Wendy also wrote two scholarly biographies of American religious figures: Sunday at the Ballpark: Billy Sunday’s Professional Baseball Career, 1883-1890, and Bard of the Bethel: The Life and Times of Boston’s Father Taylor, 1793-1871. Both are in the Historical Society library for all to see.

Above and beyond these accomplishments, Wendy always paid attention to those around her. As her husband David wrote in her obituary: “She truly refrained from judging, always assumed the best, and sought the positive in people and in life.”
Gift Shop News

Is it Christmas already?

by Angela Bonacasa

No, but shorter days and snow are just around the corner. What better way to enjoy them than with a good book, sipping your toasty beverage out of a ship Castine mug before you place it on your Castine map coaster?

Our exhibits close on Indigenous Peoples’ Day (October 14), but the staff is here year-round to help with all your gift shop needs. You can even purchase gifts for Christmas! We have something for everyone, including:

• Ship Castine mugs and prints
• Risky Business: A Maine Village Goes Global, the companion book to our 2019-2020 exhibit
• Trivets and coasters featuring a map of Castine
• Castine Historical Society logo fleeces
• Christmas ornaments

And, of course, we still carry bags, cards, CDs, and a collection of Meri Meri items.

Any of our items can be purchased either in person, or by going to our online store at www.castinehistoricalsociety.org select “Support” then “Gift Shop.”

And don’t forget that all current members receive a 10% discount!
A Brick in Every Stocking!

This holiday season, give a commemorative brick to that someone special! Join the hundreds of CHS supporters who have remembered their parents, children, friends, and even pets by purchasing a personalized brick that will be installed in the Abbott School walkway. This is the perfect gift for the holidays, a great way to support the Historical Society and a lasting remembrance for future generations.

Please indicate below how you want the brick to look, using up to 12 letters, numbers, and spaces on each of 3 lines.

Line 1: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
Line 2: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
Line 3: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
Gift recipient’s name and address: _____________________________________________________________

Your name and address: ___________________________________________________________________

The tax-deductible price for each brick is $50.00.
Make checks payable to: Castine Historical Society and mail to P.O. Box 238, Castine, ME 04421.
To pay by credit card, call 207-326-4118 or order at www.castinehistoricalsociety.org.

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To pay by credit card, or for more information, please call 207-326-4118
OR join online at www.castinehistoricalsociety.org/membership
The Castine Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Thank you for your support. What we do is not possible without you!
An 1880, signed first edition of *The Fairport Nine*, a book about mid-19th century “base ball” by Noah Brooks of Castine, was recently purchased at auction thanks to memorial donations in Wendy Knickerbocker’s honor. Author Noah Brooks inscribed this copy “with my affectionate regards” in 1880 to young Charles K. Whiting who grew up on the Castine common next door to Brooks’ childhood home. One of a handful of the earliest works of fiction about the game, the book aligns perfectly with Wendy’s expertise on the history of professional baseball and her fanatical support for the Boston Red Sox.

*The Fairport Nine* features two town baseball teams, the Fairport Nine and the White Bears. Remarkably the book shows that the Fairport Nine team was integrated, featuring a young African American named Sam Black playing left field. The illustrated frontis shows five of the team members including Sam. We are pleased to add this important work of fiction by a Castine native to the permanent collection.