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by vertue of a Grant from the Crown will have the lands proportionally distributed amongst them, and turn planters, save a company or two to Garison the Fort; which will save them all the expense of soldiers and forts. For it were the interest of the Country just now, may of you Merchants, rather to give so much a man, for a good Company to be transported to Garison the Castle once, than to pay every year 6 or 8 pounds for a Man, to serve there for some Moneths; Who being so often changed, can never become Soldiers. Whereof a settled Company would not only be good soldiers themselves, but a reinforcement to the Country, and be capable in a few years of Disciplining the Country. I do not mean they should be under the Queens Pay, but the Country's; who, upon Application, would get liberty to levy them for that end. And which if they do not, they will get a company of two of the Queen's Troops to Garison the Castle and other forts; where, the Queen is informed, there is hardly Officer, or Soldier. If they incline to such a thing, which is much their interest, if they would do more, upon their addressing the Queen for a Liberty to levy them, I will engage to get them a Company at the same rate the Queen gives for Recruits to Spain; which is £5 Levy-money; and she Transport them; or £10, if the Officer Transport them. And doubt not to prosecute both Arms and Ammunition for the said Men. But the former would be the effectual way to secure their country, reducing Port Royal, and settling the Eastward: Besides their Advantage of Fishing along the coast.

N. This was delivered me by Mr. Borland April 26, 1708, as Capt. Vetches Scheme. S. S.

1 Of Captain Vetch something may be learned from Sewall's Diary, II, 142, n. ex postico; also in Pulley's Hist. N. E., IV, 233. He was Colonel in the expedition against Canada, and afterwards Governor of Nova Scotia. His scheme for the settlement of Nova Scotia, as a warm scheme, has considerable interest, and possibly may have led to the founding of Halifax, forty years later. See Bancroft's Hist. IV. 45. — End.

LETTER-BOOK OF SAMUEL SEWALL.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO BENJAMIN WOODBRIDGE.

To Mr. Benjamin Woodbridge, 2, East, Stephen Willis.

June 5, 1708.

Sr,- In your Account of Disbursements given to the Town of Medford at their Meeting Dec. 19, 1705, your first Article is,

The Expenes upon land, House, Fencing, &e, as appears from my Book, £249. 8. 1. Now the Committee desire to see the Particulars by which that Sum rises; and to that end, that you would meet them or some of them, upon Change presently after the Artillery Salute next Monday, where we may agree of a place of Access for this purpose.

Sr, your Serv. S. S.

MEMORANDA.


Of this Katherine Howard little is reported, and yet too much, if all be true, of her incontinence, which cost her her Life. The greatest good the Land got by this Match, was a general leave to marry Cousin German, formerly prohibited by the Crown, and hereafter permitted by the Common Law. A door of lawful liberty, left open by God in Scripture; shut by the Pope for his privat profit; open again by the King, first, for his own advantage (this Katherine being Cousin German to Anna Bollen his former wife) and then for the service of such Subjects as would follow him upon the like occasion. This lady was beheaded also Dom. 1540.1 [Veto]

N. Anna Bollen's Mother was Sister to the Lord Edmund Howard, father to the mentioned Queen Katherine.
They that will be from this example, fond of marrying Cousin-Germans, Let ’em!

The Act for Marriage of Cousin Germans took place July 1, 1540. Stat. 1540. And the eighth of August following Katherine Howard was shown openly as Queen at Hampton Court. Baker’s Chron.

32. H 8. 58. A Statute was made, That it was lawfull for all persons to contract Marriage, which are not prohibited by God’s Law. For although Gregory the great (who had less Learning, but more Modesty than his Successors) did not flatly forbid the Marriage of Cousin Germans as unlawful, but prudently dissuade it as unwise; yet after Popes prohibited that, and other Degrees further off, thereby to get Money for Dispensations.

And this Law came very conveniently to comply with K. Henry’s Occasions, who had the first-fruits thereof, and presently after married Katherine Howard, Cousin German to Anna Bollen, his second wife.

Fuller, Ch. Hist. Cent. 16. p. 236.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO HENRY FLINT

To Mr. Henry Flint.

Sir,—I received a Letter from you at Mr. Pelham, which had been mislaid; and coming now to hand, I send you the Copy of my good Friend’s Will, according to your desire. It cost me five shillings in my Money, which deliver, for me, to Mr. James Pits a Merchant near the Bridge. John Needham is alive and has a wife and Children. He dwells at Billericia, where he serv’d his Time with Mr. Tompson one of the Executors. That the small matter I transacted on your behalf, was acceptable to you, is obliging to your friend and Servt. S. S.

Sent up the Ship John and Peter, Capt. Stephens.

SAMUEL SEWALL TO JEREMIAH BUMMER

To Mr. Jeremiah Bummer, now Laid for Great Britain.

Sir,—When you favoured me with a Visit yesterday, The Main Thing slip’t me! If you have an Opportunity, Be sure, doe your Uttermost to persuade my Lord Limerick to make a Release of the Gay Head Neck on Martha’s

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1 Doubtless the celebrated Henry Flint, B. C. 1333. Tutor at Harvard from 1690 to 1764, and Fellow from 1720 till his death in 1790. He was married. — Ron.