

3-25-2021

## Penelope Martin: An Ornament of Grace

Elizabeth Sweetser Baxter

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalmaine.com/cumberland\\_books](https://digitalmaine.com/cumberland_books)

---

### Recommended Citation

Baxter, Elizabeth Sweetser, "Penelope Martin: An Ornament of Grace" (2021). *Cumberland Books*. 84.  
[https://digitalmaine.com/cumberland\\_books/84](https://digitalmaine.com/cumberland_books/84)

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Cumberland, Maine at Digital Maine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Cumberland Books by an authorized administrator of Digital Maine. For more information, please contact [statedocs@maine.gov](mailto:statedocs@maine.gov).

# Penelope Martin

*An Ornament of Grace*



Elizabeth Sweetser Baxter



PENELOPE MARTIN

AN ORNAMENT OF GRACE



Elizabeth Sweetser Baxter

PENELOPE MARTIN  
AN ORNAMENT OF GRACE

Elizabeth Sweetser Baxter

Cumberland Historical Society  
Cumberland, Maine 04021  
1990

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information or retrieval system, without written permission from Elizabeth S. Baxter, 745 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut, 06111.

*Copy #21*

Cover: In the style of George Englehart  
English School  
PENELOPE MARTIN (1773-1859), DAUGHTER OF MRS. WILLIAM MARTIN  
about 1787  
watercolor on ivory in gold mount  
Portland Museum of Art  
Bequest of William Martin Payson in memory of the  
Martin Family, 1921



## Acknowledgments

Foremost among persons making it possible to read and know about Penelope Martin, is Mrs. Phillips M. (Marion Brown) Payson of Cumberland Foreside, Maine. It is she who, years ago, discovered the letters and saved them from a Payson family attic. She has now given them to the Cumberland Historical Society. She and I have spent many pleasant hours talking about the Martin family. She has shown me the connection between the Payson and Martin families. Her warm encouragement has inspired me to put together some of my research. She has generously underwritten publication of The Letters in tribute to a young woman who grew up in the late 18th century, a woman who pioneered in education for women.

The late Miss Margaret Payson cherished the letters for many years. While they were in her safe keeping, she had facsimile copies made of them which she distributed among members of the family. Upon her death, the letters were returned to Mrs. Phillips Payson according to an agreement made after they were discovered.

The accurately transcribed typescript of the letters included with this present publication was done by the late Mrs. Herbert (Sally Carroll) Payson.

The Cumberland Historical Society has encouraged me in preparing this manuscript and has loaned the copies of the letters used in publication.

Mrs. Theodore P. (Marian Larsen) Chandler, whose home is near the site of the Martin property, has told me that Roy Russell, her neighbor who owned the land when the ruins of the Martin home still stood, gave her several relics from the house. These include a large front door and a wide over mantle panel which she has loaned to the Cumberland Historical Society.

An invitation from Dr. and Mrs. Richard A. Howard to visit them on the Caribbean island of Montserrat made it possible to learn about the sugar plantations in the days of the Triangle Trade when the Martin family fortunes were made. En route my husband and I spent a day on Antigua where we climbed a hill named Green Castle, the name of the Martin sugar plantation on that island in the 1700s.

Especially, I am grateful to my husband, Elmer L. Baxter. He has tolerated my enthusiasm for the Martin family for more than ten years. He explored Antigua with me. In London we walked across Vauxhall Bridge to Vauxhall Park, mentioned in the letter of February 23, 1787. At that time it glittered with a music hall and splendid society. On the warm summer evening we were there in 1989, the park was a forlorn, sparsely planted open space with worn dirt paths, where a few old men sat on benches and three children batted at a shuttlecock. In Cumberland, Maine, he and I have frequently paddled our canoe along the shore where the Martin and Payson homes have occupied some of the most beautiful property I know.

Many others who should be mentioned here must accept my thanks and know that I am grateful to them.

E.S.B.  
Newington, Connecticut  
December, 1990



## CONTENTS

Acknowledgments

Penelope Martin, an ornament of grace

Letters of Penelope Martin

"A list of young ladies"

Martin - Payson genealogy

Note on the Martin Family portraits

Bibliography

## ILLUSTRATIONS

Penelope Martin, c. 1787      Front cover

Map - North Yarmouth coastal lots, c.1750

Elizabeth Galpine Martin, c. 1770

Vauxhall, London, c. 1850

Catherine Low, c. 1787

Elizabeth Galpine Martin, c. 1780

PENELOPE MARTIN , AN ORNAMENT OF GRACE

It was the Spring of 1783, before the treaty ending the American war had been signed, when a British aristocrat, William Martin, boarded ship for Boston. With him were his beautiful wife, Elizabeth, and six of their children. They came in hopes of recouping their family fortunes, following financial reverses in William's merchant business during the war. Long years later, Penelope, their daughter wrote

. . . Myself and brother Wm were left behind, he with an attorney, myself with our Aunt Low, who at that time had just engaged in a genteel private boarding school. Brother being dissatisfied came over the next year, but I remained till the year 1790 when I followed my dear friends to this country being 17 years of age.

From the letters which form the basis for this story, it is clear that an extensive correspondence crossed the Atlantic among the family. Only eleven of Penelope's letters have survived. Written at the same time Boswell was recording his Johnson, here are a teenager's views of London and her friends and acquaintances . Her exquisite copper plate penmanship, along with blots and corrections, are as easy to read as the accompanying typescript, but both are included ; the manuscript is such a personal expression that one may read between the lines, whereas the typescript makes for quicker perusal. The originals retain scraps of red sealing wax and there are scars where the letters were opened impatiently by her family. These surviving letters came to Cumberland, Maine where the Martin family and Penelope's unexpected pioneer venture had a lasting, but nearly forgotten impact.

Warm affection, deep respect, loneliness, lively gossip, humor are all here. She tells of balls, visits to cousins, concerts at Vauxhall, and there is the trip to Windsor, where she sees the King, (George III)

and the Queen, who were dressed like farmers, walking in their garden. She bought a lottery ticket and won. Her letter tells what she did with her winnings. Another time "the ticket was a blank." New ball gowns and details of London fashion which would interest her sisters make lively writing. She made trimming for a gown for one sister and tells her how to use it. Embroidery for her mother, a wig for her father, concern about expenses, celebrations in London are all topics. She teases one sister about finding a husband, "I wonder among all your acquaintance you can't meet with a man to your mind."

Penelope was only twelve years old when she wrote to her "Dear Papa, . . . I much long to see you but I don't like the thought of crossing the water . . . but if they should bring the Air Balloons to such a Perfection that they could travel to America I should like better to take a flight over the water . . . " Only the year before, 1783, the Montgolfier brothers had safely flown a balloon carrying a duck, a rooster and a sheep for eight miles. How like modern youngsters in the days of early space flight!

There are frequent comments about Aunt Low's school. She helped with the younger pupils' lessons. "Six months at a time we are in the School, hearing ba & be . . . " Aunt Low had problems with enrollment and expenses. She often was ill with anxiety. Penelope shared her concerns. Little could she have dreamed that her teaching and administrative experience would enable her to undertake a venture as unlikely as flying in a balloon.

Evidently the neighbors were not very friendly when the Martins first settled on the Foreside in North Yarmouth, now Cumberland, Maine. Penelope

wrote," I think the people must be intolerable ignorant never to have seen a Spinnet, poor creatures. I hope you will indulge them with a sight of ours; I suppose if you was to play and sing them a tune they would be in extasie. I dare say you are not sorry they don't come to see you, as they are so very vulgar. . ." This situation changed.

When Penelope finally joined her family she anticipated that they would arrange a public dance and invite their friends "to partake in the general joy."

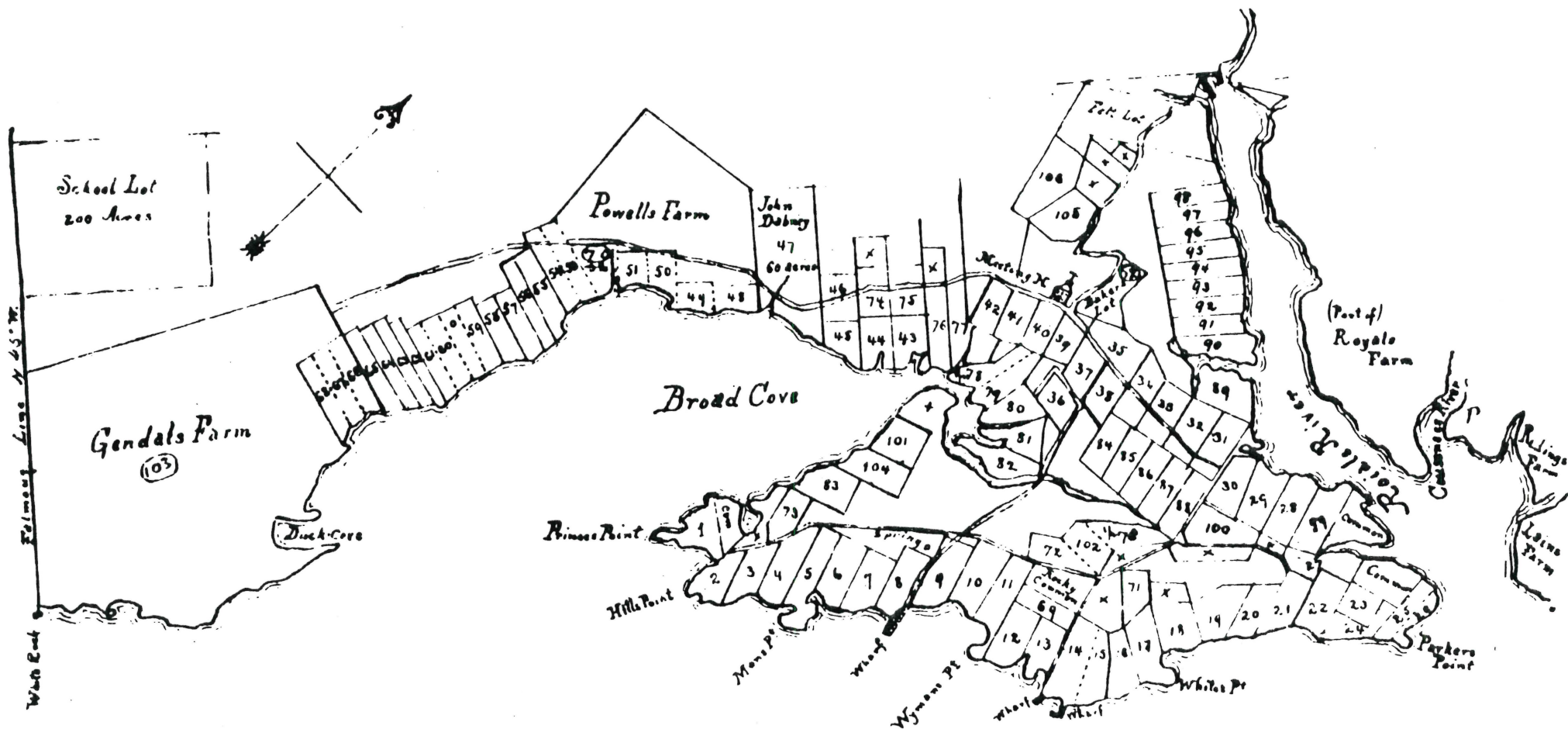
Nothing could have prepared her for the contrast between life in London and life in North Yarmouth. William Martin had purchased the Powell estate beside Casco Bay. Advertised in Boston newspapers, it claimed to have a mansion house, servants quarters, barns, orchards, stone walls, a water powered mill, a sheltered anchorage and wharf, all of which sounded as grand as Mount Vernon. It was true. But the great old mansion, built in 1730 and the finest around, was built for hardy pioneers, not a gentleman farmer. It stood beside the King's Highway, with a mile stone marked " B 136," the distance to Boston. This was not a London street with the royal family passing in carriages but a dirt path with an occsional horseback rider. In summer it was a sheltered, sunny bayside home where frolicking children could watch seals basking on the offshore ledges and where herons nested in gigantic spruce trees, and sailing vessels could come to dock at the wharf. In winter the bay froze, the snow limited activity, and the drafty old mansion house became difficult to heat. To maintain the property required good management and many servants. William Martin was unable to provide either adequately. The genteel Martin



family were surely sorely tried to maintain themselves. The elegant life style they had known in London was very far away. Yet, they held to gentility and good manners and a love of learning. William Martin earned the respect of his neighbors and was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in Boston. Maine was still part of Massachusetts. While representing North Yarmouth, which then included present day Cumberland, he supported the founding of Bowdoin College, of which he was an original Trustee. Mrs. Martin upheld her traditional customs and was remembered by later generations of her family for saying, "A mannerly saint is an ornament of grace."

Penelope's letters end when she sailed from London to Cumberland. Her story continues. About 1930, Mrs. Marion Brown Payson discovered, in the attic of a family home, a bundle of letters and papers on heavy rag paper, creamy with age. The writing was elegant copperplate, and Penelope Martin had signed each one. Then, no one remembered who the Martins were. It was a mystery that has taken a long time to solve. Over the years, the family treasured them all. They learned that Martins are on the Payson family tree. When I was given the privilege and pleasure of reading the papers, I began, little by little to learn about the Martin family. It has been a fascinating experience. I have not found all the answers,

A significant question is still waiting research; why did the Martins come to America even before the Revolution had ended and how did they manage to become so well accepted in the Province of Maine? William Martin was the younger son of a once powerful and influential British family with sugar plantations in Surinam and Antigua, a family with Loyalist connections, A relative had been Governor of North Carolina before the Revolution. There was



North Yarmouth Coastal lots, c.1750, from Falmouth line to Royals River. This has become Cumberland and Yarmouth, Maine, shore line. Map courtesy Phyllis R. Sweetser, historian of Cumberland.



Nathaniel Plimer  
English, 1751-1822  
PROBABLY MRS. WILLIAM MARTIN,  
NEE ELIZABETH GALPINE, about 1770  
watercolor on ivory in gold mount  
Portland Museum of Art  
Bequest of William Martin Payson  
in memory of the Martin Family

Portrait of Penelope Martin's mother as a young woman



an Admiral in the British Navy in the family. Another relative once fought a duel to defend the honor of a member of the royal family.

Somehow, in spite of family experience, William Martin decided that there were great possibilities in America. He had a large family. His financial situation appears to have been precarious. Did he hope that his remnants of the family fortune might stretch farther in the new world? Did he, perhaps, hope that his beautiful daughter, Penelope, would become so accomplished and popular that she would find a rich husband after her studies with her aunt? Poor William Martin! He found life in America continued to deplete his resources. Penelope determined to join the family. The family remained in Cumberland for fifteen years. In spite of his efforts to be a gentleman farmer, Martin's financial situation became, in Penelope's words, "impecunious."

After joining her family, Penelope had taught her sisters and younger brothers all she could that she had learned at Aunt Low's school. She knew embroidery, French, music, social graces, and much else. Reading, spelling, arithmetic, and penmanship for younger brothers, required her to exercise discipline at times. She had a talent for teaching. This led to her daring venture. The family's impecunious situation led her to do "an unheard of thing," as she wrote reflectively many years later. In a venture as daring as it would have been to fly in a balloon, she opened a boarding school for girls in the family home.

The Misses Martin's School was an instant success. After the first year, the family moved to Portland in order to accommodate more pupils. The whole family entered into the venture. Sister Catherine assumed the domestic arrangements. Sister Elizabeth helped teach. William assisted his daughters with reading and teaching Milton and other poets. Their mother created an atmosphere of refinement, and taught elegance of deportment and manners.



During twenty-six years, nearly 600 girls attended the school. There is a list of them, prepared by Penelope. Their family names include many which appear in early Maine history, indeed in family trees throughout New England, and far beyond. Pupils came from as far away as Honduras and from seaport towns in Canada, as well as many Maine towns. The influence of such education has had a lasting effect in New England.

When Penelope Martin opened her school in what was then North Yarmouth, it was not a howling wilderness. The climate in that town was favorable toward education--for boys. North Yarmouth was a prosperous ship building town with prosperous sea captains and flourishing trade. In 1765, the Hon. David Seabury, a graduate of Harvard, had instituted a grammar school, and North Yarmouth Academy was established between 1800 and 1811. Though Penelope's school for girls soon moved to Portland, it is significant to know that education for young women began in Cumberland, Maine in 1803.

During the successful years of the school, it gained a reputation for teaching strong Christian principles, as well as helping its pupils to become ornaments of society. Discipline was strict. In her later years, Penelope wrote, ". . .experience, that sure but slow monotress. . ." taught her that being ". . .ever faithful to her pupils gave her serene satisfaction. . ." and that ". . .even the best of pupils. . ." required strict discipline.

In 1822, Penelope wrote about her school, "lest , with the lapse of years the most imposing object of my life (her school) should be consigned to oblivion. . ." It is the hope of this writer that now that circumstance has been prevented. Hopefully there will be a new interest in an early accomplishment in education for women in Maine. Penelope Martin was indeed "an ornament of grace" to be remembered.

Penelope intended to close the school in 1822, she wrote. It would make a happy ending to her story if she and her sisters had been able to retire then and live happily ever after. But, some great disappointment, which she does not name, occurred. She wrote in 1824, a retrospective, unhappy account in which she mentions an "affliction" which plunges her into "heartfelt distress." By her own account, undated, but written sometime after 1829 when her mother died, each of the family received an inheritance of five thousand pounds from a relative in England in the year 1832. The school continued until 1834. The three sisters, Penelope, Catherine and Elizabeth, and their brother William lived on in Portland. Elizabeth died at the age of sixty-eight. William lived to be eighty. Penelope and Catherine were nearly ninety when they both died, in 1859, within six hours of each other. Useless to them, a wealthy cousin, Lady Janet Shaw, or Schaw, died in London just two weeks earlier, leaving "a substantial inheritance" to remaining relatives in America.

These letters and the research they stimulate open a window onto life in Cumberland which tells that there was a facet of the town's early history that has been long forgotten, a life beyond farming and ship building, fishing and settling land claims. There were people who wanted to read and write, sing and dance, and who knew much about other parts of the world, and were willing to take risks. Most important, it was in Cumberland, Maine where circumstances came together for education for women in America to make one of its earliest significant advances.

Why is it worth spending time and money on eleven old letters? Why are they important? Besides being fun to read, they are the clue to discovery.

If Penelope Martin had stayed in London after ending her schooling with Aunt Low; if she had never come to Maine, life for more than six hundred early Maine and New England families would have been different. A major factor in forming the character of Maine and New England would be missing. By teaching French, music, embroidery, and how to curtsy, literature, penmanship, spelling and other useful subjects, Penelope gave her pupils much more. They learned self-awareness, self-worth, sense of values, and what was most important in her mind, a sense of discipline. Penelope Martin influenced the cumulative personality of New England. According to her list of pupils, with her notes of their marriages (following the letters in this paper), it is reasonable to draw this conclusion. The graduates of The Misses Martin's School became the wives of judges, sea captains, merchants, ministers, doctors, profesors, and influential men whose names appear in history. Some of them had daughters and sons who made homes far from New England as the westward migration took place. The source of traits developed in earlier generations may be forgotten, but the pride of being a New Englander goes with a person to the ends of the earth.

Penelope Martin contributed much to the character of the United States. Cumberland, Maine can take pride in the fact that she "ventured her balloon" in that place.

The Letters of Penelope Martin



Honoured Madam London August 11<sup>th</sup> 1784

I now sit down to write to you to tell you how much  
I thank you for that letter which you was so  
kind as to send me, for although I have wrote so  
many I have never had but two from you; but  
now Billy is gone, I expect to have more  
letters then I have had; by the last Ship that  
went I sent Papa a pair of Puffles and a  
Chitterling, which I hope he will except of, as it is  
from me, and therefore as I made Papa a present  
of a pair of Puffles, I thought perhaps you  
would expect something also; and therefore

I sent you a pair of Lables to hang over the neck  
of Glap Decanters, when you have Company,  
they are my own work and <sup>if</sup> you should like  
them I shall be very much pleased; my Aunt  
is very good to me as I told you before. I must  
now thank you for the things you sent me; you  
said in your letter you thought perhaps that was  
a mistake about the Frock for the Ball; but I can  
assure you it was not for I was forced to have  
a new one for the last Ball; pray give my  
Duty to Papa and my Love to Sister Kitty  
Brother Billy and all the rest, now I must

Conclude with Dear Mamma your most  
Dutiful and affectionate Daughter

Penelope Martin

Left the Enclave with Mrs. Lee for a short  
trip to the mountains.  
This was written when she  
was still in the mountains.

Letter # 1 \*

London August 11th 1784

Honored Madam

I now sit down to write to you to tell you how much I thank you for that letter which you was so kind as to send me, for although I have wrote so many I have never had but two from you, but now Billy is gone, I expect to have more letters than I have had; by the last Ship that went I sent Papa a pair of Ruffles and a Chitterling, which I hope he will accept of, as it is from me, and therefore as I made Papa a present of a pair of Ruffles, I thought perhaps you would expect Something also; and therefore I sent you a pair of Lables to hang over the neck of Glass Decanters, when you have Company, they are my own work and if you should like them I shall be very much pleased; my Aunt is very good to me as I told you before. I must now thank you for the things you sent me, you said in your letter you thought perhaps that was a mistake about the Frock for the Ball; but I can assure you it was not for I was forced to have a new one for the last Ball; pray give my Duty to Papa and my Love to Sister Kitty Brother Billy and all the rest, now I must Conclude with Dear Mama your most Dutiful and affectionate Daughter

Penelope Martin

(In another hand: "Left in England with Mrs Low her aunt to complete her education.

This was written when she was about eleven years old.")



London Oct 30 1784

Dear Papa

As there was a Ship ready to sail I would not let it go without writing a few lines to let you know I have received the things safe that you sent me and to tell you how much I think myself obliged to you for them I am very sorry the little Presents to you and Mamma are not yet come to hand Aunt desires as soon as you receive them you wou'd let us know for we are much afraid they are lost I much long to see you but I dont like the thought of crossing the water but if you liv'd

about a hundred miles from London the Pleasure  
of coming to see you would be inexpressible but if  
they should bring the Air Balloons to such a Perfec-  
tion that they could travel to America I should like  
better to take a flight over the water than upon it I  
will not intrude any longer upon my Dear Fa-  
ther's Patience as I have wrote so much to both Bro-  
ther and Sister I beg you wou'd give my Duty to Mam-  
ma and accept the same Dear Sir from your most  
Dutiful and affectionate Daughter  
Penelope Martin

Letter # 2

London Oct 30 1784

Dear Papa

As there was a Ship ready to Sail I would not let it go without writing a few lines to let you know I have received the things safe that you sent me and to tell you how much I think myself obliged to you for them I am very sorry the little Present to you and Mama are not yet come to hand Aunt desires as soon as you receive them you wou'd let us know for we are much afraid they are lost I much long to see you but I don't like the thought of crossing the water but if you liv'd about a hundred miles from London the Pleasure of coming to see you would be inexpressible but if they should bring the Air Balloons to such a Perfection that they cou'd travel to America I should like better to take a flight over the water than upon it I will not intrude any longer upon my Dear Father's Patience as I have wrote so much to both Brother and Sister I beg you wou'd give my Duty to Mama and accept the same Dear Sir from your most Dutiful and affectionate Daughter

Penelope Martin

Each of Penelope's letters was simply addressed in this manner. They were not sent by postal service. Each letter was written on a single sheet of heavy rag content paper, approximately nine by fourteen inches. This was folded, sealed with red wax, and addressed to one of her family like this. Clearly, it was included with a shipment of goods for the Martin Family. On some occasions it was delivered by a messenger, a friend who is mentioned in the letter.

To

M<sup>rs</sup> Martin

M<sup>rs</sup> Martin

To

My Dear Father

To

Miss Martin

Miss Martin

Miss Martin

Miss Martin

Miss Martin

M<sup>rs</sup> Martin



Dear Sister,

Friday Feb<sup>ry</sup> 23. 1757.

I was surpris'd not to find a letter from you in the parcel; but more so when I heard you said, I would not write to you, but I believe since you have been at Boston, your memory fails you, for if you recollect, you'll find yourself a french letter in my debt, but <sup>not</sup> being very particular, I have writt again, that you may have no excuse for not sending me an answer. I assure you I was very glad to see Young M<sup>r</sup>. Scott, in view to <sup>ask</sup> an hundred questions, about you, and Dear Father & Mother, some of which he could not resolve, and therefore has got a memorandum Book, with him, on purpose to take down every particular, and give me a better account next time I see him so I hear you have begun to learn music; I wish you great success, & have therefore sent you the tunes you desired, & likewise several other songs, which were sung at Vauxhall this season. ~~But you shall see the list of them in the next letter~~ We have also been at six different dances, this Christmas, first at M<sup>r</sup>. Dardards, then at M<sup>r</sup>. Fetters, twice at M<sup>r</sup>. Fishers, & twice at M<sup>r</sup>. Otrigg's & I do assure you. My Aunt was as young as any of us, and danced with as much sprightliness as if she <sup>had been</sup> but fifteen. but she has suffer'd for it since, for she has very ill ever since, with the bilious Cholera but don't think by this we are very Gay, for remember

six months at a time we are in the School, hearing, &c, &c, and therefore  
must have some pleasure, in the holidays. My friend Miss Cope, has now  
wrote to you, and if you answer her letter, you will have a very agreeable  
correspondent; as well as be a very agreeable friend, for we are the greatest  
lover ~~of~~ you ever <sup>know</sup>. I hear you say you know him, but I assure you you don't  
it is Miss Wolfe, you mean the young Lady you dance with at the Balls  
but Miss Cope is not at all like her.

Mr. Cannum, and Mr. Croft's, Cloak are, died with us one  
Sunday, but I shall say no more about Mr. Cannum, only that he  
desired My Aunt, to send for his picture (as you have seen) because  
he wanted it, and he made us promise upon our honour, not to forget it,  
therefore beg you would not. But as for Young Croft, he is the oddest  
creature you ever saw, for at table he could not sit without talking first,  
on one side, & then on the other, he came up to town about a law affair,  
and has therefore been in company with several great people, and  
so he tries to imitate them, for he is as full of affectation as the  
prettiest fool in London. Miss Cope says he is quite a D E A  
O My father, & mother, are parted, and he lives with her in the country  
she allows <sup>his</sup> ~~her~~ husband an hundred a year. <sup>they have another son</sup> ~~he has got another son~~ a  
Captain, who is married to a Miss, Merriam, who my Aunt  
says you know. Mamma knows, and lives in Goodman's fields.

But I must tell you what Mrs. Cope, says of W. Cannara,  
she said if he was but ten years younger, she would have  
gone with him to the East Indies. I must not write any  
more for if I do, there will be room for ~~it~~, ~~to~~ write  
no more for the present.

Penelope Morten,

Dear Miss,

The liberty I now take I am at a loss to apologize  
for, but flatter myself as you have been informed that I am your  
Sisters most intimate Friend you will pardon me  
if you favour me with a few lines in answer to this I will endeavour  
to write you something more entertaining the next time as your  
Sister has stole all my good Pens at present I subscribe myself

Your well wisher & your  
Sisters sincere Friend  
A Cope

Letter # 3

Friday Feb<sup>r</sup>y 23. 1787

Dear Sister,

I was surprised not to find a letter from you in the parcel; but more so when I heard you said I would not write to you. but I believe since you have been at Boston your memory fails you, for if you recollect, you'll find yourself a french letter in my debt; but not being very particular, I have wrote again, that you may have no excuse for ~~not~~ sending me an answer. I assure you I was very glad to see Young Mr. Scott, in Order to ask him an hundred questions, about you, and Dear Father, & Mother; some of which he could not resolve, and therefore has got a memorandum Book, with him, on purpose to take down every particular, and give me a better account next time I see him so I hear you have begun to learn music; I wish you great success, & have therefore sent you the tunes you desired and likewise several other songs, which were sung at Vauxhall this season. ----- we have also been at six different dances, this Christmas, first at Mr. Barnards, then at Mr. Fitsteds, twice at Mr. Fisher's, and twice at Mr. Otrigge's, & I do assure you, My Aunt was as Young as any of us, and danced with as much sprightliness as if she had been but fifteen. but she has suffered for it since, for she has (been) very ill ever since, with the billous Cholic, but don't think by this we are very Gay, you remember six months at a time we are in the School, hearing ba, &, be, and therefore must have some pleasure, in the hollydays. My friend Miss Cope, has now wrote to you, and if you answer her letter,



you will have a very agreeable correspondent; as well as a very agreeable friend, for we are the greatest Cronies you ever knew I hear you say you know her, but I assure you you don't it is Miss Wolfe, you mean the Young Lady you danced with at the Ball, but Miss Cope is not at all like her.

Mr. Cannum, and Mr. Cross's, Eldest son, dined with us one sunday, but I shall say no more about Mr. Cannum, only that he desired My Aunt, to send for his picture (as you have mine) because he wants it, and he made us promise upon our honour, not to forget it, therefore beg you would not. But as for Young Cross, he is the oddest creature you ever saw, for at table he could not sit without lolling first, on one side, & then on the other; he came up to town about a law affair; and has therefore been in Company with several great people, and so he tries to imitate them, for he is as full of affectation as the prettiest Girl in London. Miss Cope says he is quite a DIETARY (?) his father, & mother are parted, and he lives with her in the Country; she allows her husband an hundred a year. they have another son, a Captain, who is married to a Miss Merriman, who my Aunt says Mama knows, and lives in Goodman's fields. But I must tell you what Miss Cope, says of Mr. Cannum, she sais if he was but ten years Younger, she would have gone with him to the East Indies. I must not write any more for if I do, there won't be room for Miss Cope to write.

so adieu for the present

Penelope Martin

Dear Miss,

The liberty I now take I am at a loss to apologize for, but flatter myself as you have been informed that I am your Sisters most intimate Friend you will pardon me, if you favor me with a few lines in answer to this I will endeavour to write you something more entertaining the next time as your Sister has stole all my good Pens I at present Subscribe myself

Your well wisher & Your  
Sisters sincere Friend

A Cope

# VAUXHALL

DIRECTOR MR. E. T. SMITH

**Open for 6 Nights**



**UNRIVALLED ATTRACTIONS**

ADMISSION

**ONE-SHILLING.**

Vauxhall Gardens, c.1845

- from a postcard from the Museum of London

Penelope Martin mentions Vauxhall in Letter #3. It was famous for its music hall and glittering entertainment for generations.

Dear Sister

London July 30<sup>th</sup> 1787

I now sit down to answer your letter by Scott which I received soon after his arrival, he set out a few days after you, to North Yarmouth, when you wanted so sadly to go onto his boat to sail for England; I suppose you wonder how I should know that, but you must not be surpris'd if I tell you every thing you did the time he was there, for he was so very particular in his Memorandum Book, I told you of, that he put down every thing you can think of, how you and Mamma were dress'd every time he came, and I believe you were dress'd differently every day generally in Silks, so that altogether I think indeed you dress a great deal finer than I, for I never wear Silks every day I assure you. He likewise gave us a very particular account of some of your acquaintance in Boston, but especially the Miss Selby's, their Persons, Dress, & accomplishments, &c. and in short every thing you can possibly imagine.

As you wonder what we can do with our Tollery Money, why then I will tell you you know it was £2.. 10 shillings, the 3 Shillings we spent in odd matters, with one Guinea we made each other a present of a pair of stone Bracelets and with the other we intend trying our Luck another year, so now you know what is to be done with our money,

During the Vacation we have been to Mr. Mason's, my Aunt, Miss Coxe, Miss Gorton, Master Scott, & self, we had two very agreeable days



indeed we set out at 12 o'clock on the Friday, and got down there about 6 when we drank Tea, and after that went to see the Castle, from thence we went through into the Chapel, to see where we were to sit the next morning before breakfast, for I should have told you the King & Queen were there, it rained so fast that night they could not walk on the Terrace, so accordingly on Saturday morning we sallied forth to Chapel, where we saw their Majesties, they were both dressed very plain indeed, he looked just like a Country Farmer, with a short blue Coat, & red cape, his hair tied plain behind, she had on a silk gown, & black bonnet, there was one Lady in waiting, & two Gentlemen, after Chapel we returned home to Breakfast, which soon we set out for the Bush at Staines, a delightful place indeed, by the water side, we should have had more pleasure there had it not rained but as it did we amused ourselves by angling out of Windows, but not one fish did we catch, that entertained us till Dinner, & from Dinner till Tea, after which we at about 6 o'clock we set out for home, which we did not reach till 12 after 10 when we all was glad to go to bed, and the Monday following we began School.

I suppose by this time you can play all the tunes we sent you, as I dare say you practice a great deal now pray send me word which you like best. Pray have you been to one of those assemblies, were they give people Bread & Cheese to eat instead of Wine & Beer, a very dull sort of entertainment indeed I think. I have received <sup>not</sup> no letter from Edward yet, I assure you, but I suppose it is with ~~him~~ <sup>him</sup> by M<sup>r</sup> who has not yet thought it  
I remain your ever affectionate & loving Sister  
Ruthye Martin

P.S. Pray Give my Love to Eliza, and tell her I will write  
to her next time; the same likewise to Edward, with a Kiss for his  
letter, although I have not got it yet.

Letter # 4

London July 30, 1787

Dear Sister

I now sit down to answer your letter by Scott which I received soon after his arrival, he set out a few days after you, to North Yarmouth, when you wanted so sadly to go into his boat to sail for England; I suppose you wonder how I should know that, but you must not be surprised if I tell you every thing you did the time he was there; for he was so very particular in his Memorandum Book, I told you of, that he put down every thing you can think of, how you and Mamma were dressed every time he came, and I believe you were dressed diferently every day generally in Silks, so that altogether I think indeed you dress a great deal finer than I, for I never wear Silks every day, I assure you. He likewise gave us a very particular account of some of your acquaintance in Boston, but especially the Miss Selby's, their Persons, Dress & Accomplishments, etc. and in short everything you can possibly Imagine.

So you wonder what we can do with our Lottery Money why then I will tell you. you know it was £2.10 apiece, the eight Shillings we spent in odd matters, with one Guinea we made each other a present of a pair of stone Bracelets and with the other we intend trying our Luck another Year; so now you know what is to be done with our money,

During the Vacation we have been to Windsor; my Aunt, Miss Cope, Miss Jollin, Master Scott, & self, and we had two very agreeable Days indeed we set out at 12 o'clock on the Friday, and got down there about 6 when we drank Tea, and after that went to see the Castle, from thence we went through into the Chapel, to see where we were to sit the next morning before breakfast, for I should have told you the King & Queen were there, it rained so fast that night they could not walk on the Terrace, so accordingly on Saturday morning we sallied forth to Chapel, where we saw their Majesties, they were both dressed very plain indeed, he looked just like a Country Farmer; with a short blue Coat, & red cape, his hair tied plain behind, she had on a silk Gown, & black bonnet, there was one Lady in waiting, & two Gentlemen, after Chapel we returned home to Breakfast, which done we set out for the Bush at staines, a delightful place indeed, by the water side, we should have had more pleasure there had it not rain'd but as it did we amused ourselves by angling out of Window, but not one fish did we catch, that entertained us till dinner, & from dinner till Tea, after which we at about 6 o'clock we set out for home, which we did not reach till  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 10 when we all was glad to go to bed, and the Monday following we began School.

I suppose by this time you can play all the tunes we sent you, as I dare say you practice a great deal now pray send me word which you



like best, Pray have you been to one of those assembly's where they give people Bread & Cheese to eat instead of Wine & Cake, a very droll sort of entertainment indeed I think. I have received no letter from Edward yet, I assure you, but I suppose it is with Mamma's by Mr. Shaw (?) who has not yet brought it. I remain your ever affectionate & loving Sister

Penelope Martin

P.S. Pray Give my Love to Eliza, and tell her I will write to her next time; the same likewise to Edward, with a Kiss, for his letter; although I have not got it yet.

Dear Mamma

By your desire I wrote to Papa by the last Ship, and shall write to him again by the next, I am very glad to hear you are so well, but should be much happier if I could see you once a week. I am afraid my Aunt's letter will be very short, for we thought the Polly & Nancy would not sail till the next week; but instead of that it is not going at all; and this is to go in its stead, and sooner than we expected; and another thing my Aunt Spencer is in town; and between her and my Uncle, my Aunt has been worried almost to death; and therefore she desired me to thank Brothers for their present; but she told M<sup>r</sup>. Barnard of it, and he said that it would have been more acceptable if it had been such a one as M<sup>r</sup>. Harrison's, or a black one, I have been at M<sup>r</sup>. Barnard's for two or three Days at Burlington, for their Youngest son has been very ill; and went there for the air. We have sent you some more frost for the Cadee, pray make a little gum water and spread on it, then sprinkle it over with the frost, pray give my Duty to Papa Love

to Brothers & Sisters; and accept the same from Dear  
Mamma Your ever affectionate and  
Dutiful Daughter

Penelope Martin

(undated)

Dear Mamma

By your desire I wrote to Papa by the last Ship, and shall write to him again by the next, I am very glad to hear you are so well, but should be much happier if I could see you once a week. I am afraid my Aunt's letter will be very short, for we thought the Polly & nancy would not sail till the next week; but instead of that it is not going at all; and this is to go in its stead, and sooner than we expected; and another thing my Aunt Spencer is in town; and between her and my Uncle, my Aunt has been worried almost to death; and therefore she desired me to thank Brothers for their present; but she told Mr. Barnard of it, and he said that it would have been more acceptable if it had been such a one as Mrs Harrison's, or a black one, I have been at Mr. Barnards for two or three Days at Islington, for their Youngest son has been very ill; and went there for the air. We have sent you some more frost for the Cadee, pray make a little gun water and spread on it, then sprinkle it over with the frost, pray give my Duty to Papa Love to Brothers & Sisters; and accept the same from Dear Mamma Your ever affectionate and Dutiful Daughter

Penelope Martin



Dear Sister,

London February 25<sup>th</sup> 36

I am sorry to hear Master Scott disappointed you last ~~time~~ voyage; but here by the time you receive this he will be with you as he promised me if possible he would deliver it to you himself; he can give you a very particular account of every thing, and answer any question you put to him, as when he is in town he is very often with us; Master Dick informs me you are very good, but he means of you in the highest manner, you say nothing about your music, I think that would pass away many an hour very agreeably; though I suppose you are at a loss for a master, I hear Olga can play several tunes, Master Scott says the Misses Selby's play the best in Boston, I think by his derivation they must be very agreeable young Ladies, it is a pity you have them not for an age where you are. I think the people must be intolerably ignorant never to have seen a pinnet, poor creatures I hope you indulge them with a sight of yours; I suppose if you was to play & sing them a tune they would be in raptures, I dare say you are not sorry they don't come to see you, as they are so very vulgar. My Aunt desires her love, and says she would write but is just recovering from a very severe illness, occasioned by fretting for the loss of the Miss Bridges, who are gone likewise Miss Jolin, & too others, she is very much fretted about it, and says if she don't get any more she gives up her school, & accept My Uncle's offer of living with him which would hurt her very much. You ask me if Miss Lee ever come to see me she has never been but once I believe this year it was about three months ago, she called with her mother, she was very much pleased with her pinnet, she had learnt him great many things, she has sent a packet to our house which you will find interesting

I have likewise sent you a piece of my work, it is a trimming for a white dress either silk or Dimity, the broad is for the bottom of the petticoat, & the narrow for down the side of the Gown, and round the cuff, or waist. I hope you will like it, for it is very much admired here, it is to be turned down on each side and run neatly on.

I have seen Mr. Callahan several times, I think has a very agreeable Lady. But to be sure you must think I am not grown at all since you left England, to say Miss Callahan would be a pretty companion for me, she is quite a child and remembers I am sixteen in April. Mary gives dear Edward a kiss for me & tells him I long to see him as much as he does me, every body tells me he is a charming Boy, but that he is quite spoiled as I suppose. Miss Daines desires her love, I am glad she hopes you have not forgot her, several young Ladies here say the same, who all join me love with your affectionate—

Letter Conelone Martin

P.S. you will say this is but a short letter but it is very short.

London, February 23rd, 88

Dear Sister,

I am sorry to hear Master Scott disappointed you last voyage; but hope by the time you receive this he will be with you as he promised me if possible he would deliver it to you himself; he can give you a very particular account of everything, and answer any questions you put to him, as when he is in town he is very often with us; Master Dick informs me you are very grave, but he speaks of you in the highest manner. You say nothing about your Music. I think that would pass away many an hour very agreeably, though I suppose you are at a loss for a master. I hear Eliza can play several tunes, Master Scott says the Miss Selby's play the best in Boston. I think by his description they must be very agreeable young Ladies, it is a pity you have them not for an (blot) where you are. I think the people must be intolerably ignorant never to have seen Spinnet, poor creatures. I hope you indulge them with a sight of yours; I suppose if you was to play & sing them a tune they would be in extasies. I dare say you are not sorry they don't come to see you, as they are so very vulgar. My Aunt desires her love, and says she would write but is just recovering from a very severe illness, occasioned by fretting for the loss of the Miss Otridges' who are gone likewise Miss Jollin, & too others, she is very much fretted about

it, and says if she don't get any more she give give up her school, & accept My Uncle's offer of living with him, which wou'd hurt her very much. You ask me if Miss Lee ever comes to see me she has never been but once I believe this year it was about three months ago, she called with her mother, she was very much pleased with her parrot, she had learnt him a great many things, she has sent a packet to our house which you will find inclosed.

I have likewise sent you a piece of my work, it is a trimming for a white dress, either Silk or Dimity, the broad is for the bottom of the petticoat, & the narrow for down the sides of the Gown, and round the cuff, or wrist, I hope you will like it, for it is very much admired here, it is to be turned down on each side and run neatly on.

I have seen Mrs. Callahan several times, I think her a very agreeable Lady, but to be sure you must think I am not grown at all since you left England, to say Miss Callahan would be a pretty companion for me, she is quite a child and remember I am sixteen in April. Pray give Dear Edward a kiss for me & tell him I long to see him so much as he does me, every body tells me he is a Charming Boy, but that he is quite spoiled as I suppose. Miss Pierce desires her love, & says she hopes you have not forgot her, several Young Ladies here say the same, who

all join in Love with your affectionate

Sister Penelope Martin

P.S. you will say this is but a short letter but it is very close (?)





In the manner of P.N.Violet  
Anglo-French School, 18th century  
PROBABLY MRS. WILLIAM MARTIN,  
NEE ELIZABETH GALPINE, about 1780  
watercolor on ivory in gold mount  
Portland Museum of Art  
Bequest of William Martin Payson  
in memory of the Martin Family, 1921

Portrait of Penelope Martin's mother at about the time the  
family sailed for America

London July 22. 1788

Dear Mamma,

I wrote to you last about a fortnight ago, I don't know the name of the Ship, as Young Barnard took the letter. You did not tell me; I hope you will receive it safe. We have got all our letters by Scott, he sent them to our house as soon as he arrived. We did not write by Capt Callahan, for M<sup>r</sup> James Scott told us he would not sail a great while, & we were very much disappointed when we heard he was gone. You will be surpris'd My dear Mamma when I tell you that notwithstanding the great pain I suffered in having the first tooth drawn, I had courage to have another taken out since, the pain lasted about two - days, & I have never had the toothach since, which is very agreeable - I long much to see you my dear Mamma, what a pity I can't have that pleasure, without crossing that great Water; I wish Mamma you would return to England; what joy it would <sup>be</sup> to see all my my dearest Friends together; so you think Mamma you shall never return, & settle here, it would make us all so happy, for then my Aunt could live with us, which would make her so, as she is far from being so at present. She is exceedingly good to me, & I am happy, but I should be much more so could I but see you, & dear Papa, with all my dear Brothers, & Sisters, hearing from you is my greatest pleasure, which is very seldom now indeed. We have got Papa's Will, I hope it will please him, I had no Idea he was so ill as

I find he has been, but am rejoiced to hear he is now so well. He has wrote  
me a long letter, which I am going to answer. — I have a great piece of news to tell  
you Mamma, a particular Friend of yours is married, no other than Mr.  
Scott James, he that was dying for Miss Cope, but I will write the particulars  
to My Sister, you are doubtless much surprized, so am I, so is my Aunt, & so  
is every body who hears it. I never had a very good opinion of him, & now nobo-  
dy can have a worse, if they <sup>know</sup> so much of him as we do. he told my Aunt some-  
time ago that if Miss Cope would not have him, he should bid adieu to Sha-  
Fields, meaning that he should do all in his power to get his Sister from us,  
which he has done, so now we <sup>have</sup> but six remaining. — I have nothing more  
to tell Mamma, at present than how dear she is to her

ever dutiful,

Your affectionate Daughter

Penelope Martin



Letter # 7

London July 22<sup>d</sup>, 1788

Dear Mamma,

I wrote to you last about a fortnight ago, I don't know the name of the Ship, as Young Barnard took the letter, & did not tell me, I hope you will receive it safe. We have got all our letters by Scott, he sent them to our house as soon as he arrived - We did not write by Capt Callahan, for Mr. James Scott told us he wou'd not Sail a great while, & we were very much disappointed when we heard he was gone. You will be surprized My Dear Mamma when I tell you that notwithstanding the great pain I suffered in having the first tooth drawn, I had courage to have another taken out since, the pain lasted about two days, & I have never had the toothach since, which is very agreeable.

I long much to see you my Dear Mamma, what a pity I can't have the pleasure, without crossing that great Water; I wish Mamma you --- would return to England; what joy it would be to see all my Dearest Friends together; do you think Mamma you shall never return, & settle here? it would make us all so happy, for then My Aunt could live with us, which would make her so, as she is far from being so at present. She is exceedingly good to me, & I am happy, but I should be much more so could I but see you, & dear Papa, with all my dear Brothers & Sisters, hearing from you is my greatest pleasure, which is very seldom now indeed. We have got Papa's Wig, I hope it will please him, I had no



Idea he was so ill as I find he has been, but am rejoiced to hear he is now so well; he has wrote me a long letter, which I am going to answer.- I have a great piece of news to tell you Mamma, a particular Friend of yours married, no other then Mr. Scott Junior; he that was dying for Miss Cope, but I will write the particulars to My Sister, you are doubtless much surprized, so am I, so is my Aunt, & so is every body who hears it. I never had a very good opinion of him, & now nobody can have a                    if they knew so much of him as we do, he told my Aunt some time ago that if Miss Cope would not have him he should bid adieu to Spa Fields, meaning he should do all in his power to get his Sister from us, which he has done, so now we have but six remaining.- I have nothing more to tell Mamma, at present than how Dear she is to her

ever Dutiful

& affectionate Daughter

Penelope Martin



In the style of George Englehart  
English School, 18th century  
PROBABLY MRS. CATHERINE LOW  
AUNT OF PENELOPE MARTIN, about 1787  
watercolor on ivory in gold mount  
Portland Museum of Art  
Bequest of William Martin Payson  
in memory of the Martin Family, 1921

London July 23. 1788

Dear Sister,

I am sorry you were so much disappointed after going to Boston on purpose, that you did not see Young Mr Scott he set out with his Father, but left the Ship & came home; We were very much surprized indeed when we saw him, as he had taken ~~his~~ his leave of us; he gave us every reason to think he return'd to kill Mr. Fidler, however we dissuaded him from it, & he began to be pretty well again; but he happen'd to call at our house the day after Miss Cope was Married: I told him of it, he made me no answer, but took his leave; about two hours afterwards he come again crying & raving like a madman, he went into the parlor where were my Aunt & Miss Fick; I was out on a visit, My Aunt enquired the cause of his grief, he made no other answer than, "Oh she is gone, she is gone & by God I will most surely avenge it; crying in a most dreadful manner, as they ~~sat in the~~ were sitting, my Aunt heard something Snap when instantly Scott fell back, crying out Oh the faithful knife, My Aunt was very much frighten'd as you may suppose, fearing he had kill'd himself, but he took care of that you may be sure, for I am positive now it was nothing but a cunning scheme to frighten us, which was very wicked, for if by accident he had kill'd him self, it would have been of very bad for my Aunt, it was a Cut-throat quite new, nor whether it was broke before or not, we don't know, but when he threw it away it was in three pieces, My Aunt immediately to sent for Mr. Bliss who desired she would get a Woman to go home with him & write a note to his mother.



which we did, & sent him home, however he ran away from the man in smithfield  
& went home. Now was it not enough to frighten us, who would suppose after this  
he <sup>would</sup> soon get Married, ~~but he is I assure you,~~ yet he is I assure you, to a young  
Lady at a boarding school; he had seen her several times & danced with her,  
when they settled it so that he was to go to see her under the pretence of her Cousin,  
which he did, asked the Governour's leave to take her time for a few days, which she  
granted so they came to town & were Married. I think I shall never believe a  
a man again, such violent Love seldom is <sup>is</sup> lasting, those who say least in  
general think most, & love most. but I think I have now sufficient of Master  
Scott to give you a just opinion of him. What think you of Miss Pope being  
Married I hear of nothing but Weddings now, we have had three from our  
neighbour within ten weeks, ours is a very lucky house I assure to get a husband,  
all the girls want to come. Why dont you get Married. Sister, surely you  
have lived there long enough to have a choice, I wish you would I want  
to see your taste. — I think you take a great deal of pleasure, always upon  
some visit, I wonder among all your acquaintances you cant meet with a man  
to your mind. — I would give you an account of Fopions but really there is  
no set ~~Fopion~~ one, the Ladies are so very whimsical, they wear handkerchiefs  
I am sure a quarter of a Yard from their necks; you want to know if  
I wear handkerchiefs, I bare yet; I wear neither, but hope I shall next Winter  
as I am now very tall, ~~there~~ I sent your packet of letters to Miss Lee,  
she called at our house the other day to leave a little Box, for you, she  
& her Mother are now gone to Margate. I have no more news to tell  
you this time, the other persons who are married you dont know

P. S. When you see Scott,  
take no notice to him, of his Behaviour  
at our house.

I am Dear Sister  
yours affectionately

Penelope Martin



Letter # 2

London July 23, 1788

Dear Sister,

I am sorry you were so much disappointed after going to Boston on purpose, that you did not see Young Mr. Scott: he set out with his Father, but left the Ship & came home; We were very much surprised indeed when we saw him, as he had taken his leave of us; he gave us every reason to think he returned to kill Mr. Fidler, however we dissuaded him from it, & he began to be pretty well again; but he happened to call at our house the day after Miss Cope was married: I told him of it; he made me no answer; but took his leave; about two hours afterwards he came again crying & raving like a madman, he went into the parlor where were My Aunt, & Miss Dick; I was out on a visit, My Aunt enquired the cause of his grief, he made no other answer than, "Oh she is gone, she is gone." "O by God, I will not survive it," crying in a most dreadful manner, as they were sitting, my Aunt heard something Snap, when instantly Scott fell back, crying out, "Oh the faithless knife," My Aunt was very much frightened, as you may suppose, fearing he had killed himself, but he took care of that you may be sure, for I am positive now it was nothing but a scheme to frighten us, which was very wicked, for if by accident he had killed himself, it would have been very bad for My Aunt, it was a Penknife quite new, now whether it was broke before or not, we don't know, but when he threw it away it was in three pieces, My Aunt immediately sent for Mr. Blew who desired she would get a Man, to go home with him & write a note to his mother, which we did, & sent him home, however he ran away from the man in Smithfield & went home. Now was it not enough to frighten us, who could suppose

after this he would so soon get married, yet he is I assure you, to a Young Lady at a Boarding School, he had seen her several times & danced with her, when they settled it so that he was to go and see her under the pretence of her Cousin, which he did, asked the Governess' leave to take her to town for a few days, which she granted so they came to town & were married. I think I shall never believe a man again, such violent Love seldom is lasting, those who say least, in general think most, & love most: but I think I have now said sufficient of Master Scott, to give you a just opinion of him. What think you of Miss Cope being Married I hear of nothing but Weddings now, we have had three from our house within ten weeks, ours is a very lucky house I assure to get a husband, all the Girls want to come. Why don't you get Married Sister; surely you have lived there long enough to have a choice, I wish you would I want to see your taste. -- I think you take a great deal of pleasure, always upon some visit, I wonder among all your acquaintance you can't meet with a man to your mind.- I would give you an account of Fashions but really there is no set one, the Ladies are so very whimsical, they wear hankerchiefs I am sure a quarter of a Yard from their necks; You want to know if I wear handkerchiefs, & Caps yet; I wear neither, but hope I shall next Winter as I am now very tall. I sent your packet of letters to Miss Lee, she called at our house the other day to leave a little Box, for you, she & her Mother are now gone to margate. I have no more news to tell you this time, the other persons who are married you don't know.

I am Dear Sister  
Yours affectionately  
Penelope Martin

P.S. When you see Scott, take no notice of him, of his behavior at our house.

London March 3. 89

My Dear Sister,

I was greatly disappointed on opening the packet at not finding a letter from you, Mamma informed me you was gone to a Wedding, and I certainly expected you would ~~have wrote me word~~ write me word all about it, as I never was at one, and should ~~have liked~~ liked to have heard; pray when do you intend to have ~~one~~ of your own, is there not one of all the Yankies you could like, I leave you ~~one~~ strangely altered so very dull & melancholy, I can't think what is the matter with you, well I suppose you will see Jeremy Scott soon, and then you will ~~be~~ ~~all~~ about as, perhaps Sister that may afford you no small pleasure, he is not married properly, but don't you tell him I say so. — You find I am not to see you this Spring, as was intended, tho' perhaps I may soon have that pleasure, I desire you would have the spinnet in time for me, try if you can't persuade Papa to buy a a Harpsichord, for after playing on one so long, I can't know how to relish a spinnet, I shall defer sending you any songs till I come, and then I shall bring I a great many, for by that time there will be some new ones come out.



as for Fashions, & News, I know nothing at all about them, only that  
the King has been out of his mind, and still continues very bad,  
it was thought he would have died, there has been a great piece  
of work about it, but happily for the nation he <sup>has</sup> recovered the use  
of his reason.

I think Sister you live very gay, always  
visiting at different places, you must introduce me to all your  
acquaintance, if then I shall see how I like them. I don't think you  
will know me, for I am much altered, I am as tall as you I dare say,  
but have not so much great a colour as I had by a great deal, well,  
I long to see you, it will be a happy meeting. I expect you will have  
a public dance on the occasion, if you invite all your young friends to  
partake the general joy. I have sent you two ~~letters~~ from  
your friend Miss Lee, I have had one a great while, it was to have  
gone by Capt. Davies but he was sailed before, and therefore we could  
not send it before. — All your English Friends, & acquaintance —  
desire to be remembered to you, my aunt desires her kindest —  
love but says she has not time to write ~~more~~, adieu my

Dear Sister believe me your

very affectionate S

Penelope Harton



Letter # 9

London March 3, '89 (1789)

My Dear Sister,

I was greatly disappointed on opening the packet at not finding a letter from you, Mamma informed me you was gone to a Wedding, and I certainly expected you would have wrote me word all about it, as I never was at one, and should liked to have heard; pray when do you intend to have one of your own? is there not one of all the Yankies you could like? I hear you are strangely altered so very dull & melancholy, I can't think what is the matter with you, well I suppose you will see Jimmy Scott soon, and then you will hear all about us, perhaps Sister that may afford you no small pleasure, he is not married properly, but don't tell him I say so. -You find I am not to see you this Spring, as was intended, tho' perhaps I may soon have that pleasure, I desire you would have the spinnet in tune for me, try if you can't persuade Papa to buy a Harpsichord, for after playing on one so long, I shan't know how to relish a Spinnet; I shall defer sending you any Songs 'till I come, and then I shall bring a great many, for by that time there will be some new ones come out.- As for Fashions, & News, I know nothing at all about them, only that the King has been out of his mind, and still continues very bad, it was thought he would have died, there has been a great piece of work about it, but happily

for the nation he has recovered the use of his reason. - I think Sister you live very gay, always visiting at Different places, you must introduce me to all your acquaintance, & than I shall see how I like them; I don't think you will know me, for I am much altered, I am as tall as you I dare say, but have not so great a colour as I had by a great deal, well, I long to see you, it will be a happy meeting, I expect you will have a public dance on the occasion, & invite all your Young Friends to partake the general joy.- I have sent you two letters from your Friend Miss Lee, I have had one a great while, it was to have gone by Capt. Davies but he was sailed before, and therefore we cou'd not send it before. - All your English Friends & acquaintance desire to be remembered to you, my Aunt desires her kindest - Love, but says she has not time to write. adieu my

Dear Sister believe me your

very affectionate S

Penelope Martin

London August 6<sup>th</sup> 89

My Dear Sister,

I have now both your last Letters before me, the first I received by Scott, and the last was sent me by the post, from Mr. Root, but she has not call'd herself as you said she would, nor I suppose now won't; I sent both Miss Lee's Letters to her, but as for any parcel I have seen no such thing, I dare say Scott had got it, but he seldom now call'd at our house above once all the time he stays, which is never very long, but this time shorter than ever, and that is the reason my dear Sister that you will not see me this year, for I could not get half my things ready, I am very sorry you should have had the trouble last time to go to Boston on my account, but then you had a great deal of pleasure there, besides seeing all your old acquaintances, which in a great measure made amends for all your fatigue and disappointment, Jimmy Scott tells me you are now quite a different creature to what you was when he saw you before, that you are all life & spirits, for ever laughing and making every body merry around you, I am exceedingly glad to hear

it, and hope you will always continue so. — So you think on the King's birth day we were all rejoicing at court, but I assure you we were not, I have seen that sight several times, and had no desire to see it again, but there has been a much grander sight here than that, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April; I believe I told you in a former letter how very dangerous ~~by~~ bad this majesty had been, in so much that ~~so~~ great many people had got their mourning ready, however to the great joy & surprise of all his subjects, he recovered, and on the above mentioned day went to St. Pauls, attended by his Queen, & the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York & some of the Princesses, to return thanks, there never was so grand a sight ever seen in England, — Mr. Newbery was offered 3 hundred pounds, for the use of his house, and you could not get a single place any where for less than half a Guinea; all the Charity Children in London were assembled at St. Pauls to sing, all the Windows were crowded with spectators, and scaffolds were every where erected, the Ladies were all dressed as grand as if they were going to a Ball, every one with God save the King in their heads, and yet for all that this, every thing was so very silent and so well managed, that it is impossible to conceive



the charming effect it had, now don't you wonder where I was? why, I was at home, absolutely I was, and saw nothing of it, tho' it was so grand, my aunt would have taken me any where, but I would not go, ain't you surpris'd, that I had no more curiosity? I dare say you are, but indeed I had not the least inclination to see it, but I think I have not told you enough of it, only that the King seemed very much delighted, he went in state, and they were all dress'd exceedingly elegant.

I have got your Ribband's dy'd for you, I hope you will like them, I have likewise sent you a couple of songs, very pretty ones I assure you. I can't think how any body could tell you we lived in a dull place, quite the contrary, it is much more public than Spa Fields, there are noblemen's Bariges continually passing, and frequently some of the Royal Family, it is exceedingly pleasant, and very much admir'd, more so a great deal than Spa Fields and as for thieves, we are not at all afraid of them. I hope you will not complain that my letter is short now, I love to oblige you, but sometimes I have not any thing to say, Adieu m<sup>rs</sup> chere soeur yours Ever affectly  
Penelope Martin

Letter # 10

London August 6th '89 (1789)

My Dear Sister,

I have now both your last Letters before me, the first I received by Scott, and the last was sent me by the post, from Mrs. Boot, but she has not call'd herself as you said she wou'd, nor I suppose now she won't; I sent both Miss Lee's Letters to her, but as for any parcel I have seen no such thing, I dare say Scott has got it, but he seldom now calls at our house above once all the time he stays, which is never very long, but this time shorter than ever, and that is the reason my dear Sister that you will not see me this year, for I could not get half my things ready, I am very sorry you should have had the trouble last time to go to Boston on my account, but then you had a great deal of pleasure there, besides seeing all your old acquaintanee, which in a great measure made amends for all your fatigue and disappointment, Jemmy Scott tells me you are now quite a different creature to what you was when he saw you before, that you are all life & spirits, for ever laughing and making every body merry around you, I am exceedingly glad to hear it and hope you will always continue so.- So you think on the King's birthday we were all rejoicing at court, but I assure you we were not, I have seen that sight several times, and had no desire to see it again, but there has been a much grander sight here than that, on the 25th of April; I believe I told you in a former Letter how very dangerously bad his majesty had been, in so much that a great many people had got their mourning ready, however to the great joy and surprise of all his sub-

jects, he recovered, and on the above mentioned day went to St. Paul's, attended by his Queen, & the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York & some of the Princesses, to return thanks; there never was so grand a sight ever seen in England. Mr. Newberry was offered 3 hundred pounds for the use of his house, and you could not get a single place any where for less than half a Guinea; all the Charity Children in London were assembled at St. Paul's to sing; all the Windows were crowded with spectators, and scaffolds were every where erected, the Ladies were all dressed as grand as if they were going to a Ball, every one with God Save the King in their heads, and yet from all this, every thing was so very silent, and so well managed, that it is impossible to conceive the charming effect it had, now don't you wonder where I was? Why, I was at home, absolutely I was, and saw nothing of it, tho' it was so grand, my Aunt would have taken me any where, but I would not go, A'nt you surprised, that I had no more curiosity? I dare say you are, but indeed I had not the least inclination to see it, but I think I have now told you enough of it, only that the King seemed very much delighted, he went in state and they were all dressed exceedingly elegant.

I have got your Ribbands dy'd for you, I hope you will like them, I have likewise sent you a couple of songs, very pretty ones I assure you. I can't think how young Scott cou'd tell you we lived in a dull place, quite the contrary, it is much more public than Spa Fields, there are noblemen's bariges continually passing, and frequently some of the Royal Family, it is exceedingly pleasant, and very much admired, more so a great deal than Spa Fields, and as for thieves, we are not at all afraid of them. I hope you will not complain that my Letter is short

Letter # 10, Page 3

now, I love to oblige you, but sometimes I have not any thing to say,

Adieu ma chere soeur    Yours Ever affecty

Penelope Martin



London August 17<sup>th</sup> 89

My Dear Mamma,

I wrote to Papa by the Packet as you desired me I hope you will receive it safe and in time to prevent your going to Boston, I hope you will not be displeas'd at my not coming, but what could I do, Scott was oblig'd to go, and my Aunt ~~would~~ and Mr. Barnard did not like me to come with Callahan. Mr. B. inform'd us yesterday that he has receiv'd another Letter from Mr. H. Martin together with a Bill of 50 pounds, due the 1<sup>st</sup> of this month, he has likewise wrote <sup>to</sup> Papa, and to myself, both which Letters I have enclos'd, Mr. B. will keep the money till we hear from you again, but has set me have three Guineas for the present.

My Aunt desires me to tell you that she does not know whether she shall be able to write at all, for since Christmas she has had two very severe fits of the Billous Cholick which have rendered her very weak and indifferant, however she has a much better prospect now than when we wrote last, she has the promise of several new

ones, besides a young lady of four & twenty who pays 40 Guineas a year so that if she could all those in view, she would do very well.

We enquired after Number 18.280 but found it was a blank. We have got your Gown clean'd, I hope you will like it, I believe it is all right. - I have wrote this time to all my dear Brothers, & Sisters, except Sammy, and Edward the latter I know can't write, but I am very angry with Sammy, it is quite a shame that he never writes, pray my dear Mamma tell him so; I hope you will excuse such bad writing, but indeed there is no such thing as keeping a good pen, for the Children always take them. God bless you

my beloved Mamma, that  
every happiness my attend you,  
is the constant prayer of  
your ever dutiful & affec<sup>ed</sup>

Daughter

Penelope Martin

P.S. My Aunt desires her sincere Love & hopes you will excuse  
her not writing, but indeed she has not time, but you may depend  
upon having a long letter by the next ship. She begs me to inform  
you that Mr. Barnard will put the money in a Banker's hands, to  
remain untouched till I go; she thinks that the money will not  
hold out to buy a Gold Watch, for as I am so very bare of cloaths, 15  
~~was~~ will be but just enough for myself. However she ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~will~~  
send for me in March, that you will be very particular in giving  
orders, what I am to bring, and pray mention again what cloaths I  
am to have, for fear my <sup>aunt</sup> should buy what you might think extraor-  
gant. Adieu my Dear Mamma

Letter # 11

London August 7th '89 (1789)

My Dear Mamma,

I wrote to Papa by the Packet as you desir'd me, I hope you will receive it safe and in time to prevent your going to Boston, I hope you will not be displeas'd at my not coming, but what could I do, Scott was oblig'd to go, and my Aunt and Mr. Barnard did not like me to come with Callahan. Mr. B. inform'd us yesterday that he has receiv'd another Letter from Mr. H. Martin, together with a Bill of 50 pounds, due the 16 of this month, he has likewise wrote to Papa, and to myself, both which Letters I have enclos'd, Mr. B. will keep the money till we hear from you again, but has let me have three Guineas for the present.

My Aunt desires me to tell you that she does not know whether she shall be able to write at all, for since Christmas she has had two very severe fits of the Billous Cholic which have rendered her very weak and indifferent however she has a much better prospect now than when we wrote last, she has the promise of several new ones, besides a young Lady of four & twenty who pays 40 Guineas a year so that if she could all those in view, she would do very well.

We enquir'd after Number 18.280 but found it was a blank. We have got your Gown cleaned, I hope you will like it, I believe it is all right. I have wrote this time to all my dear Brothers, & Sisters, except Sammy, and Edward, the latter I know can't write, but I am very angry with Sammy, it is quite a shame that he never writes, pray My Dear Mamma tell him so; I hope you will excuse such bad writing, but



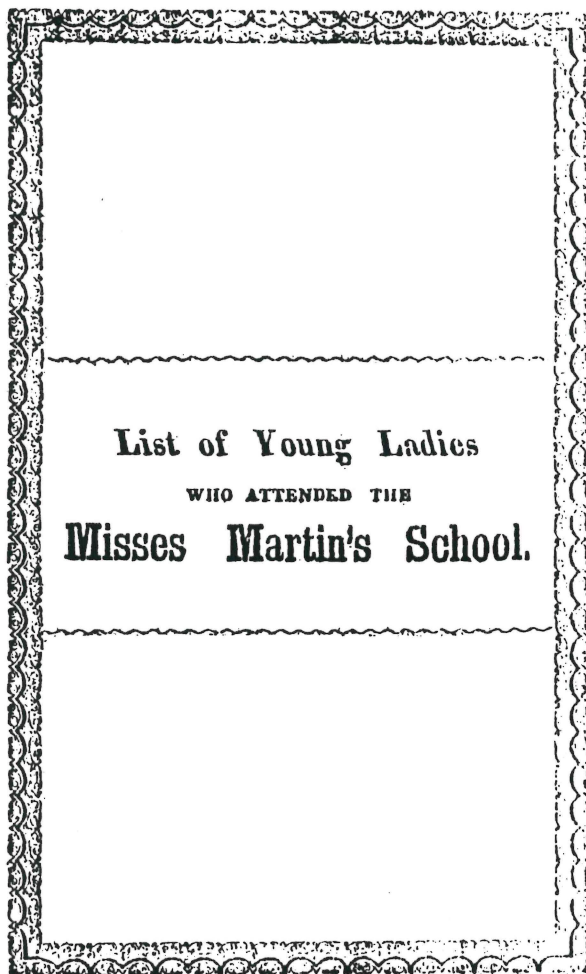
indeed there is no such thing as keeping a good pen, for the Children  
always take them. God bless you

my beloved Mamma, that  
every happiness may attend you,  
is the constant prayer of  
your ever dutiful & affect.

Daughter  
Penelope Martin

PS My Aunt desires her sincere Love, hopes you will excuse her not  
writing, but indeed she has not time, but you may depend upon having a  
long letter by the next ship. She begs me to inform you that Mr. Barnard  
will put the money in a Banker's hands, to remain untouched till I go. She  
thinks the money will not hold out to buy a Gold Watch, for as I am so  
very bare of cloaths, 15 guineas will be but just enough for myself,  
however she <sup>[begs when you]</sup> send for me in march, that you will be very particular  
in giving orders, what I am to bring, and pray mention again what cloaths I  
am to have, for fear my aunt should buy what you might think extravagant.

Adieu my Dear Mamma



## The Misses Martin's School.

THE MISSES MARTIN having been frequently requested to furnish their friends with a list of the young Ladies who formerly attended their school in Portland, it is now with pleasure they review the subject, and present this precious relic, in the names of those dear young friends who once listened to their instructions; most of whom are now heads of families, occupying highly respectable situations in life, while others are gone down to the silent grave, cut off in the midst of their bloom. Their Teachers are left to admire the ways of Providence and observe his footsteps in every circumstance connected with their once interesting school.

As many a year has now elapsed since the era when the school was in operation, it would be inexpedient to enlarge on the subject of its commencement, continuance or close, or the rules and regulations by which it was so long maintained: it may suffice to say that it was established and carried out on the old school system, one feature of which was the inculcation of respect towards Parents and Teachers.—Another, a critical observance of the young Ladies' conduct and improvement during a term of six months, when at the close of said term, it was usual to present each one at parting, with some appropriate mark of approbation, either in prose or verse. The following lines are a specimen.

### TO JANE.

Not prone to flatter, but just praise to give,  
I deem it right that praise you should receive,  
For you have tried your ev'ry art to please,  
And those who do, will always sure succeed.

The Alpine heights to you have nothing been,  
But sloping hills, to variegate the scene.  
Wiser in knowledge and in science grown,  
Your future conduct this will long make known.  
The hill of science you have climbed with ease,  
Yourself you honor and your teacher please.  
My precepts love, in wisdom strive t' increase,  
Her ways are pleasantness—her paths are peace.

### TO HARRIET.

Of praise expect not much from me,  
High sounding words pernicious be;  
Yet simple truth I always tell,  
And you my dear deserve it well.  
My labors all you have repaid,  
Tho' slow—you are a pleasing maid.  
For upright mind, devoid of art,  
Is always sure to gain my heart.  
And as I give the parting kiss,  
I pray for your eternal bliss.

### TO MARY.

Dear pious friend! once more accept my lays,  
Your conduct challenges my highest praise.  
Your taste refined, and virtuous efforts prove  
Your mind as lovely, as your talents good;  
And Oh! if rightly you these gifts apply,  
You'll bloom in fairer scenes above the sky;  
There we shall meet again on that blest shore,  
Where sighs and parting scenes are known no more.  
Then now adieu! to love me do not cease,  
We've lived in harmony—we part in peace.

# A LIST OF YOUNG LADIES,

## BOARDERS,

Who attended the Misses MARTIN'S School,

IN PORTLAND,

From the Year 1801, to 1839.

Those having this mark \* annexed, are deceased.

Agry Hannah	Hallowell	<i>Kingsbury Esq</i>
Agry Martha	"	<i>W. Vaughn Esq</i>
Agry Eliza	"	
Appleton Mary	Brunswick	
Appleton Frances*	"	<i>prof. Packard</i>
Appleton	Waterville	
Anderson Ann	Windham	<i>Dr. Waterman</i>
Adams Sarah	Portland	<i>Day Esq</i>
Adams*	Thomaston	
Baker Nancy	Limerick	<i>Leigh Esq.</i>
Boyd Susan	Portland	
Bradford Margaret	Wiscasset	<i>Elliot Esq Boston</i>
Boyd Jane	"	<i>Young</i>
Boyd Susan	"	<i>Hecounty</i>
Brooks Eliza	Augusta	
Belcher	Boston	
Belcher	"	
Bowman Louisa*	Wiscasset	<i>Sewal Boston</i>
Bryant Harriet	Nobleborough	
Bryant Julia	"	
Bridge Margaret	Augusta	<i>North Esq.</i>
Bridges Sarah	Calais	
Brewster Mary +	Buxton	

*Marriages*

Brewster Eliza*	Buxton	
Brewer Dorcas		
Bourne	Kennebunk	
Barker Sophia	Bangor	
Barker Mary	"	
Bucknam Sarah Ann	Eastport	
Babson Abigail	Wiscasset	<i>Norton D</i>
Bradstreet Sarah	Gardiner	
Brown Mary Ann	Vassalborough	<i>Foster</i>
Brown Caroline	"	
Codman Hannah*	Boston	
Cross Betsy*	Portland	<i>W. Sewal</i>
Cox Frances	"	<i>Vinton</i>
Cox Caroline*	"	<i>L. Woodbury</i>
Clapp Betsey	"	<i>Rev Olney</i>
Clapp Frances	"	<i>Emerson</i>
Clapp Mary*	"	
Clap Betsey	Bath	
Clap Abigail	"	<i>Bradstreet</i>
Clap Almira	"	<i>H. Butman</i>
Clap Mary	"	
Cutter Harriet	Portland	<i>Adams S</i>
Clark Caroline	Kennebunk	
Clark Betsey	"	
Clark Sally	"	
Clark Eliza	York	
Clark Betsey	Portsmouth	
Clark Harriet	"	
Cony Paulina	Augusta	<i>Judge Weston</i>
Child Anna	"	
Craig Hannah	"	
Cook Victoria	Wiscasset	
Cook Julia	"	
Carlton Susan*	"	

*Marriages*

4

*Marriages*

5

Carlton Eliza	Wiscasset	<i>Erastus Foote Esq.</i>
Carlton Nancy*	"	
Crocker Sally	Bath	
Cash Sally	Vermont	<i>W. Mitchell Portland</i>
Cary Clara*	Turner	
Cobb Mary*	Portland	<i>C. Dummer Esq</i>
Chadwick Matilda*	"	
Chadwick Cordelia*	"	
Cleaves Sarah	Saco	
Cleaves Mary	"	
Cutts Sally*	"	
Crosby Sally	Hampden	
Curry Anna	St. Andrews	<i>Putnam Esq.</i>
Carter Henrietta*	Honduras	
Cushing Francis	Turner	
Davis Helen	Boston	
Davis Marcia	"	
Davis Charlotte	Sydney	
Dawes Mehitable	Boston	<i>Goddard</i>
Deering Harriet	Portland	
Deering Dorcas	"	<i>S. Deblois Esq</i>
Deering Almira	"	<i>H. Merrill</i>
Downs Lydia* •	Boston	
Dunlap Marcia*	Brunswick	<i>Dr. Lincoln</i>
Drummond Jane	Georgetown	
Dummer Maria	Hallowell	<i>Perley Esq</i>
Dummer Harriet	"	<i>J. Boyd Esq</i>
Dicks Nancy	Portland	<i>J. Brooks B.</i>
Dole Mary*	Alna	
Erving Ann*	Boston	
Elden Eliza*	Buxton	
Emmonds Sally*	Portland	<i>Rev Cummings</i>
Emerson Miranda*	York	

Freeman Dorcas*	Portland	<i>Fowers. B</i>
Fox Rebecca	"	<i>J. ...</i>
Farrel Mary	Hallowell	
Farrel Frances	"	
Farley Sally*	Waldoborough	<i>Wm McRea</i>
Foxcraft Hannah*	N. Gloucester	
Foxcraft Abigail	"	
Gilman Rebecca*	Marietta	
Gilman Sally	Wells	<i>Rev. Clark</i>
Gilman Sarah*	Waterville	
Gilman Elizabeth	"	<i>Blank</i>
Gage Eliza	Portland	
Gage Eliza	Newburyport	
Gage Caroline*	Augusta	<i>vose</i>
Gage Malinda	Bridgton	
Granger Sally	Saco	
Granger Harriet	"	
Grant Eliza*	Gardiner	
Greenleaf Mehitable*	Newburyport	
Goddard Lucy Maria	Portsmouth	
Goddard Eliza*	"	
Gordon Fanny	Stroudwater	
Gurley Eliza	Portland	<i>Gurley. W</i>
Hooper Sally	Boston	
Hooper Harriet	"	<i>Savage</i>
Hooper Mary	Saco	
Hooper Mary	Marblehead	
Hill Rebecca	Saco	
Hill Mary Jane	Georgetown	
Hill Evelina	"	
Hill Almira	"	
Hill Cordelia	"	
Hill Helen	"	
Hill Elizabeth*	N. Yarmouth	

Hart Sally	Portland	<i>Capt Choate</i>
Ham Abigail	Portsmouth	<i>G. W. W. P</i>
Hall Clarrissa	Buckstown	<i>Page - H. al</i>
Hull Caroline*	Boston	
Harris Mary	Portsmouth	<i>T. Sanford</i>
Head Sally	Warren	<i>Bellinap. B</i>
Head Maria*	"	<i>Leigh</i>
Hodges Mary*	Portland	
Hook Mary	Castine	
Hazen Sophia*	St. John	
Hight Eunice	Hollis	
Hight Frances*	"	
Hammat Mary	Boston	
Hartley Eliza	Saco	
Hyde Mary	Freeport	
Hyde Sarah Ann	"	<i>Rev Hobart</i>
Hatch	Kennebunk	
Herrick	Hampden	
Hayes	Kennebunk	
Hastings	Thomaston	
Hinkley Mary Ann*	Brunswick	
Jackson Margaret	Honduras	
Jackson Catharine	"	<i>Ida Parker. N. Y.</i>
Jeffords Olive	Kennebunk	
Jeffords Sarah Ann	"	
Jordan	Ellsworth	
Jellison Martha	"	
Jones Sarah	Bath	
Jacobs Caroline	Camden	<i>Dr. Eastbrook</i>
Jenks Sally	Bath	
Johnston Ann	Wiscasset	
Kelleran Ellen	Portland	
Lord Mary	Kennebunk	<i>Watts Esq</i>
Lord Lucy	"	

Lord Mehitable	Kennebunk	
Lord Phebe	"	<i>pro. Upam</i>
Lord Susan	"	
Lord	Ellingham	<i>Rev. Jan</i>
Lord Emily	Gardiner	
Leland Sally	Saco	<i>Boyan. W</i>
Leland Betsey	"	<i>Pres. Lord</i>
Leland Mary	"	<i>Freeman B</i>
Leland Harriet*	"	
Lobdel Marcia*	Stroudwater	
Lec Mary	Wiscasset	<i>Luke Bates</i>
Lee Lucy	"	<i>Porter</i>
Little Hannah	Kennebunk	
Little Frances*	Boston	<i>Gene</i>
Little Sarah	Windham	<i>Gerrish</i>
Lithgow Caroline	Augusta	<i>Devens. C.</i>
Lane Eliza	Boston	
Lane Jane*	Buxton	
Lane Margaret	N. Gloucester	<i>Dr. Rogers</i>
Lambert	Bath	
Lewis Mary*	Gorham	<i>Smith</i>
Lincoln Mary	Wiscasset	
Ladd Almatia	Belfast	
Lyman Narcissa	York	<i>Rev Carpenter</i>
Loring Lucretia*	N. Yarmouth	<i>Byrann</i>
McLellan Jane	Portland	<i>G. Fox</i>
McLellan Caroline*	"	<i>Pope</i>
McLellan Margaret	"	<i>Whitman</i>
McLellan Harriet	Bath	
McLellan Lydia	"	
McGeorge Mary	St. John	<i>Capt Stone</i>
McKeen Nancy	Brunswick	<i>D. Faulkner</i>
McKeen Alice*	"	<i>Farley</i>
McDonald Mary	Limerick	<i>J. Merrill</i>



*Marriages*

McDonald Lydia\*  
 McDonald Hannah  
 McDonald Frances  
 McDonald Meriam  
 Maguiere  
 McCobb Sally  
 McCobb Hannah  
 Morrill Hannah  
 Mackey Jane  
 Marston Louisa  
 Morton Statira\*  
 Morton Eliza\*  
 Mellen Augusta  
 Martin Cordelia\*  
 Moore Mary Ann  
 Mooro Sarah  
 May Mary  
 May Louisa\*  
 Mitchell Phebe  
 Moody Eliza  
 Moody Sarah  
 Moody  
 Merrill Sally  
 Merrill Miranda  
 Myrick Nancy  
 Nichols Betsey  
 Nichols Hannah\*  
 Nesmith Charlotte  
 Nesmith Nancy  
 Oxnard Lucy  
 Osgood\*  
 O'Brien Valeria  
 Purrinton

Limerick  
 " "  
 " "  
 Wiscasset  
 Georgetown  
 " "  
 Limerick  
 Portsmouth  
 Boston  
 Portland  
 " "  
 " "  
 Castine  
 " "  
 Boston  
 " "  
 N. Yarmouth  
 Kennebunk  
 Hallowell  
 Belfast  
 " "  
 Falmouth  
 N. Yarmouth  
 Bristol  
 Wiscasset  
 Belfast  
 " "  
 Portland  
 Fryeburg  
 Newbury  
 Topsham

*Emerson  
 Merrill*  
*Dole*  
*S. Martin*  
*Hanson*  
*Nichols*  
*Greeley Esq.*  
*Manch Bath*  
*Vaughan*  
*Loujeoy*  
*Shaw*  
*J. Fox*

Purrinton Priscilla  
 Page Caroline  
 Page Emmeline  
 Porter Mary  
 Porter Delia  
 Porter Ellen  
 Paul Sophia  
 Paul Narcissa  
 Palmer Louisa\*  
 Palmer Mary  
 Peterson Mary  
 Pearce Harriet  
 Payne Alice  
 Payson Clarissa\*  
 Parker Triphosa  
 Parker Mary Ann\*  
 Pike Elizabeth  
 Prince Sarah  
 Prior Jane  
 Parsons Emmeline  
 Parsons Sophia  
 Perley  
 Quincey Ann  
 Rice Sophia  
 Rice Maria  
 Rice Marcia  
 Robinson Eliza  
 Robertson Mary  
 Randall Sally\*  
 Randall Rebecca\*  
 Randall Ellen\*  
 Sewall Lydia\*  
 Sewall Mary  
 Sewall Susan

Topsham  
 Hallowell  
 " "  
 Topsham  
 Freeport  
 " "  
 Kennebunk  
 " "  
 Hallowell  
 " "  
 Bath  
 Boston  
 Portland  
 Wiscasset  
 " "  
 Gardiner  
 Calais  
 Thomaston  
 Bath  
 Wiscasset  
 " "  
 Bridgeton  
 Portland  
 Wiscasset  
 Kittery  
 " "  
 Portland  
 St. Johns  
 Buxton  
 " "  
 " "  
 Marblehead  
 York  
 Augusta

*W. Wood*  
*monae*  
*a Glesley*  
*e Handlen*  
*Haskins*  
*Blake*  
*Hav. Pomeroy*  
*Chase*  
*Capt West*  
*Greeley B*

Sewall Mary\*  
 Sewall Joanna  
 Smith Mehitable  
 Smith Caroline  
 Smith Eliza  
 Smith Dolly\*  
 Stone Olivo  
 Stone Narcissa  
 Stone Mary  
 Stone  
 Seavy  
 Storer Sophia  
 Stocker Sally  
 Smouse Bertha\*  
 Shaw Lucy\*  
 Shaw Rebecca\*  
 Shaw Emma  
 Snell Cammitta  
 Southgate Arixene\*  
 Stimson Martha  
 Starr  
 Shannon Mary  
 Sanborn Lucy  
 Swan Margaret  
 Swan Catherine  
 Savage Sarah  
 Sprague Abigail  
 Thacher Lucy  
 Thornton Betsey  
 Thornton Sally  
 Thornton Mary  
 Tallman Maria  
 Tallman Eliza  
 Tallman Caroline

Augusta  
 Hallowell  
 Durham N. H.  
 Bath  
 " "  
 " "  
 Kennebunk  
 Brunswick  
 Topsham  
 Philadelphia  
 Wiscasset  
 Saco  
 Newburyport  
 Waldoborough  
 Portland  
 " "  
 Buckstown  
 Winthrop  
 Scarborough  
 Boston  
 Jay  
 Saco  
 Falmouth  
 Gardiner  
 " "  
 Buxton  
 Berwick  
 Plymouth  
 Saco  
 " "  
 " "  
 Bath  
 " "  
 " "

*Elin Gage*  
*Rich Ripley*  
*Beddington*  
*Benson*  
*H Smith*  
*Bush*  
*Grant*  
*Adams*  
*Belton Boston*  
*Smith*  
*Gardiner*

Titcomb Mary	Wesbrook	
Titcomb Almira	"	<i>Judge Fitch</i>
Tilton Mary	Scarborough	
Tupper Deborah	Dresden	
Vaughan Olive	Portland	
Vaughan Mary	"	<i>Crabtree</i>
Weeks Lydia	"	
Wilde Eunice	Hallowell	
Wilde Abigail	Kennebunk	
Wise Mary*	"	
Williams Abigail	"	
Wood Betsey	Wiscasset	<i>W. Cobb P</i>
Wood Helen	"	<i>W. Cobb</i>
Wood Isabella	"	<i>Goffin</i>
Wood Hannah	"	
Winship Eliza	Boston	
Winship Charlotte	"	
Warren Marcia	Plymouth	
Webb Betsey	Bath	
Webb Mary	"	
Walker	Kennebunk	
Walker		
Webster Mary*	Portland	
Waldo Sally*	Boston	
Wheeler Sally	Eastport	
Waite Jane	Portland	
Whitman Lucia	"	<i>Nitchel</i>
Whitney Lucy	Lincolntonville	

## LIST OF DAY SCHOLARS.

Alden Louisa	Alden Eliza	
Alden Mehitable	Adams Sarah	
Alden Caroline	Atherton Eliza	<i>Goster</i>
Alden Delia	Atherton Jane	
Bradbury Caroline	Barnes Mary*	
Bradbury Harriet*	Baker Elizabeth	<i>C. Barcott</i>
Barbour Caroline*	Baker	
Barbour Jane	Bartells Caroline	
Bartols Jane	Brown Mary	
Bryant Martha	Barneval	
Boyd Susannah*	Bagley Mary	
Brooks Jane*	Bradley	
Cutter Harriet	<i>Adams</i> Cutter Jane Maria	<i>Dorranee</i>
Cutter Angela	<i>Rinsman</i> Cutter Delia	<i>Gardiner</i>
Cutter Julia Ann*	<i>Cuttler</i> Cutter	
Codman Elizabeth	Cammett	
Cressy Caroline	Cumming Mary*	
Clarke	Carter Henrietta*	
Child Maria	Carter Mary	
Coe Elizabeth	Cushman S. J.	
Capen*	Cushman Emma	
Collins	Curry Mary	
Collins	Chase	
Crabtree	Chadwick Caroline	
Chadwick Cordelia*		
Drinkwater Rachel	<i>in Leder</i> Drinkwater Frances*	
Day Ellen	Douglass	
Davis	Dunning Jane	
Davis Sarah*	Dana Adeline	<i>Adams</i>
Douglass Mary	Dana Mary	
Dana Ann	<i>G. Drinkwater</i> Duncan Margaret	
Everet		
Frothingham Mary*	Farmer Eliza Ann	

Frothingham  
*Tinkham* Frothingham Lucretia  
 Fisher Mary  
*oynard* Grace Ann Maria  
*Edwards* Gerrish Adeline  
 Gerrish Frances  
 Gurley Eliza  
 Gurley Caroline  
 Greely Persis  
 Greely Elizabeth  
 Greeley Persis  
*W. Thomson* Goddard Elizabeth  
 Goddard Mary  
*Burill* Gordon Deborah  
*Elmer* Gilman Elizabeth  
*Choate* Hart Sally  
 Harris Mary  
 Harris Elizabeth  
 Harris  
 Harris  
 Harris  
*Deering* Holwell Anna  
 Hyde Martha  
 Hoole Louisa  
 Humphery Hannah  
 Hall Sarah  
 Hall Maria  
 Hale Mary  
 Hale Julia  
 Haynes  
 Hubbs Jane  
*Cummings* Hsley Emily  
 Hsley Charlotte  
 Hsley Mary\*

Forsaith Sarah  
 Fisher Dolly *Rev Crofoot*  
 Farmer Eliza Ann  
 Gorrish Martha  
 Gurley Charlotte  
 Gurley Ann Maria  
 Gordon Margaret  
 Gordon Susan  
 Gordon Hulda  
 Gardiner  
 Gardiner Julia  
 Gorham Chalotte  
 Gorham Maria  
 Gorham  
 Holwell Mary Ann *Hidden*  
 Hopkins Mary  
 Hopkins Susan  
 Hopkins Dorcas  
 Hunt Hellen  
 Harding Sarah  
 Hyde Mary  
 Hayward  
 How Caroline *Gove*  
 Howe Mary  
 Hayes  
 Hayes Penelope M. *Rev Goodings*  
 Hayes Jane  
 Haynes  
 Harrod Caroline *Barrett*  
 Hooper  
 Ingraham Ann *Bailey*  
 Ingraham Mary *Bowyer*

Johnson  
 Kellogg Eunice\*  
 Kidder Mary  
 Kinsman Elleanor  
 Kellere Eliza  
 Kellere Jane  
 Kellere Harriet  
 Kellere Ellen  
 Lowel Ann  
 Lowel Ellen  
 Lowel Harriet  
 Lowel Ellen  
 Lowel Jane  
 Lincoln Jane  
 Lincoln Harriet  
 Lincoln Elizabeth  
 Lord Lois  
 Lord Betsey\*  
 McLellen Jane *Hanson*  
 McLellen Emily  
 McLellan Patience\*  
 McLellan Elizabeth  
 McLellan  
 Mitchell Eliza  
 Mitchell Emily  
 Mitchell Sophia *Fordick*  
 Merrill Sophia  
 Merrill Eliza  
 Norton  
 Owen Mary\*  
 Oxnard Elizabeth  
 Paine Phebe  
 Paine Eliza  
 Paine Ann Maria

Jones Eunice\* *Rev Greely*  
 Kinsman Elizabeth  
 Kinsman Martha\*  
 Kendrick  
 Keith  
 Kimball Rebecca  
 Kimball Elizabeth  
 Lowel Susan  
 Lowel Eunice  
 Lowel Caroline  
 Ladd Almatia  
 Lunt Jane  
 Little Hannah  
 Little Sarah  
 Lane Jane\*  
 Larabee Mary  
 McLellen Ann  
 Merrill Asenath  
 Merrill  
 Merrill  
 Merrill  
 Merrill  
 Merrill  
 McManners  
 Mason Mary  
 Murrans  
 Norton  
 Owen Salome  
 Poor Emily  
 Poor Maria  
 Poor Jane

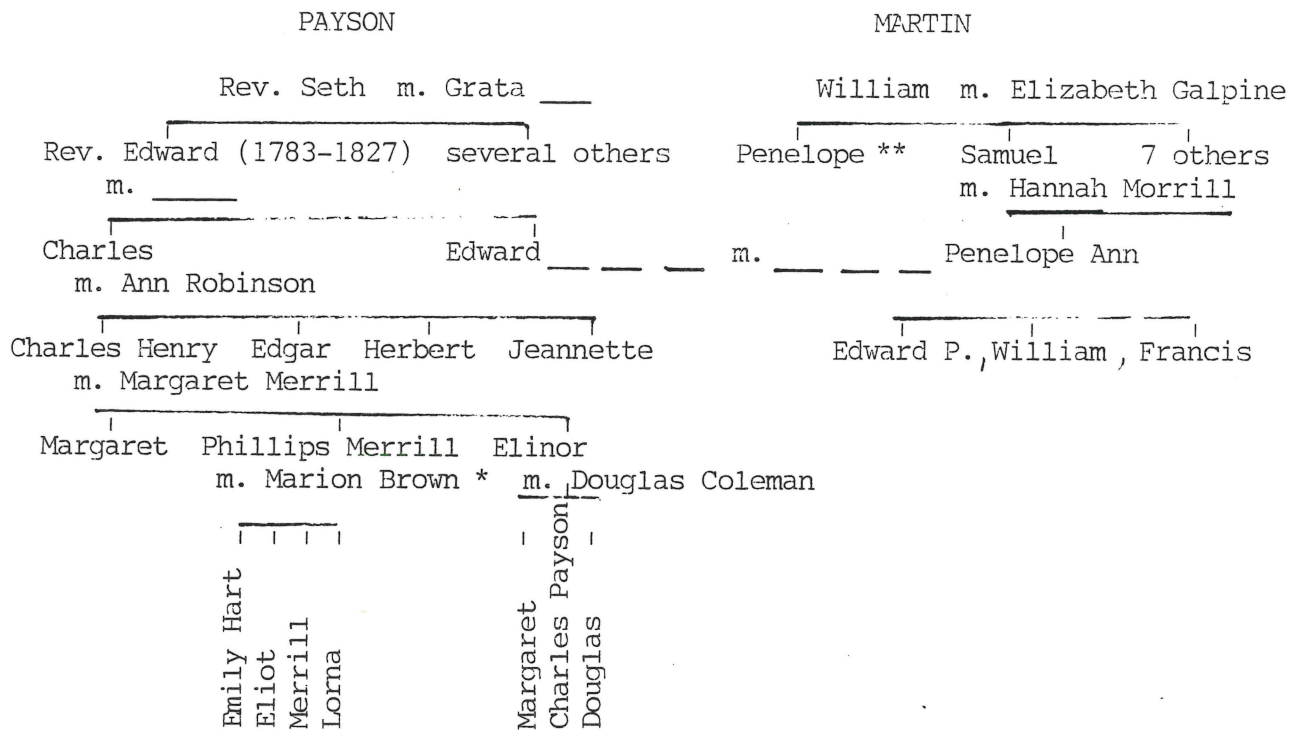
Paine Frances\*  
 Poole Caroline  
 Phillips Eliza  
 Prince Mehaible\*  
 Prince Elizabeth  
 Quincy Mary  
 Quimby Susan  
 Robison Ann  
 Robison Elizabeth  
 Robison Mary  
 Richardson Angela\*  
 Radford Mary  
 Sawyer Frances\* *Jewel*  
 Scott Elizabeth  
 Scott Mary *Boyd*  
 Stevens Angelina  
 Stevens Hellen  
 Sutton Elizabeth  
 Sturdivant Mary Jane  
 Sturdivant Olive  
 Sturdivant Elizabeth  
 Steele Jane  
 Snow  
 Tenbroeck Cordelia  
 Tenbroeck Lucretia  
 Thomes Eliza  
 Thrasher Eunice  
 Thrasher Sarah  
 Veazio Advianum  
 Wright Frances  
 Wright Harriet  
 Webster  
 Webster Carolino

Payson Louisa  
 Polleya Mary  
 Preble Mary  
 Pearson Caroline  
 Pearson Harriet\*  
 Quimby Jane  
 Robinson Ellen  
 Robinson Elizabeth  
 Radford Abigail  
 Radford Louisa  
 Stevens Nancy  
 Shaw Eunice\*  
 Stackpole Frances  
 Stackpole Angela  
 Sutton Lucy Ann  
 Smith  
 Shannon Mary  
 Shirley Mary  
 Stinson  
 Stetson  
 Todd Eliza\*  
 Thomas Elizabeth  
 Tibbets  
 Thaxter  
 Thaxter  
 Waite  
 Waite  
 Weeks Sally

## The Martin - Payson Relationship

The relationship of the Martins and the Payson Family of Portland, Maine is not close. Penelope Martin did not marry. She had a brother, Samuel, who married Hannah Morrill, daughter of Col. John Morrill of Limerick, Maine. Samuel and Hannah Morrill Martin had a daughter, Penelope Ann. Penelope Ann Martin married Edward Payson of Portland, one of four sons of the Rev. Edward Payson, a popular and influential minister in Portland during the time of the Misses Martin's School. Another of the Payson sons, Charles, married Ann Robinson. A son of this marriage, Charles Henry, married Margaret Merrill. Charles Henry and Margaret Merrill Payson had three children, Margaret, Phillips Merrill, and Elinor. Phillips Merrill married Marion Brown and they have four children. This is Marion Brown Payson who has been responsible for this publication.

Thus, the Martin - Payson relationship is by marriage. A niece of the Penelope Martin who wrote letters from England married a great-great uncle of Phillips Merrill Payson.



\* Mrs. Marion Brown Payson discovered the Penelope Martin Papers  
 \*\* Author of the Penelope Martin Papers





## MARTIN FAMILY PORTRAITS

The portraits of Penelope Martin, her mother and her aunt were located at the Portland Museum of Art in 1990. The museum has graciously granted non-exclusive single use rights to the Cumberland Historical Society to use them in this publication. Expense involved in copying them for this purpose was paid by Mrs. Marion Payson. Donor of the portraits, William Martin Payson was a great-grandson of William and Elizabeth Martin, and grandson of Samuel Martin, a younger brother of Penelope.

Dates of the paintings can be assumed as follows. In a letter dated February, 1787, Penelope mentions her "picture." This makes her fourteen at the time. Since her aunt, Catherine Galpine Low, was painted by the same artist, it is quite safe to assume the same year for her portrait. Penelope was in her aunt's care at the time. Elizabeth Galpine Martin left London in 1783. If she had her portrait painted c. 1780, her rather pensive expression might be explained as an expression of the cares of eight children, financial worries, and concern for leaving England. She was married in 1762, and a date of approximately 1770 seems appropriate.

As a postscript, in 1990 the Portland Museum of Art had on display a sampler embroidered by Narcissa Stone. This young lady's name appears on the list of pupils of the Misses Martin's School.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

This paper has grown out of a curious set of circumstances. The family and community which provided me with a headful of background must receive some credit here. Both sides of my family lived in the place which is now Cumberland, Maine, before Cumberland was a town or Maine a state. When Cumberland celebrated its centennial in 1921, Mary E. Osgood Sweetser, my grandmother, with the help of Herman P. Sweetser, my father, wrote The History of Cumberland, Maine. My brothers and I, the sixth generation of the family to live in our home, were steeped in local history. Story telling was the second dessert for many meals. We knew who lived in every house in town for generations back-- their names, their relationship to each other and to us, what they looked like, how they talked and what they said.

Never, even in this historical milieu, did I hear of Penelope Martin. She had been forgotten until, in preparation for the American Bicentennial, I undertook to assist Phyllis Sturdivant Sweetser, my mother, who was writing Cumberland, Maine in Four Centuries (Cumberland, 1976) One day as we were sorting papers, we set aside a sheaf of typescript titled, "Penelope Martin, Young Female of Quality," lent by the Payson Family of Cumberland, and said to have been written by Mrs. John Schroeder. This was evidently the figment of someone's imagination with descriptions of visits to see a king and queen who looked like farmers, and scenes of London and a school where girls learned embroidery and French and music. It all certainly had nothing to do with Cumberland, which had never been more than a small country town.

Later, in William Rowe Snow, Ancient North Yarmouth and Yarmouth, Maine, (Portland, 1937), we discovered that Penelope Martin had a school on what was once the Powell estate in North Yarmouth. I remembered once seeing a copy of The Boston Gazette, with an advertisement offering the Powell estate for sale about 1784. Perhaps there was some substance to that typescript! The substantiation has been an absorbing process.

The Maine Historical Society has a catalogue compiled by Penelope Martin, The Misses Martin's School (Portland, 1829) which I later discovered in the Payson family library with notations by Penelope. The Society introduced me to Edward Henry Elwell, The Schools of Portland, (Portland, 1888), and The New England Historical and Genealogical Register containing Edward P. Payson, "William Martin, Esq." (Boston, 1900) 54: 29-34. There are also a few manuscript pages from the school, n.d.

The University of Maine, Special Collections in the Fogler Library, has Ava Harriet Chadbourne, History of Education in Maine, Orono, 1936.

Especially useful is Augustus W. Corliss, Old Times of North Yarmouth Maine, facsimile, Somersworth, N.H., 1977, with its index.

Further Maine history useful in this paper are : John S.C. Abbott, The History of Maine, (Boston, 1875); Ronald F. Banks, Maine Becomes a State, (Portland, 1973); Herbert G. Jones, King's Highway, (Freeport, Maine, 1928) and the Town of Cumberland Annual Report (Cumberland, 1970).

References in the letters of Penelope Martin have led me to The Annual Register, or a view of the History, Politics and Literature for the Year 1784-5, 1786, 1787 (London); Alice Morse Earle, Customs and Fashions in Old New England, (New York, 1893); M. Dorothy George, England in Johnson's

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE (continued)

Day, (New York, 1928); Walter Phelps Hall and Robert Greenhalgh Albion, England and the British Empire (Boston, 1937); William Edward Hartpole Lecky, History of England in the Eighteenth Century, vol. 3, (New York, 1882); John Marshall, Royal Naval Biography, Supplement, part II, (London, 1828); Records Relating to the Early History of Boston containing Boston Town Records 1784-1796 (Boston, 1903); Kenneth Roberts, ed., Moreau de St. Méry's American Journey (1793-1798) (New York, 1947) and Richard B. Sheridan, Sugar and Slavery, an economic history of the British West Indies 1623-1775, (Baltimore, 1974). This last item, which deals with the triangular trade in detail, contains especially useful accounts of the molasses/ slave/ rum trade and the Martin family's connection therewith. This subject and some details of Martin family life in the Caribbean appear in Andrews, E.W. and C.Mc., editors, Journal of a Lady of Quality; (Janet Schaw of Edinburgh) being the narrative of a Journal from Scotland to the West Indies, North Carolina and Portugal in the years 1774-1776, Yale University Press, 1923. Finally, the U.S. Census for 1790 gives a definite statistical record of the Martins of North Yarmouth whose household in that year consisted of three white males 16 or older, three white males under 16, seven white females and one other free person, who can be assumed to be a negro servant.

All history is not printed, and here it should be noted that the lectures by Dr. Glenn Weaver, "The American Revolution and Early National Period" at Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, 1976, have contributed background for the time in which this material originated, without which it could not have jelled.

Footnotes have been omitted. This is primarily a presentation of the letters of Penelope Martin. Additional material such as genealogy, Penelope's account of her school, Mrs. Schroeder's paper which started all this, information about Portland houses where the school was kept, and additional family papers are, at this writing in the Payson family library, Westbrook College, and the Maine Historical Society. Copies have been available to me. I shall be happy to supply further information to individuals who may be interested. The Cumberland Historical Society has the original letters and will know how to reach me.

Elizabeth Sweetser Baxter  
Newington, Connecticut  
December, 1990



