THE DUKES COUNTY INTELLIGENCER

Published by
DUKES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.
EDGARTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

MARTHA'S VINEYARD IN 1792—A DIARY
by
WILLIAM BUTLER

THE WESLEYAN GROVE CAMP GROUND
SOME OLD PHOTOGRAPHS
CURATOR'S REPORT—ACCESSIONS, 1965-1966

Nov. 1966
Vol. 8, No. 2
DUKES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

NELSON COON ........................ President
GEORGE H. CHASE .................... Vice President
JOHN W. OSBORN ...................... Treasurer
DAVID HUGO ........................ Secretary

DOBBIE S. HUGH ........................ Term expires 1889
FLAVEL M. GIFFORD .................. Term expires 1889
ALLAN KENSTON ...................... Term expires 1888
DR. SIDNEY N. RIGGS ................. Term expires 1888
ALFRED HALL ........................ Term expires 1887
GALE HUNTINGTON ................... Term expires 1887

MISS DOROTHY R. SCOVILLE ............ Curator
GEORGE H. CHASE ...................... General Counsel
FLAVEL M. GIFFORD .................. Genealogist
HENRY BEETLE HUGH .................. Historian

DR. SIDNEY N. RIGGS, Cover Artist

DUES
Active members ........................ $3.00 annual dues
Sustaining members .................. $10.00 annual dues
Life members ........................ $50.00

The Intelligencer will be mailed free to all members of the Society. Non-members may purchase it for fifty cents a copy.

This Society is supported entirely by membership dues, gifts, and bequests.

Your gift or bequests will be deeply appreciated and should be made to the “Dukes County Historical Society, Inc.” All such contributions are deductible under Federal Income Tax Law.

Material from the Intelligencer may be republished provided that credit is given to the author and to the Dukes County Historical Society.

MARTHA’S VINEYARD IN 1792—A DIARY
by
WILLIAM BUTLER

William Butler was born on Farm Neck in 1761. Farm Neck comprised much of what is now the town of Oak Bluffs, but then and long afterwards it was part of Edgartown.

William Butler kept this diary between January 1, 1792 and October 8 of the same year, and during that time he courted and married Rebecca Smith of Pohoganut.

Notes and editorial comment by Gale Huntington have been included with the text as a sort of running commentary. The diary itself has been changed as little as possible. Some punctuation has been added for the sake of clarity, and a few unnecessary capital letters have been eliminated. The spelling remains entirely unchanged, and some of that spelling is most interesting in view of the fact that among his numerous other occupations William Butler was a school teacher.

The diary was transcribed by Linda Timmins. Miss Timmins also suggested the elimination of footnotes and the inclusion of the commentary with the text. Parenthetical material has been supplied.

Sunday, January 1, 1792. (Went to see) Mrs. Daggett on the East side of the Harbor on a visit—discouraging on Religion and the enjoyment of feelings resulting from the same. She said she thought herself a Christian if not a Christian ten times a day—Cannot but have some charity for the old lady yet thought it an odd way of expressing Christian feelings—

Reading “The Italian Convert,” news from Italy of a second Moses or the life of Gallicæus Carracci with the noble Marquis of Nico containing his Admirable Conversion from Popery and forsaking a rich Marquisdom for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Written first in
Italian then translated into Latin and for the benefit of our people put into English and published.

The east side of the harbor was also sometimes called the east side of Holmes Hole and sometimes just the east side. Holmes Hole was the west side of the harbor. Later the east side came to be called Eastville.

Tuesday Jan. 3. Mr. Thaxter preached a lecture at Shubael Nortons — heard but part of the sermon. Employ'd in the afternoon fixing up a room for Isaak Norton to live in in Parker's House —

Mr. Thaxter was the Rev. Joseph Thaxter, perhaps the best remembered and best loved of all the Island's ministers. He had been a chaplain at the battle of Bunker Hill, and also through most of the Revolutionary War as a chaplain in the Continental Army. Although he was the pastor of the Edgartown church he also preached quite regularly in Holmes Hole as well as in private homes in the sparsely settled areas of both Edgartown and Tisbury.

Wednesday Jan 4. Nothing remarkable —

Thursday Jan. 5. Esq. Athearn called me out of school. Esq. Athearn said he had heard that there had been landed here a barrel of Sugar — wanted information concerning it —

This evening there were a collection of people at the wido Davis's to partake of a supper — cost 9 pence for the supper — (and) a price of 6 pence for the liquor — the Wido I think made a good saving. Cant help thinking it (was) for gain notwithstanding it was given out to the contrary —

Sunday Jan. 8. On the West side — Saw a French Lady at D. Nortons from St. Marks West Indies bound to Boston — Supposed to be a Lady of fortune. There was a French Gentleman with her — They were going to take their land tacks as the Sailor phrases it for Boston — She said she was a wido — was of a swathy complexion — appeared far from Delicate.

Monday Jan. 9. Over the harbor. Left 9 dollars with Wm. Smith to go to Bedford for a saddle — Set out for Mr. Smiths half an hour after 2 o'clock — got up there 4 in the afternoon. Miss Smith was down to her brothers — Brought her up to her dady's eight o'clock of the evening. Spent the night very agreeably at her house —

Bedford was the original name of the village on the Acushnet River that later became New Bedford. William Smith who was to go to Bedford for the saddle was probably the master of a packet plying between Holmes Hole and the mainland. The Mr. Smith was Samuel Smith of Pohoganut. Banks (vol. III, p. 442) calls him gentleman. Gentleman, according to the social ranking of the time, was a step above yeoman and perhaps two steps above plain farmer. Mr. Smith was also Rebecca Smith's father, and it was Rebecca whom William was courting. Samuel Smith was also the father of Ann who subsequently married Joseph Thaxter. So later on William Butler and Parson Thaxter became brothers-in-law.

Tuesday Jan. 10. Employ'd keeping school — felt very sleepy in the first part of the evening but getting into a train of thoughts caus'd it to forsake me not long afterwards.

Wednesday Jan. 11. Very cold — A singular instance took place this day in school as the scholars stood up spelling. James Johnson struck Jethro Coffin over the head with his hand, being vex't with him for pulling hair he said, as he was hanging up his slait. I think it was not owing to my not keeping order in school but to the ungarded disposition of the boy.

Jethro Coffin we can identify. He was twelve years old when James Johnson struck him over the head. But the editor can find no record of the Johnson boy. He may well have been an Indian as most people on the Island of that name, at that time, were. And the Sengekontacket Indian village on Major's Cove was close enough to the Butler farm so that some at least of the Indian children may have gone to William's school.
Thursday Jan. 12. Cold weather. Took particular care of cattle & c. Find it will not do to trust boys feeding and watering cattle — Looks like snow — We have had no snow as yet worth speaking of —

Friday Jan. 13. Very hard gale of wind at south-west —

Wednesday Jan. 18. A very severe snow storm. Tarried all night at Eliakim Nortons — bought a colt of him and gave 8 dollars for him in cash and two dollars credit on books for his wintering of him —

Wind at N.W.W. — a gale — hard weather for creatures —

Thursday Jan. 19. Very cold — no school —

Saturday Jan. 21. Still very cold —

Sunday Jan. 22. For three days past as cold as I ever knew it —

Monday Jan. 23. This day I think must be allowed to be as cold a day as ever known in these parts. It now appears to me that I make but small progress in my studies — I have lately been applying my self to English Grammer — Find that by close application with the help of the second part of Websters Institute I can make my self quite master of grammer — but find it hard and almost impossible to confine my mind wholly to that noble Science —


Wed. Jan. 25. The weather moderates a little — Ephraim Butler arrived from Cape Cod — Was cast on shore Thursday Jan. 19 about half way from the clay-pound to race point — There were 5 sail cast away about the same time. N. Daggett cast away on Plumb Island near the going in at New Bury — One at the Silverings (?) Boston Bay. We have had for ten days hard severe weather —


Friday Jan. 27. Nothing remarkable —

Sat. Jan. 28 Pleasant weather — employ’d carting wood —

Sun Jan. 29. Reading W. Woollaston for the second time — Religion of nature — The young people must’er’d and had a singing school —

Monday Jan. 30. Begun school again — warm still weather — Thos. Butler call’d at our house — enquir’d for me —


Wed. Feb. 1. John Homes and Jeruel West arriv’d — they were blown off by the last driving storm with the wind N.E. by N. on the passage from this place to Boston — the greater part of them froze — some more and some less —

Thurs. Feb. 2. Up at Mr. Smiths.

Friday Feb. 3. Major Norton died this day 12 o’clock in the morning —

Sat. Feb. 4. Mr. Mayhew appointed a meeting among the Indians — he preached a sermon —

There were perhaps as many as thirty wigwams of the Sengecon-tuckets on Major’s Cove in 1792. There was also a smaller settlement of Indians on the east side of Lagoon Pond. It was probably to people of both of these groups that Mr. Mayhew preached, and the sermon was undoubtedly in the nature of a memorial for Major Norton. Major Norton was Major Peter Norton (see Banks vol. III, p. 361) who was one of the most important men of his time on the Island. Note that Dr. Banks is in error in giving the date of his death as February 13.

Mr. Mayhew was Zacharia Mayhew whom Banks (vol. II, p. 309) calls “the well-known preacher to the Indians and the last of the ‘Missionary Mayhews.’”

Tuesday Feb. 7. Mr. Thaxter preached at James Butlers —

Wed. Feb. 8. Very hard weather for sheep, being a great
deal of snow on the ground — empty'd looking after cattle, sheep & c. — no school —

In William Butler's time, and for more than a century after his time, sheep were very much left to fend for themselves during the winter. And during such a winter as that of 1792 the death toll among them could be staggering. The financial loss involved was staggering, too, for at that time sheep raising was probably the most profitable Island industry. Fishing and freighting were also important but sheep raising seems to have topped them. Whaling did not become important until nearly thirty years later.

One suspects that William Butler's cattle were also without shelter, but, as Hannah Smith points out in her diary for the year 1823, cattle would come and stand in the lee of the house in the most bitter weather. The sheep, on the other hand, were often out on distant pastures. During that winter William Butler had sheep not only on the home place, but also some on Hines Point, and some as far away as Squibnocket as will be noted later.

Thurs. Feb. 9. Rec'd news of the trial of Cooke and Athearn — that they was acquit'd with honor from the charges brought against them.) Athearn was refer'd to a committee.

Saturday Feb 11. Deep snow —
Tues Feb. 14. St. Valentine's Day — employ'd keeping school — (Following this entry two pages have been torn from the diary.)
Sat. Feb. 25. Mother very sick —
Sun Feb. 26. I must confess that I am not able to shake off meloncholly —
Mon. Feb. 27. A very great thaw —
Tues. Feb. 28. Begun school again —
Wed. Feb. 29. I am still in a low frame of Spirits — A merry heart saith Solomon doeth good like a medicine I should do well to think often on that saying —

Thursday Mar. 1. At Old Town — and up to Mr. Smiths in the evening. Being alone with the old gentleman and lady they mentioned the lines left for their perusal. They said, if we were agreed, they had nothing against it — the old gentlewoman added that she hoped we might make our lives happy by our conduct. I believe it quite out of my power to talk to them on the subject —

Friday Mar. 2. Employ'd keeping school —
Sat. Mar. 3. On the West side — Brought over a saddle and a barrel of flour — Overhauled some West India hides left there to be sold at two dollars a hide — the hides would weigh about twenty pounds on an average — Had some thoughts of buying but darn't risk their being damaged by being tainted. Flour is 35 shillings a barrel.

William Butler, like his father and grandfather before him, was a tanner by trade. So at that time his occupations were four in number. He was a schoolteacher, a tanner, a sheep raiser and a farmer. Though it is doubtful if he himself thought of farming as an occupation. Farming then was a way of life.

Sun. Mar. 4. Very fine weather — taken with a hard pain in my teeth — it lasted two hours — put on pepper and rum — it ceas'd —
Mon. Mar. 5. This day about 11 o'clock Phillip Smith and his son Oliver perish'd in a pilot boat off the East point of Nantucket — wind east and to the southward of it — was supposed they first overset and righted again — the boat drifted in against Jeruel Wests.

William Butler does not explain it, but Phillip Smith and his son froze to death in their wet clothing after they had first overturned and then righted their boat. The editor heard this tradition as a small boy and here it is stated in fact.

Tues. Mar. 6. The time is near when I shall consider my self as being connected with a very worthy family. I cannot think but it must hereafter prove a happy choice let fortune turn as it may —
Wed. Mar. 7. On the West side at (a) funeral — Mr. Thaxter preach'd a funeral sermon in the New Meeting House — He preached from St. John's Gospel 14th ch. 1 st verse — Let not your heart be troubled: Ye believe in God, believe also in me —

Thur. Mar. 8. Employ'd keeping school —

Friday Mar. 9. Stormy weather — This day on an arbitration with Benj. Luce between Sam Norton and Prince Daggett.

Sat. Mar. 10. Employ'd with Ansell Norton holing posts — hard rain — wind easterly —

Mon. Mar. 12. At Old town — DeLever'd at Capt. Smiths (a) formal letter. Up at Mr. Smiths — came away early —

Tues. Mar. 13. Left off keeping school — Mr. Thaxter preach'd at Prince Daggetts —


Thurs. Mar. 15. Rode to New Town and from there to the widow Bassett's — tarry'd all night — their compliments were sparing — I imagine not on account of my company being disagreeable to them but rather a diffidence or the want of a taste for politeness —

Fri. Mar. 16. Came down from Chilmark — wet drizzly weather — Brought down from Bassett's 36½ lb flax being the sixth part of what came off 2 acres (of) ground —

Sat. Mar. 17. Employ'd opening Farm Pond Crick — set it a running —

Sun. Mar. 18. The intention published — looks like rain — Singing School at our house —

The intention published was undoubtedly William's and Rebecca's intention to marry which was probably read by Rev. Thaxter in the Edgartown church. In the previous day's entry the Farm Pond Creek was "set a running" because it was almost time for the herring to arrive.


Tues. Mar. 20. Employ'd getting withes on the Plains —

"Withes" were withes. They were mainly used for making eel pots, but those that William gathered on the Plains may have been for a herring weir. Some heavy basketry was also made of withes. Monday's entry mentions Little Neck. Little Neck was one of the many names that Hine's Point has had. The Indians called it Ucquesessa, and the Hines themselves called it Cedar Neck.

Wed. Mar. 21. Adjournment of the Proprietors of Sandy River — meeting at Capt. Youngs — Yarding sheep in Capt. Nortons place — (on the) West side of the Harbour — brought over 25 lambs — 13 yet lacking of the number turned on the neck — very warm in the middle of the day —

Sandy River is a stream in Maine that flows into the Kennebec not far from Farmington and New Vineyard. The area had only recently been opened to settlement and many Vineyard families were moving there. There was a real exodus from the Island at that time that was caused by two closely related factors: first, something very much in the nature of a population explosion had taken place on the Vineyard, and second, there was very little good land still available.

The land about Sandy River was cheap, quite rich, and free from rocks. It must have seemed a veritable promised land to many Vineywarders. Two of William Butler's uncles had moved there and were among the proprietors. This exodus continued until whaling became very profitable in the 1820's and then, naturally, it ceased.

Thurs. Mar. 22. Up at Mr. Smiths —

Friday Mar. 23. At Esq. Cooke's — talked over town affairs — concluded it was best to chuse Thomas town clerk — he mentioned me for a slect man. Called at E. Nortons — proposed the matter to him — he declined forwarding the matter — he said Ichabod and I must settle the matter
between us — we both stood fair said he — could not blame him for his sincerity —


Monday Mar. 26. Begun to plow by the burying hill —
Spring seems to approach fast with respect to the weather — Esq. Norton arriv’d from Sandy River — brought a packet of letters —

Tues. Mar. 27. Employ’d mending fences —

Wed. Mar. 28. Reading the Prompter — it is really worth perusing — This evening Sarson Butler came to see me concerning note —

Fri. Mar. 30. I find it well to look to our stock in the winter — If creatures once get low in the spring it is hard to get flesh on them before grass comes. Rec’d a few lines from Thomas intimating that he would wish to have me attend town meeting and muster as many others as I can —

April 1 I shall now endeavor to read eight chapters every Sunday by myself and if possible by Divine assistance discover the true meaning and spirit of the Gospel —

Mon. April 2. This day is the day of our annual meeting for chusing town officers — and there was a good deal of business done and a good deal of noise made — Jeremiah, the old man, appears to me to be void of every principle of Goodness and wholly given over to the work of iniquity — hope he may be reformed but doubt this consequence — meeting adjourned to Monday or Tuesday next. Got up to Mr. Smiths 10 o’clock in the evening — found Miss retir’d to her lodgings — but she was complacent enough to get up and spend the remainder of the evening with me —

Perhaps William Butler’s diary may be continued in future issues of the Intelligencer.

CURATOR’S REPORT — ACCESSIONS 1965-1966

When another annual report is due, my principal problem is to sort out all the Historical Society’s many activities and to share with you what a curator does from one annual meeting to the next.

I am warmly grateful for the encouragement of the Society’s officers and for the interest of members. Our Society flourishes only with such support.

This year might be known as our “Year of Publication.” As an important part of our educational efforts, we have republished “Whaling Wives,” the story of Vineyard women who went whaling with their captain husbands, issued another and improved edition of the Martha’s Vineyard Guide, published a special issue of the Intelligencer on Fishes of Martha’s Vineyard and now our biggest effort, republication of Bank’s three volume History of Martha’s Vineyard. All under the supervision of our energetic and knowledgeable president, Nelson Coon. Our sales make these publications possible. We also have added color postcards and slides of the Cooke House which are selling well.

Because we have no intention of competing with local booksellers, we deal only in our own publications.

Our Thomas Cooke house as well as carriage shed, lighthouse and library museum continue to draw sizeable crowds of interested visitors. (Close to 5,000) and their reactions guide us in our operation.

Especially approved is our “see and touch” method of display. So far we have had no breakage problem and have lost nothing of value. The “honor system” seems to impress our visitors, who also compliment the informal, friendly comments of our assistants and the arrangement of our displays.

Miss Debbie White, Miss Linda Timmins and James Tripp again are the efficient members of our summer staff, with Mr. Huntington in the library.
It meant much to a deaf and sightless Perkins student who recently visited us and became acquainted with our museum through her fingertips. It also meant much to a group of children from the cerebral palsy camp who came in wheel chairs. Several adults also have come in wheel chairs and expressed pleasure at getting a glimpse of the Vineyard’s history. This gives us deep satisfaction.

The museum facilities this year are in excellent condition and have needed only minor attention such as painting the pantry floor, hall stairs and some of the trim. We find small repairs done promptly often make larger ones unnecessary.

Our Society recently benefited from the will of the late Francis A. Foster, always a deeply interested member. We are to receive his medals, insignias and diplomas, books with an “especial fitness” to the Society’s library, and a $5,000 trust fund which later will come to the Society.

Some of the other numerous accessions include a scrimshawed pair of porpoise jaws, the gold watch of Capt. Charles Downs and an embroidered picture of his ship, the Bark Petrel, done by his wife, all given by Capt. Downs’ grandson, Henry Downs.

Miss Miriam Butler gave a number of early Vineyard items as well as a beautiful cutwork linen dress, circa 1880.

Miss Louise Meiklehem contributed a dozen articles from the Matthew Mayhew house which her family occupied for many years. Among them is an ancient chair said to have come from the Gov. Mayhew house and documented as 1686.

From Dr. Thomas N. Cross, one of our Life members, came a rare 1784 poll list of the A to C Tisbury residents. Another early document, which is the gift of Sinclair Hamilton, records the settlement of a land boundary controversy in 1708.

Mrs. Howard S. Hart has added a beautiful, inlaid trinket box brought home from China by her ancestor, Capt. Richard Luce for his daughter Abigail, born in 1828. The box bears her initials on the top. Mrs. Hart also gave some scrimshaw and a large Canton ginger jar.

Mr. Henry Beetle Hough, our historian and one of our past presidents, brought in a dory shaped tow car used in the 1800’s by George A. Rogers for keeping fish alive when he took them to market.

Our most recent accession is a blonde, china headed doll, stylishly dressed in the mode of 1884 and once the prized possession of Mrs. Mabel Johnson when she was nine years old. It was given by Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Years.

Altogether we gratefully have received accessions from 30 donors.

To further the dissemination of Vineyard history, the Society is providing an assistant to keep open the Seacoast Defense chapter, DAR museum in Vineyard Haven. Miss Dorris Hough and Miss Frances McGaw, with other chapter members are working on museum improvements and have many choice Vineyard items on display.

Other accessions received from Aug. 1, 1965 to Aug. 1, 1966 — Clam digger used by Maltiah Maythew, Allan Keniston; large storage gourd from Fiji, George Magnuson; tinware candleholder, 1880, Franklin Dyer; photo, Col. Harrison Garrison, early resident of Oak Bluffs, Mrs. Estelle Fitzgerald; Book, “The Only Edgartown” 1907, (Hines), Alexander Victor; Eight post cards early Edgartown, Mrs. A. P. Robbins; Guest book Gay Head Light, 1862 — 1864, Mrs. R. E. Smith; Book, “Flower Arrangement With Antiques,” Nelson Coon; Adams Sisters burgundy velvet basque, Mrs. Rachel Brown; Three spikes from Martha’s Vineyard Railroad, Otto Van Koppenhagen; Flag, 49 stars, C. Stuart Avery. Two color prints of Parish Church, Chilmark, England, Mrs. Weston Howland; Kerosene lantern, 1890’s, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Keniston; Gay Head clay vase, Mrs. Louise K. Emerson; Set of fireplace tools, owned by Martin Van Buren and Thomas Dexter, Albert Prada; Swallowtail coat and vest, and silk hat Mrs. Everett A. Poole.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy R. Scoville
Curator
The site of the Wesleyan Grove Camp Meeting in what had been William Butler’s wood lot, with the speaker’s stand in the background. This photograph was taken when the meetings were still held in the open, and before the trees had been felled to make way for the tabernacle.

The first tabernacle. And as can be seen it was nothing more than a very large circus-type tent. The same speaker’s stand was used inside the tent as had formerly stood in the open grove.
Another view of the inside of the tabernacle with a large congregation of worshipers.

A small family tent and a posed group in the camp ground.
Another tent and family group. Here the tent has the wooden side walls that presaged the coming of the camp ground cottages. Croquet was the popular family game of that period, and it was not considered too ungodly even for Wesleyan Grove.

Two of the large dormitory-type “Society Tents.” These were usually in charge of a minister, and the occupants were the members of his flock. A canvas partition down the middle separated the men and boys from the women and girls.
The interior of a family tent. The furnishings were simple and sparse to say the very least.

A family tent and a family cottage side by side in the camp ground.
Preparation for "illumination night" in the camp ground. This was after most of the tents had given way to cottages.

The horse car on Clinton Avenue. This horse railway made a circuit of the camp ground and took passengers to and from the Highlands Wharf.
Camp Meeting Rules.

The following are the Rules and Regulations for the government of the Wesleyan Grove Camp Meeting, adopted August, 1853, amended August, 1858, and further amended August, 1863.

1. The ground within the circle of the tents is sacredly set apart for religious services. [This, for the time being, is our House of Worship.] There shall be, therefore, no walking to and fro, or gathering together in companies for conversation of any kind, during public worship at the Stand.

2. When the signal shall be given from the Stand for preaching, all exercises in the tents must cease, and the people repair to the seats.

3. The hours for preaching shall be at 10 o'clock, A. M., at 2, P. M., and at 7 in the evening.

4. There shall be a Superintendent appointed by each tent's company, whose duty it shall be to preserve order in his tent, in accordance with the regulations of the meeting.

5. There shall be Family Devotions in each tent, morning and evening, with the reading of the Scriptures.

6. The hours for Meals shall be, Breakfast, at 7 o'clock, Dinner at 12, and Tea at 5-1/2.

7. There shall be no smoking of Tobacco in the tents, nor within the circle of the tents.

8. There shall be a Light kept burning in each tent all night.

9. The Walks for Retirement are, for the Ladies, in the direction in the FRONT OF THE STAND, being a South Easterly direction therefrom, and including the space between the Road leading from the Ground to the East, or nearest Landing, and that leading to the Pond, directly in the rear of the New Bedford County Street Tent, and for the Gentlemen, in the direction in the REAR OF THE STAND, being a North Westerly direction therefrom, and including all the space on this side of the encampment between the two roads above named.

10. The signal will be given each Morning, at 5-1/2 o'clock, for Rising, and each tentmaster is required to see that this rule is enforced in all the tents, large and small, under his supervision.

11. The signal will be given at 10 o'clock in the Evening, at which time all vocal exercises must cease, and all persons not having lodgings upon the Ground must immediately retire from the same.

12. The occupants of each tent, upon retiring for the night, shall place, or cause to be placed, a pail of water at or near the front or rear entrance of their tent, so that the same may be easy of access in case of fire.

Per Order of the Meeting, President.

Secretary.

Re-adopted, August 186.

The rules and regulations of the Wesleyan Grove Camp Meeting in the 1850's and 60's.

Some Publications of the Dukes County Historical Society on Sale at Island Book Stores and in the Society’s Library


Maps and illustrations. 191 p. Paper $2.50.

The Wampumag Indian Tribes of Martha's Vineyard by Milton A. Travers. 78 p., illustrated. Paper $2.00.

The Heath Hen's Journey to Extinction by Henry Beetle Hough. 31 p., Illustrations. Paper $5.00.

The Fishes of Martha's Vineyard by Joseph B. Elvin. 36 illustrations of fishes. Paper $1.00.
