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## Editor's Note

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

Reverend Frank Carpenter is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister, currently serving at the Channing Memorial Church in Newport. He was granted a Bachelor of Science degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before receiving seminary education at Meadville Theological School at the University of Chicago. Rev. Dr. Carpenter served at churches in New Hampshire and Texas before coming to Newport in 1985. His article in this issue examines William Ellery Channing's philosophy and principles against the backdrop of a legal battle over ownership of the family estate in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Rev. Dr. Carpenter shows how changing legal mechanisms of inheritance and the transforming moral and political climate of early nineteenth century America affected Channing's thought. This is followed by an excerpt from *Channing: A Centennial Memory*, by Charles Timothy Brooks.

This issue of *Newport History* also reintroduces a feature from issues of the past. "From the Collection" will briefly examine an artifact in the collection of the Newport Historical Society — a painting, object, photograph, manuscript, or book. These selections will be written by staff members at the Society, giving them a chance to study and display something from our rich holdings, whenever time and space permit. This issue's selection examines the historical context of *Hanging Rock*, a landscape painting by George Quincy Thorndike.