

## The Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum

LEARNING HISTORY AT HISTORIC PLACES  
5TH GRADE NEW BEDFORD HISTORY PROGRAM

### *Teacher Support Materials*

A flourishing whaling trade caused the population of New Bedford to grow sevenfold between 1800 and 1830. By the early 19th century, New Bedford was the nation's preeminent whaling port. As the century progressed, whaling fortunes were reinvested to establish the textile mills, which brought a new economy and further growth to the city.

This Program explores the land-based community of New Bedford during the 19th century. Using historic artifacts, including this 1834 whaling mansion and its collections, as well as the personal stories of its inhabitants, we focus on New Bedford in the 1800's through:

- Learning about the "entrepreneurs" who lived in this house and the people they knew.
- Understanding the moral guidelines that led these entrepreneurs to be so successful in their business and social relationships
- Exploring life at home and what it was like for the people who lived here in the 19th century.



The Rotch-Jones-Duff House provides an authentic setting to learn about the history of New Bedford through the lives of the people who lived in the house. An influential member of the Society of Friends, William Rotch Jr., built the house at 396 County Street in 1834 in the popular Greek Revival style of architecture. Because the United States was then a new democratic republic, many Americans associated their country and its government with that of ancient Greece. Reflecting that culture's building styles, the Greek Revival is noted for the symmetry of the structure and interiors, the use of both a triangular pediment and

columns. After Rotch's death in 1850, Edward Coffin Jones purchased the house and lived here with his family until his death in 1880. His family continued to live here, including his daughter, Amelia, who passed away in 1935.

In this program, we are learning about the history of New Bedford in the 1800's. By studying the lives and times of people who lived in this city before us, we learn much about life in 19th century New Bedford. Photographs, diaries, household accounts and even paint and wallpaper samples provide clues to help us understand more about the past. Objects in the Museum Collections are utilized to help us determine activities and methods of use for these centuries-old artifacts. The RJD lets us explore the similarities and differences in life today.



## WILLIAM ROTCH JR. (OCCUPANCY 1834-1850)



William Rotch Jr. was born to a whaling merchant family on Nantucket in 1759. His grandfather and father expanded the multigenerational business and by 1787, William Rotch Jr. and his young family were living in the new town of "New Bedford" and enlarging the family enterprises. During Rotch's years here, small Bedford Village grew from a hamlet of a few hundred people to the town and then (in 1847) the City of New Bedford, with a population in excess of 16,000 residents (with thousands of additional transients serving the marine industries).

"The Rotch Family dominated not only Nantucket Island's whaling but that of New Bedford. Indeed, they were the architects of New Bedford, and the force, which changed the village of 'Bedford' into the whaling capital of the world. No other family group was as influential or exercised more power in the whaling industry. The Rotches exercised power with a genuine concern for their community and unique industry." Joseph L. Mc Devitt

In addition to their notable wealth, the Rotch family businesses were an early example of a vertically integrated\* corporation: from the 1770s forward, under various company names, the family (including cousins and in-laws) owned whaling vessels, built whaling vessels, built and operated coastwise trading vessels that supplied naval stores and lumber to its own shipbuilding enterprise, transported whale oil and other goods, outfitted whaling vessels, purchased oil and whale products from other owners and agents, sold naval stores and food stuffs in its own store, made candles, owned wharves and storehouses in New Bedford and Nantucket, and sold oil and bone on both national and international markets.



Rotch companies were able thereby to withstand the fluctuations of an extremely volatile industry by keeping oil and bone off the market when prices were low. Few whaling agents were sufficiently extended or capitalized to afford such a luxury. Thus at various times when failures were common—during the 1810s and again in 1833-34—the Rotches were free of "embarrassment," the contemporary term for financial strain and failure.

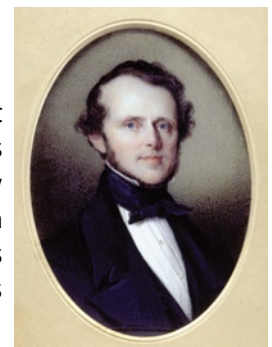


Rotch was extraordinarily active in local and national civic affairs. He was an incorporator and subscriber of the Proprietors of the Encyclopedia in the Village of Bedford, the Dialectic Society, the Social Library and the New Bedford Library. His activities as a respected member of the local Society of Friends were particularly well known. Rotch made significant contributions of time and money to various Friends projects, as seen in his donation of land and half of the necessary funds for the construction of Friends Academy, which became New Bedford's most prestigious private school. He was an active abolitionist and opposed to slavery.

*\*The process in which several steps in the production and/or distribution of a product or service are controlled by a single company or entity, to increase that company's success in the marketplace.*

## EDWARD COFFIN JONES (OCCUPANCY 1851- 1880)

Edward Coffin Jones was born to a Quaker mother and non-Quaker father on Nantucket in 1805. His paternal aunt was a preacher with the Society of Friends and another of his aunts was closely connected to him throughout his life. The Jones family moved to New Bedford when Edward was small. Here his father died, which left his mother to make a life and living for herself and young son. Edward Jones received an education at Friends Academy, but refused an uncle's offer to send him to Harvard, as both Jones and his mother were unwilling to be so indebted.



With a limited education, Jones became one of the most successful agents in New Bedford's whaling industry. Amelia Jones claimed her father's success was due to the fact that "he spared no pains in putting his ships in perfect condition and in provisioning them with the best quality of beef, hardtack and all supplies." He hired superior employees and managed to keep them because he dealt fairly with them. Edward Jones had the foresight to invest in other business ventures once the whaling industry began its decline in the later nineteenth century. An advocate for National Banking, he promoted the system in New Bedford. He was director of both the Marine Bank and the New Bedford Gaslight Company.



By the time they bought the County Street house, Jones and his wife Emma had three daughters. Within their first year of residence, Emma gave birth to a fourth child, but soon succumbed to scarlet fever, as did their eldest daughter. Jones was devoted to his three surviving children. Although he traveled on business, he continued to lovingly oversee their care and upbringing. They were often his traveling companions and when at home, were cared for by trusted domestic servants and extended family.

During the American War Between the States, he was an active supporter of the Union Army's efforts. "During the Civil War, he gave so generously to the Union cause that one company took on the nom de guerre of

Jones Guards" - Memories of Edward C. Jones" 16-17

After his death in 1880, the New Bedford Mercury recognized Edward C. Jones as one of the city's wealthiest citizens saying, "The open secret of his success is the untiring devotion he gave to his business, seeking that everything was done as he directed and making himself acquainted with men's character, capacity and antecedents before employing them. It was quaintly said of him that he would not ship a cook till he had found out who was his grandfather."



AMELIA HICKLING JONES (Occupancy 1851-1935)

Amelia H. Jones resided in this house for 84 years, arriving at the age of two. She was known to family and friends as "Minnie". In this program, we look at Amelia and her sisters' lives as they exemplify this social class of girls and young ladies in New Bedford in the second half of the 1800's.

Like her sisters, Amelia attended Friends Academy. She regularly attended lectures and presentations, which also included musical concerts and plays. Even into her early twenties, she studied history, grammar, languages, and music. She took classes in singing, piano and sewing. She was recognized as a superior amateur thespian. Reading played a significant role in her life, with frequent trips to the library, and she was an avid reader of histories, autobiographies and literature.

Miss Jones was on the board of the New Bedford Orphans' Home, a member of the Unitarian Women's Alliance and in her later years used her own land (the family farm in Dartmouth) and finances to establish a hospital for children (The Sol-e-Mar Hospital for Crippled Children)





## VALUES SHARED BY MOST MEMBERS IN THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS DURING THE EARLY 1800's

Most Friends were known for:

- Outspoken protests against injustice
- Seeking a high standard of life for all individuals and society.
- Equality of all People
- Abolition of Slavery
- Honesty
- Simplicity of Dress and Speech
- Protestation of War
- Courage of their Convictions

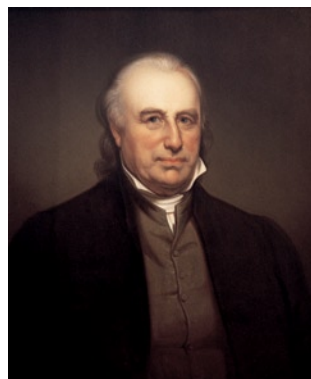
William Rotch Jr. was a birthright member of the Religious Society of Friends. He parted from the Society in his later years (at a time when the Quaker organizations were experiencing many factions). Edward Coffin Jones was born into a family of Quakers, but was not a member of the Meeting later in adult life. These two men were from different generations and did not engage in life in identical ways, still, each embraced many similar beliefs and moral practices.

Amelia H. Jones was "distinguished among women as a 'gentlewoman', though surrounded by all the material advantages anyone can need she was ever a most modest, inconspicuous, and unpretentious person in all her ways. The ease of her surroundings was to her the obligation of perpetuating the culture handed down to her from other generations..." (New Bedford Sunday Standard Times 5 May 1935).

### RECOGNIZABLE FRIENDS OF IMPORTANCE:

- George Fox 1624-1691 English religious dissenter and founder of the Religious Society of Friends
- William Penn 1644-1718 English founder of Pennsylvania
- Lucretia Mott\* 1793-1880 American abolitionist, social reformer and women's rights advocate
- Paul Cuffe\* 1759-1817 African and Native American, businessman, abolitionist and patriot
- Elizabeth Frye 1780-1845 English prison & social reformer, philanthropist
- Mary Rotch\* 1777-1848 Sister of Wlm Jr., Old Light Quaker who became theologian in the early Unitarian Church

*\*direct connection to New Bedford*



Early 19th century Quaker men and women tended to wear plain, dark-colored clothing. While they were not out of fashion, the styles may have been simpler, generally lacking frills and ornamentation. Most people at that time covered their heads regularly, wearing hats or bonnets when out of doors. Most women also wore hair covering when indoors.

*(Please see related student activities #1 and #2 on page 14.)*

## THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT THAT SHAPED NEW BEDFORD

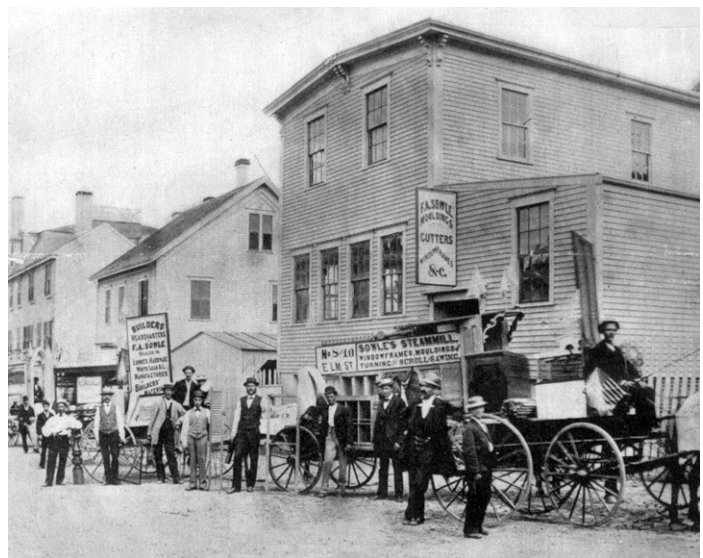
Reasons for New Bedford's enormous growth in the 19th century:

- The whaling industry and required support industries
- Demand for whale oil and related products
- Safe, deep-water harbor
- Abundant natural resources
- The Quaker mindset
- Financial expertise and adequate human resources
- Adequate financial resources to reinvest whaling capital into textile production

The convergence of these factors drove the economy and created a bustling community. In the middle of the 19th century New Bedford became the "whaling capital of the world" and the wealthiest city per capita in America. Bedford village rapidly grew to the town and then the city of New Bedford. In 1830, 7,600 people resided in New Bedford while the city employed 10,000 men in whaling-related industries. By 1880, whaling had been replaced by the textile industry and there were 27,000 residents in the city. Whaling merchants had made sufficient money to initiate investment in this new industry.

New Bedford's Whaling Industry, led by the Rotch family, was instrumental in developing trade with Europe. Because the Rotch family businesses were vertically integrated, there was always some aspect of trade where a profit could be made. While many wealthy businessmen spent profits on extravagant lifestyles, Rotch and Jones, like many Quakers, used returns from their companies to reinvest in their businesses. An extensive network of Religious Friends in many American cities was also realized as a business network, as Quakers dealt with Quakers. Many international concerns worked through these networks because they were dependable and trustworthy, making everyone's endeavors as successful as possible.

*(Please see student activity #3 for this segment on page 15)*



## SOCIAL AND DOMESTIC LIFE IN NEW BEDFORD IN THE 19TH CENTURY

Walking through the RJD allows us to be in the home of people whose lives were in some ways similar and in many ways different from the lives we live in New Bedford today. The Museum and the Families that lived here, provide the sources that teach us about everything from the number of ships in New Bedford harbor to foods that young girls enjoyed eating in the summer, giving us 200 years of memories to help us understand the lives of our ancestors.

The house and its objects allow us the means to experience and understand the 19th century, as do stories, letters, news reports, pictures and photographs. Times and technology changed greatly during the 1800's. Walking, ships and horsepower came into competition with the swift transport of the steam locomotive. Illumination by candlelight was replaced by oil, then gas and eventually electricity. Methods of food storage and preservation, communications, entertainment and education had all undergone amazing changes.

*(please see student activity #4 for this segment on page 16)*

### TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT DATES

- 1733 • Nantucket Friends denounce slavery.
- 1767 • Rotch family launches first ship built in Bedford Village, the Dartmouth.
- 1772 • New Bedford Fire Department is established, with a donation of the hand pump truck from Joseph Rotch.
- 1773 • Boston Tea Party. Three ships carrying taxable British imports are boarded and vandalized, dumping tea into the harbor. Two of the three ships, the Dartmouth & the Beaver, are owned by the Rotches.
- 1775 • Paul Revere's Ride.
  - There are 40-50 whale ships registered in "Bedford."
  - Revolutionary war begins.
- 1778 • British troops burn the port of New Bedford.
- 1776 • Religious Society of Friends abolishes slavery amongst members.
- 1780 • Slavery is abolished in Massachusetts.
  - WR Jr. has permanently moved his wife and children from Nantucket to New Bedford.
- 1787 • New Bedford is incorporated as a town.
- 1789 • W. R. Jr., on behalf of the Providence Abolition Society, sues, at his own expense the owner and Master of the bark HOPE, as it had fitted out in Boston for slaving in June of 1788, 3 months after the Commonwealth had banned the trading of slaves.
  - United States constitution is ratified (including a clause equating slaves to 3/5 of a white citizen).
- 1792 • New Bedford's first newspaper (The Medley) .
- 1794 • 1st Post Office in New Bedford; the result of a petition by William Rotch Jr.
- 1798 • 1st New Bedford-Fairhaven bridge, sponsored by William Rotch.
- 1806 • New Bedford had 300 homes, 3 ropewalks, 7 wharves and almost 100 ships.
- 1807 • Great Britain abolishes the Slave Trade
  - William Rotch Jr. donates land and provides capital (\$5000) to establish the Friends Academy (corner of Elm & County Street in New Bedford), serving as its first treasurer. His father W R Sr. serves as president.

- 1812 • War (of 1812) interferes with trans-Atlantic trade.
- 1818 • St. Mary's parish is established; church is built in 1820.
- 1827 • New Bedford High School is established.
- 1831 • Superior Courthouse is built on County & Court Streets.
- 1834 • William Rotch Jr. builds this house.
- 1836 • Customs House was built (oldest continually operating customs house in USA).
- 1837 • Frederick Douglass arrives in New Bedford.  
• William Jr dines with international guests at the home of Paul Cuffe.
- 1846 • Mexican-American War starts and will run into the year 1848.
- 1847 • New Bedford becomes a city.
- 1848 • Wamsutta Mills built (1st successful textile mill in NB).
- 1849 • Amelia H. Jones is born.  
• Gold is found in California.
- 1850 • New Bedford is the wealthiest per capita city in the nation.  
• William Rotch Jr. dies.
- 1851 • Jones' family moves into this house.
- 1852 • New Bedford Free Public Library is established.  
• The first sewers in New Bedford are constructed.
- 1857 • 329 whale ships are registered with New Bedford as homeport.
- 1859 • The great Richmond & Wilcox Wharf fire in New Bedford.
- 1861 • Edward C. Jones attends Lincoln Inauguration as Delegate from Massachusetts.  
• U. S. War Between the States begins.
- 1863 • Lincoln issues the "Emancipation Proclamation."
- 1865 • 13th Amendment to the constitution is passed.  
• U. S. War Between the States ends in Union victory.
- 1867 • YMCA is established in New Bedford.
- 1869 • New Bedford Waterworks is complete, providing a public supply of water.
- 1871 • New Bedford whaleships are crushed in Artic ice.  
• St. John the Baptist parish is established; church is completed in 1875.
- 1880 • Edward C. Jones dies.  
• Southern Massachusetts Telephone Company provides service to N.B.
- 1884 • St. Luke's Hospital is established.
- 1886 • Electricity comes to N. B. when Edison Illumination Co. builds plant here.
- 1890 • Brooklawn Park is created  
• New Bedford is the 4th largest cargo port in the U.S.A., behind New York, Philadelphia and New Orleans.

## VOCABULARY OF 19TH CENTURY BUSINESSES AND WORKERS

Apothecary	Pharmacy
Candleworks	Candle Factory
Cooper	Barrelmaker
Cordage	Rope Factory
Caulker	Fills seams on ship
Counting Room	Banking service
Crockery	heavy storage containers
Carver & Gilder	maker of decorative things of wood applying gilt (gold finish) - picture frames, ship's figureheads, etc
Daguerreotype	An early kind of photograph
Dry Goods	Household items that are not food
Grocer	sells fresh foods
Entrepreneur	one who undertakes to organize, operate and manage a business to make a profit
Hatter	hat maker
Magistrate	a legal official appointed by the town possibly a judge or justice of the peace
Merchant tailor	one who makes clothes for individuals and also sells notions (buttons, thread, etc)
Miniature painter	one who paints in the popular art form depicting things s 'in miniature'
Periodicals	publications that are sold at regular intervals (weekly, monthly, etc) such as magazines
Refreshments	ready to eat/drink foods and a place to sit and consume them
Rigger	one who arranges and works the ropes - rigging - of a ship
Sailmaker	one who makes sails
Sailloft	place where sails are sewn/made
Ships' Chandler	dealer of ship supplies
Shipwright	ship builder
Silversmith	one who makes products from silver
Tailor	one who makes clothes for individuals

Vertical Integration - business ownership or control of an industry where one company is in charge of all aspects from raw materials to distribution



## BUSINESSES IN OPERATIONS ON UNION STREET IN 1850

Chapman & Bonney, Sailmakers	Perry & West, Barbers
Edward E. Wood, Grain & Groceries	Alexander Hamilton, tailor
Ivory H. Bartlett, Oil Merchant	George Macomber, Groceries
A.H. Seabury, Counting Room	Isaac D. Hall & Co., Groceries
Shaw & Macomber, Flour, Grain and Hay	Humphrey H. Sowle, Barber
Nye & Wordell, Groceries	Nehemiah Waterman, Auctioneer,
Gushee & Parker, Groceries	Commission Merchant
R.K. Eastman, Groceries	Edward Bourne, Fruit & Groceries
Dexter & Chase, Painters	Josiah Wood, Jewler
Wood, Potter & Brownell, Groceries	Seamen's Reporter, Office
Amasa Bullard, Ready-made Clothing	Sylvester Snell, Fruit & Groceries
Thomas Knowles & Co., Groceries	B.C. & J. Ward, Merchant Tailors
Sylvanus G. Nye, Groceries	Elisha Thornton & Son, Apothecary
William Bater, Painter	Ashley A. Royce, Dry Goods
John N. Barrows, Auctioneer	Edward H. Thurston, Merchant Tailor
& Commission Merchant	Benjamin Pitman, Silversmith
Niles Tilden, Cigar Manufacturer	Jeremiah Greenman, Barber
Alfred Kendrick, Drygoods & Clothing	Oliver Swain, Boots & Shoes
William Woodhouse, "Shop"	Franklin P. Seabury, Dry Goods & Clothing
Jeremiah Brownell, Groceries	Augustus E. Eaton, Hats & Caps
William Harris, "Refreshments"	Charles C. McClosky, Hatter
William Taber & Son, Booksellers	George W. Howland, Groceries
Albert Gifford, Apothecary (Storefront on	Jonathan Bourne, Jr., Merchant
Water Street)	Thomas Crouch, Barber
John Britnell, "Refreshments"	O. & E.W. Seabury, Dry Goods
Thomas J. Baker, Auctioneer	Edward T. Taber, Tailor
Allen & Zeno Kelley, Watch Makers	Lewis Boutell, Mansion House, Hotel
Joseph F. Dearborn,, Lawyer	Lyman Bartlett, Physician & Surgeon
Benjamin Coombs, Magistrate	James D. Thompson, Merchant
Charles Ricketson & Son, Merchant Tailors	Joseph C. Kent, Architect
William Berry, Barber	Marine Bank
James H. Collins, Ship Chandlery	



Workers in the Beckman Sail Loft.



A cooper fitting a hoop on a barrel.



"Teamster" hauling barrels - the sign in background reads "boarding and lodging by the day or week."

The Forbes & Sears Carriage Factory.



## IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE OBJECTS:

### 1. SOLVER CANDLE SNUFFER

Decorative and practical, the snuffer could be turned on its side to extinguish candles or used like scissors to trim the wick. Spermaceti candles were a major source of income for New Bedford (The Rodman Candleworks Building still exists today). William Rotch Jr. sold whale oil candles to Moses Brown in Providence.

### 2. Swinging HOT WATER POT

This silver hot water pot is part of the group of serving pieces used for Tea. This swinging pot includes a stand as well as a heating element which is a little container that burned alcohol. Boiling water was placed in this pot, and kept warm by its heater. It could then be used to refill the tea-brewing pot or dilute its contents.

### 3. BREAD RISING PAN WITH COVER

c. 1890. The generous size of the pan indicates it accommodated a large batch of rising bread dough. To assure that the bread rose evenly, the kneaded dough was placed in a covered pan, set in an area of a consistent temperature and free of drafts. The inside of the pan was oiled, preventing the dough from sticking.

### 4. Pewter Inkwell

Ink was stored beneath the hinged cover to prevent it from drying out. The three holes are to hold quill pens, sharpened from feathers. On the bottom, this pewter piece is stamped "R. Stacey and Son Britannia, Sheffield, England", telling us the maker and location of its origin.

### 5. WOODEN ICE CHEST

c. 1900. The chest, made of maple, is lined in lead with shelves to accommodate food storage. It is constructed with mortise and tendon joints with a top crafted from a single board. Ice harvested from ice ponds and packed in sawdust in icehouses was delivered to residences to chill food. The iceman carried ice in blocks with ice tongs. A hose at the bottom of the chest allowed for drainage, often through a hole in the floor.

### 6. ORIENTAL LACQUER FOLDING LAP DESK

A Jones family piece, this lap desk dates to the middle of the 19th century. Typical of objects obtained from China trade, lacquer pieces were popular for their classical Oriental designs. Letter writing was a very important means of communication and a portable desk could easily be carried from room to room so that one might sit in natural sunlight or near the warmth of a fireplace.

### 7. TEA CADDY

The tea caddy is a container for storing tea leaves. Prior to 1880, this type of container was generally known as a "tea canister". This one is made of pewter, has 6 sides and a screw cap. Tea was the beverage of choice for most people in the 18th and 19th centuries and the whole cured loose leaves were placed directly into the teapot for brewing. What we know as tea bags did not appear until the early 20th century.

### 8. TOLE WATER COOLER

C. 1900. Made of painted metal, the water cooler produced chilled water from melting ice. Ice stored in the icebox was cut and placed in the water cooler for daily use. The faucet at the bottom of the cooler controlled the flow of water, eliminating the need to open the cooler and warm the contents.

### 9. CRANK TELEPHONE

This telephone is from the early 1900's, but is little different from the type of crank-style telephone that would have been in this house in 1882. Each telephone was connected to a party line and an operator rang each phone with its own identifying series of rings.



## “ODD OBJECTS”

1



2



3



4



5





“ODD OBJECTS”



6



8



9

## RELATED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

### Activity #1:

Read the newspaper article from the Boston Gazette. What principle of Quaker thought does it suggest? Why would the Quakers be exempt from going to war? Why not?

*Boston Gazette Thursday, December 8, 1814*

"By the militia laws of Connecticut, Quakers are required to pay into the state treasury ten dollars annually, as a commutation for exemption from military duty. – This might be a good provision to apply to all persons who wished to be exempted. Probably it would furnish a government with the means of maintaining a handsome corps of regulars."

### Activity # 2:

Read together and discuss the implication of being a person of color in 19th century America. How was William Rotch Jr. unlike other white people in that society?

William Rotch Jr. was a friend and business colleague of Paul Cuffe, a black capitalist, who began his career working for Mr. Rotch transporting lumber and food supplies from the mainland to Nantucket. Mr. Rotch was concerned for his well being, gave him business advice and enjoyed his companionship.

Despite their friendship, America's deeply ingrained separation of the races was evident on at least one occasion when Rotch, his father and some visiting Quaker dignitaries from England attended a midday meal in Paul Cuffe's home after prayer services in Westport.

The recollection below relates how William Rotch Jr. practiced his beliefs:

"After the dinner was laid upon the table in a neat and bountiful manner, Friend Rotch observed that Paul and his wife had no chairs set for themselves, and were modestly preparing to retire or remain until their guests had dined. At this Friend Rotch arose, and, in a firm but kind manner, addressing his host and hostess, said that he could not consent to such an arrangement, and that he should not take his seat at the table unless Paul and his wife presided. With all his gentleness and humanity, no man was more unflinching where a matter of conscience was concerned than Friend Rotch, and Paul was too well acquainted with this trait to demur. The company was soon seated, and an agreeable as well as bountiful dinner partaken of."

*HISTORY OF NEW BEDFORD* Daniel Ricketson 1857 p254-255

Activity #3:

Can you identify and Match the names?

Draw a line from one column to the other connecting the ones that match.

BUSINESS MATCHING GAME

SHIPWRIGHT

COUNTING ROOM

CAULKER

DRY GOODS

SHIPS' CHANDLER

COOPER

DAGUERREOTYPE

GROCER

HATTER

SAIL LOFT

APOTHECARY

TAILOR

CORDAGE

CANDLEWORKS

MAGAZINES

HAT MAKER

BARREL MAKER

EARLY TYPE OF PHOTO

ROPE FACTORY

PERIODICALS

SHIP BUILDER

BANKING SERVICE

CANDLE FACTORY

SELLS SHIPS SUPPLIES

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

CLOTHES/SUIT MAKER

FILLS SEAMS ON SHIPS

SELLS FRESH FOOD

WHERE SAILS ARE MADE

PHARMACY

Activity #4:

Have students read aloud the excerpts from the "Jones Family Correspondence". In reading each one, review details. Using dates of letters, have students reckon the age of the writer. Have students relate personal experiences similar/different from each letter. List any new words and define. Ask how these letters would have been written. What other types of communication existed at the dates of these letters?

A letter from Sarah Jones to her father written in 1858 when she was 6 years old:

Wednesday afternoon

Dear Papa,

I was very glad to get your letter this morning and now shall I tell you what we are going to do? Minnie and I are going to get up tomorrow very early and going to market with Lucy (the nurse) to buy some blackberries.

The other day when we came home from the farm, we found Brownie had fallen through the banisters on the entry floor and had hurt his leg but he is better now and can jump up into the armchair. Minnie has put balsam on it.

We went down on board the EMMA C. JONES and in the cabin was a little place like a sink for the baby to sleep in and then there was a bed fitted to rock.

And now dear Papa I will bid you good bye, for my hand is very tired. I send a kiss to you and Emma.

From, Sarah

Another letter from Sarah talks about life:

New Bedford

Sunday July 29, 1866

My dear Annie,

I meant to write you yesterday but was busy covering currant jelly for Lucy and doing such things, so it was half past 12 before I thought, and that was too late.

I went over to Aunt Eliza's Tuesday and had a splendid time...

We had a fine time together romping round and climbing about and getting torn and scratched and tanned and dirty, and then we went in Bathing twice and you know I like *that* (Sarah's italics) ever so much. I'm not a coward in the water now though perhaps you'll think it strange for me to change in two baths but we stayed in a long time, most 3/4 of an hour once I guess.

Emma and Minnie and Lucy and Dot (the dog) came over for me Thursday afternoon and I came home.

(From S.C.J.)