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## Editor's Note

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This issue contains narratives about two Newport men “on the outs.” One, Martin Howard, a prominent citizen who was outspoken in his adherence to the British throne, was reviled and driven into exile from Newport in 1765. The other, William Claggett, a skilled craftsman, was excommunicated from the Second Baptist Church only a few years after his arrival in the town. Claggett then published a scathing account in his defense, *A Looking-Glass for Elder Clarke and Elder Wightman, And the Church Under Their Care* (1721).

In “Reexamining the Career of Martin Howard, Esq.,” Abby Chandler chronicles Howard’s surprising rebound, at least for a time, after his hasty departure from Newport. Margaret Hanson analyzes Claggett’s very public campaign against the Second Baptist Church in “A Looking-Glass for William Claggett: Theology, Self-Representation, and Early Eighteenth-Century Print Culture.” Claggett went on to become a renowned clockmaker, one of Newport’s most notable eighteenth-century artisans. Chandler’s nuanced narrative of Howard’s time in Newport and North Carolina also provides a window into the lives of Loyalist families during the Revolutionary era. Hanson’s analysis of William Claggett’s outspoken attempt to restore his reputation gives us insight into the workings of eighteenth-century Baptist culture and into the man himself.

Abby Chandler is Associate Professor of Early American History at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, and the author of *Law and Sexual Misconduct in New England 1650-1750*. She is currently working on a book project examining political rebellions in Rhode Island and North Carolina in the 1760s. Her research for her article on Martin Howard began while she was a Buchanan Burnham fellow at the Newport Historical Society in 2005.

Margaret Hanson is a current Ph.D. student at the University of California, Riverside, studying public history and nineteenth-century U.S. history. She was a 2018 fellow in the Newport Historical Society’s Buchanan Burnham Summer Scholars in Public History program at the Newport Historical Society. Her article in this issue came out of research conducted in support of “My small Ability’: The Life and Work of William Claggett,” an exhibit currently on display at the Newport Historical Society.

Elizabeth C. Stevens

EDITOR