

# Herrick Family Association



Web Page <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~herrick/index.htm>  
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Our article continues from our last newsletter- Alice sent us info on the Leicester Herrick House:

LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.

£3. 6s. 8d., a mass-book " with a stone," and a long girdle that was his (the testator's) mother's. To his wife he bequeathed all his moveable goods in order to provide the prayers for his soul, with all his lands for her natural life; Nicholas and his heirs to have them afterwards; John to have them in default of issue to Nicholas; Elizabeth to have them in default of issue to John; and the widow and her assigns, should her children all die childless. Thomas Eyrick made his wife his executrix, and his father-in-law the supervisor of his will, the two sons grew up and prospered. Nicholas lived in his father's house, where he carried on his business as an ironmonger, and it would seem that John lived with him for some years.

Nicholas was admitted into the Guild Merchant on coming of age in the year 1524. In subsequent years he was chosen Mayor's Chamberlain, Auditor of the Borough Account within the East Gate, one of the Stewards of the Market, one of the Borough Coroners, and ultimately Mayor, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, and afterwards a justice of the peace for the remainder of his days.

But it was John, the younger brother, whose history it is more especially necessary to relate, as he was the father of the two characters whose portraits are on the walls of the Mayor's Parlour.

John Eyrick was admitted into the Guild Merchant in the year 1535, that is, on attaining his majority. When about twenty-four years of age, he took to himself a wife. There was then living at Ward End, otherwise Little Bromwich, in the county of Warwick, a gentleman of estate named Bond. He was wealthy. He had built a Chapel, and endowed it with lands wherewith to maintain a priest; and round his mansion he had made a park, which he had stored with deer. He had also a daughter Mary. She was just a year younger than John Herrick, who sought and was fortunate enough to obtain her hand. John brought his wife to Leicester, to the house in the Market-place, which he had purchased from his brother, and there the exemplary couple dwelt (as we shall shortly see) for many long years, in happiness and prosperity. They became the parents of twelve children – five sons and seven daughters.

John Eyrick and his brother Nicholas lived through periods of strange and stormy revolution. Born before the Reformation, they were trained up in the belief of the tenets of the Roman Catholic Church, yet they lived to see that church overthrown and her altars destroyed: they lived to witness the Church in which they had been baptised, stripped of all its ancient accessories and fittings in the reign of Edward the Sixth, refurnished with them in that of Queen Mary, and once more denuded of them on the accession of Queen Elizabeth. That is, in truth, on record that Nicholas Eyrick purchased a "tabernacle," or recess for an image, and John Eyrick an organ chamber, on the public sale of the appointments of St. Martin's Church in the reign of Edward the Sixth, that they

subsequently espoused heartily the doctrines of the Reformation cannot be doubted: though John Eyrick had served the office of Mayor in the reign of "Bloody Mary."

After having brought up his numerous family, and seen his sons established in business, and his daughters all married, John Eyrick died aged seventy-six, in the house in the Market-place, where he and his wife had lived together for fifty-two years, during which time they had "never buried man, woman, nor child, though they were sometimes twenty in household," as is recorded on an upright marble tablet still preserved in St. Martin's Church. The old townsman's will (yet extant in the Registry of the Archdeaconry of Leicester), marks how great a change had come over the minds of men during his lifetime; for, while his father, Thomas Eyrick had left money for the saying of masses for his soul, John Eyrick died in the full belief that he was "one of God's elect children," leaving Calvin's translation of the New Testament to his son Thomas, and to his daughter Mary, Fox's Book of Martyrs. The house he was dwelling in when he made his will, and where he had dwelt subsequently to his marriage (when he purchased it from his brother Nicholas), he bequeathed to his son Robert, with his scarlet gown: his "holiday gown," faced with foins, he also left to Thomas, and his satin doublet to John. Mary had in addition to Fox's Book of Martyrs, a silver spoon gilt, and the "aumbry" in the great parlour.

The eldest son of John and Mary Eyrick was Robert. It is this person whose portrait is suspended on the left hand of the Mayor's chair in the Guildhall. He was born in the year 1540, his boyhood being passed in the closing years of Henry the Eighth's eventful reign. He was brought up to his father's business, and apparently lived with him. When twenty-seven years of age, he married Elizabeth Manby, probably the daughter of William Manby, who was twice Mayor of Leicester, in the reigns of Queen's Mary and Elizabeth; and the old house in which he and his many brothers and sisters had been reared from childhood, was in a few more years as full of young people as it was in the time of his own infancy; for he became the father of two sons and nine daughters. Robert Eyrick followed in the footsteps of his father, and became a thriving Burgess: adding to the land which had been his grandfather's extensive properties in Leicester. Having graduated in municipal offices, he was first elected Mayor in 1584, when he was forty-four years of age. He rendered himself highly serviceable to the town; advancing money on its behalf to aid in the purchase of the Grange Estate; involving himself in debt in relieving the distressed, when the plague carried death and desolation into every household; filling the Mayoralty three times, and representing the borough in Parliament during one session in the reign of Elizabeth; and rendering material assistance in procuring the incorporation of Trinity Hospital. He died in the year 1618, laden with years and honour and respect, after a life passed in the practice of domestic virtue, civic usefulness, and genuine benevolence – the type of the venerable English burgomaster. In death, as in life, he the father of eleven children – was mindful of the welfare of his poorer fellow creatures; for he bequeathed sums for the benefit of the poor widows of Leicester, and of the under-usher of the Grammar School; for the distribution of bread to poor householders and "old bodies;" for lending money to young burgesses; and for the maintenance of Trinity Hospital.

Such was the character of the man whose portrait, after the lapse of nearly two hundred and fifty years, looks down upon us from the canvass on the walls of the Mayor's Parlour, of that apartment in which (remaining now nearly as it was then) his form was once frequently seen and his voice often heard, to guide the counsels and to benefit the fortunes of his fellow-townsmen. As the venerable burgess looks down from the picture in solemn composure, he may be imagined to be still exercising a kind of tutelary influence over the affairs of that body whose periodical meetings are held in the antique chamber which is now his abiding-place. He may be imagined, after the lapse of the long centuries, to be meditating on the fortunes of the place in which he once swayed the sceptre of local government with all the anxieties of the ruler of a petty kingdom.

An upright slate, in one of the chancels of St. Martin's, near to the tablet which records his father's decease, thus briefly commemorates, in quaint and homely phrase, the story of Alderman Robert Herick :

"Here lyeth the bodie of Robert Herick,  
Ironmonger and Alderman of Leicester,  
who had been thrise maire thereof.  
he was eldest son of john herick and marie:  
And had 2 sonnes and 9 daughters by one wife,  
with whom he lived 51 yeares.  
At his death he gave away 16 pounds, 10 shillings,  
a year to good uses.  
He lived 78 years:  
and after dyed very godly the 14lh of june, 1618.

All flesh is grass; both young and old must die;  
And so we passe to judgment by and by."

Alderman Robert Herick's brother Nicholas was the second son of their parents. He was born in the year 1542. When about fourteen years of age, he was articled to a goldsmith in London. He subsequently established himself in the same business, which, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, before the professional banker was known, was often a business associated with the keeping and lending of money, and its transmission to distant places. Nicholas was the father of one of our English poets, who has been fancifully designated the "English Anaoreon" - a poet whose sweet lyrics breathe a passionate love of nature, of old customs, and of rural life, and, while we read them, familiarize us with the joyous and festive life of olden time, when the merry youth disported themselves in the meadows and the groves: in whose pages the sylvan scenes of old England reappear before us in all their freshness and beauty.

As, however, it is neither with Robert Herrick, the poet, nor his father Nicholas, that this brief memoir is concerned, I pass on to William Herrick, the subject of the portrait now hanging on the right hand of the Mayor's Chair. The youngest son of John and Mary Eyrick, and their youngest child but one, he was born in the year 1562. The register of St. Martin's parish attests the fact; though some uncertainty seems to have existed in relation to it, his age having been several times misstated. When William was born, Nicholas was of age, and commencing his life's career in the great metropolis. With what principles the two were fortified to pass through the career that lay before them, we may learn from one of good old John Eyrick's letters to his son Nicholas:

"Nicholas Eyreck," he says, "your mother and I have us commended unto you, trusting that you be in health. We do pray to God daily to bless you, and to give you grace to be good, diligent, and obedient to your master, both in word and deed; and be profitable unto him, as well behind his back as before his face; and trust nor lend none of his goods without his leave or consent; and, this doing, God will bless you and all that you go about. And if so be that you be faithful and painful in your master's business, so as I hope you to be, doubtless God will provide for you another day the like as much again. And look how you be yourself, so look you for the like; "for it is a great part of the filling of God his commandments to do as we would be done unto. I pray God to give you his grace to live in his fear; and then you shall not do amiss."

Such are the affectionate exhortations of John and Mary Herrick to their second boy, thrown into London - then, as now, a place where peril and temptation for the young abound; and it may be fairly presumed that the after success of Nicholas, and his young brother William, were in great part attributable to an obedient and filial observance of the precepts enjoined upon them by their parents.

The boyhood of William Herrick was passed in the old house in the Market-place, where his grandfather had lived and died, where his father was born, and where his aunts and uncles also had lived.

\* Mr. John Gough Nichols informs me that this letter was addressed to William, not to Nicholas Heyricke.

+ The fifth son, if William were addressed. X The home of the Herricks stood on the site of the house and premises now.

Part of our trip to Great Stretton in England included some great finds at the St. Giles Church field:



Like an archaeological dig site, we were wandering the hills by St. Giles, where it is believed the old manor house stood. Here we found different artifacts along the way. Dale Herrick and Eileen Herrick Emmanuele find pieces of the old mansion that stood there and a fossil of a bug (I can't remember what Peter Liddle said it was, but it was interesting).



Here you can see the mound where the old manorial house stood. Of course we could not bring any of the artifacts out of the area. We understand that they are trying to get the Leicestershire Historical Society to do a dig in this area to find artifacts and other treasures. Not to worry- we put everything back and we understand Peter

is trying to get the historical Society there to do archaeological digs and document their findings.



**Peter Liddle, MBE** (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire)

Was born in Leicester, worked in local archaeology since 1970 when he was still at school. Dug with the Museum Archaeological Unit after finishing University, was appointed Archaeological Survey Officer in 1976; became Keeper of Archaeology for the County Museum Service in 1997; Community Archaeologist from 2008- 2011. Associate Lecturer at The University of Leicester 2011-13; Committee Member Leicestershire Fieldworkers, Chair of Judges for British Archaeological Awards, Community Archaeology category, Free-lance lecturer in Leicestershire archaeology, has written extensively on Leicestershire archaeology.

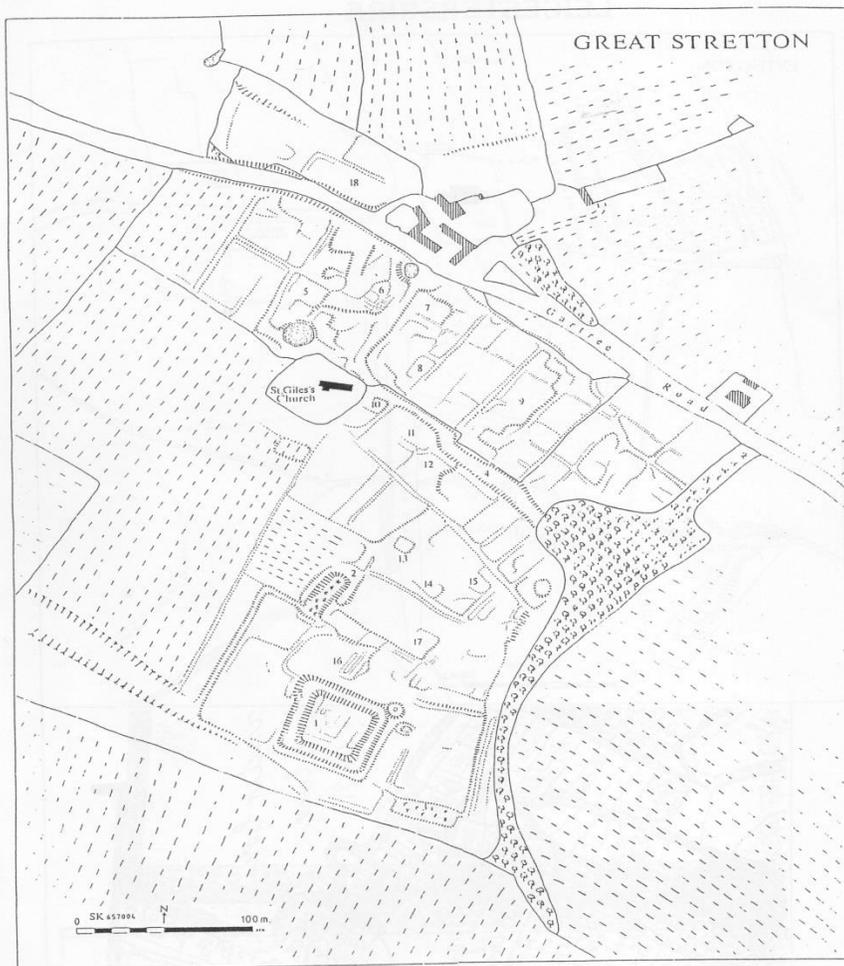
We have been lucky enough to receive the following article from Peter on the field seen above. This located at the St. Giles church.

**Great Stretton Deserted Village**

The church at Great Stretton stands all on its own surrounded by grass fields. It is the archetypical deserted village. As you look around the church you realise that it stands in the midst of ‘humps and bumps’ that mark the streets, houses and property boundaries of the former village. The church stood on the main street of the village and at least 20 properties can be traced – some of them being the homes of medieval Herricks. Like many places in Leicestershire Great Stretton is first mentioned in Domesday Book in 1086AD but was probably already some 3 centuries old by that date. It was not wiped out by the Black Death in the 1340s but was probably reduced in population. In 1381 taxation records tell us that, among those wealthy enough to pay tax, there were 8 tenant farmers but, interestingly also the Bishop’s Bailiff, 2 servants of the Bishop and 2 other unspecified servants. The Bishop in question was Robert de Stretton (alias Robert Herrick), Bishop of Lichfield. This makes it beyond question that Robert was maintaining a grand house at his birthplace and we can, with some confidence, identify this with the moated site which lies just to the south of the village. Ponds and platforms between the village and the moat probably represent a garden.

The later history of Great Stretton is one of gradual decline. In 1500 Thomas Kebell’s will mentions ‘enclosures and improvements’ here – the first step in turning the fields over from the labour intensive

cultivation of crops to grazing of animals that require far fewer people. In 1645 William Hewitt of Dunton Bassett acquired the manor and built Stretton Hall, which lies a couple of fields south of the village and new owners probably enclosed the parish to turn it over to pasture. By 1801 there were only the Hall and 2 tenant farms.



Great Stretton, as a village had gone but the survival of the church means that it has never been forgotten. Sadly, the church is now in very poor condition and can no longer be used even for the occasional service.

Peter Liddle

**Peter tells us:**

I found out last week that my childhood home was on land that in 1627 was held by Robert Herrick!

**Have you heard about this?**

I found this website following an article in the Family Tree magazine:

[www.heirloomsreunited.com](http://www.heirloomsreunited.com)

**Recently** I have received articles sent from a couple different members of our HFA on items from their local newspapers. They are all remembering the 1954 first successful kidney transplant. Why is this of interest? Well it was concerning a Herrick, of course. I had noted this in a 2011 newsletter, here is a copy of what was written then:

**Another Herrick- First Successful Organ Transplant-** This was sent to me by Richard C. Herrick

A man who donated a kidney to his dying twin brother 56 years ago in the world's first successful organ transplant died December 27<sup>th</sup> 2010. His name was **Ronald Lee Herrick** and he was 79. He passed away at the *Augusta Rehabilitation Centre*, a hospital in Maine, following complications from heart surgery in October. He leaves behind a wife named **Cynthia**.

**Herrick** donated a kidney to his identical twin, **Richard**, in a pioneering operation on 23 December 1954. The successful surgery kept his brother alive for eight years and was the **first**

**successful organ transplant**, according to the *United Network for Organ Sharing*. Lead surgeon **Dr. Joseph Murray** went on to win the Nobel Prize.

The operation proved that transplants were possible and led to thousands of other successful kidney transplants, and later the transplant of other organs. Doctors around the world had tried a few transplants before the breakthrough operation, without success.

**Herrick** grew up on a farm in Rutland, Massachusetts, and later served in the US army. He was 23 when he donated a kidney to his brother, who was dying from chronic nephritis, an inflammation of the kidneys. **Dr. Murray** thought the odds of a transplanted organ being accepted would be enhanced since they were identical twins. Although some people doubted the success of this procedure, Herrick was not dissuaded from the operation. "He was the only one in the world who could save his brother's life, so he was going to do it," said **Cynthia Herrick**. "There was no question about it."



In this photo provided by the Herrick family, Richard Herrick, front left, and his twin brother Ron, front right, pose with doctors, from top left, Joseph Murray, John Merrill and J. Hartwell Harrison, in 1954. Murray was lead surgeon in the first successful organ transplant in which Ron donated a kidney to Richard, who suffered from chronic nephritis, an inflammation of the kidneys. (AP Photo)

My thanks to all who send in articles of interest!

**Caroline Wessel**, author of "Portrait of Beaumanor", told us about her new publication while we were in England. I immediately placed my order as soon as I saw it had been for sale. In the fifth chapter "Intimate Friendships: Cradocks and Herricks", it begins a talk about the Nichols' family, the Cradocks and the Herricks of Beaumanor and their relationships. Here is the advertisement for that book:

**ORDER AN EXCITING NEW ENGLISH HISTORY PUBLICATION -  
READ MORE ABOUT THE LEICESTERSHIRE BEAUMANOR  
HERRICKS**

John Nichols' *History of Leicestershire* (1795-1815) is one of the principal sources of detailed historical information on the Leicestershire Herricks, and in particular, the considerable archive on the Herricks of Beaumanor. In 2015, to celebrate the significant bi-centenary of Nichols' massive eight-volume work, the Leicestershire Archaeological & Historical Society (est. 1855) has produced a book entitled *Nichols' History of Leicestershire; a bi-centenary celebration*, by Caroline Wessel, author of *Portrait of Beaumanor* (1988; Herricks and Beaumanor Society).

This new LAHS publication chronicles the remarkable lives, work and achievements of three generations of the Nichols family and the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth literary and antiquarian world of London and Leicestershire they inhabited. Owning and running one of the largest printing works in London, they were also publishers, antiquarians, intellectuals, collectors, and owned, edited and printed the popular and erudite monthly periodical the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

All three generations of the Nichols family enjoyed a long and intimate friendship with the Beaumanor Herricks, as revealed in one of the colourful chapters in the bi-centenary 2015 publication. Items taken from the Nichols Archive Project - a collection of over 14,000 original Nichols letters and journals held in libraries worldwide - give a delightful personal insight into their close relationships. NAP letters quoted include those exchanged between William Perry Herrick and John Gough Nichols' regarding the latter's tireless work on the genealogy, heraldry and design for the Beaumanor armorial window, and his part in the restoration of the Woodhouse church medieval stained glass.

The bi-centenary publication also explores the extensive and varied contents of Nichols' *History*, and its 'User's Guide' and 'Who's Who' chapters are invaluable tools for the Nichols researcher. A chapter by senior archivist, Robin Jenkins, two chapters by the Director of the NAP and contributions from present-day Leicestershire people with specialist expertise, bring John Nichols' concept of enlisting the local populace right up to date. A particular delight is the inclusion of some original watercolours, engravings and sketches taken from John Nichols' own personal copy of his *History*.

This highly readable book, with its evocative illustrations and gentle humour, is a must for historians, and for all those who love Leicestershire.

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#### **Notes from Karen Herrick**

**In 1770, Benjamin Franklin introduced [rhubarb](#) to America.** He was representing the American colonies as an ambassador in London, and sent a crate of rhubarb to his friend John Bartram. The plant, native to central Asia, had been introduced in Europe by traders; the rhubarb that Franklin sent to America had come to London from Siberia. Rhubarb first appeared in American seed catalogs in 1829, and soon became a popular ingredient in pies. John Bartram was also responsible for introducing kohlrabi and poinsettias to America.

#### **In memory:**

We have recently received notice of the passing on July 9, 2013 of Kathryn A. Herrick, HFA #159, who was 92 at that time.

## FOUND at the Museum

Date: 1679

Geography: New England, Salem, Massachusetts, United States

Culture: American

Medium: Red oak, white pine, black walnut, red cedar, maple

Dimensions: 18 x 17 x 10 in. (45.7 x 43.2 x 25.4 cm)

Classification: Furniture

Credit Line: Gift of Mrs. Russell Sage, 1909

Accession Number: 10.125.168

The ornamentation composed of applied elements and geometric patterns of moldings on the door of this small cabinet achieves a distinctly architectural effect. Several different kinds of wood were employed; originally, they differed in color, adding to the complexity of the scheme. Carving, the other major method of decoration used on seventeenth-century style colonial furniture, adorns the sides of the piece. This is one of four similar cabinets attributed to the tradition of joinery brought to Salem, Massachusetts, by John Symonds, who came to Salem in 1636 from Yarmouth, England. The octagonal sunburst motif on the door was a geometric design favored by the Symonds shops. The center plaque on the door is inscribed with the date [16]79 and the initials of the original owners, probably **Ephraim and Mary Herrick of Beverly, Massachusetts**. Behind the locked door are ten small drawers of varying sizes meant for the safekeeping of documents and small valuables of all kinds.



## Rebellion – The History of England from James I to the Glorious Revolution (2014) Review by Karen E. Herrick, PhD

I bought this book during the Christmas holiday and thoroughly enjoyed it. I would highly recommend it for all Herrick's as James I was the king who refused to give Sir Wm. Herrick his pension and who knighted him in 1605 for drilling a hole in a large diamond that the king loved. The book is written by Peter Ackroyd and is the third volume that has just been published in a series of six.

We are told in the first few pages that James I was very generous in giving out titles. Apparently in the entire reign of Elizabeth I she created 878 knights. In the first four months of James rule, 906 men were knighted. He considered this merely to be a mark of status to be given to honorable men. Other titles could be purchased with cash.

He had been raised as a king since he was thirteen months old and had always lived with the fear he would be murdered or assaulted. Because of this, he usually wore vests which he thought would give him more protection from an assassin's dagger usually paying little attention to what else he wore.

He had a dry sense of humor that he delivered in a grave and serious voice. He liked to talk and knew when to compromise, a trait which his son Charles I did not learn. In this Jacobean world of Brussels tapestries, Chinese porcelain and Turkish carpets, his manners were lacking. He slobbered a lot when drinking and eating. His legs were slightly bowed and his gait erratic probably from a case of rickets during his childhood. He had a restless and roving eye and was described as "forever fiddling with his codpiece".

In the spring of 1603, the king had to ask for money to travel to England to be crowned and upon arrival in London; he was very impressed with the wealth of jewels in the Tower of London. The theme of his reign seems to have been his continual desire for more and more money. There was never enough. (And from Chapter 11 onward, one can read about the same problem that Charles I had with all the wars that were fought until he was finally killed).

James married a Catholic, Anne of Denmark, who refused to partake of the Protestant communion. They supposedly "love as well as man and wife could do" but did not converse

together. James was bisexual during a good part of his life. After the death of George Villiers (See below), he returned to the safety of his wife and their relationship. Six children resulted from this reconciliation.

He drew his council from one-half Scottish and one-half of English lords. The center of his rule was his bedchamber which was mostly staffed by his Scottish entourage. James detested crowds and preferred small meetings where he thought he could use his wit and common sense. Freedom from manners and drunken and disorderly conduct was the rule of his reign. He loved to ride or hunt every day along with attending masques and feasts. He also enjoyed gambling mostly with cards where he usually lost large sums of money. He believed in the divine right of kings and liked to be asked about his "good opinion".

At this time, the puritans were just an "opposite tendency" with the Church of England. James had his first formal confrontation with them at Hampton Court on 14 January 1604. Everyone sat around in fur coats where he allowed the discussion between a learned ministry and issues of a private conscience, the Puritans main belief.

James had argued and debated with his Scottish clergy for most of his life. He had also written volumes on demonology, monarchy, witchcraft and smoking. (Author Note: I ordered a copy of the book on witchcraft that King James authored. However, it had not been translated from Old English and was very difficult to read.) At the end of this conference, James ordered the puritans to conform to the orthodox Book of Common Prayer that had been reissued forty-five years before. He did not consider them to be a threat and believed he had handled the situation well. In February, 1604, Jesuit priests were banished from England. Catholics of England then withdrew from political activity and practiced their faith quietly.

The entire seventeenth century was characterized by scientific rationalism, which was espoused by Francis Bacon who believed that human learning should come from experiment and observation, which encouraged the intention of new causes and experiments. These energies probably later spurred the Industrial Revolution. The King James Bible was published in 1611, contained eighty books, and has the distinction of being the most printed book in the history of the world. (Note: the Bible of the Puritans was the Geneva Bible). This publication prompted a great wave of other religious publications in England.

Prince Henry, the King's oldest son (for whom Sir William's son Henry Herrick was named) was invested as Prince of Wales in 1610. His court followed his father's example of waste and frivolity; however, Henry was interested in maritime affairs and in the progress of colonial exploration. In October of 1612, Prince Henry died, probably, from typhoid fever. James and the country mourned for the promise of this hero for the Protestant cause. It was still not safe a year later to mention his name to his mother Queen Anne.

In the summer of 1612 the king went on "progress," which like Elizabeth I, was a vacation where he visited Leicester and surrounding counties and saw prosperity and tranquility. Patents were still given for the manufacture of paper, the making of salt from sea water, the production of sword blades and the production of iron. The monopolies of these patents produced wealth.

At this time people of the yeomen class were constructing houses. Kitchens and separate bedrooms were introduced while stairs replaced ladders and chairs took the place of benches. Elizabeth I had introduced the taste for crockery rather than wooden platters and



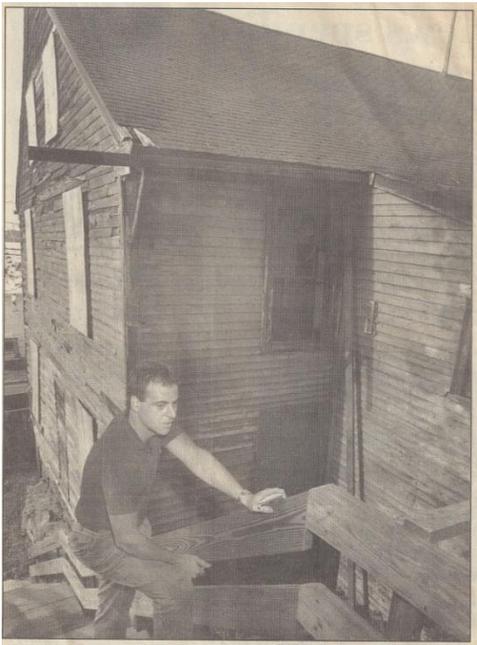
eventually knives and forks replaced daggers and spoons. There was still poverty but the conditions of social and commercial life continued to improve. James reign could be said to have favorably aided growth in the areas of religion, manufacturing, trade, music, the arts and the theatre.

During the summer of 1614, George Villiers, the son of a knight, trained as a courier, who loved dancing and fencing was presented to James. He had spent three years in France and had impeccable manners. He was also called “the handsomest-bodied man in all of England.” He was last in a succession of James’s young favorites. James went on record as saying that “Christ had John and I have George.”

(Author Note: On a hot August day, at a garage sale, before I knew anything about James I or Herrick genealogy, I saw a portrait on a blanket off the sidewalk which turned out to be the first Duke of Buckingham (Title given under the reign of Charles I), George Villiers. My thought at the time was “Wow, what a handsome man.” I was really drawn to his face. I think I paid five or ten dollars for the framed portrait and it sits in the basement with some books as another impulse purchase. However, I smile now when I pass it thinking of what George must have seen and experienced.)

I hope I have given you a little flavor of the atmosphere of James I court where Sir Wm. Herrick worked as a goldsmith and in the office of the exchequer. (Note: A patent letter from King James I dated November, 1603, appointed William Herrick, John Spilman and George Herriott to be official jewelers for himself, the Queen and the Prince. The annual allowance was 150L for travel and attendance at court.) The office of the exchequer had ruled that the king had absolute power in imposition of taxes and in all aspects of foreign trade. Many times James would close Parliament in anger and send men to the Tower because they did not pass the laws that he demanded mostly to maintain his life style.

An educated guess tells me that Sir Wm. would have many times loaned money to the king to stay in his good graces as he did in 1617 when the king wished to return to visit Scotland. He might have also had to keep the life of his son, Henry, very quiet after Prince Henry’s death since both the king or queen would have been adversed to hearing the name and any news of a “Henry” Herrick, a son who still lived. It was certainly a risky job working in an unpredictable age that was made more so by the dysfunction of a king’s addition to sex and gambling.



**Virginia Bryce, HFA member** recently sent me a copy of a newspaper article she found in a Beverly paper in 1989. In the article it says: Society finds a savior for old Herrick House. Beverly man pays \$25,000 for crumbling waterfront dwelling, which he’ll renovate.”

It seems the 225 year old home of Samuel Herrick was bought by Wm. J. Ambrefe , located in the Fish Flake Hill Historic District. The home served as headquarters for a number of Revolutionary patriots and seafarers, including Gen. John Glover, considered by some to be the father of the American Navy. The home is the last from that era still standing in this area.

Mr. Ambrefe says in the article that he will keep the home in tune with the Historical Society’s recommendations.

Undaunted by the prospect of renovating a dilapidated, 225-year-old structure into a comfortable place to live while still maintaining its Revolutionary War appearance, new owner William J. Ambrefe is happily setting to work. Ambrefe purchased the Samuel Herrick House from the Beverly Historical Society, which in turn had been given the deed by developer Thomas Cargill. The Salem News