



Fall Reception, October 25, 2011

Members, guests, and friends inaugurated the season at a Fall Reception in the Society's library. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres were served, and President Lindh gave Huguenot rosettes to new members. He announced that the Society had acquired a Huguenot necktie of a design different from our current Society tie. The design features small, gold Huguenot crosses embroidered on a dark red background. The ties are available for sale from the office for \$25 plus postage and handling.



Clockwise from top left: Michael Sivy and Francis Sypher; Nicolaj Sebrell and Jeffrey Cipolla, Ph.D., cousin and husband (respectively) of member Cindy Sebrell; Henry C.B. Lindh, president, and Pamela Fulweiler, past president; William Reutelhuber and David J. Ramsay, chancellor; Henry C.B. Lindh, president, and his wife, Elizabeth Powers

Restoration of a Huguenot Memorial



When the New-York Historical Society formally reopened in November 2011, after an extensive renovation, two newly restored stained-glass windows were unveiled. These 13-foot-tall works of art have graced the library reading room for over a century. One depicts the 1609 arrival of Henry Hudson's *Halve Maen* at what is now New York harbor and the other, the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV in 1685. These two acts are associated with groups that had major impact on early New Amsterdam—the Dutch and the French Huguenots.

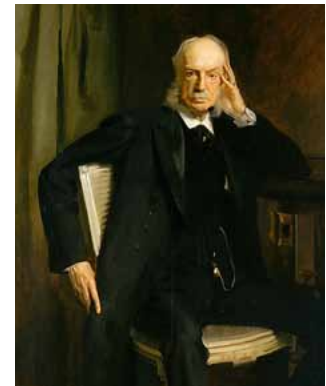
The Huguenot Memorial—as the window featuring Louis XIV is called—was originally presented to the historical society in 1908 by Mrs. Russell Sage, an early member of the Huguenot Society. The window is the work of artist Mary Tillinghast (1845–1912), a descendant of Huguenot refugees and a student of renowned artist John La Farge. The center of the window depicts a room at Fontainebleau where, according to history, Louis XIV signed the Revocation. An inscription at the bottom states: “In commemoration of the Huguenots who fled to America owing to the Revocation of the Privileges accorded by the Edict of Nantes.” Now illuminated from behind, the full grandeur of the window can be appreciated. The restoration was underwritten by Robert G. Goelet.

The New-York Historical Society is located at Central Park West and West 77th Street.

American Wing Renovation

On January 16, 2012, the Metropolitan Museum of Art opened its renovated American Wing, featuring new second-floor galleries for painting, sculpture, and decorative arts. Ever since its inception in 1870, the museum has been acquiring American works of art, now constituting one of the finest and most comprehensive collections of its kind in the world.

It is interesting to note financier Henry Gurdon Marquand (1819–1902) who was a personage in the early history of both the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Huguenot Society of America. Marquand was an early trustee of the museum and became its president in 1889. His contributions to the collection include numerous works of art—paintings by Rembrandt, van Dyck, Gainsborough, Velázquez, Vermeer, and others that helped establish the international reputation of the institution. Marquand was pivotal in getting architect Richard Morris Hunt to expand Calvert Vaux's original building, creating the facade and great hall as we know them today. While president of the museum, Marquand succeeded lawyer and diplomat John Jay (1817–1894) as president of the Huguenot Society in 1894. Incidentally, it was Jay who had proposed the idea of creating a “national institution and gallery of art” for the American people in 1866 and rallied crucial early support, creating the ideological and financial foundation for the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Henry G. Marquand
by John Singer Sargent (1897)

The museum commissioned John Singer Sargent to paint Marquand's portrait (1897), which remains in its collection and will hopefully be on view in the American Wing in the near future.

Annual Flag Service, November 13, 2011

Representatives and flagbearers from the city's patriotic and historical societies took part in a procession before an evening service at Saint Thomas Episcopal Church, Fifth Avenue and 53rd Street in New York City. This ceremony or “massing of the colors” is sponsored annually by the New York Conference of Patriotic and Historical Societies and is followed by a reception. The Huguenot Society of America was represented by Henry C.B. Lindh, president, and Michael J. Burlingham, council member.

Left: Flag of the Huguenot Society of America



Huguenot Society Annual Luncheon, December 3, 2011

Members and friends participated in the Ceremony of the Loving Cups, followed by a festive luncheon at the Union Club in New York City. The speaker was Travis Glasson, professor of history at Temple University and author of the book *Mastering Christianity: Missionary Anglicanism and Slavery in the Atlantic World*, published by Oxford University Press in 2011. He spoke about the life of Huguenot Elias Neau (d. 1722), who was imprisoned in galleys and dungeons in France for refusing to abjure his faith. Neau eventually came to New York and with aid from Trinity Church founded a school to educate Native Americans, former slaves, and refugees. His pioneering efforts have recently been recognized by the Episcopal Church with an annual feast day on September 7th in his honor.

Highlights from the Society's Library

A Relation of the Fearful Estate of Francis Spira, apostate from the Protestant Church to Popery
By Nathaniel Bacon [uncredited]

London: Printed for H.P. and Sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster, 1718

The tale of Italian lawyer Francis Spira's tribulations, brought on by the forced renunciation of his adopted Lutheranism by the Catholic Church, was a popular one from 1550 (when a firsthand account of the story by Matteo Gribaldi was published in England) to almost two centuries later. Nathaniel Bacon (1593–1660)—English lawyer, member of Parliament, and Puritan—penned a version of the story that was printed in 1638, becoming an instant bestseller that was reissued ten times in England and eight times in the American colonies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, in addition to its success on the Continent (“translated and published in most of the languages of Europe,” according to the introduction in the 1718 edition).

The volume in the collection of the Huguenot Society of America includes an introductory text by B.H. who explains that he has purchased the “Right of the Copy” and “thought it very fit to Reprint ... in this present Age, wherein an apostatizing Spirit seems to be let loose, and not a few ready to shift their Religion (as Seamen do their Sails) with every Wind.” The initials *B.H.* have been attributed to Benjamin Harris, a successful author and printer in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century colonial America. Spira's plight—death as the consequence of relinquishing one's religion whether by choice or by force—served as a morality tale to keep the flock faithful and true.



Engraving captioned “Spira by Slavish Fear doth Truth deny, And sets his trembling Hand to Popery” opposite title page of a 1718 edition of Spira's tale



Imprint of fictitious printer Pierre Marteau of Cologne on the title page of a book from the Society's collection

Fictitious Imprint

Throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, a recurring imprint (the identification of a publisher's name and location on the title page of a book or pamphlet) announced the presence of Pierre Marteau, a printer based in Cologne. Monsieur Marteau of Cologne, however, never existed. During the early modern era, printers and publishers were constantly looking for ways to evade ecclesiastical and secular censorship (and possible persecution) and discovered that they could hide their identities by using a fictitious imprint. Pierre Marteau's invented name had, perhaps, an intended forcefulness (*marteau* is hammer in English)—alluding to the provocative texts that were printed under the name by countless print shops. The use of Cologne as the purported location hinted at political freedom—a place where a printer could avoid France's censorship by publishing outside its borders.

French printers who had suffered persecution under Louis XIV (including political dissidents and Huguenots) moved to other locations, setting up shops initially in Amsterdam and later in other cities in the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Germany. The quest for freedom of expression along with the ability to use moveable type resulted in an ever-expanding network of publishers producing books of various subjects—from religious and political commentary to works with salacious themes and pirated editions. Remarkably, the uncoordinated joint venture was nonetheless able to produce a distinct publisher's identity. The Marteau imprint was part of a cultural phenomenon—the stealthy dissemination of information—that lead to major societal changes (think of the printing press's import during the Wars of Religion and later the American and French revolutions and, more recently, social media's impact on last year's Egyptian revolution).

The library of the Huguenot Society of America has several works with the Marteau imprint, including *Histoire de l'emprisonnement de Charles IV, duc de Lorraine* (1688) and *Memoirs du Marquis de Beauvau* (1690).

Unpublished Manuscript of Huguenot History

The Society has in its collection an unpublished manuscript, important for both its content and author. The 272-page handwritten document, entitled *The History of the Huguenots and Walloons in Germany*, was written by Eliza Anderson Lawton (Mrs. E. James) circa 1900. Mrs. Lawton joined the Huguenot Society in 1889 and was deeply involved in its administration for thirty years. She served as Secretary and Chair of the Library and Pedigree committees. She is remembered for enriching the Society during these years with her careful research, many innovations, and steadfast dedication. Her unpublished history includes chapters on Huguenot church discipline, the constitution of the German Huguenot Society founded in 1890, the Waldensian settlement, and an overview of the various Huguenot colonies in Germany, especially the Walloon congregations. The original artifact has been photocopied, to aid in its future preservation.

Announcements from Near and Far

The Travels of Francis Tallents in France and Switzerland, 1671–1673

More than three centuries after they were written, the seventeenth-century travel memoirs of the Reverend Francis Tallents have been published and are available for purchase. Tallents, an English minister of Huguenot ancestry, kept a diary of his travels through much of France and Switzerland that he made as tutor to the sons of prominent English Presbyterians. For two and a half years while traveling on horseback they witnessed the impressive building programs of Louis XIV, the liturgy and practices of the Roman Catholic and Reformed churches, and the conditions of Huguenot communities. The journal offers valuable insights into the people, places, and events of the time. The book, published in 2011, can be ordered from the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Contact: admin@huguenotsociety.org.uk.

Maps and Genealogy at the New York Public Library, February 28, 2012

The New York Family History School under the auspices of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society (NYG&B) is offering a tour of the Milstein and Map divisions of the NYPL on Tuesday, February 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Maira Liriano, Manager of the Milstein Division, will give an overview of the department, focusing on United States History, Local History, and Genealogy. Katherine Cordes, Manager of the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, will describe the library's map collection. The program will conclude with tours of both divisions. \$20 to NYG&B members, \$30 to non-members. For more information, visit the Web site www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org or telephone 212 755 8532, ext. 211.

“Discovering New York's Magnificent Huguenot Heritage,” April 10, 2012

A lecture organized by French Heritage Society with the participation of the Beaux Arts Alliance will be presented by David Garrard Lowe with introductory remarks by the Rev. Nigel J. Massey (Chaplain of our Society). Reception to follow. Eglise Française du Saint-Esprit, 109 East 60th Street, New York, NY. The sponsoring organizations have kindly extended the reduced-rate price of \$35 to members of the Huguenot Society of America. For information or to purchase tickets, contact French Heritage Society on 212 759 6846 or fhs@frenchheritagesociety.org.

Historical Restoration in New Paltz, New York, July 21, 2012

Historic Huguenot Street (HHS) in New York's mid Hudson Valley is currently undertaking major restoration of the interior of the Abraham Hasbrouck House, one of seven early eighteenth-century stone houses owned by the museum. Original construction of the house began in 1721; the house will be restored to its 1760 appearance. HHS will celebrate the completion of the project in the summer of 2012 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception on Saturday, July 21st. The restoration was made possible by the generous support of the Hasbrouck Family Association. For further information go to the organization's Web site, www.huguenotstreet.org, or contact: tracy@huguenotstreet.org.



The Abraham Hasbrouck House on Historic Huguenot Street in New Paltz, New York

Réunion Internationale des Descendants des Huguenots, September 3–9, 2012

The Paris-based Comité Protestant des Amitiés Françaises à l'Étranger (the World Huguenot Center) is sponsoring an International Reunion of Huguenot Descendants from September 3rd to 9th, in the Rhône Valley of France. Valence will be the starting point for visits to the Vivarais region, an ancient mountainous province of France rich with Huguenot sites. Information and registration requirements are available at www.huguenots.fr or one may contact the organization at cpafe@aol.com. Members interested in forming a group should contact the office of the Huguenot Society of America by telephone (212 755 0592) or e-mail: hugsoc@verizon.net.