

# Newport History

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Volume 83 | Issue 271

Article 1

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Fall 2014

## Editor's Note

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### Recommended Citation

Yarnall, James L. (2014) "Editor's Note," *Newport History*: Vol. 83 : Iss. 271 , Article 1.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.salve.edu/newporthistory/vol83/iss271/1>

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## Editor's Note

During the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Newport fostered the political ambitions of Thomas Wilson Dorr, who sought to implement a “People’s “Constitution” in Rhode Island to replace the original colonial Charter. In 1844, Dorr found himself on trial for treason in Newport’s Colony House. This historical event is the subject of the first article in this issue of the journal by Erik J. Chaput and Russell J. DeSimone. Chaput earned his doctorate in early American history in 2011 at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. He is a History Master at The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey and a member of the faculty in the School of Continuing Education at Providence College. Chaput is the author of *The People’s Martyr: Thomas Wilson Dorr and His 1842 Rhode Island Rebellion* (2013). Independent historian DeSimone received an AB in Mathematics from Providence College in 1967. A long-time Middletown resident, he is the author of *Rhode Island’s Rebellion* (2009) and the co-author, with Daniel Schofield, of *The Broadsides of the Dorr Rebellion* (1992). Chaput and DeSimone are the editors of the *Letters of Thomas Wilson Dorr* and the *Letters of John Brown Francis*. These can be found on the Dorr Rebellion Project Site: <http://library.providence.edu/dorr>.

During the last half of the nineteenth century, the Auchincloss family was part of the so-called New York invasion that spurred the dramatic economic and social development of Newport as a leading American resort. The story of this family’s residency on Aquidneck Island over several generations is the subject of an article compiled by Richard J. Lundgren, working in collaboration with two prominent members of the Auchincloss family residing in Newport today: Hugh Dudley Auchincloss III and his daughter Maya Lillalya Auchincloss.