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## Editor's Note

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*Newport Historical Society*

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The occupation of Newport by British troops during the Revolutionary War marked a significant era in Newport's history. The British occupation was part of a strategy to subdue and control the principal coastal cities of England's American colonies. The plan ultimately failed, but as Donald F. Johnson demonstrates in his article in this issue, residents who remained in Newport during the British occupation, whether loyal to the crown or partisans of the revolution, were profoundly changed by the experience. Donald F. Johnson is Assistant Professor of History at North Dakota State University. He received his Ph.D. in 2015 from Northwestern University; his work focuses on everyday experiences of military rule during the American Revolution. In the summer of 2014, he was a Buchanan-Burnham research fellow at the Newport Historical Society.

Charles Hunter, who left Newport in 1831 to pursue a career in the U.S. Navy, has bequeathed superb evidence of his challenges as a midshipman. The journals he assiduously kept while training to become a naval officer are now in the Newport Historical Society collections. In her meticulous scrutiny of a diary that Hunter wrote while aboard USS *Potomac* in 1831, Margaret Stack reveals that during a midshipman's training at sea, education in other than navigational topics was woefully neglected. Margaret Stack earned her undergraduate degree from Bryn Mawr College, and her Masters degree from the University of Connecticut, where she is currently pursuing a Ph.D. In the summer of 2014, she was a Buchanan-Burnham intern at the Newport Historical Society.

Elizabeth C. Stevens

EDITOR