

The Fourth Chapter

American Silversmiths

BOSTON—ALBANY—NEW YORK—PHILADELPHIA
—PROVIDENCE—SALEM—NEWPORT—
BALTIMORE, Etc.

WHEN Captain Newport set out for Virginia (1607) in charge of the First Supply he was accompanied by two goldsmiths, two refiners and one jeweler. They do not appear to have done anything but vainly search for gold.*

Boston was the home of the first goldsmiths. In October, 1652, when Massachusetts undertook to supply the deficiency of specie by a silver coinage, Joseph Jenks, of Lynn, a native of Hammersmith, near London, was employed to make the dies. The money was coined by John Hull, a gold and silver smith, on whose land the Mint House stood, and Robert Sanderson, of Boston.† John Hull was born at Market Harboro, Leicestershire, 1624; arrived at Boston 1635; died 1683. He was not only a goldsmith, but a successful merchant, and one of the founders of the First Church; his mark, together with his partner's, is to be found on silver in the possession of this church, the Old South, the First Church, Dorchester, etc.

* "Economic History of Virginia," Bruce.

† "History of American Manufactures," Bishop.

*"In his business of goldsmith Hull relates that he was able to get his living. This was before his appointment to coin the money of the Colony, which, there is every reason to believe, was very profitable."

He writes in his diary: "After a little keeping at school I was taken to help my father plant corn, which I attended to for several years together; and then, by God's good hand, I fell to learning (by the help of my brother) and to practice the trade of a goldsmith."

"In 1652 the General Court ordered a mint to be set up. And they made choice of me for that employment; and I chose my friend Robert Sanderson to be my partner, to which the Court assented."

Robert Sanderson, or Saunderson, was probably Deacon Robert Sanderson, who died in Boston, 1693.

Another entry in the diary reads:

†"1659. 1st of 5th. I received into my house Jeremie Dummer and Samuel Paddy, to serve me as apprentices eight years."

Jeremiah Dummer was a goldsmith; married in 1672 Hannah Atwater. He was the father of Governor William Dummer.‡

"1673. I accepted Samuel Clark, son of Jonas Clark, as an apprentice for eight years."

§"Without a wish to detract from the well-earned laurels of John Hull, we cannot but think that injustice has been done to the memory of Robert Sanderson by all who have attempted a history of this mint. He was appointed, as Hull states,

*"American Antiquarian Society Records," Vol. III.

†"Archæologia Americana."

‡"Heraldic Journal."

§"The Early Coins of America," Crosby.

at his especial request, as his equal in office (the records frequently mentioning the Mint Masters). In the agreement of June 3rd, 1675, he is first named, and his signature precedes that of Hull; and why all the honors of the office should, in later years, have been accorded to Hull we are unable to imagine."

"Robert Sanderson and Lydia, his wife, were among the earliest settlers in Hampton in 1638. He soon removed to Watertown, and, about the year 1642, married Mary, widow of John Cross. Here he remained until about 1652, when he removed to Boston, where he filled the office of deacon in one of the churches and, Savage says, 'was partner in gainful business with John Hull, the mint master.' His death occurred October 7th, 1693."

Timothy Dwight (born 1654, died 1692), another goldsmith, was in business from about 1685, and it is supposed that he was succeeded by Samuel Burt, his apprentice. He died about 1754. Afterward his son (?), Benjamin Burt, carried on the business. We find the name of John Burt on the Brown loving-cup at Harvard (1731), and on a flagon at King's Chapel, given to the New North Church, 1745; that of W. Burt on a flagon presented to the South Church, 1748, while that of Benjamin Burt is on a tankard presented to the First Church, in Dorchester, 1808. John Foster, an apprentice of Benjamin Burt, commenced business about 1795. He was a deacon of the Old South, and made the Communion service in use at the Second Baptist Church, in Baldwin Place. In the "Annals of King's Chapel" mention is made of one *Cross* "makeing two ps plate," 1695, and *William Cowell* "for Mr. Wats's plate," 1728. The

latter name is on a tankard, the legacy of Mrs. Mary Ireland to the Old South Church, 1763.

Jacob Hurd, goldsmith, of Boston (died 1758), was the father of the celebrated engraver, Nathaniel Hurd (born 1730, died 1777). The elder Hurd's name is on a plate at Christ Church (1732), the First Church, Dorchester (1736 and 1748), and the First and Second Churches, Boston, etc.

Among the list of subscribers to "Prince's Chronology," 1728-36, are Mr. Jacob Hurd, *goldsmith (for six)*, Mr. Andrew Tyler, *goldsmith (for three)*. None of the goldsmiths of Colonial times seem to have depended on their trade alone; they were also engravers of book-plates, cards, bill-heads, dies and seals.

The following advertisement is from the "Boston Gazette," 28th April, 1760:

Nathaniel Hurd Informs his Customers he has removed his shop from Maccarty's Corner on the Exchange, to the back Part of the opposite Brick Building, where Mr. Ezekiel Price kept his Office, where he continues to do all Sorts of Goldsmiths' Work, likewise engraves in Gold, Silver, Copper, Brass, and Steel, in the neatest Manner, at a reasonable Rate.

Hurd probably never married. His brother Benjamin was a goldsmith, as was also his brother-in-law, Daniel Henschman (son of Rev. Nathaniel Henschman), whose mark is on the two chalices presented to the First Church, Boston, by Mrs. Lydia Hancock, and engraved with a coat-of-arms, evidently the work of Nathaniel Hurd.

John Dixwell was the son of Col. John Dixwell, one of the judges of Charles I. The régicide fled to America, and lived at New Haven, where he married (died 1689). In a list of Proprietors of New Haven, 1685, we find the name of John Davids or Dixwell.

The son moved to Boston, where he worked at the trade of a goldsmith. He was one of the founders and officers of the New North Church, and presented a cup to that church, 1717, no doubt made by him; the same initials, **I D**, are to be found on numerous pieces of plate in the possession of King's Chapel, Boston; the First Churches, Dorchester and Boston; and the Old South, Boston, etc., etc., made between 1700 and 1722. He died 1725.

In a footnote in the "New England Magazine," Vol. III., mention is made of MS. by Sl. Davis, of Plymouth, giving the name of a journeyman called Vent, a native of Germany, who excelled in silver-plate engraving. He mentions also Brigdon (C. Brigdens, goldsmith?), Webb, Edwards, Pierpont, Burt, Bowyer (Boyer?), Parker, Belknap, Emery, Holmes, Tyler, Woodward, Frothingham, Codner and though last, not least, Paul Revere.

*Revere's grandfather, a Huguenot, emigrated from France to the island of Guernsey. His son, Apollos Rivoire (born 1702) was, at the age of thirteen, sent to Boston and apprenticed to John Cony, who died 1722. Rivoire did not serve his full apprenticeship, for the administrator of Cony's estate received £40, "Cash for Paul Rivoire's Time." In 1723, at the age of twenty-one, he revisited Guernsey for a short time. On his return he established himself as a gold and silver smith, changing his name to Paul Revere. After he had been in business a few years he married (1729). His third child and eldest son, Paul, was born January 1, 1735. Silverware marked **P. REWERE** and **P. REVERE**, made by Revere senior is still in existence. The "Goodwill" tankard has both

* "Life of Paul Revere," Goss.

marks, and is dated 1749. Three beakers belonging to the Presbyterian Church in Bury Street, dated 1753, are marked REVERE. He was a member of the "New Brick" or "Cockerel Church," and died in Boston, January, 1754.

His son, Paul, received his education at the famous Master Tileston's school. He had a natural taste for drawing, and it was his peculiar business, after learning the same trade as his father, to design and execute all the engravings on the various kinds of silver plate then manufactured.

For many years his skill in design and workmanship in silverware was very extensive. Many are the cups, spoons, mugs, pitchers, tankards, and other articles made by him, and still owned by New England families. He learned the art of copper-plate engraving, producing prints of historical scenes and political caricatures.

At the age of twenty-one he joined the expedition against the French at Crown Point, holding the position of second lieutenant of artillery. During the Revolutionary War he was at first major and afterward lieutenant-colonel in the regiment of artillery raised for the defense of the State after the British evacuated Boston.

After the close of the war, in 1783, he resumed the business of a gold and silver smith, and subsequently opened a foundry at the north end of Boston, on Foster Street, where he cast church bells, brass cannon and ironware, which he continued until 1801, when he and his son, Joseph Warren Revere, established the extensive works on the east branch of the Neponset River, at Canton. They continued this business until the death of Paul, in 1818, when the son founded the Revere Copper Company.

Of the portraits of Revere, that by Copley shows him at the bench, in shirt sleeves, holding a silver cup in one hand, with engravers' tools by his side.

Old silver with the mark **REVERE** is plentiful; it is a question if it was all made by the patriot. In the first issue of the Boston Directory (1789) appears the name of "Thomas Revere, silversmith," a brother; while in the next issue (1796) are found the names, "Edward Revere, silversmith" (son of Thomas?), "Revere & Son, goldsmiths," and "Paul Revere, Jr., goldsmith." Edward Revere, a nephew of Paul, was a silversmith of considerable note. He died 1802-3, and was buried at Copps Hill. On the stone marking his grave mention is made that he was a silversmith. After his death the business must have been continued, as his name appears until 1809.

* The Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association was formed 1795, incorporated 1806. Revere acted as President until 1799. In the list of members are the following gold and silver smiths:

1795, Paul Revere, Jr.,	1834, Samuel L. Ward, Ebed
1801, Samuel Davis, Plymouth,	Whiton,
1806, Thomas K. Emery,	1835, Metcalf Clark,
1809, Jesse Churchill,	1836, Obadiah Rich,
1822, George Welles,	1837, George W. Skerry,
1828, Lewis Cary, Newell	1850, Samuel T. Crosby.
Harding,	

In the Records of the city are:

"1702, Permit to Edward Winslow, Goldsmith; 1727, Liberty is granted to Peter furt, Goldsmith from New York to Reside in this Town to open A Shop and exercise his calling."

* "Annals of Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association," Buckingham.

J. Coburn, a silversmith, living in 1765, married a daughter of old Hugh Vans, the first Dutch citizen of Boston.

Churchill & Treadwell were in business at the commencement of the xix. century and had many apprentices, among whom were Hazen and Moses Morse, Lewis Cary, Benjamin Bailey and others. Hazen Morse succeeded the firm, Mr. Treadwell becoming Rumford Professor at Harvard. In 1820 Hazen Morse sold out to Lewis Cary, carrying on his business as an engraver. Cary's apprentices were E. Whiton, John Farrington, E. Pear, S. Burrill, Newell Harding and H. Andrews.

Moses Morse commenced business about 1816, and had as apprentices Obadiah Rich, H. Haddock, Charles West and J. Millar, retiring in 1830.

Newell Harding, apprentice and brother-in-law of Hazen Morse, was in business 1822, and the first to introduce power in the rolling of silver. He sold out to Ward & Rich 1832. In 1835 Ward retired, Obadiah Rich taking on the business.

In 1838 the firm Haddock & Andrews was formed.

Moulton was the largest retailer at the commencement of the xix. century; Welles & Co., Baldwin & Jones, Stodder & Frobisher (Mr. Frobisher coming from Philadelphia, from Fletcher & Gardiner), who employed as silversmith Peter Thomson, a Scotchman, and Davis & Watson were all in business about this time.

Obadiah Rich made the Cunard and Webster vases, the latter for Jones, Low & Ball, in 1835, retiring from business 1849.

At Albany, in 1784, Balch & Fryer opened a shop near the north gate for the purpose of carrying on the gold and silver smith's business.

At the celebration of the adoption of the Federal Constitution, 1788, the gold and silver smiths were preceded by a carriage bearing a gold and silver smith's shop, twelve feet by seven feet, covered by a canopy supported by pillars seven feet high. All the implements of the art were in the shop, and three artists and an apprentice industriously employed. Their flag was of blue silk, with a coat-of-arms.

Among the names of the members of the "Albany Mechanics' Society," 1793-1826, are the following silversmiths: Isaac Hutton, treasurer, 1793-1808; William Boyd, Timothy Brigden, Thomas Carson, John W. Fryer and Green Hall.

Isaac Hutton, familiarly known as "old Hutton," died at Stuyvesant Landing in 1855, aged 88. In 1818 the copartnership of Thomas Carson and Green Hall was dissolved, Hall entering into business with John D. Hewson. Hall died in 1863. Hewson, who had been alderman, died 1852. S. D. Brower, an apprentice of Hall & Hewson, removed to Troy in 1834, erecting a shop; the goods made by him were sold in New York by Brower & Rusher (Brower being a relative). In 1836 S. D. Brower was induced by Hall & Hewson to return to Albany, the firm becoming Hall, Hewson & Co., and still supplying Brower & Rusher, New York. Brower went to a farm in Saratoga about 1840, a former apprentice, Thomas V. Z. Merrifield, joining the firm under the name of Hall, Hewson & Merrifield. At the death of Merrifield, 1845, Brower returned, when the firm became Hall, Hewson & Brower, afterwards Hall & Brower.

William Boyd, who had been in business for some time, entered into partnership with Robert

Shepherd 1810, under the name of Shepherd & Boyd. They were succeeded by Boyd & Hoyt, then Boyd & Mulford and Mulford & Wendell.

Walter S. Brower, a silversmith still living (retired in 1898), and son of S. D. Brower, writes :

"I have heard my father tell of the orders he used to get: 48 dozen of teaspoons, 24 dozen tablespoons, 20 dozen dessert spoons, 24 dozen table forks, 1 dozen soup ladles, 5 dozen sugar tongs with salt spoons and mustard spoons—not a very bad order even for these times; and then the best of it was, when such an order came, at the bottom of the letter was: 'When you get it done go right on and make it over again till we tell you to stop.'"

Gold and silver smiths were numerous in New York from an early period. The register of Freemen of the city commences September, 1683; the first entries of the craft appear 1698, when five silversmiths took out their Freedom.

Two of the names appear in the entries at Goldsmiths' Hall, London :

"Dan. Christ. Fueter, Chelsea, next door to the Man in ye Moon, 8 Dec., 1753," and "Geo. Ridout, Lombard st., 17 Oct., 1743." It is evidently the mark of the latter on the alms bason at Trinity Church, "Rev. Henry Barclay Presenter, 1747."

In the first Directory, 1786, we find that the

"Gold and Silver Smiths' Society meets on Wednesdays, at the house of Walter Heyer."

"Myer Myers, Chairman; Members,—Samuel Johnson, William Gilbert, Esq., Otto De Perrizang (Otho Parisien ?), William Forbes, John Burger, Daniel Chene, Cary Dunn, Benjamin Halsted, and Ephraim Brasher."

* Ephraim Brasher, whose name is familiar from his connection with the so-called "Brasher Doubloon," was employed by the United States Mint 1792, to make assays "on sundry coins of gold and silver pursuant to instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury" (Alexander Hamilton). He possibly assisted David Ott, whose assay in November, 1792, is on record.

* "Journal of Numismatics."

Among the annals of the city for 1786, compiled from newspapers of the day, we read that

"John Burger, goldsmith, will continue for the ensuing year at the same house, No. 207 Queen Street, near Burling Slip. He solicits orders especially for large plate and gives the highest price for old gold."

"Mr. Montgomery, watch-maker, 33 Wall Street, near the Coffee House, takes orders for Thomas Reynolds of Phil. from those who want their arms, crests or cyphers engraved in any kind of stone for seals."

"Cary Dunn, gold and silver smith, has removed from the corner of Crown Street, to the adjoining corner of Maiden Lane and William Street, No. 31."

"Peter Bellodiére has brought with him from Paris a variety of articles in the jewellery line, such as Gold Chains, Bracelets, and Watch Cases, Diamond Rings, Buckles, Buttons, and Pins, Wedding Rings of a new invention, Gold Necklaces, Stock Buckles, Snuff Boxes, and Needle Cases, Spoons, Medallions, and Sugar Stands, Milk Pots, and Sugar Tongs, Knife-handles, and Salt Cellars, &c. He is at No. 23, the corner of Maiden Lane and William St."

"Peter Maverick, at No. 3 Crown Street, carries on the seal-sinking, engraving, and copper plate printing. Ladies may have their tea-plate engraved in the most elegant manner, resembling the flat chasing, as neat as in Europe."

Peter R. Maverick (1755-1811), called Peter Maverick the 1st, was originally a silversmith; his son Peter Maverick (1781-1831) etched and engraved many book-plates.

* In 1787 an indenture to coin copper for the States of Vermont, Connecticut and New York, as elsewhere, was given to William Coley, and Daniel Van Voorhis, of the City of New York, goldsmith; Reuben Harmon and William Coley, coiners; Daniel Van Voorhis, cashier. Coley was probably Col. William Cooly, a partner of Van Voorhis, who had worked at the goldsmith's trade in the City of New York, afterwards removing to Rupert, Vermont, to make the dies and assist in striking the coins.

* Crosby.

* General James Clinton writes to his son De Witt Clinton, April 19, 1790: "Mr. Voorhois, Silversmith in Queen Street, promised to make a pair of silver buckles for your sister."

† In the eighth division of the Federal procession in honor of the Constitution of the United States were the gold and silver smiths, July 23, 1788. A gold Federal eagle on the top of the standard. The goldsmiths' emblematical arms on white silk, emblazoned, the crest representing Justice, sitting on a helmet, holding in one hand the balance, in the other the touch-stone; the arms supported by two savages, the field quarterly, or, two eagles' heads crossed, azure, two cups inverted between two gold buckles; the motto, "Justice is the Queen of Virtues." The supporters resting on a globe, representing the United States. Standard supported by the four senior goldsmiths, followed by twenty-five.

‡ A copper token, issued in the year 1789 by the Messrs. Mott, of the City of New York, importers, dealers and manufacturers of gold and



silver wares, is generally conceded to have been the first tradesman's token issued in America; it was manufactured in England.

Bushnell, in his "Early New York Tokens,"

* "De Witt Clinton Papers," Columbia University.

† "Valentine's Manual," 1856.

‡ Crosby.

states regarding the firm that issued this token :
 "The firm of Motts was composed of William and John Mott, and their place of business was at No. 240 Water Street, a location at which they continued for a number of years, and which was at the time a most fashionable business part of the city."

* The silversmiths serving the State and city governments were :

William Adams, Assistant Alderman, 1840-2; Alderman, 1847-8.

William V. Brady, Assistant Alderman, 1842; Alderman, 1843-6;

Mayor, 1847.

(Portrait in City Hall, painted by Wensler.)

William Gale, Alderman, 1844.

William Gilbert, Alderman, 1783-8, 1804; Assembly, 1788-93, 1803-8; State Senate, 1809-12; Prison Inspector, 1803; Council of Appointment, 1812.

Samuel Johnson, Assistant Alderman, 1783.

Bartholomew Le. Roux, Assistant Alderman, 1702-12.

Charles Le. Roux, Assistant Alderman, 1735-8.

Garrit Onclebag, Assistant Alderman, 1700-3.

In the early history of Philadelphia mention is made of several workers in metal. "Silversmiths received from half-a-crown to three shillings an ounce for working silver, and for gold equivalent."

In the accounts of Penn, Cæsar Griselm is mentioned as a goldsmith (it is probably his mark on one of the alms basons at Christ Church). D. Vaughn, a watchmaker, and Francis Richardson received £2 for a pair of buckles for Lætitia.

Among the tradesmen admitted to the freedom of the city in 1717 and 1718 were Francis Richardson, William England and Edward Hunt, *goldsmiths*. Philip Syng (born 1676) sailed from the port of Bristol, England, arriving at Philadelphia about 1712, accompanied by his wife and three

* "Valentine's Manual."

sons (the elder, Philip, born abroad 1703). He was a gold and silver smith; died at Annapolis, Maryland, 1739. The younger Philip evidently succeeded to his father's business. The silver inkstand, now in Independence Hall, from which was signed the Declaration of Independence, was made by him. * "He and Franklin were great friends. I remember seeing in an old account book the following amusing entry:

'To one pap spoon for B. Franklin.'

It was this Philip Syng, who as a member of the American Philosophical Society, experimenting with Franklin, invented and made an electrical machine, as the doctor states (see Parton's 'Life of Franklin')."

The second Philip Syng died 1789, and lies buried in Christ Church yard, of which church he was a vestryman. The following advertisements are from "The American Weekly Mercury," May 12, 1720:

GOOD long Tavern Tobacco Pipes sold at 4s per Grofs by a single Grofs, and 2s for a larger Quantity by *Richard Warder* Tobacco Pipe Maker living under the same Roof with *Phillip Syng* Gold Smith, near the Market Place.

BEST *Virginia Tobacco*, Cutt and sold by *James Allen* Gold Smith in Market street at which place is made Money Scales and Weights and all sorts of Work in Silver and Gold at a very Reasonable Rate.

The goldsmiths, silversmiths and jewelers were represented in the Federal procession of 1788 ("Pennsylvania Gazette," July 9, 1788). William Ball, Esq., senior member, with a silver urn. Standard bearers, Messrs. Joseph Gee and John Germon, carrying a silk flag, with the goldsmiths' arms on

* Letter from Philip Syng Physick Conner to Mrs. K. S. Bissel.

one side—motto: *Iustitia Virtutum Regina*; and on the reverse the Genius of America, holding in her hand a silver urn, with the following motto: *The Purity, Brightness and Solidity of this Metal is emblematical of that Liberty which we expect from the New Constitution*, her head surmounted by fourteen stars, ten of them very bright, representing the States which have ratified; two less bright, descriptive of New York and North Carolina, whose ratifications are shortly expected; one with three dark points and two light ones, an emblem of Rhode Island, and one with equal luster with the first ten, just emerging from the horizon, near one-half seen, for the rising State of Kentucky. After which followed the rest of the masters, with the journeymen and apprentices, in all *thirty-five*.

* John S. Hutton, born in New York, 1684, was a seafarer for thirty years, and then commenced as a silversmith. He was long esteemed in Philadelphia as one of the best workmen at hollow work, and is stated to have made a tumbler in silver when he was ninety-four years of age. He died in 1792, and was borne to his grave by his fellow-craftsmen—all silversmiths.

John David, born in New York of Huguenot parents, moved to Philadelphia about 1750, establishing a business as gold and silver smith. His brother-in-law, Daniel Dupuy, became his partner, and their shop was the most prominent in the city until early in the XIX. century. After the death of David (1805) Dupuy continued the business, and was followed by his son, Daniel Dupuy, Jr. Much of the old silver held in Philadelphia bears the marks D.D of the Dupuys.

* "Watson's Annals."

The manufacture of silverware, which had been commenced in Providence soon after the Revolution by Messrs. Saunders, Pitman and Cyril Dodge, employed four establishments in that town in 1795. These belonged to Nehemiah Dodge, Ezekiel Burr, John C. Jenckes and Pitman & Dorrance, who were chiefly engaged in the manufacture, on a limited scale, of silver spoons, gold beads and finger rings.

Jabez Gorham, born in Providence in 1792, was descended from John Gorham, who came from Northamptonshire, England, in 1643, and settled at Plymouth. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to Nehemiah Dodge, who began the manufacture of jewelry 1794, and was the engraver of the copper-plate set in the foundation stone of S. John's Church (p. 255). After attaining his majority Jabez Gorham, with Christopher Burr, William Hadwen, George C. Clark and Henry G. Mumford, formed a partnership which lasted five years, after which Gorham continued, at one time with Stanton Beebe, making jewelry until 1831. In that year the firm of Gorham & Webster was formed. H. L. Webster had served his time with Lewis Cary, of Boston, and was a practical spoon maker. He returned to Boston, 1841, John Gorham (born 1820) joining his father, the firm becoming J. Gorham & Son.

The elder Gorham retiring from business 1847, John Gorham became the sole proprietor, retaining the old firm name. He was the founder of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, now the largest producers of silverware on the continent. The factory was until 1890, when the company moved to Elmwood, on the same ground, a portion of which was once occupied by Jabez Gorham as a shop.

The City Directory for 1824 contains the names of numerous jewelers, but of only one goldsmith and five silversmiths.

William Hadwen, of Providence, moved to Nantucket about 1820, working as a jeweler and silversmith; his apprentice, James Easton (also from Providence), succeeded him 1828, entering into partnership with F. S. Sanford 1830. Other spoon makers were S. Barrett (about 1800), Benjamin Bunker (1810) and Allen Kelley, who was succeeded by his sons, E. G. & J. H. Kelley.

At Newburyport, Jacob Perkins (born 1766) assumed the management of the goldsmith's business of his deceased master, Davis, at the age of fifteen. He made gold beads and shoe buckles in a superior manner, and invented a new method of plating the latter. At twenty-one he made dies for the Massachusetts Mint. He afterwards removed to Philadelphia, and subsequently to London. Many of his inventions were rewarded by the medals of the Society of Arts of that city.

William Moulton and S. Drowne (spoon maker) were in business at the end of the XVIII. century, and later, in the XIX. century Bradbury & Bro. and the Fosters.

In Lancaster, in 1786, there were five silversmiths; Pittsburg, in 1791, contained thirty-seven manufacturers, and among these in 1808 were five watch and clock makers and silversmiths.

*"Abel Buell, an ingenious gold and silver smith, of Killingworth, Connecticut, about 1766, con-

*"History of American Manufactures," Bishop.

structed probably the first lapidary machine used in this country." He was also associated with Amos Doolittle, of New Haven (died 1832, aged 78)—an engraver, who served a regular apprenticeship with a silversmith—in issuing a series of historical prints and maps.

"Buell was also employed, with others, in coining copper money for the State, for which he constructed all the apparatus capable of making one hundred and twenty per minute.

"Joseph Hopkins, another silversmith, of Waterbury, before the Revolution, made plated knee and shoe buckles, silver sleeve and vest buttons and other plated ware, some of which are still preserved."

*Loring Bailey, a native of Hull, came to Hingham about 1780 and located as a silversmith. The silver spoons which he made had his name stamped on them; his apprentices were Caleb Gill, Leavitt Gill, and Samuel Norton; Bailey died 1814 at the age of 74. Elijah Lincoln, who had served an apprenticeship in Boston at the trade of silversmith, returned to Hingham in 1818, working until 1833. Joseph B. Thaxter was the last person who carried on this pursuit here. Silver spoons made by him are still in use and bear the inscription "Pure Coin," as well as his mark.

†"Salem has been for years the center of the silverware trade for southern Essex County, and interesting items of history might be recorded in this connection. At the corner of Essex and

* "History of Hingham."

† "Visitor's Guide to Salem."


North Streets, opposite the Roger Williams house, stood the Deliverance Parkman house, an ancient homestead at the beginning of the xvii. century, of which Hawthorne said that it probably dated from 1640 and had a brick turret in which alchemy had been practiced. It was in the first third of the xviii. century the shop of Dudley Newhall, silversmith. A stone's throw away was another silversmith's shop where President Cleveland's grandfather mended watches and made spoons. Robert Brookhouse began his remarkable and useful career, early in the century, in a shop numbered 6 on 'Old Paved Street,' now 244 Essex Street, where he advertised in the 'Essex Register' 'Gold, Silver, Hardware and Looking glasses.' John Touzell, a grandson of Philip English, was here as a goldsmith and jeweler in 1756, and John Andrew followed the same craft at the sign of the 'Golden Cup' in 1769. Joseph Hiller, Washington's first collector of the customs at this port, came here in 1770 to establish, at a central point, the trade of a watchmaker."

Samuel Phillips, son of Rev. Samuel Phillips, was in business as a goldsmith, 1721; Abram Howard, silversmith, 1810.

An account of "The Ancient Silversmiths of Newport" was written some years ago by the late * William S. Nichols (born 1785, began business 1808, died 1871), who was himself a worthy representative of the class of men whom he memorizes. He was apprentice to one of them, Thomas Arnold, who lived to extreme old age.

From 1726 to the commencement of the Revolu-

* "Newport Historical Magazine."

tionary War, when the town of Newport possessed more capital than the city of New York at the same date, the merchants of Newport were liberal patrons of substantial silverwork. One of the most prominent silversmiths of that day was Samuel Vernon (born 1683, died 1737). He manufactured silver tankards, pitchers, porringers, cups, spoons, pepper boxes, silver knee and shoe buckles and other articles marked . In addition to Mr. Vernon may be named John Tanner, Jonathan Otis, James Clarke, Daniel Rogers, William Hookey and Thomas Arnold. These men were of sterling integrity, and their stamps on articles of silver were sufficient evidence of their purity.

J. Clarke was the maker of flagons presented to S. John's, Providence, and S. Paul's, Wickford, by Nathaniel Kay, the King's collector of customs (1734). Jonathan Otis made the beaker at Rehoboth Church, Providence, given by Deacon Glover in 1751.

* James Ward (born in Guilford, 1768) came to Hartford early in life, and was apprenticed to Miles Beach before 1789. He joined his master in business, the partnership being dissolved 1797. Roswell Bartholomew, an apprentice of Beach & Ward, joined Ward in 1804 under the name of Ward & Bartholomew. In 1809 the firm became Ward, Bartholomew & Brainard, Charles Brainard being the junior partner. Ward died in 1856.

In the procession to celebrate the ratification of the Federal Constitution at Baltimore, 1788, were

* "Annals of Christ Church," Dr. Russell.

the silversmiths and watchmakers, preceded by Messrs. Levely, Clarke and Rice, bearing a flag representing the different articles of their manufacture, with the motto, "No importation and we shall live." Under it a beehive—motto, "If encouraged."

In an advertisement in the "Maryland Journal," September, 1789, George Dowig, of Baltimore, announces that he retires from the business of a silversmith, and offers to dispose of his stock and tools by a lottery. In the early part of the next century Samuel Kirk and the Warners commenced the manufacture of silverware, the descendants of the former being still in business as the Samuel Kirk & Son Co.

At Trenton, 1788, at the celebration of the Federal Constitution, the silversmiths paraded, "distinguished by the insignia of their trade"; there were similar processions at Portsmouth, Salem and other places, in which the "Goldsmiths, Jewellers and Silversmiths" joined.

Nearly every town at one time had its silversmith, who made spoons and other silverware, made and repaired jewelry and did engraving. About the middle of the last century the small makers had died out, the manufacture gradually having been absorbed by large concerns in the principal cities.