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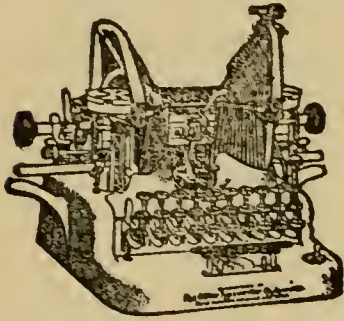
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STATEN ISLANDERS

COMPILED BY

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of Women Teachers

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## FOREWORD

**I**N the compilation of this little book the Richmond Borough Association of Women Teachers has tried to tell those things which a stranger might most desire to know about New York's smallest borough.

No doubt there are many omissions and mistakes, but the committee in charge of the work have endeavored to make the book authentic and fairly comprehensive. How well they have succeeded the public may now determine.

Thanks are due Dr. Arthur Hollick for his valuable article and suggestions, and to Ira K. Morris, who has offered most helpful suggestions, and loaned some of the pictures to us. Nor are those who have so kindly replied to the numerous letters of inquiry sent out by the association, and the advertisers who helped the book to success, forgotten.

Suggestions for next year's book will be gladly received. If the reader has any suggestion to make whereby this book may be enlarged and made more helpful, the editor will be pleased to hear from him.



## GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

ARTHUR HOLLICK

### LOCATION

STATEN ISLAND is located between North Latitude  $40^{\circ} 29'$ - $40^{\circ} 39'$  and West Longitude  $74^{\circ} 3'$ - $74^{\circ} 16'$ .

Politically it represents the southernmost portion of the State of New York, of which it constitutes the County of Richmond, and also the Borough of Richmond of the City of New York.

It is separated from the State at large by the New York Bay and the Narrows, which bound it on the east, while in all other directions it is circumscribed by the State of New Jersey, from which it is separated by the Kill von Kull on the north, Arthur Kill or Staten Island Sound on the west, and Raritan or the Lower Bay on the south. Thus, although politically it belongs to New York, geographically it is a part of New Jersey, and, as a matter of fact, it was originally included in the colony or province of New Jersey when the latter was sold by James, Duke of York (afterwards King James II.), to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Cartaret, in 1664.

In the deeds of transfer, dated respectively June 23 and 24, 1664, the province of New Jersey is described in part as follows:

“That tract of land adjacent to New England, and lying and being to the west of Long Island and Manhitas Island; and bounded on the east partly by the main sea, and partly

by the Hudson's River . . . which tract of land is hereafter to be called Nova Caesarea, or New Jersey."

These boundaries manifestly include Staten Island, but it was, nevertheless, claimed by New York, and after various vicissitudes her title to it was finally confirmed by joint action of the Legislatures of the two States, and the Congress of the United States, in 1834; but it was not until 1887 that the exact boundary lines were determined and located.

#### AREA, SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS

The area of the Island is approximately fifty-seven square miles.

In shape it may be roughly regarded as an irregular triangle, the sides of which could be represented by lines drawn from Fort Wadsworth to Holland Hook, Holland Hook to Tottenville, Tottenville to Fort Wadsworth.

The greatest length is along a straight line drawn in an almost northeast and southwest direction between Ward's Point at Tottenville and St. George, just west of the Ferry landing, a distance of a little less than fourteen miles.

The greatest width, at or nearly at right angles to this line, is from Holland Hook to South Beach, a distance of about seven and a half miles.

#### GENERAL GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES

*Shore line.* The principal indentations in the Shore line are caused by Fresh Kills on the west side and Great Kills on the south side. Salt marshes border these waters and also Old Place Creek, New Creek and other lesser creeks and shore areas. The total salt marsh area of the Island is about nine square miles, having a uniform level surface approximately equal to that of high tide.

From the Narrows to Great Kills the shore is low, for the most part consisting of barrier beaches between the water



and the salt marshes. From Great Kills to Prince's Bay the shore is characterized by a precipitous bluff, averaging about ten feet in height throughout most of its extent. It is broken at Seguine's Point by the outlet of Wolff's Pond, and a sandy beach which forms the point, and finally ends at a short distance to the west of Prince's Bay bluff, in which the lighthouse is located, where it reaches its maximum elevation of about seventy-five feet. From thence to Ward's Point at Tottenville the shore is low, with the adjacent upland reaching to tide water and only limited areas of marsh and sand intervening. The entire beach from the Narrows to Ward's Point has a gentle slope, exposing a wide expanse at low water, and continuing quite uniformly for a long distance out, so that the adjacent waters are shallow.

Between the Narrows and Holland Hook the shore is largely an abrupt slope to deep water, with but little beach; although this portion has been so altered by artificial embankments, bulkhead, docks, etc., that the original contour and characters of the shore line are entirely obliterated.

From Holland Hook to Rossville, salt marshes border the shore, with little or no beach, except a narrow muddy slope at low water.

From Rossville to Tottenville the shore is irregular, but for the most part slopes abruptly, with a narrow margin of beach.

#### ELEVATIONS

The surface features of the Island are varied and in places quite striking. In general there are two well marked topographic divisions,—the northern and the southern,—the line of separation between them being marked by the Fresh Kill marshes and the eastern and southern escarpment of the range of soapstone or serpentine hills extending from

Richmond to St. George, the highest point being on the top of a knoll in the southwest angle formed by the Todt Hill and Ocean Terrace Road, where an elevation of three hundred and eighty feet is attained,—the highest point in Greater New York and the highest point at the same distance from the shore line anywhere between Maine and Florida.

The northern division may be regarded as an uneven slope, averaging about four miles, extending from tide level at the Kill von Kull and the northern part of Staten Island Sound to an average elevation of about two hundred feet along the summit of the range of hills and then descending sharply, in places in a steep escarpment. This range is left at only two points: one known as the "Clove," through which the Clove Road runs, the other at Tompkinsville, marked by the old water course formerly known as the Arietta Street brook and the eastern end of the Richmond Turnpike.

The southern division may be regarded as a plain, over the greater part of which is scattered an irregular series of rounded, more or less gently sloping morainal hills, with a maximum elevation of about one hundred and seventy-five feet at two points, Fox Hills (Clifton), and Huguenot Heights. A limited area, extending from Garretsons' to Great Kills, lying south of the morainal hills, is almost devoid of surface irregularities, and in one of the Islands most striking topographic features, especially when viewed from the escarpment of the high hills to the north.

*Inland Waters.* There are no streams of any considerable size on the Island, either as regards their length or volume of water, and all of them now remaining are smaller than they were originally by reason of artificial interference with their sources of supply or division from their natural

channels. Some, like the Arietta Street and the Jersey Street brooks, have been entirely obliterated.

The overflow from Silver Lake and its connection in the Clove Valley, which unite with Palmer's Run and finally discharge in common into the creek between Columbia Street and Jewett Avenue, West New Brighton, traverse the most extensive drainage area on the Island,—an area about five square miles in extent.

The longest water course is Willow Brook, which has its source near the junction of the Ocean Terrace and Manor Road and discharges into a branch of Fresh Kills near Bull's Head, a distance of about three miles.

Others of less extent are Sandy Brook, which rises near Woodrow and discharges into Lemon Creek at Prince's Bay; Richmond, Sawmill or Stony Brook, which rises on Ocean Terrace, back of the Moravian Cemetery, flows through the Black House Ravine and discharges into the head of Fresh Kills at Richmond; Moravian Brook, which rises on Todt Hill, flows through the Moravian Cemetery and discharges into the southern branch of New Creek near Grant City; and Benham's Brook, with its branches, which have their origin on the heights north of Eltingville and discharge into Fresh Kills near Richmond, located in a morainal depression and supplied by springs and surface drainage.

There are very few natural bodies of fresh water on the Island. The largest is Silver Lake, which has a superficial area of about twelve acres and a maximum depth of about seventeen feet. Seguine's Pond, Arbutus Lake and Wolff's Pond, at the southern end of the Island, occupy the lower parts of valleys, which are dammed across their outlets by barrier beaches. They are fed by streams and may be regarded as merely the confined lower portions of these streams.

Many ponds have been artificially formed by the damming of water courses in almost every section of the Island. Those in the Clove Valley are the most prominent and most readily recognized as artificial; but the wrecks of a number of others may be seen at Willow Brook and Bull's Head, Ketcham's Mill Pond, northwest of Richmond Hill, Brook's Pond at West New Brighton, etc.

In addition to these there are a number of ponds occupying depressions in the morainal hills, often without visible outlets or only overflowing after having rains. They are dependent upon surface drainage and many of them become swamps or dry up entirely during continued dry weather. They are particularly conspicuous features in the Fox Hills region, from Vanderbilt Avenue to the Fingerboard Road. Ipes', Brady's and Van Wagonen's Ponds are among the largest of these, but all of them have been more or less interfered with artificially. The level of Brady's Pond has been raised by a dam at the northern end, where the original outlet used to be, and it now overflows into Van Wagonen's Pond to the south. Ipes' Pond has also had its drainage direction reversed by damming and others have been completely drained and their basins included in the Fox Hills Golf links.

The climate is salubrious, although somewhat variable. In the agricultural sections market gardening and fruit growing have proven profitable industries.

## HISTORIC LANDMARKS

MARY WOLCOTT GREEN, A. B.

*The author wishes to acknowledge her indebtedness to Mr. Ira K. Morris, the historian of Staten Island.*

**S**TATEN ISLAND, owing to its geographical situation, guardian of the entrance to New York, has been, and must always be, of historical value.

The Raritan Indians, who held the Island at the time of its discovery, were a branch of the Leni-Lenapes. They held it subject to the will of the Mohawks. This particular branch were known as the Aquehongas, and their name for the Island was Aquehonga Man-ack-nong, or the place of the bad woods.

The burial places are scattered over the various parts of the borough, one large one being at Tottenville. At Springville, on the Corsen farm, at Holland's Hook, Great Kills, and Green Ridge may be found others.

Staten Island was discovered by Verrazzani, who sailed under the flag of France, in 1524. He did not explore the interior, nor did France make any claim, through his voyage, to the Island.

In 1609, Henry Hudson came to its shores upon his famous first voyage, under the service of Holland, but it was not until 1624 that the first European settlers arrived. These first settlers were Walloons, natives of a country bordering on Flanders.

The first settlement on Staten Island was at Oude Dorp,

the present site of Arrochar Park, near Fort Wadsworth. It contained but few cottages and was destroyed three times by the Indians.

At Stony Brook was the first permanent settlement.

Nieuwe Dorp was a continuation of Stony Brook. Several foundations of the old buildings may yet be distinguished.

Long Neck was on the site of New Springville. It had one of the first public schools on Staten Island.

Smoking Point, later called Blazing Star, now Rossville, is a very old settlement.

Tottenville was formerly called the Manor of Bentley, named after the little vessel which brought Billopp to America.

Tompkinsville was laid out in 1814 by Governor Tompkins, who gave to the streets the names of his children.

The road from Tompkinsville to Richmond is full of historic interest.

On Pavilion Hill, at Tompkinsville, may be seen an old British breastwork, which was rebuilt by the Americans in the War of 1812.

Concord was so named by the Emersons. Judge William Emerson, who was county judge of Richmond County, lived here in 1840, and his brother Ralph was a frequent guest, as was also Thoreau, the naturalist. "The Snuggery," the home of the Emersons, was located at the foot of the hill a few yards from the foot of Douglas Lane.

West of Emerson Hill is the old Clinch homestead, built in 1700. It was confiscated by British officers during the Revolution.

At Garretsons is the Perine home, erected about 1668 by one of the Huguenot settlers, whose descendants still

hold it. Captain Coughlin of the British army, who married Margaret Moncrieffe, lived in this house while his regiment was stationed on Staten Island.

The old Moravian church at New Dorp was built in 1763. The British made an unsuccessful attempt to burn it.

Opposite the cemetery gate at New Dorp is the Cortelyou homestead. There was a burglary committed in this house which led to the first legal execution in Richmond County. The offender was a negro, and at that time capital punishment was meted out to colored criminals. The gallows stood on the site of the present school at Richmond.

Near the head of New Dorp Lane stood for nearly two hundred years the Rose and Crown farm house, built by a Huguenot settler named Bedell.

On July 4, 1776, Sir William Howe, Commander-in-Chief of the British land forces in America, had his headquarters here. In this house he first saw and read the Declaration of Independence. Upon Lord Howe's arrival a few days later, he also came to the Rose and Crown. Here was planned the massacre, the Battle of Long Island, to offset the influence of the Declaration. Sir Henry Clinton, Lord Cornwallis, Baron Knyphausen, General Erskine, Sir Guy Carleton also were entertained here.

When Major Aaron Burr escorted Margaret Moncrieffe to the Island a reception was given in this house.

It later became the property of Major Gifford, an aide-de-camp on Gen. Washington's staff. It was demolished in 1854.

The Black Horse Tavern is west of this site at the junction of Amboy and Richmond roads. This was occupied by the British officers and here they received the reports of the spies.

The old Fountain House at New Dorp is of historical interest. It was built by one of the first settlers about 1668, and in the early days court was held here.

Generals Percy and Carleton, also Major Montresor, stopped under its roof, and it was in this house that Margaret Moncrieffe met Captain John Coughlin, whom she later married.

A few hundred yards from Black Horse Tavern toward the west is Camp Hill, where stood the gambling den which witnessed the ruin of many British officers. Near this on the level depression now covered with trees was a duelling ground where many famous duels were fought. It is said these two places caused the dishonorable discharge of nearly fifty British officers.

Beyond this on the Amboy Road lies Stony Brook, which was the home of the first permanent settlement on Staten Island. Here stood the first Waldensian church on the continent, and the first church on Staten Island, the first trading post; the first county court house of Richmond County, built in 1683, and the second whipping post in this part of the country.

When the persecuted French Huguenots arrived at the foot of New Dorp Lane on Christmas eve in 1658, it was the Waldensians who went to them from the little village at Stony Brook.

West of Stony Brook may be seen the remains of the Britton homestead, which, until a few years ago, was probably the oldest house standing on the Island. It is said that the first marriage on Staten Island was that of Cornelius Britton and Charlotte Colon.

Old St. Andrew's Church in Richmond has been twice partially destroyed by fire, but portions of it have withstood the ravages of two centuries. It witnessed two battles be-

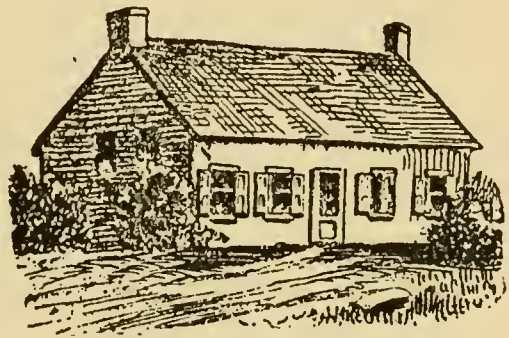


tween the Americans and English, when Simcoe attempted to destroy the village by fire.

On the corner back of the County Clerk's office, once stood "Cucklestown Inn," in which many noted officers of the Revolution stopped.

It was here that Major André, the captain, wrote his will, which was probated in New York after his execution.

West of Richmond on the hill may be seen the ruins of the Old Latourette house, at one time the headquarters of Lieutenant-Colonel Simcoe of the Queen's Rangers. The council of war was held in this house which led to Knyphausen's invasion of New Jersey. It was during the invasion that Parson Caldwell's wife was murdered at the battle of Springfield.



CUCKLESTOWN INN

Near this is one of the forts erected by the British. It lies above the sandbed, and is yet in good condition. A second fort was farther on at the end of the ridge. On this site are several graves whose inscriptions are rapidly being obliterated by time.

Across the Fresh Kill may be seen Green Ridge, noted for its having had the first Huguenot church.

This church, built in 1695 (perhaps earlier), stood directly in front of the large dairy building of Mr. George W. White on what is familiarly known as the Seaman estate.

Judge Benjamin Seaman, who was the last Colonial Judge of Staten Island, formerly resided on the Seaman estate. He was the father of Colonel Christopher Billopp's second wife. Col. Billopp was married at Judge Seaman's home.

Beyond Green Ridge, between Huguenot and Rossville, is Woodrow. It once held one of the very earliest Methodist

churches built in America. In the old Van Pelt house Bishop Asbury preached eleven days after his arrival in America.

Near the site of the church stands the old Winant homestead, a very ancient structure, occupied by Tory spies who foraged for the British.

Purdy's Hotel at Prince's Bay, erected, perhaps, as early as 1690, was built on the Seguine estate, but was not the

original Seguine mansion. The latter was destroyed by fire in 1835.

A military post was established at Seguine's Point during the Revolution and the Purdy

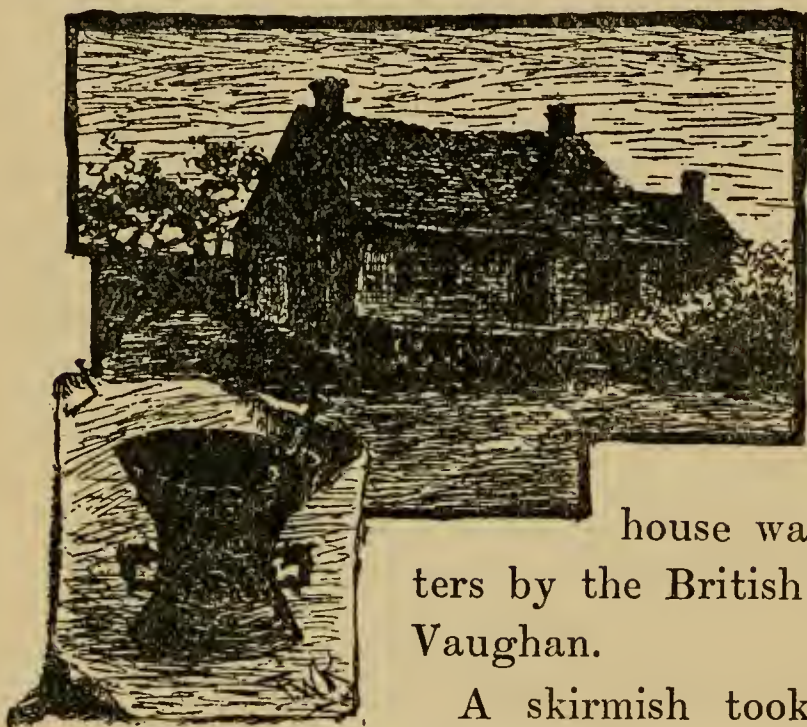
house was used as headquarters by the British commander, General Vaughan.

A skirmish took place between the Americans and British near this house.

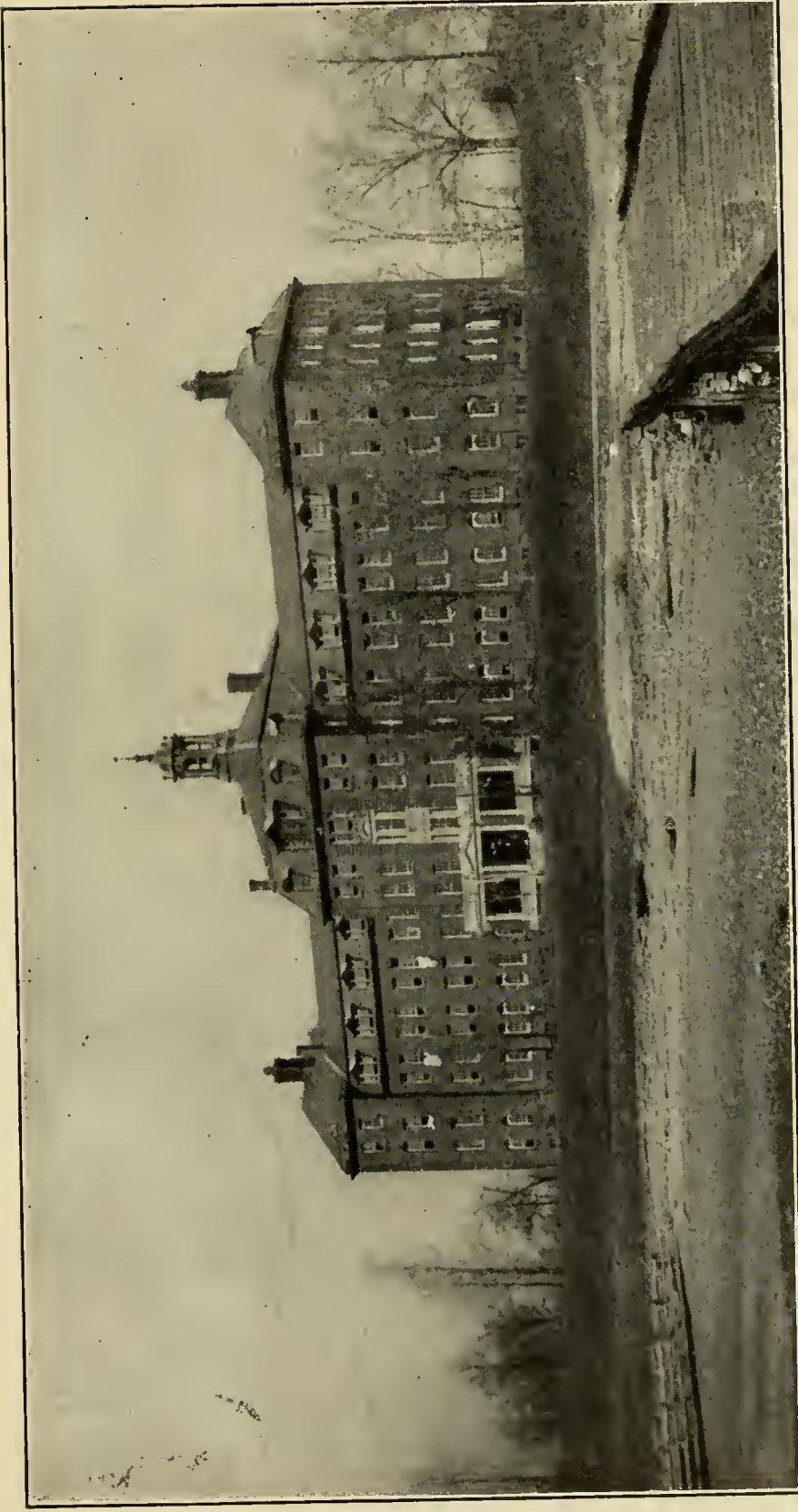
The lower part of the Island was known as Bentley Manor and contains perhaps the greatest landmark historically in the borough, the Billopp house.

When the apportionment of the islands surrounding New York and New Jersey was to be made, it was agreed that New York should have as many as could be circumnavigated in one day.

Captain Christopher Billopp, the commander of a small vessel, succeeded in including Staten Island in one day's sail, an act which won from the Duke of York a tract of land



TORY QUARTERS AT  
WOODROW



ST. ELIZABETH'S HOME, MT. LORETTO



containing eleven hundred and sixty-three acres. This includes the village of Tottenville.

The famous old Billopp house at Tottenville is the oldest structure on Staten Island, built by Christopher Billopp soon after the land was presented to him in 1668.

During the Revolution the head of the Billopp family was an ardent Tory, and entertained Generals Howe, Cornwallis, Clinton, Cleveland, Knyphausen, and Burgoyne.

Under the roof of this Billopp house was held the only peace conference of the Revolution, which took place on September 6, 1776. Benjamin Franklin, of Pennsylvania; John Adams, of Massachusetts; and Edward Rutledge, of South Carolina, were appointed as a committee by the Continental Congress, then in session at Philadelphia, to confer on the issues of war. This had been done by the request of Lord Howe, representing the king.

The peace conference came to naught, because the only power given to Lord Howe was to extend royal clemency and pardon to those who would lay down arms and return to their allegiance to the crown.

This landmark, so rich in history, although well built, has withstood much, and is rapidly going to decay.

The north shore of Staten Island is of interest to one seeking historic spots.

The first object upon leaving St. George is the Old Pavilion Hotel, built about 1832, which was in the fifties the center of attraction for many wealthy Southerners. Since the war it has suffered varied changes and shows but little of its old-time splendor in its present deserted condition. (See illustration.)

The Ward homestead, commonly known as the "cement house," is a curiosity. It was built early in the nineteenth

century of solid blocks of cement, which seem to have rivaled natural stone in tenacity and endurance.

The "Stone Jug," near Sailors' Snug Harbor, dates back to 1770. It was the old Neville mansion, and its former owner, Captain John Neville, a retired officer of the United States Navy, took great pride in its appearance.

Sailors' Snug Harbor, a world-famous institution, is the outcome of a will made by Robert Randall, dated July 1, 1801. This will was drawn up by Governor Daniel Tompkins and Alexander Hamilton. Many of the most learned men in legal affairs were employed. Among these were Daniel Webster and Robert Emmett. At last these suits were terminated, and on October 21st, 1831, the corner stone was laid.

The Kruzer Homestead, known as the Pelton House, located at the cove, was built in 1722. At the time of the Revolution it was kept by the "Widow Kruzer," and was the headquarters of General Courtland Skinner. William IV., at the time the youngest admiral of the British navy, stopped here. (See illustration.)

The Swan Hotel, in West New Brighton, has been the scene of many interesting events, but none more perhaps than the great celebration held there by the colored people on July 4, 1825, on the occasion of the abolition of slavery in this State.

At Tompkins Place and Richmond Terrace once stood the Fountain Hotel. It was but a cottage at the time of the Revolution. General Sullivan ordered this to be burned when he made his raid on Staten Island, but the British troops rescued it. It was the scene of more gaiety and social functions than any other of the ancient public houses on the Island.

Among the names of the distinguished guests of the old

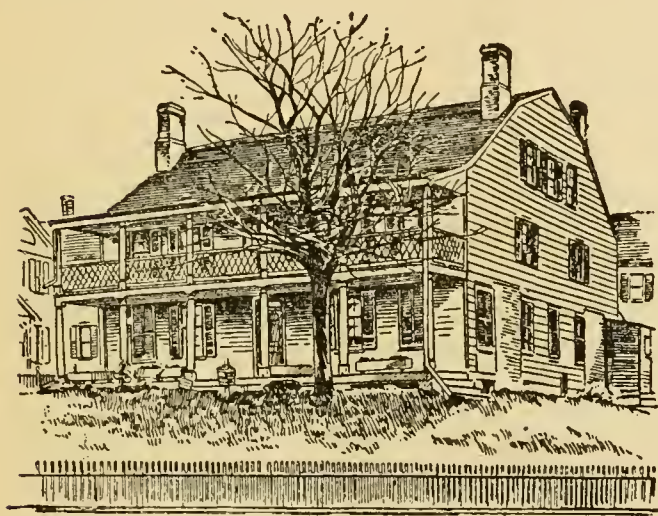
hostelry are found Wendell Phillips, Garibaldi, George William Curtis, Santa Anna, General Scott and Jenny Lind.

Between Bodine and Cedar Streets on the Terrace, stood the residence of Governor Thomas Dongan, built shortly after his arrival here. It was destroyed by fire on Christmas night, 1878.

At the foot of Columbia Street is the old DeGroot homestead. Although over a hundred years old it is well preserved and bids fair to become far more ancient.

The Port Richmond Hotel, near the corner of Richmond Avenue and the Terrace, was built by Gozen Ryers for a

private residence. It stands on the site of a small British fort. Colonel Aaron Burr spent most of the closing year of his life in this hotel, and here on September 14, 1836, he died.



FOUNTAIN HOUSE

once a well-known academy presided over by Rev. Peter I. Van Pelt, pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church.

The route beginning at Port Richmond going up Richmond Avenue, toward Bull's Head, is replete with historical sites.

On Richmond Avenue, on the left going up, is a residence of Gothic architecture which was built by Isaac Jaques. The willow trees in front of this house were brought from the island of St. Helena, and the boxwood from Mount Vernon, Virginia.

At Graniteville on the Morning Star Road, until a few

years ago, stood Butler's Tavern, occupied by British officers during the Revolution. Not far from this occurred a battle in 1777, in which Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Vaughan Dongan of Skinner's Brigade lost his life.

At Bull's Head once stood a tavern which was one of the most famous Tory headquarters during the Revolution.

New Springville claims the honor of having had the first public school on the Island, built about 1690. It was finally demolished in 1888. (See illustration.)

On Willow Brook road is the old Christopher homestead, which was used as a meeting place for the Committee of Safety during the Revolutionary War.

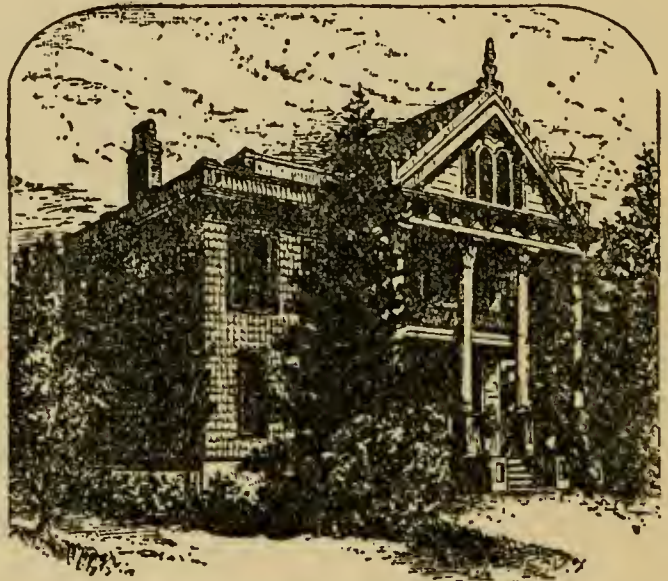
The Corson homestead on Watchogue Road, now Prohibition Park, was erected in 1735.

At Castleton Corners is Bodine's Inn, built by David Jacques for a residence in 1770. Later it became an inn, and was a famous stopping place

for stages. Thomas R. Eagleson, better known as "Thomas Keene," the actor, spent the last few years of his life here.

At Castleton Corners was one of the oldest school houses, being the third on the Island. It was just back of the site of the present school and was built as early as 1784.

Santa Anna, the famous Mexican general, resided in the Dubois house at the corner of Cherry Lane and Manor Road. It was after he had been condemned to death and pardoned upon condition of his leaving the country. His coming to Staten Island was of much interest. Gilbert



DONGAN HOUSE



Thompson, a son-in-law of Governor Tompkins, was with his family anchored at Vera Cruz, in a small schooner when Santa Anna was ordered to leave the country. Mr. Thompson succeeded in getting the dethroned emperor on board, and out of the country, but in the hurry there was not time to get Mrs. Thompson on board. She was captured by the Mexicans and held as hostage, and over this international troubles arose. After considerable excitement, she was finally liberated and they returned to Staten Island, where later Santa Anna lived. He died in Mexico, however, in 1876.

Just below this, at the corner of the Manor Road and Columbia Street, is the old Scott homestead. The date of this building is not known, but it was far from new when the British soldiers were entertained there at the time of the Revolution. It is one of the best preserved landmarks of the Island.

At the junction of Brooks Avenue and Broadway is the Tyler house, the former residence of the wife of the tenth President of the United States, John Tyler. It later became the residence of the Russian Consul General, whose coach and four-in-hand were the delight of his neighbors.

Old Place is interesting as the last Indian settlement or village on Staten Island. It is about a mile from the railroad terminal.

The Old Place mill, which was destroyed by fire a few years ago, was leased by the State of New York during the War of 1812.

The Austin house at Clifton, said to have been built in 1710, contains many relics of the past. On its front door is a knocker which was brought from a château at Rouen. The fireplace is surrounded by tiles brought from Amsterdam two centuries ago. These represent Biblical scenes.

To the student of history Staten Island offers many spots

of deepest interest. Some of these landmarks are being destroyed by the elements and many more by those to whom these offer nothing sacred nor patriotic. Ancient graveyards are going to ruin and unless something is done to prevent the destruction, soon nothing will be left to show the resting places of those whose courage and fortitude gave their descendants the right to life and liberty.

#### FORT WADSWORTH

Was first established during the War of 1812 by New York State. In 1847 the United States Government bought the property, tore down the old forts, and built the present ones.

The last shot of the Revolutionary War is said to have been fired at this fort by a British gunboat on Evacuation Day, 1783.

## TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

**I**N an account of this kind one must speak of the transportation facilities of the Island, and it is always with sincere regret that he who loves Staten Island approaches the subject. Despite the efforts of the several civic organizations, the transportation facilities have not kept apace of the borough's growth. The operation of the Municipal Ferry has opened a new era of prosperity, but the Island can never reach the highest development until trolley lines bring the several isolated communities into closer touch and make of many unimportant parts a most important whole. Nature has favored Staten Island to a remarkable degree; man has not done his share. To be sure there is an adequate water supply in every part of the borough; ample fire and police protection is assured; the streets are thoroughly lighted; the mosquito, the bane of early days, has been completely exterminated; but poor railroad service continues to check the development of the interior and of the west shore. While it is true men commute daily from every hamlet, it is also true that good and fast service would bring to our shores a highly desirable class of inhabitants.

The North Shore has a good trolley service, as has the East Shore, but the interior has but one line, which extends from St. George to Richmond through a beautiful section. This line takes one past the beautiful Moravian Cemetery, where lie in an imposing sarcophagous Commodore Vanderbilt and all the Vanderbilt dead. It is well worth the stranger's time to leave the trolley at the east gate and to spend a busy hour here. There is perhaps no

other cemetery in the State so attractively laid out or so well cared for.

A complete account of the service is as follows:

Staten Island (the Borough of Richmond) lies five miles down the bay from New York, and is connected with Manhattan by ferries from St. George to the Battery, and from Stapleton to the Battery; with New Jersey by ferries at Port Richmond, to Bergen Point; from Mariner's Harbor, to Elizabethport, and by ferry from Tottenville to Perth Amboy.

The borough has a steam railroad running from St. George ferry to Tottenville; from St. George to Arlington on the North Shore, passing through New Brighton, Port Richmond and Mariner's Harbor, and on the South Shore through Tompkinsville, Stapleton and Clifton to South Beach. The fare from Arlington to South Beach and intermediate stations is five cents.

All trolley lines except the South Beach trolley from South Beach to Midland Beach, either run direct or transfer to the ferry and run as follows:

From New York ferry along the North Shore through New Brighton, West New Brighton, Port Richmond, Mariner's Harbor to Elizabethport ferry, connecting at Port Richmond with trolley to Bull's Head (one fare) and with ferry to Bergen Point.

From New York ferry through New Brighton and Jersey Street.

From New York ferry through Tompkinsville, Brighton Heights and Castleton Avenue to West New Brighton.

From New York ferry through Tompkinsville, Richmond Turnpike and Jewett Avenue to Port Richmond.

From New York ferry through Tompkinsville, Stapleton and Concord, to Port Richmond.

From New York ferry through Tompkinsville, Stapleton, Concord, Dongan Hills, Grant City and New Dorp to Richmond, the county seat.

From New York ferry through Tompkinsville, Stapleton and Clifton to South Beach.

From Broadway, West New Brighton, to Eckstein's Brewery, transferring at Castleton Corners for Port Richmond, Richmond, New Dorp, Concord, Stapleton, Tompkinsville and New York ferry.

From Port Richmond through Richmond Avenue to Bull's Head, transferring at Port Richmond to New York ferry.

There are twenty-two trains daily each way to and from New York, leaving Tottenville at intervals of thirty minutes in the morning and New York at intervals of fifteen minutes in the evening; the express trains making the run from Tottenville to the Battery in sixty-seven minutes; locals, one hour and twenty minutes. There are two boats daily direct to New York, a passenger and freight boat in the morning and a freight boat in the evening. The boat landing in New York is convenient to the Chambers Street car line.

The views from the trolley on any line are varied and attractive.

The scenery is unsurpassed; wild-flowers overgrow the wayside, wild birds make the woods ring with music, pretty brooks ripple in and out of unspoiled woodland everywhere. Dame Nature busies herself to make Staten Island a spot worthy of the artist's brush, or the poet's pen.

One thing which is apt to confuse the stranger who visits the Island for the first time, is the sign-board on many of the stations of the Perth Amboy division of the Staten Island Rapid Transit, *i. e.*, Huguenot, Rossville, etc. This means that the first named place is the place at which the train is

stopping and that the passengers for the last named place should also alight. Stage connection may then be made to other points.

Staten Island roads are not surpassed in this State. The shore road which extends around the Island, although known by several names according to section, the Amboy Road leading from New Dorp to Tottenville, the Boulevards, not yet reaching the southern point of the borough, and several less important roads are all fit to please the most exacting automobilist.

Along the route garages are found at convenient intervals.

## THE CHURCHES OF ALL DENOMINATIONS

ELSA E. EVANS

THERE are seventy-eight houses of worship in this borough, representing nearly all of the leading denominations. Many of these church buildings are of historic value, having been associated with the development of the community. Following is a brief notice of the most interesting:

On the North Shore, three blocks up the hill from St. George ferry in New Brighton, stands Brighton Heights Reformed Church. Its tall spire can be seen far out at sea, being used on some of the U. S. Government maps as a point for navigators in entering the channel of New York Harbor. The first building was erected in 1823 on land donated by Governor Daniel Tompkins.

Rev. George C. Lennington is the present pastor. Preaching services are held every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and evening at 7:45. All are welcome to these services.

Farther along on Clinton Avenue is the Church of the Redeemer (Unitarian), Rev. Hobart Clark, pastor. This society has erected three different buildings. It was in the second one that the late George William Curtis conducted the services most successfully for several years as a lay preacher.

At West New Brighton is located the Church of the Ascension (Episcopal), the Rev. Pascal Harrower, rector.

At Port Richmond is the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, Rev. J. F. Berg, pastor. This church was founded in 1716, and destroyed during the Revolutionary War. It was erected anew in 1786 and enlarged and rebuilt in 1844.

For the purpose of developing a strong social and religious work among the Italians on our Island a church has been erected at Mariner's Harbor, with Rev. D. A. Rocco as rector. The work is carried on under the general direction of the Ven. Archdeacon Charles S. Burch, D. D.

The First Presbyterian Church of this Island was organized and erected at Stapleton in 1856. The Rev. Oliver Paul Barnhill, M. A., is the present pastor.

St. Mary's Parish at Rosebank was organized in 1852, and a beautiful brick church erected five years later. This was the first Roman Catholic Church on the East Shore. Before 1852 it was included in St. Peter's Parish at New Brighton, the latter being the first Roman Catholic Church on the Island. There are attached to this parish two priests, Rev. Michael Cuniff, rector, and Rev. C. J. Cronin, assistant. The hours for Sunday masses are 6, 7:30, 9 and 10:30 A. M.

Further on is St. John's Episcopal Church, a charming edifice of rose-colored Connecticut granite, built after the Gothic style of the fourteenth century, at a cost of \$120,000. It is a pleasant reminder of many of the English parish churches which were built in the reign of Edward III.

One of the most interesting places of worship on the Island is St. Cuthbert's-by-the-Sea, at Arrochar. It was commenced in 1901 by Mr. Mills from his own design, and under his own direction, by day labor. It was built entirely of rough stone collected on the Island, and driftwood collected on the beach. Owing to the death of Mr. Mills this chapel has never been completed.

The Church of the Immaculate Conception at Stapleton was built in 1887. In 1895 the parish was taken charge of



by Rev. William J. M. Clure, and he is building the new church in the renaissance style of architecture to be finished this year.

The church commonly known as the Huguenot Reformed was organized in 1849. Two years later the new church was incorporated. This new church was early known as the Church of the Huguenots, as a number of Huguenot families had settled in the neighborhood. Gradually the name of the village was changed from Bloomingview to Huguenot. Rev. David Junor, M. A., is the present pastor.

At Tottenville, the most southerly part of the Island, we find two very flourishing Methodist Churches, Bethel and St. Paul's, the former being the eldest daughter of the Woodrow M. E. Church. In the early part of 1800 services were held at the houses of the different members of the Woodrow Church residing in this portion of the town. In 1822 a plain wooden building, called the Tabernacle, was erected in Richmond Valley, and 1841 the present beautiful brick structure, under the name Bethel, was dedicated.

In 1857, for the better accommodation of that portion of the congregation living in Tottenville, a site was purchased and St. Paul's chapel erected.

Not far away on the Amboy Road is the Church of Our Lady Help of Christians, which was erected in 1898 by the Rev. James M. Byrnes, who has been the pastor since. Sunday masses are at 8:30 and 10:30.

Between these two is St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal Church, of which the Rev. Guy A. Jameson is rector.

The South Baptist Church is on Main Street, the Rev. W. Parkison Chase, pastor. This society was organized in 1859 and is planning to celebrate its semi-centennial anniversary this fall.

One of the most interesting churches not on the line of the railroad, is the one known as the Old Moravian Church, situated in the Moravian cemetery. The square white church is comparatively a modern building; but to the right stands the old house of worship and parsonage built in 1768. It was in this building that the members of the Vanderbilt family worshipped. Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt gave more than 50 acres of land to the society, which has since become the most beautiful cemetery on the Island.

Following the road past this church Richmond is reached. Near this place is St. Andrew's Protestant Episcopal Church, which is rich in historical traditions. In 1708 Queen Anne granted the parish a Royal Charter, legalizing all gifts, and exacting an annual payment of one grain of pepper corn and two shillings and six-pence to be paid into her Custom House, New York.

She also gave to the church a silver service, a prayer book and a pulpit cover adorned with her name. The present church occupies the site of the original building and is the third erected thereon, the first having been burned shortly after the Revolution. During the War of Independence, the Queen's Rangers, a troop of Tories, were quartered in the old church, and the pulpit and reading desk were used as targets. A party of Americans once came over from Jersey and drove the troops to shelter in the church. Then by pouring a volley through the windows they drove them out again, and took many prisoners, whom they were obliged to release when British reinforcements arrived.

The Rev. Charles Burch is the rector of this church.

The Emanuel Church of Westerleigh, was organized as a Union Congregational Church in 1893. Services were held in the hotel parlors for one year, when the Deems Memorial

Chapel was erected. In 1894 the Rev. Charles R. Kingsley was called to the pastorate. He still has the parish in charge.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Rossville was built about sixty years ago, by the contributions of Irish and Irish-Americans in this district. It became dilapidated in the course of time, and was rebuilt, enlarged and decorated, mostly at the personal expense of the present rector, the Rev. Peter J. Harold.

At Rossville is also St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church, the Rev. Charles Josiah Adams, D. D., rector. This society was organized in 1883. The church was erected after plans by the celebrated artist, Cropsy, after the general plans of the Parish Church of Ross Castle, in 1887. Its interior lines are of great nobility, made so by its rows of pillars separating the aisles from the nave, its groined arches and its high ceiling. This is one of the most beautiful parish churches in America.

Between Rossville and Huguenot is the Woodrow Methodist Episcopal Church, which is called the Mother of Methodism on the Island. The history of this old church dates back to 1771, when Francis Asbury landed at Rossville. He called the widely scattered farmers together at the residence of Peter Van Pelt, and expounded to them the principles of Methodism as he had learned them direct from the lips of its great founder, John Wesley.

The first church was built in 1787. Many changes have since taken place. The old church was torn down and a new one erected in 1842. A communion plate of German silver used for many years in the old church is still in use.

The most sacred of all relics is the old Bible, handled

for half a century by the fathers of the church. The fly-leaf of this ancient volume bears the following inscription: "A gift from Nancy Dissosway, to the Methodist Church on Staten Island, July 4th, 1795."

The Moravian Church at Great Kills, Rev. John S. Romig, pastor, was erected by popular subscription in 1896, although the society had begun its work in the village long before that date. Improvements have been made since until now the church has a large Sunday School annex and a gymnasium. Sunday services are at 10:30 and 7:30.

The Prince Bay Union Church had its origin in a little Episcopal mission started by the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston and other interested friends, about fifteen years ago. For the last six years the Rev. H. Handel, an ordained Baptist clergyman, has had charge of the work. One interesting feature regarding this church is that it has never been in debt. Sunday morning service at 10:30. Evening service at 7:30.

St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Church at New Brighton was incorporated in 1849 and began to hold services in a small chapel. In 1853 the present stone church was erected by subscription, among the donors being such old Staten Island names as Bard, Livingston, Delafield, etc. The Rev. Francis L. Frost, Ph.D., is the present rector. Services on Sunday are at 8 and 11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

Another parish which is in a flourishing condition is that of "St. John Baptist de la Salle" at Stapleton, the Rev. John P. Neumann, rector. Sunday services, 8:30, 10:30, and 4.

Other churches with their hours of service are as follows:

Christ Church, P. E., New Brighton—Rev. F. W. Crowder, rector. Morning service, 11; evening service 8 o'clock.

St. Simon's, P. E., Clove Road—Rev. William G. Thompson, rector. Morning service 11; evening service 4.

St. Paul's Memorial, P. E., St. Paul's Avenue, Tompkinsville—Rev. Wallace H. Watts, rector. Morning service 8 and 11; evening service 4.

Trinity M. E., West Brighton—Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:45.

Grace M. E., Port Richmond—Morning service 11; evening service 7:45.

Summerfield M. E., Mariner's Harbor—Rev. William Redheffer, Ph.D., pastor. Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:45.

Wandell Memorial M. E. Church, Concord—Rev. David Ausmus, pastor. Morning service 10:45; evening service 7:30.

St. Mark's M. E., Pleasant Plains—Rev. Alfred R. Evans, pastor. Morning service 10:45; evening service 7:30.

Kingsley M. E., Stapleton—Rev. J. B. J. Rhodes, pastor—Morning service 10:45; evening service 7:45.

African Church, A. M. E. Z. (colored), Bogardus Corners, Westfield—Rev. James Sarjeant, pastor. Morning service 10:45; evening service 7:45.

Moravian Church of Castleton Corners—Rev. Charles Nagel, pastor. Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:45.

Calvary Presbyterian Church, Castleton Avenue, West Brighton—Rev. Edward J. Russell, pastor. Morning service 10:45; evening service 7:45.

St. Peter's, R. C., New Brighton—Rev. Charles A. Cassidy, rector; Rev. Joseph Farrell, assistant. Sunday services: Masses, 6:30, 8, 9:30, and 11 A. M.; Vespers 8 P. M.

Church of the Sacred Heart, West Brighton—Rev. William C. Poole, rector; Rev. Fathers Mulcahy and O'Brien, assistants. Sunday services 7, 8, 9, and 10:30 A. M.; Vespers 7:30 P. M.

St. John's, Port Richmond, and Mission at Linoleumville—Rev. J. C. Borth, pastor. Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:30.

German Evangelical, Stapleton—Rev. F. Sutter, pastor. Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:30.

Park, Baptist, Port Richmond—Rev. L. T. Griffin, pastor. Morning service 11; evening service 7:45.

Mariner's Harbor—Rev. John H. Tory, pastor. Morning service 10:45; evening service 7:45.

St. Philip's (colored), Elm Street, Port Richmond—Rev. John W. Griffin, pastor. Morning service 11; evening service 8.

Swedish Evangelical Zion Church, Masonic Hall, Port Richmond—Rev. J. H. Carlson, pastor. Sunday school 11; evening service 8.

Zion Scandinavian Lutheran, Avenue B, Port Richmond—Rev. O. E. Eide, pastor. Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:45.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, No. 25 Stuyvesant Place, St. George—Morning service 10:45; evening service 8.

Wells Memorial (Christian Alliance), Tottenville—Rev. C. E. Cox, pastor. Morning service 10:30; evening service 7:45.

Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Richmond Turnpike, Tompkinsville—Rev. Samuel Kantrovitz, reader. Worship Fridays 6 P. M.

Temple Emanuel, Port Richmond—Rev. Albert Goldfarb, pastor. Service, Friday, 6 P. M.; Saturday, 8:30 A. M.

## THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

DELIA L. MASON

**T**HE RICHMOND COUNTY SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN occupies a double modern house on Castleton Avenue, opposite the Smith Infirmary.

The society was incorporated in December, 1880, George William Curtis being one of the charter members.

During 1907, the society investigated 109 complaints, involving 172 children, for various causes, the greatest number being cases of desertion, neglect, and cruelty.

In support, the annual city appropriation is \$1,000 and the balance is made up by subscribers, who numbered 71 in 1907.

*Officers.* President, Charles H. Ingalls, Bement Avenue, West New Brighton; Resident Agent, Charles Cowan, Broadway, West New Brighton.

*Directions.* From St. George, take the Castleton Avenue trolley. Telephone 305 W. Tomp.

**THE SAILORS' SNUG HARBOR** is beautifully located on the banks of the Kill von Kull, a part of New York Harbor. The grounds comprise about 200 acres, some sixty of which are laid out in lawns, flower-beds, and fine shade trees.

On this part of the grounds stand all the buildings, costing several millions of dollars. The remainder of the ground comprises the farm and a thickly wooded piece of ground to which the inmates have free access.

*Buildings.* The buildings, of which there are more than thirty, are the chief feature of the institution; the eight main buildings used for dormitories and mess-halls are con-

nected with corridors of stone and brick as one building. The rooms are all bright and cheerful, well heated and ventilated, lighted by electricity, furnished with every comfort, and kept scrupulously clean. The number of occupants to a room varies from two to five, most of the rooms having but two occupants.

This institution was founded by Robert Richard Randall, Esq., of New York City, on June 1, 1801, over one hundred years ago. Mr. Randall executed his last will and testament, drawn by Alexander Hamilton, bequeathing practically his entire estate for the establishment and maintenance of a Home for Aged, Decrepit, and Wornout Sailors, to be known as Sailors' Snug Harbor.

This estate consisted chiefly of a farm of about 20 acres located on Manhattan Island, and which is now, roughly speaking, bounded by 4th and 5th Avenues, and 6th and 10th Streets. So well has the property been managed that the present income is ample to supply all the needs of the Harbor.

*Officers.* The will provided that the administration of this trust be committed to the following persons, viz:

The Mayor, the Recorder, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, the President of the Marine Society, the First Vice President of the last named Society, the Rector of Trinity Church, and the Minister of the First Presbyterian Church, all of the City of New York.

The officers of the Institution comprise the Governor, Capt. Andrew J. Newberry, Resident Physician and Staff, Chaplain and Steward.

*Opening.* Owing to litigation and other causes, the site for the Home was not purchased until June, 1831.

The first building was erected in 1831-2 and in the following year fifty sailors were admitted.



*Inmates.* On March 1, 1909, there were 926 inmates.

An applicant for admission, to be eligible, must be a native born sailor, physically disqualified for self-support, and must have sailed at least five years under the American flag. If foreign born, he must prove 10 years' service in the navy or merchant marine.

The fullest liberty is allowed the inmates, consistent with good order and a due regard to the peace and comfort of the community.

*Direction.* Take the Rapid Transit R. R., North Shore division, to Sailors' Snug Harbor, or the Elizabethport trolley to the main gate. Telephone 18, West Brighton.

Visitors welcome except Saturday P. M.

MOUNT LORETTO is beautifully located on a commanding rise of ground fronting Raritan and Prince Bays at the southern end of the Island.

*Foundation.* This institution is a Mission of the Immaculate Virgin for the Protection of Homeless and Destitute Children of New York City, founded in 1871, by Rev. John C. Drumgoole. The Mt. Loretto branch was opened in 1883 and now includes the Mt. Loretto Home for Boys, St. Joseph's Trades School, St. Elizabeth's Home for Girls, and St. Joseph's Blind Asylum.

*Equipment.* The school buildings, dormitories, and church are surrounded by over 500 acres of land, comprising gardens, woodland, and lawns.

The boys' dormitory is a fine new brick structure, lodging 600 boys. St. Elizabeth's Home is imposing and stands near Prince Bay Lighthouse. All the buildings are well lighted, and are heated by steam.

*Inmates.* On March 20, 1909, there were about 1,600 children in the Home, 1,080 being boys, the total being in-

clusive of fifty blind girls, who are given special manual instruction in addition to common school branches. Children are received from 4 to 16 years of age.

*Instruction* is given in all common branches from Kindergarten to High School, and military tactics.

ST. JOSEPH'S TRADES SCHOOL equips many of the boys with mechanical skill to earn good wages. The Mt. Loretto Band is a justifiable source of pride—Juniors numbering 85, Seniors 40.

This band formed a part of the inaugural procession of President Taft, and later played by request in the East Room.

Homes are found for many children, but all are guarded and an interest shown in placing them under good influences when they leave the Home.

*Officers.* Rector, Rev. Mallick J. Fitzpatrick, 375 Lafayette Street, New York City.

*Local Assistant.* Rev. W. E. Cashin, Mt. Loretto, Prince Bay, N. Y. Telephone 21, Tottenville.

*Support.* The chief support of the Mission is from the sale of "The Homeless Child," a small magazine which is edited and published by the boys.

Voluntary contributions aid the work materially.

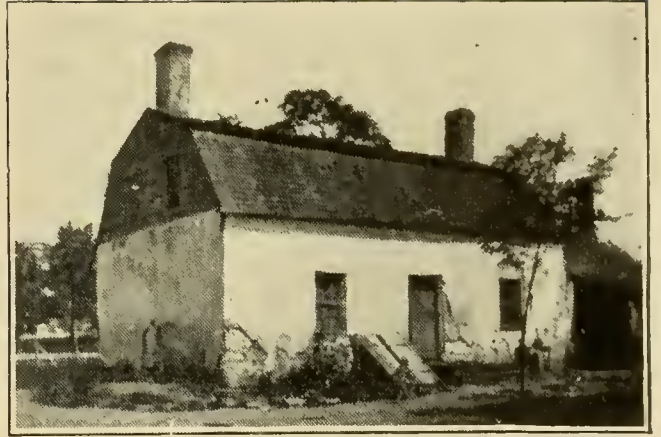
*Directions.* Take the S. I. Rapid Transit R. R. to Pleasant Plains. Children's friends received third Sundays. Visitors always welcome.

THE NEW YORK CITY FARM COLONY, on Manor Road, is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Castleton Corners P. O. It occupies 165 acres, formerly the Richmond County Alms House Farm.

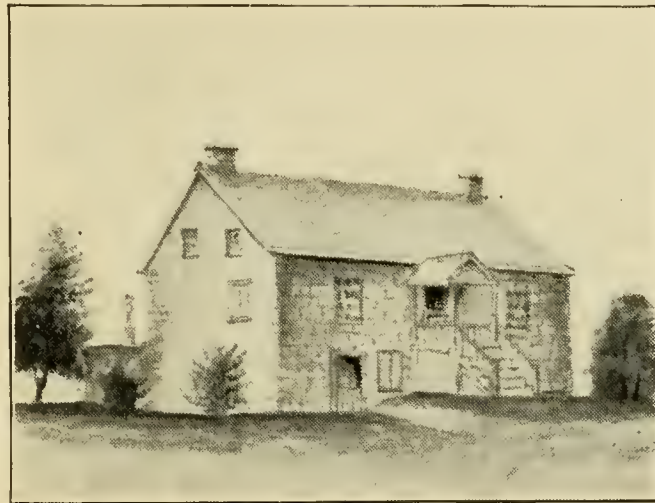
*Buildings.* The old brick and stone buildings on the west side are in good condition, while the home cottages, A, B,



PAVILION HOTEL



CORTELYOU HOMESTEAD



BARNE TYSEN HOMESTEAD



KRUZER HOMESTEAD



and C, on the east side, are models of their kind. The large new dormitory is nearing completion. The Farm Colony has its own sewer and water plant.

*Crops.* The farm is under high cultivation, showing what scientific agriculture can do for mediocre soil. In 1908 the value of farm and garden crops was about \$10,000. Many premiums on vegetables have been won at the County Fair the past two years. Most of the Farm work is done by inmates. Basketry is taught to many by a worker of the State Charities Aid Society.

*Inmates.* On March 19, 1909, the inmates numbered 333.

Much care is taken in selecting from the city's dependents to choose those who will render the community life agreeable. Cottage A is occupied entirely by aged married couples. All the inmates take the greatest care in their own cottage and room, where each is allowed to retain personal belongings.

*Officers.* The New York City Farm Colony is under the direction of Commissioner of Public Charities, Robert W. Hebbard; Supervising Matron, Mrs. Agnes M. Dickerson.

*Directions.* By securing a pass from the Department of Public Charities in East Twenty-sixth Street, visitors may secure free transportation in the stage which leaves Castleton Corners daily at 11:30 A. M.; from St. George take the Silver Lake car to Castleton Corners. If walking, leave the trolley to Bradley Avenue and walk to Manor Road. Telephone 189, West Brighton.

THE SEA VIEW HOSPITAL, now in course of construction, occupies large grounds adjoining the Home Cottages. This is to be the largest hospital of New York City and will be completed in two years.

THE ACTORS' FUND HOME is located on Brooks Avenue, West New Brighton. Architecturally and by the beauty of its situation, the house is most charming. It is surrounded by 20 acres of land commanding riparian rights on a small lake to the south, while on the street side it is densely shaded by old trees.

*Foundation.* Through the agitation of *The New York Herald*, the Actors' Fund Home was opened May 8, 1902, by the late Rev. Dr. Houghton, of "The Little Church Around the Corner."

*Building.* From a turreted gateway, the walk leads to the Stucco building, planned on the pleasing lines of the Elizabethan style, and built at the cost of \$80,000. Within, the tasteful and luxurious furnishings are well calculated to render happy the declining years of those men and women who now cherish the memory of applause received before the footlights. There is a fine fruit orchard, while the garden furnishes the vegetables and strawberries needed.

*Guests.* To meet the expenses of maintaining the Actors' Fund Home, subscriptions are solicited from members of the profession and the general public. Address, Theodore Brumleff, Asst. Sec. of Actors' Fund, Gaiety Theater Bldg., Forty-sixth Street and Broad, New York City.

*Officers.* The Board of Governors consists of the officers and trustees of the Home—Daniel Frohman, President, 1907-8. Mr. Robert E. Stevens, Supt.

Services are conducted Sunday afternoons by pastors of various churches on the Island. Home talent furnishes many enjoyable entertainments, while Founders' Day, May 8, the guests keep open house. Visiting hours from 10 A. M.-1 P. M. daily.

*Directions.* From St. George take the Rapid Transit R.

R. to West New Brighton, thence by the Manor Road trolley to Brooks Avenue, five minutes' walk. Or take the Castleton Avenue trolley to Columbia Street, seven minutes' distant. Telephone 195, West Brighton.

THE DIET KITCHEN is located on Richmond Road, corner of Grant Avenue, Tompkinsville.

Founded in 1882 by the late Mrs. Sara B. McFallen of Arrochar. The Diet Kitchen occupies its own two-story modern building, well suited to its needs.

Yearly about 150 patients are furnished free beef, tea, chicken or mutton broth, milk, eggs, etc., from one to ten weeks upon the recommendation of physicians.

*Support.* Voluntary subscriptions and donations and the interest on a small investment.

*Officers.* President, Mrs. Stephen D. Stephens, New Brighton; resident matron, Miss Warnecker.

*Directions.* From St. George take the Richmond or Concord trolley to Grant Avenue. Telephone 115 W, Tompkinsville. Visitors always welcome.

THE MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM, commonly known as "The Old Ladies'" Home, is on Center Street, near Vanderbilt Avenue, Stapleton.

*Founded* in 1843 by the Female Bethel Society of New York, to provide work, at a fair remuneration, for the female members of the families of seamen. In 1849 the society was incorporated, and on June 9, 1855, the present building was suitably dedicated. The four-story brick building is heated by steam and has an elevator.

*Support.* The Asylum is richly endowed and the annual report of 1908 shows a bank account of several thousand dollars. Donations of \$5,211.62 were received from S. I. companies.

*Inmates.* On March 23, 1909, there were 33 inmates, over 60 years of age, all wives, mothers, sisters, or daughters of seamen from the Port of New York.

*Officers.* Mrs. Francis MacDonald, Townsend Avenue, Stapleton, First Directress; Miss Etta Rhodes, Matron. Telephone 412 J, Tompkinsville.

*Directions.* From St. George take the Rapid Transit to Clifton. Walk out Vanderbilt Avenue to Center Street, turn to the right. The Home is in sight from Clifton station.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE DESTITUTE CHILDREN OF SEAMEN is located on Castleton Avenue, New Brighton, next St. Vincent's Hospital.

The Society was organized 63 years ago and has always been non-sectarian in its management.

*Buildings.* The rented brick building is located in a large well shaded yard and commands a fine view of Sailors' Snug Harbor, with which it is in no way officially connected. A new steam plant was installed last year.

*Enrollment.* In 1908-9, 87: admitted during the year, 30; discharged, 22; age of admission, 2 to 10 years. During the past ten years 35% of all children admitted have been restored to their parents.

*Officers.* Mrs. Courtland W. Gnoble, First Directress; Miss Doyle, Matron. Telephone 184 L, West Brighton.

*Directions.* From St. George, take the Castleton Avenue trolley to main gate.

The three Day Nurseries of Staten Island are doing a most useful work in caring for the young children of mothers who go out to work during the day. These societies also distribute baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and donations of clothing and shoes.

THE LAKEVIEW HOME FOR GIRLS faces Havenwood Es-



planade, Brighton Heights, overlooking Silver Lake, and commands one of the most beautiful views on the Island.

*Building.* The double cottage, equipped with every improvement, is prettily furnished and accommodates an average of 14 girls.

*Object.* The Home endeavors to make wayward girls and unmarried mothers economical by independent means of industrial training, and is the only Home of its kind in this country.

*Support.* It is supported by the Council of Jewish Women, and the direction of Miss Sadie American. Particulars will be gladly furnished by the Supt., Mrs. Sarah Libbin. Telephone 16 L, Tompkinsville.

*Directions.* From St. George take the Castleton Avenue Trolley to Havenwood Esplanade.

A PUBLIC PLAYGROUND was opened in New Brighton for the three summer months of 1908, where over 10,000 children played during the day, under supervision of paid helpers.

*Location.* The Playground adjoins the New Brighton Day Nursery on Fifth Street, and is supported by the New York Playground Society.

In Stapleton a plot of land 150' by 200' has been secured between Gordon and Targee Streets, near the Church of the Immaculate Conception. This playground will be opened in 1909 under the supervision of the local School Board, District 46.

In New Brighton, the local Board District 45 expects to open a Public Playground this summer between Lafayette and Henderson Avenues.

In West New Brighton near Broadway, a site has been secured for a recreation center.

ST. MICHAEL'S HOME, on the Fresh Kill Road, Green

Ridge, is conducted by the nuns of St. Michael's Presentation Convent, Mother Mary Columbo, Superior, one-half Professed Sisters, three Novices, and three Lay Sisters. On April 14, 1909, there were 100 children in the Home, and a few receiving day instruction.

*Directions.* From St. George, take the Rapid Transit to Annadale of the Midland trolley to Richmond, thence by carriage. Telephone 16 L, Tottenville.

THE NEW BRIGHTON DAY NURSERY, under the auspices of the Women's Club of S. I., is located on Fifth Street, between Jersey Street and Westervelt Avenue. It occupies its own home and is free of debt.

From 1,500 to 2,000 children are cared for yearly. Mothers' meetings and sewing classes are held in connection with the work.

*Chairman.* Mrs. S. McKee Smith, 2 Hamilton Park, New Brighton.

*Directions.* From St. George, take the Jersey Street trolley to 5th Street.

THE STAPLETON DAY NURSERY is on Broad Street, opposite P. S. 14.

The Nursery was founded 14 years ago and is supported by voluntary contributions and by the 5 cent charge for each child left in its care. The managers hope to build soon. Contributions from the King's Daughters' sales and allied societies are gratefully acknowledged.

In addition to the work mentioned above, work is found for deserving women.

The annual roll averages 2,200.

*Officers.* President, Mrs. J. L. Feeney, Beach Street, Stapleton.

*Directions.* From St. George take the South Beach trolley to Broad Street.

THE PORT RICHMOND DAY NURSERY, at 36 Maple Avenue, was founded in 1897. It occupies its own comfortable house, of which four rooms and a bath are given over to the children. Surrounding it is a small fenced play ground.

In 1908, 2,000 children, from infants to 10 years old, were cared for.

*Support.* Voluntary contributions, small subscriptions, donations at the Harvest Home, Thanksgiving, and Christmas; and collections from Union Services, Deems Memorial Chapel, St. Mary's R. C. Church, and allied church societies.

*Officers.* President of Board of Managers, Mrs. James Wheeler, 49 Burgher Avenue, West New Brighton. Matron, Mrs. Matthews.

*Directions.* From St. George take the Rapid Transit R. R. to Tower Hill or Port Richmond, thence 7 minutes walk.

## THE SCHOOLS

FLORENCE BENNETT SCOTT

AS the ferryboat approaches St. George, the stranger first visiting Staten Island is sure to be impressed by its high stretch of land just back from the ferry slips. Crowning the height of land, is a large grey stone building, whose square towers and massive proportions arouse one's interest. If he ask any resident what it is, he will receive the answer, filled with just pride, "That is the Curtis High School."

It stands as a pledge to all new comers that education is held in the highest esteem, and that the work of the elementary schools is of a character to make possible such a high school.

The Richmond borough schools are part of the Greater New York system, but the buildings are usually more commodious than those in the city and the schools have large play grounds and more quiet situations.

As a healthful place to study, they are far ahead of the city schools. There are thirty-four elementary schools with a teaching force of two hundred and seventy-six teachers.

The total attendance is 14,000. Each school is supervised by a special teacher in each of the following subjects: Physical culture, music, drawing, cooking, and manual training. Some of the larger schools have the boys and girls in separate classes, but the smaller ones have mixed classes.

Darwin L. Bardwell is superintendent of the 45th and 46th districts, comprising the whole island. Members of the

Board of Education are Dr. Arthur Hollick and Mr. Ralph McKee. The schools are known by number, No. 1 being at Tottenville. This school, Principal N. Lowe, has a large new building and is one of the best equipped schools of Greater New York. No. 19, located at 33 Greenleaf Avenue, West New Brighton, has perhaps the most interesting history, having been organized in 1889, and known as District School No. 5, Castleton. At the annual district meeting, in August, 1892, it was unanimously voted to call the school the George William Curtis school.

This action was indorsed by the State Superintendent.

A feeling exists that Staten Island grows very slowly. The growth of this school under Charles T. Simons, principal, and Miss Jennie Smith, now Mrs. Samuel, is therefore interesting. At its opening, in a three-room school, there were sixty pupils. Now, with its three additions, the school contains twelve class rooms, a science room, a kitchen, a library and a workshop. The present enrollment is 400. It publishes a quarterly, the *Curtis Echo*, which is edited by the members of the departmental classes.

The popularity of this name as well as the appreciation of one of Staten Island's foremost former citizens is shown in the naming of the High School in his honor, also.

The George William Curtis High School is situated in New Brighton, St. Mark's Place and Hamilton Avenue. It commands a beautiful outlook over New York Bay, the Kill von Kull and the Narrows.

It is now the only High School in the borough. Previous to the year 1902, there were three schools which maintained High School departments, one in Tottenville, another in Stapleton, and the third in Port Richmond. In September, 1902, the Tottenville High School department was transferred to Stapleton; in February of 1904, the

Stapleton and Port Richmond departments were united at Curtis under Mr. Oliver D. Clark, principal. Mr. Clark's untiring efforts and executive ability laid for the school a firm foundation of good scholarship. Upon his death, in 1906, he was succeeded by Mr. Harry F. Towle, the present principal.

The High School has a teaching force of nineteen women and sixteen men. It offers a general course of four years, leading to college entrance, to complete which a student must satisfactorily pursue required subjects for a given number of hours and pass examinations in the same.

These subjects are in the departments of language, mathematics, history, science, drawing, music and physical training. There is also a commercial course with instruction in bookkeeping, stenography, and typewriting. The registration of pupils has averaged about 650.

In February of 1909, owing to the increase in numbers, which reached 735, it became necessary to establish an annex at Rosebank, where first grade pupils, of whom there are 110, are instructed. This is in charge of Mr. W. A. Crane.

Special attention is drawn to the fact that at five schools evening courses in all ordinary subjects, English to foreigners, mechanical drawing, freehand drawing, stenography, typewriting, business, English, bookkeeping, sewing, cooking, dressmaking and millinery are given, with attendance of 1,285 scholars.

The introduction of public lectures into the educational system of our city should be favorably commented on as an important element in the education of our people.

During the year 1908 there were 104 lectures delivered to an average attendance of 350 persons.

Just northwest of the High School, corner of Wall and

Stuyvesant Place, half-way down the hill, is a dark brick building, the Staten Island Academy. It was founded in 1884. Mr. Franklin Page is now the principal. The course of study extends from the Kindergarten to college entrance without examination. The purpose of the Academy has been thorough preparation and a long list of students who have attended college attest its success. Besides the school proper, the Academy has the Winter Memorial Library of over 10,000 volumes and a fireproof lyceum, seating 500 persons, with a well-equipped stage for Academy plays. Below the lyceum is a beautiful gymnasium. Besides its indoor interests, it has a large field where basket-ball, baseball, and various sports are maintained.

There are several other private schools, chief among them St. Peter's Academy, New Brighton, Westerleigh Institute at New Brighton, the Augustian Academy, Grymes Hill, and, at the far end of the Island, Tottenville, St. Louis Academy. This is essentially a French school. The usual school branches as well as music, vocal and instrumental, drawing and painting are pursued. The object is to give a Christian education and thorough instruction to fit for future duties. The Academy is located on Main Street.

THE SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED AS FOLLOWS

1. Academy Street . . . Tottenville.
2. Wiener Street . . . Richmond Valley.
3. School Street . . . Pleasant Plains.
4. Shore Road . . . Kreischerville.
5. Amboy Road . . . Huguenot.
6. Rossville Avenue . . . Rossville.
7. Fresh Kill Road . . . Green Ridge.
8. Lenwood Avenue . . . Great Kills.
9. Knight Avenue . . . New Dorp.

- |     |                      |       |                    |
|-----|----------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 10. | Richmond Road        | .     | New Dorp.          |
| 11. | Jefferson Street     | . .   | Dongan Hills.      |
| 12. | Steuben Street       | . .   | Concord.           |
| 13. | Pennsylvania Avenue  |       | Rosebank.          |
| 14. | Brook and Broad Sts. |       | Stapleton.         |
| 15. | Grant Street         | . .   | Tompkinsville.     |
| 16. | Madison Avenue       | . .   | Tompkinsville.     |
| 17. | Prospect Street      | . .   | New Brighton.      |
| 18. | Broadway             | . . . | West New Brighton. |
| 19. | Greenleaf Avenue     | . .   | West New Brighton. |
| 20. | Heberton Avenue      | . .   | Port Richmond.     |
| 21. | Sherman Avenue       | . .   | Port Richmond.     |
| 22. | Richmond Avenue      | . .   | Graniteville.      |
| 23. | Andros Avenue        | . .   | Mariner's Harbor.  |
| 24. | Washington Avenue    |       | Mariner's Harbor.  |
| 25. | Chelsea Road         | . .   | Bloomfield.        |
| 26. | Richmond Turnpike    |       | Linoleumville.     |
| 27. | Richmond Avenue      | . .   | New Springville.   |
| 28. | Freshkill Road       | . .   | Richmond.          |
| 29. | Manor Road           | . .   | Castleton Corners. |
| 30. | Fish Avenue          | . . . | West New Brighton. |
| 31. | Pleasant Avenue      | . .   | Bogardus Corners.  |
| 32. | Osgood Avenue        | . .   | Stapleton.         |
| 33. | Washing Avenue       | . .   | Grant City.        |
| 34. | Fingerboard Road     | . .   | Rosebank.          |

Our libraries may well be considered part of our public education system. Four Carnegie Libraries, at Tottenville, St. George, Stapleton, and Port Richmond, respectively, afford ample recreation and opportunity for research.

There are branch libraries at Great Kills and at New Dorp, and it is probable that another Carnegie Library will, within a few years, be located at the latter place.



## HOSPITALS

**T**HAT Staten Island does not forget the sick who are among her inhabitants or those whom fate brings to her shores is shown by the four prosperous hospitals which are here. Of these the one most often seen, because in plain view of the harbor and of the railroad, is the Marine Hospital at Clifton.

The establishment of U. S. Marine Hospitals in our nation is a long story, dating back to 1798, the object being to enable seamen of the Merchant Marine, when sick or disabled, to be cared for by the general Government, instead of leaving them to the tender mercies of the poor laws of the different cities when landed at their ports, thus encouraging them to go to sea and incidentally aiding in our commerce, foreign and domestic.

U. S. Marine Hospitals are established at all the larger ports, and at the smaller ports the Government rents wards in a municipal or private hospital, where the sailors are cared for by a Commissioned Officer of the Service.

This hospital building and grounds for the Port of New York was rented by the Government in May, 1883, and purchased from the Marine Society of New York City in 1903. The Hospital was built some 60 or 70 years ago, and is therefore not up-to-date in its appointments, but the Government proposes to remodel it inside (the walls are too attractive to pull down), for which Congress appropriated \$250,000 last year.

It is an ideal location for the Sailors' Hospital and well "patronized" by those who need its ministering care—

some 4,000 to 5,000 patients being cared for during the year.

THE SMITH INFIRMARY began its existence as a dispensary, operated mainly through the efforts of Dr. William M. Anderson, of Bay and Union Streets, Stapleton. Its growth was rapid and under the name, the "Samuel Russel Smith Infirmary," it continued to grow until, in 1864, it was formally opened in one of the old buildings located in the Quarantine Ground on the east side of Tompkins Avenue, New Brighton.

Five years later the institution was incorporated under a board of trustees and the following year a lot and house on Hannah Street, Tompkinsville, was purchased.

From time to time more land was bequeathed or purchased and in 1888 the corner stone of the Main Building of the present structure was laid. As the institution grew new departments were added, among them being a training school for nurses. The Infirmary is up-to-date and thoroughly equipped, and were it not for two things the management would be well satisfied.

The great needs of the hospital at this time, aside from an increased income, are, first, a dormitory for the women servants, who are now housed in inadequate and unsuitable rooms in the basement of the administration building, which rooms are badly needed for drug room and store room purposes; and, second, an adequate and properly equipped maternity pavilion, with ward rooms, and a number of private rooms.

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL, which is situated on Bard and Castleton Avenues, West New Brighton, is under the management of the Sisters of Charity, though open to persons

of any race or creed. It is but five years old yet, and is now organized as a separate institution, having outgrown its dependence on St. Vincent's of New York.

The Tuberculosis Annex, which has been established in conjunction with the city authorities, is producing the most gratifying results.

There has also been formed a Training School for Nurses, which is doing splendid work in thoroughly equipping for their future work helpers of humanity. It is, in fact, already conceded that this modest school compares favorably with those of older institutions. On May 25th, 1907, five young ladies who had completed a course of three years' training, received the first graduation honors given by the Hospital to its nurses.

At present the Hospital urgently needs a laundry and boiler room.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD, a corporation existing "for the relief of sick children of the poor of the City of New York, without regard to creed, color, or nationality," maintains at New Dorp the institution known as the Sea Side Hospital. The nucleus of this hospital was the Sea Side Nursery, established in 1881. Six years later it gave place to the Sea Side Hospital, and its work was greatly extended. It has every natural advantage. Its grounds cover over 15 acres, and its sea-washed coast measures 500 feet. Within are accommodations for 400 women and children. It draws its own water from its own artesian well; it has its own refrigerating plant; its own electric lighting; and its own heating plant. Its diet kitchen for prepared foods is unexcelled, and its operating equipment is complete.

Admissions to the hospital are by tickets widely distributed through the Department of Health, hospitals, day nurs-

eries, churches, physicians, etc. The ministrations of the hospital are *absolutely free*. No sick child is denied admission. Neither is a sick child detained pending an investigation as to whether it is entitled to care. The sole bar is a contagious disease.

It is the mecca of the sick child of the tenements and the good which it is doing is immeasurable.

## AMUSEMENTS

CLARA V. FACH

**W**ITHIN easy access of all parts of Staten Island are the two delightful pleasure resorts, known as Midland Beach and South Beach.

Both lie on the south shore of the Island, and have the broad expanse of the lower bay lying majestically before them.

At both places may be found all the delights of "a Coney Island." Helter-skelters, those wonderful winding slides: scenic railways, where one has a glimpse, as he passes through tunnels, of marvelous angels and demons; old mills, where the waters glide peacefully in and out of the maze, and you float on, pleased with the scenic effects that meet the eye at every turn; Ferris wheels, that lift you up, up, up, until you view with vast satisfaction the great panorama of the sea with its numerous ships, and graceful sailboats, gliding like swans over its mighty bosom; saucy little tugs skimming along and leaving in their wake billowy clouds of black smoke. In the distance Sandy Hook, with its stretch of white sand, and Jersey's rugged shore curving around to the west. On the other side the straight shores of Long Island, and beyond, and to the south, "Coney," and nearer two pretty islands raise their dainty heads above the surface of the green waters, while to the north stretches the hills, the meadows and the verdant woods of our glorious island; merry-go-rounds, which the children and, indeed, the grown folks, enjoy riding round on prancing steeds and wild animals; punching machines

to test the strength; target-shooting; ring-throwing for canes, Japanese ball rolling, and many other happy amusements.

Then there is the tin-type tent where you may have your photograph taken in a bathing suit or an automobile (according to taste).

The dance halls, the vaudeville performances, etc., all contribute amusement to the pleasure seeker.

The large Casino at Midland Beach has recently been utilized as a skating rink, and daily at this place a large number of young folks find diversion and healthful exercise.

There is a great long pier at South Beach where one may fish and be well compensated for his labor; or, if not tempted by this sport, may enjoy the glorious sea breeze that fills one with life and vigor.

Fine board walks line the full extent of the beaches, and here, on a pleasant day, may be found many loiterers watching the numerous bathers that are enjoying the gentle surf of the bay, while others linger to hear the fine music rendered by the band or listen to the dashing of the waves along the sands.

If one is hungry and does not care to dine heartily, his desire may be gratified at any of the restaurants, where he can always obtain good oysters (from Blue Points to Saddle Rocks), or delicious clams, clam broth, chowder, etc., or mayhap he will only care for a cup of good coffee and a sandwich, which he can easily obtain.

All kinds of dinners are served in open air terraces. Chief among these are the Italian dinners, with their mysterious little side dishes and good wine, served you by dark-eyed natives of Sunny Italy. Also the German dinners, where

you have music and vaudeville in combination with the good style of German eating and drinking.

There are also numerous other restaurants kept by many other nationalities where one may please his palate.

Then, when one who has satiated his longing for sea-breeze, he returns to his home by trolley or train through the beautiful country, redolent with the perfume of wild flowers, and is impressed with the glory of the green woods (that skirt the road) and the joyous inhabitants thereof, flitting about from tree to tree, and he feels satisfied that the day has been well spent.

## THEATRES

**I**N the heart of Stapleton, a thriving village on the shores of the Narrows, is located the chief winter amusements of the Island.

A small theatre, managed by Messrs. Conness and Edwards, has given much pleasure to the people. An excellent company and well selected plays draw a full house at every performance, of which there is one six evenings during the week, and a matinée on each Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

The theatre is tastefully decorated, the seats comfortable, and the place well-ventilated.

There is a new play each week. Real comedies for those who desire only to laugh. Serio-comedies for those who desire sentiment, and tragedies for the serious-minded. In fact, plays are presented to suit the taste of every kind of theatre-goer.

On the North Shore, Port Richmond, is the Bijou Theatre, where one can enjoy a vaudeville performance any evening of the week, or a moving picture show any afternoon.



## WOMEN'S CLUBS

BLANCHE M. HARRIS

THE women of Staten Island have interested themselves at various times in the formation of Women's Clubs, which have represented some time the social, literary, musical and philanthropic life of the Island. The threadbare argument against Women's Clubs have met their best refutation in the fine results these clubs have attained. They have not only sought for and secured the advancement of their individual members, but have reached out helping hands in many directions, and to-day they represent the most progressive methods of conducting and distributing charity which New York knows.

### THE WOMEN'S LITERARY CLUB OF PORT RICHMOND

The Women's Literary Club of Port Richmond was organized Sept. 19, 1903, in the Parsonage of the Reformed Church of Port Richmond. Mrs. Ruth Treadwell Berg was the mother of the organization and served for two years as president.

The club was formed with ten charter members, six of whom are still active in the club work. The membership now numbers one hundred and eleven, with four honorary members, of whom the club is justly proud, Mrs. Edwin Markham, Mrs. Florence Morse Kingsley, Mrs. Stephen D. Stephens and Mrs. Francis Brewer. The name of Miss M. Erwin, who guided the club in its pioneer days, is also soon to be added to this list.

This club has not engaged in the great world's work

pursued by so many federated clubs. It has advocated but one public measure—a petition to the Public Service Commission, asking them to induce the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to place gates at the unprotected crossings in Port Richmond.

The mission of the Club has been to promote social and intellectual intercourse and to extend the hand of friendship and hospitality to the women of the community.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month in the Reformed Church Chapel, when a business meeting, followed by a literary and musical program, is enjoyed by the members and their guests. This is followed by a social hour, which has been especially designed to promote a spirit of cordiality and comradeship.

#### PHILIMON LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Philimon Literary Club was organized March 18, 1897, through the efforts of Miss Lillie Warford, at whose home the organization was effected. Mrs. Cynthia M. Little was the first president.

Formed with only the thought of literary culture, the Club later widened its usefulness. The first circulating library on the Island was started at Tottenville through the instrumentality of the Club, and this nucleus gave the first Carnegie Library in Richmond County.

The members have worked untiringly to secure an appropriation for the care and perpetuation of the old historic Billopp House, which was erected in 1668. In this was held the only peace conference assembled during the Revolutionary War, Major Howe, representing King George, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Edward Rutledge being present. Through the agency of the man who built this house and whose name it bears, Staten Island became

a territorial possession of the province of New York, thus making it possible to incorporate it in recent years into the City of New York.

The Club consists of one hundred and five members, and was federated with the New York City organization in 1903, and with the New York State organization in 1907. Its name was changed in 1909 to the Philimon Literary and Historical Society.

#### THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF STATEN ISLAND

The Woman's Club of Staten Island was organized in 1893, with nine members, under the presidency of Mrs. George William Curtis. It was federated the next year and became a corporated organization in 1896, with a membership of nearly one hundred. The first meetings were held in the Old Village Hall, then in the Brighton Heights Seminary, and in 1897 in the St. George Bank Building, where it still finds its home, though it hopes in the near future to have an adequate club house.

It is now composed of one hundred and thirty members, and its work is accomplished through three departments, that of literature, whose members study and write upon appointed themes, and discuss the questions of the day; that of music; and that of philanthropy, which has made the Woman's Club of Staten Island one of the most prominent in the State. It has built and owns a beautiful Day Nursery building, where over one thousand children are cared for each year, and in which sewing classes, mothers' meetings, and employment and clothing bureaus for the poor are conducted. It has co-operated in the establishment of a public playground, where over eleven thousand children have been kept during the summer from the streets and given healthful vent to their activities. It has

engaged a teacher during the winter months to help the children of the public school, to overlook their sports, after school hours, and to provide cocoa and crackers to those insufficiently fed. It has provided a fund to help the worthy poor with coal and groceries in times of necessity and it has reached out many other arms of usefulness.

The Club holds monthly meetings of its departments, and a general meeting each month, when a musical program is presented, followed by a social hour. Once a year a President's Day is held, when the hospitality of the Club is especially extended to the Presidents of other Clubs and an interchange of ideas encouraged.

The Club has become a recognized power in the community, and many notable movements have been launched to success under its auspices.

#### THE RICHMOND BOROUGH ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN TEACHERS

The Richmond Borough Association of Women Teachers was organized in 1907, mainly through the efforts of Miss Margaret L. Lynd, who called the first meeting in Curtis High School. Miss Katharine L. Osincup, Mrs. Jessie I. Yates, Miss Dina H. Hope, Mrs. Clara V. Fach and Miss Clara H. Whitmore, with Miss Lynd as Chairman, formed the first executive board, and are still serving in that capacity. It is to these ladies that the club owes much of its progress and popularity.

The objects of the Association are to promote a higher intellectual and ethical culture throughout the borough; to maintain a feeling of good fellowship among the teachers; and to promote the professional interests of the members.

The meetings are the second Friday of each month, from

October till May, inclusive, at 8 P. M. in the Woman's Club, St. George.

The membership is 202. Officers:

President—Clara H. Whitmore, Fox Hill Villa, Fort Wadsworth.

Vice President—Katharine L. Osincup, Bement Avenue, West New Brighton.

Secretary—Elsie Gardner, West New Brighton.

Treasurer—Josephine Daily, 40 Westervelt Avenue, New Brighton.

Chairman of Executive Board—Margaret L. Lynd, 156 Third Street, New Dorp.

## ASSOCIATIONS OF GENERAL INTEREST

THE STATEN ISLAND ASSOCIATION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**O**RGANIZED as the Natural Science Association of Staten Island on November 12, 1881.

Reorganized and incorporated as the Staten Island Association of Arts and Sciences, May 17, 1905. (Chapter 526, Laws of New York, 1905.)

Members of the Board of Trustees for 1908-9:

Howard Randolph Bayne, president; Charles Arthur Ingalls, treasurer; Arthur Hollick, secretary; John Blake Hillyer; Philip Dowell; William Armour Johnston; William Thompson Davis; George Scranton Humphrey; William Hinman Mitchell; Stafford Clarence Edwards; Samuel McKee Smith; Samuel Alexander Henszey; John DeMorgan.

The President of the Borough of Richmond, Hon. George Cromwell, and District Superintendent of Schools in the Borough of Richmond, Darwin Long Bardwell, *ex-officio*.

Membership about 330, including 5 patrons, 2 life, 4 corresponding and 2 honorary members. The remainder active members.

The Association holds regular meetings on the third Saturday evening of each month from October to May, inclusive. The sections of the Association hold meetings at their own pleasure. Three sections have been organized for the prosecution of special lines of work, Biology, Art, Literature.

The Museum and Library are housed in room 309, Borough Hall, St. George. The Museum is believed to be the best equipped and most complete local institution of its

kind in the country, and the Library is exceedingly valuable for scientific reference work. It is open to the members at all reasonable times and to the public in the afternoons of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and all day Saturday of every week.

The City has each year for the past two years appropriated \$4,000 for equipment and maintenance.

In every part of the Island are found clubs and societies of various kinds, and it may be a matter of some surprise to residents of other boroughs that within the county is maintained one of the most flourishing agricultural societies in the State.

In 1895 the Richmond County Agricultural Society was formed for the purpose of bringing the inhabitants into closer touch with each other and of utilizing the acreage that then lay waste. The County Fair is held annually in September, beginning on Labor Day and lasting a week. It is a genuine County Fair and a sight worth visiting, especially for the person who has always lived in the crowded city.

## A FEW STATEN ISLANDERS

SPACE has limited the number of persons chosen for mention in this first volume of "Staten Island and Staten Islanders," and it has been an extremely difficult task to make the best selection. Among so many who are furthering a spirit of helpfulness and progress it has seemed herculean, but at last a compromise between "space limitation" and inclination was effected and a brief mention of the best known writers, of the three men who know Staten Island as none others know it, and one politician, who is a politician in the best sense of the term, and two public spirited citizens is the result.

In our subsequent editions we hope to tell you about other Staten Islanders.

### EDWIN MARKHAM

Edwin Markham, the poet, who needs no introduction to a New York public, resides in Westerleigh, in a beautiful cottage, which has been recently completed. He was born in Oregon City, Ore., April 23, 1852.

During his boyhood and early manhood he worked at farming, blacksmithing, herding and sheep raising, and earned his way through the common and normal schools. He devoted much time to the study of ancient and modern history and sociology. In 1897 he married Anna Catherine Murphy, a teacher and writer of verse and stories.

Since early boyhood he has written poetry and his poems breathe of the spots he loved or the great questions which





FLORENCE MORSE KINGSLEY



have vexed mankind for centuries, but which the great hearted poet feels as few can feel. In the earlier years he taught school, but soon devoted himself to literature. "The Man with the Hoe," "Lincoln," and "Field Folks," are among his writings.

He is widely known as a poet, a prose writer, and a lecturer. He is deeply interested in the child labor problem.

Mrs. Markham still writes and is at present contributing a series of articles to the *Designer*.

They have one son, Vergil.

#### WILLIAM WINTER

Was born at Gloucester, Mass., July 15, 1836. He was the son of Charles and Louisa Winter, and received his elementary education in the public schools, and at Harvard and Brown Universities. In 1860 he married Elizabeth Campbell. They have five children, four sons and one daughter.

He has been the dramatic critic and reviewer of the *New York Tribune* since 1865. He wrote, "Shakespeare's England," "Gray Days and Gold," "Old Shrines and Ivy," "Life and Art of Edwin Booth," etc., etc.

He has taken a great interest in Staten Island Academy and was until 1906 a trustee. The Winter Memorial Library is his gift.

His address is the *New York Tribune*, New York City.

#### FLORENCE MORSE KINGSLEY

Every reader of those delightful books, "The Transfiguration of Miss Philura," "The Resurrection of Miss Cynthia," and "The Singular Miss Smith," will be glad to learn more of Mrs. Kingsley.

She lives in Westerleigh, where she prefers to be known

only as the wife of the Rev. Charles Rawson Kingsley, the pastor of the Deems Memorial Church at that place.

She is pleasant and unassuming, very approachable and frequently appears before the local clubs, where her stories never fail to please.

She was born near Medina, O., July 14, 1859, daughter of Jonathan Bradley and Eleanor Morse; and educated at Whitestown Seminary and at Wellesley College. She was married in 1882 to Rev. Charles Rawson Kingsley. She is a prolific writer and a frequent contributor to current magazines. Her last book is "The Queer Browns."

#### GEORGE DAULTON

Was born in Missouri of English descent and Southern parentage, during the hardships of war and the settlement of a new country. He inherited a taste for writing from both his parents, his father being editor of a Southern paper, and his mother implanting in him a reverence for the English classics so early in childhood that the music of the uncomprehended phrases held his fancy until he was inspired into an understanding of them. Being physically frail, his education was almost wholly at home, and after the unsettled boyhood, in the retirement of his own library. His first published productions were on Shakespearian and dramatic subjects. Subsequent poems and stories for periodicals led him into magazine writing as a profession. He married Agnes Warner McClelland, a writer of Cleveland, and as their work developed it became necessary for them to remove from Chicago to the wider literary field of New York.

The range of his work is from the thoughtful to the fanciful, from poems and essays to practical business stories of banking and mining for men; and again to the fantastic

and weird. Mr. Daulton has an inborn fondness for the city, and also for the sea, and in his Staten Island home he has for six years found the best way to blend the two.

#### AGNES McCLELLAND DAULTON

Was born at New Philadelphia, Ohio, in the Tuscarawas Valley, with the historic village of Gnadenhutten on one hand, in the quaint community of Zoar on the other, and in a family keenly appreciative of humor and personal anecdote, which they drew from the earliest settlement of Ohio.

After receiving her education at Oberlin, Mrs. Daulton began writing and drawing to amuse herself during a prolonged illness. The first story and the first sketch sold; and from that time she became a regular contributor to a number of periodicals. While living in Cleveland, she became a member of the Women's Press Club of Ohio, and was married to George Daulton, of Chicago. She has written and illustrated numberless stories for children, and these books on nature, "Wings and Stings;" "The Autobiography of a Butterfly;" and "Dusk Flyers." She is the author of the "Philamaclique" stories published in the *Outlook*, stories drawn from the delightful material with which she was familiar in her childhood. Of late she has been working for young people again. The *St. Nicholas* has published three serials by Mrs. Daulton in rapid succession, which the *Century* Company are bringing out in book form: "From Sioux to Susan;" "Frilze;" and "The Gentle Interference of Bab;" while these were appearing in *St. Nicholas* others were running for younger children in "Little Folks;" "The Things Moppet Did;" "Bobbie and Joy and Pester Peter;" and "The Capers of Benjy and Barbie." Mrs. Daulton is a member of the

Fortnightly Club and has lived on Staten Island for six years in one of the old places overlooking the bay.

#### REV. GUY A. JAMIESON

Mr. Jamieson is at once a successful author and an earnest preacher. He is rector of St. Stephen's Church, Tottenville, where his earnest sermons attract attention.

He was born in Arkansas, and early in life was thrown on his own resources. He gladly did what opportunity offered to be done. First as a farm hand, then on a railroad, next as a teacher and an editor, and finally as a minister, the same earnestness and conscientious attendance to duty stamped his character.

His literary career is only beginning, but is rich in promise. He has had many short stories published and one novel, "At the Edge of the Yellow Sky," and has another in preparation which will be brought out within a few months.

#### ETTA ANTHONY BAKER

Like Mr. Jamieson, is a new comer into the literary field, but her stories are so delightfully original, that a mention of local writers without her would be incomplete.

Mrs. Baker writes only for recreation. She began writing by accident—through having called upon an author. Her children's stories have been well received and she is gaining recognition among the best magazines. She is vivacious, and charming in manner, and these qualities reflect themselves in her writings. The future seems bright for the young writer.

#### ANNA SHAW CURTIS

In the Curtis home on Bard Avenue, West New Brighton, Anna Shaw Curtis, widow of George William Curtis, lives

her happy, useful life. She takes an active interest in local affairs, is a member of the Local School Board, District 45, and well known as a philanthropist.

Her daughter, Elizabeth Burril Curtis, lives with her.

#### ARTHUR HOLLICK, PH. B., PH. D

Arthur Hollick was born on Staten Island and has always resided here. He graduated from Columbia College School of Mines, class of 1879, with the degree Ph. B., receiving the degree Ph. D. from Columbia (now George Washington University), Washington, D. C., in 1897.

He is now assistant geologist in the United States Geological Survey and curator in the department of Fossil Botany, in New York Botanical Garden. He is an active member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; of the Geological Society of America; of the Botanical Society of America; of the New York Academy of Science; of the Torrey Botanical Club; of the American Association of Museums; and of the Staten Island Association of Arts and Sciences. He was one of the organizers of the latter in 1881, and has served continuously as its secretary ever since.

He has always been active in civic affairs. He served as a member of the New Brighton Board of Health from 1886 to 1892, and was a member of the Richmond County Park Commission (Vice-president 1897-1900, President 1901). He assisted in organizing the Good Government and Citizens' Union Movements on Staten Island. He was elected a member of the Board of Education in 1907 and is still serving.

He has traveled extensively through the United States and Alaska in connection with work for the U. S. Geological Surveys, and the State Geological Surveys of New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Louisiana.

Immediately after graduation at Columbia College he served as private assistant to Dr. J. S. Newberry, in the Department of Geology, and was subsequently appointed instructor in Geology until appointed Curator of the Department of Fossil Botany in the New York Botanical Garden in 1901.

He is the author of numerous papers in botany and geology, particularly of New Jersey, New York and New England, and many government reports and monographs.

#### HOWARD R. BAYNE

Staten Island has not had the honor to be represented in the State Legislature by one of her own citizens since 1873 until 1909, when Howard R. Bayne was elected State Senator, an office entirely unsought by him. While there he has been untiring in promoting the interests of Richmond whenever possible, and has worked hard to have the bill providing for the preservation of the Billopp House enacted into law. Whether this property will be purchased and turned over to the city for a park and museum at this writing can not be determined.

Howard R. Bayne was born at Winchester, Virginia, upwards of fifty years ago. He breathed in his youth the air of statesmen and public men; in that fine old State he imbibed Democratic principles of the genuine type, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather being Democrats.

He was the son of Mary Ellen Ashby and Charles Bayne. He is descended from the Popes, Turners, Strothers, Meneffes, Dabneys, Stuarts, Wades, Savages and Thorntons, all old and well known families in Virginia.

In his youth, after taking the preparatory course at Richmond College, Richmond, Virginia, he took the full college course and graduated therefrom in 1872, receiving



the academic degree of M. A. During his college course he carried such honors as the best debater's medal, salutatorian and final orator. After his collegiate course he was principal of the Pampatike Academy, in King William County, Virginia. He subsequently took a law course under Professor John B. Minor, the celebrated teacher of law at the University of Virginia, and in 1879 took the professional degree of B. L. at Richmond College. He was admitted to the Richmond Bar in 1879 and practiced there for some years. In 1882 he left the Capital of Virginia and took his residence in the City of New York. Here he was admitted to the New York Bar in July, 1882, and has practiced at the Bar of this State continuously ever since.

In 1886 he married Miss Lizzie S. Moore, of Richmond, Virginia, daughter of Dr. Samuel Preston Moore.

He is member of the New York City Bar Association, the Sons of the Revolution, Society of Colonial Wars, Richmond County Club House, Virginia Historical Society, vestryman of the Christ Church, New Brighton; the Staten Island Association of Arts and Sciences, of which he has been president for many years; Society of the Cincinnati, counsel to the Richmond Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, vice-president of the New York City Committee of the State Charities Aid Association and chairman of the Richmond County branch.

He was twice elected president of the State Society, "The Virginians," in New York, and for many years he has been one of the governors of New York Southern Society. For many years also he was a trustee of the Staten Island Academy. He is a director of the Prospect Park Bank of Brooklyn.

In 1905 he was appointed by Governor Higgins a member of the Probation Commission of the State of New York,

and while such was the draftsman of the first General Probation Law that was submitted to the legislature.

This bill, while not passed, became the type of the general measure now in force. Mr. Bayne is also an author, having while he was a member of the Virginia Bar, edited Converse's Indexes (Virginia and West Virginia Law) and was a joint author of the "Travels of Ego and Alter," describing a walking tour of 800 miles through the State of Virginia, taken by himself and Dr. Peyton H. Hoge. Mr. Bayne is also the author of monographs, "The Year 1619 in the Colony of Virginia," "A Rebellion in the Colony of Virginia," published by the New York Society of Colonial Wars, and a number of other papers. He has also contributed numerous articles on legal subjects to various periodicals. Mr. Bayne has been prominently connected with numerous movements for the uplift of social and civic conditions in this community.

#### WILLIAM T. DAVIS

William T. Davis was born in New Brighton, where he still resides. He is thoroughly conversant with the Island and has contributed much to the local literature.

His little volume "Days Afield on Staten Island" was published in 1892 and is widely read. The Natural Science Association of Staten Island published a paper on the "Homestead Graves of the Island," and one entitled "Staten Island Names, Ye Olde Names and Nicknames," and supplements to these papers. Mr. Davis has contributed many articles on the natural history of the Island to the proceedings of the Staten Island Association of Arts and Sciences.

## IRA K. MORRIS

Mr. Ira K. Morris resides at West New Brighton. He is a lecturer and writer of ability. His "Memorial History of Staten Island" is the standard work of reference and entitles him to a high place among historians. His lectures on local history draw large audiences, because of his able and impartial treatment of his subjects. He has contributed much to the historical literature of the Island.

## SIDNEY FULLER RAWSON

Sidney Fuller Rawson was born at Schroon Lake, Essex County, New York, December 15th, 1843. He served from June, 1862, to June, 1865, as a soldier in the 118th New York Volunteers in the Civil War, and is a member of Gordon T. Thomas Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. At the close of the War he entered as a law student with Hon. Byron Pond, at Elizabethtown, Essex County, New York, and was admitted to the Bar at Plattsburgh in May, 1867, and removed to Staten Island immediately and became associated with Lot C. Clark and Alfred DeGroot in the practice of law at Port Richmond and in New York. He was elected District Attorney of Richmond County and served one term, three years, and declined renomination. In December, 1893, he was admitted to practice in Supreme Court of the United States. He was a Director in the First National Bank of Staten Island for many years and is now an Advisory Director in the Corn Exchange Bank. He was Counsel to the Board of Police of Richmond County, Board of Supervisors, Board of Trustees of New Brighton and Port Richmond, and has acted as Counsel for many other public corporations, such as: The Staten Island Savings Bank, S. R. Smith Infirmary, Mariners' Family Asylum, Staten

Island Building, Loan & Savings Association, and Sailors Snug Harbor. He is a member of the Staten Island Club. He is a Democrat in politics and has been a prominent political speaker in the various campaigns since coming to Staten Island. His law firm, DeGroot, Rawson and Stafford, is one of the oldest, if not the oldest firm, in the City of New York. Mr. Rawson resides on Heberton Avenue, Port Richmond.

Mr. Rawson is a public speaker of ability, and is frequently heard before Staten Island audiences. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to the development of Staten Island.



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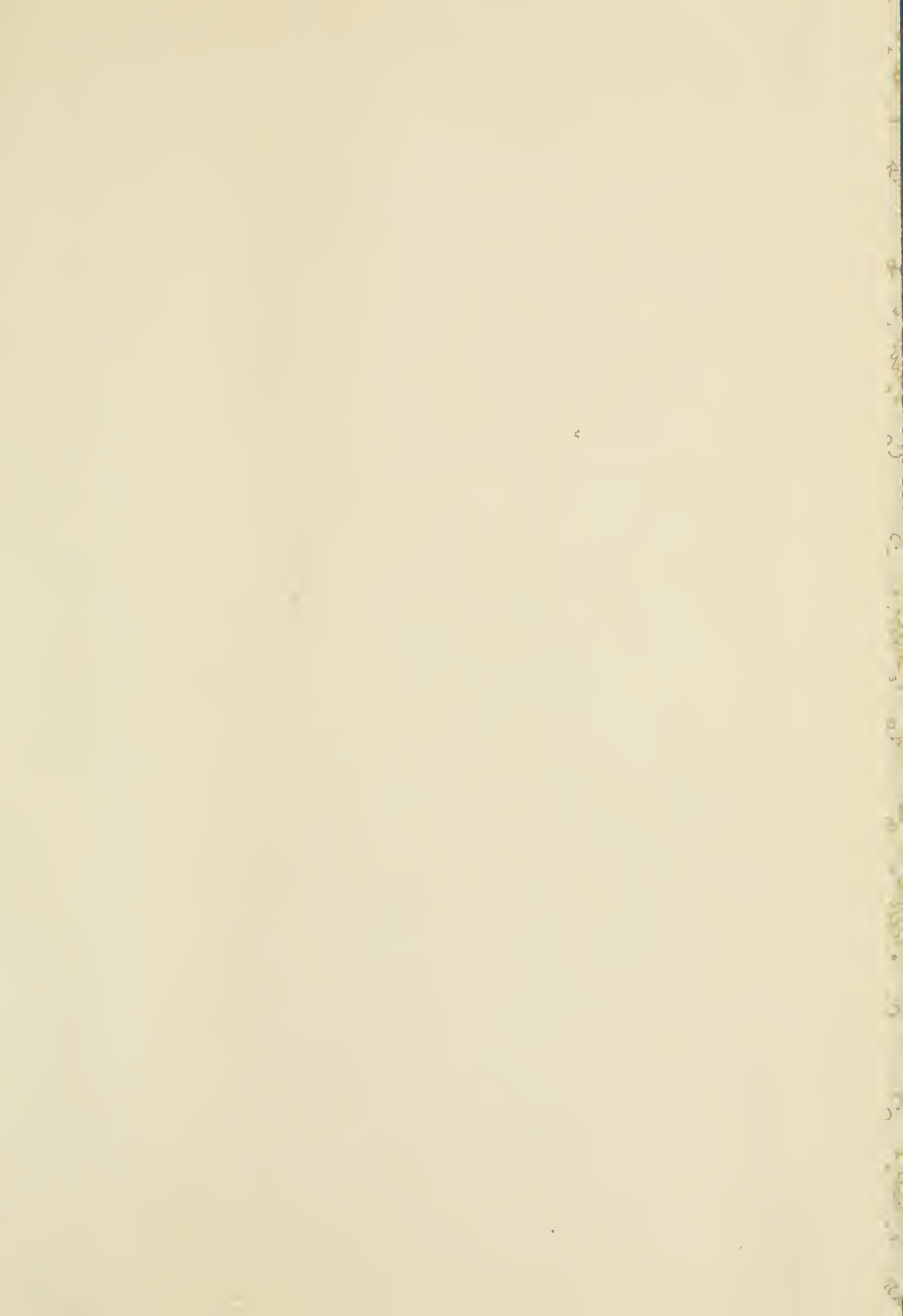
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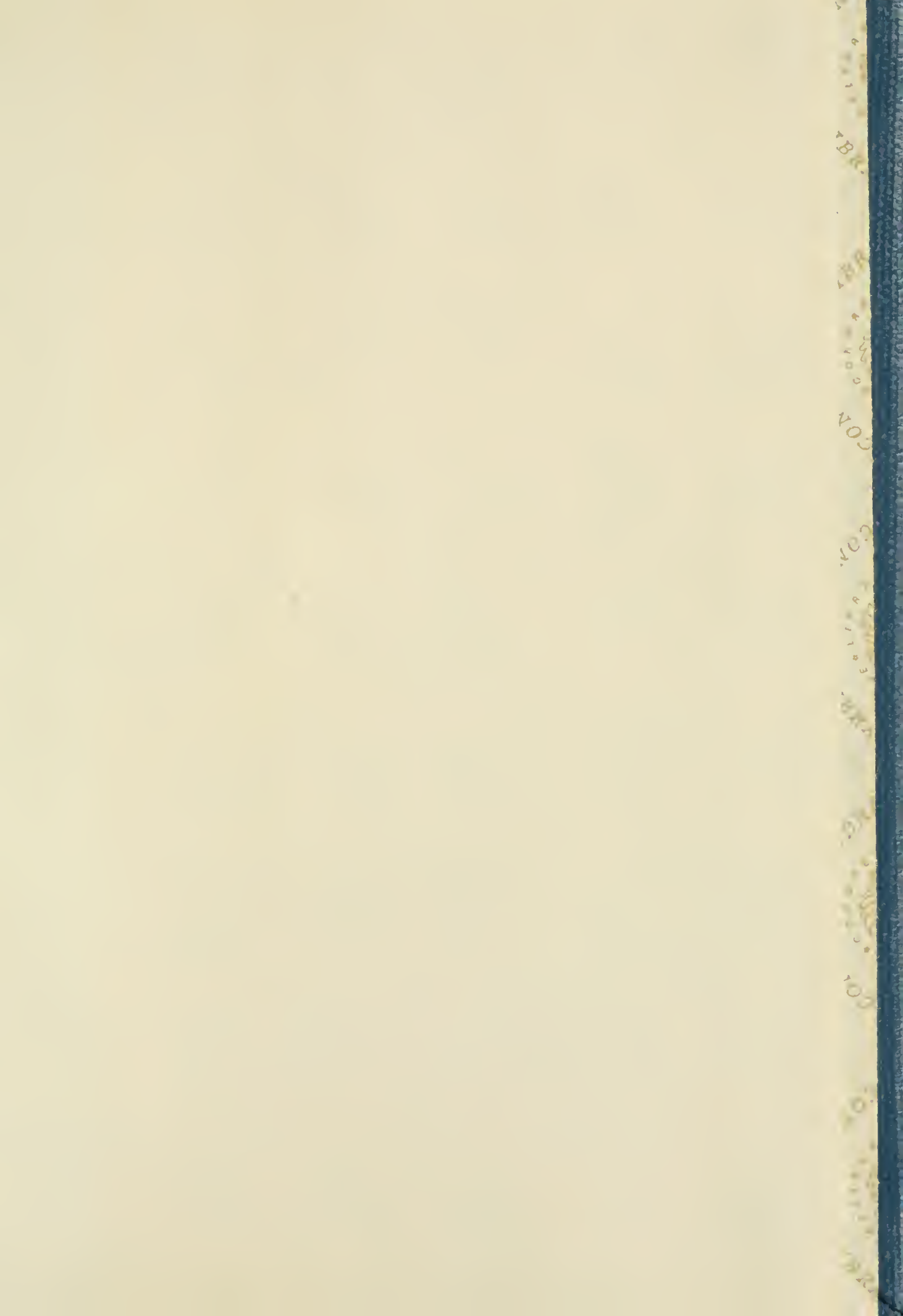
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