

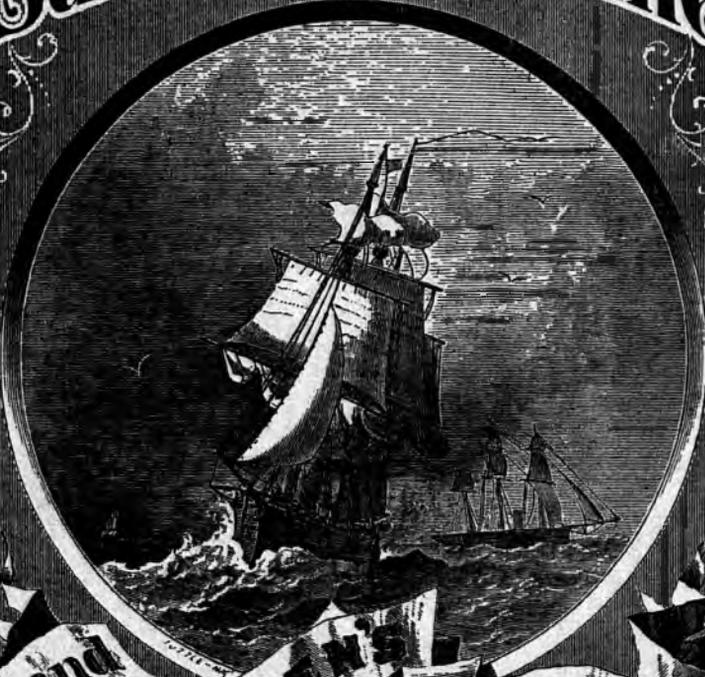
The 107th Annual Report

1935

The

1935

# Sailors Magazine



and SEAMENS FRIEND

AMERICAN SEAMENS FRIEND SOCIETY.

72 WALL ST. NEW YORK.

VOL. CVII No. 1

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YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL  
New Haven, Conn.

# The American Seamen's Friend Society

72 WALL STREET, NEW YORK

Organized May, 1828.

Incorporated April, 1833.

## OFFICERS

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WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY, Vice-President  
GEORGE SIDNEY WEBSTER, D.D., Secretary  
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The  
American Seamen's  
Friend Society

ORGANIZED MAY, 1828  
INCORPORATED APRIL, 1833

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH  
ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 31st, 1935

72 WALL STREET  
NEW YORK

## Foreword by the Secretary

In presenting the one hundred and seventh annual report of The American Seamen's Friend Society for the year ending March 31, 1935, the Secretary expresses grateful thanks to our good friends and supporters who have "stood by" in these days of financial storm and stress. He would also voice the gratitude of the men of the sea, ashore and afloat, and in our own and foreign ports, who have during the year received benefit from our service for their welfare.

The one hundred and sixth anniversary Church service was held April 29, 1934 in Christ Church, Methodist Episcopal, New York City, with a fine sermon by its Pastor, Rev. Ralph W. Sockman, D. D.

On October 1, 1934, thirty-six graduates and on February 15, 1935, twenty-eight graduates of the New York State Merchant Marine Academy were presented with Scriptures.

The Society suffered loss during the year by the passing on November 22, 1934 of Trustee Evarts L. Prentiss.

An important change in the official staff was the retirement of the Treasurer Clarence C. Pinneo after fifty-five years of faithful service to the Society. Mr. Orrin R. Judd, a trustee for the past twelve years and widely known for his splendid service in public and philanthropic work, was elected Treasurer May 7, 1934.

The benevolent work of the Society was continued throughout the year. The large number of shipwrecked, destitute and unemployed seamen who applied at the office, 72 Wall Street, New York, were courteously met and all active worthy seamen with proper credentials were helped to lodging, clothing, transportation, or in other ways suited to their needs.

Grateful thanks are given to the New York Bible Society for generous gifts of Bibles, to the steamship companies who have contributed from their concert collections, to the publishing houses who have furnished books at reduced rates for the loan libraries, to the members and chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution for generous contributions of money and books for loan libraries, and to all friends of the Society who have given clothing, reading matter and money.

### Loan Libraries for Ships

For the year ending March 31, 1935, William Elfing, Librarian, reports as follows:—There were placed on vessels sailing from



New York eighty-five new loan libraries and 278 refitted and reshipped as good as new. Forty-seven of the vessels on which these libraries were placed made voyages Around-the-World, one hundred and fifteen went through the Panama Canal to the Hawaiian Islands, British Columbia, and to ports on the West Coast of North and South America, and others were bound for the United Kingdom, Northern and Southern Europe, Asia, Africa, Philippine Islands, Egypt, South America, Australia, New Zea-

land, Central America, West Indies, Mexico, the East Coast of North and South America; nineteen are on United States Coast Guard vessels doing patrol duty along the Atlantic Coast, and several are on vessels of the United States Army Transport service. The total number of volumes 14,520 were available to 45,837 seamen. Since March, 1859, 13,789 new and 18,011 reshipped libraries have cheered and helped 826,310 seamen on their voyages. Accurate records are kept of each library and donors notified.

It is interesting to consider what the officers and crew on board ship think of the libraries. The following letter is typical of the many received during the year:

"In behalf of the officers and crew of the S. S. *President Pierce*, I wish to express our appreciation of the very fine collection of books that you so kindly contributed to our library this trip.

The books were read and enjoyed by all members of the crew. Many long tiresome hours were shortened, and the monotony of the watch below was brightened by your kind consideration.

May your good work always brighten the fore-castle of ships at the four corners of the globe, and I assure you that we shall all be eagerly awaiting the time when you shall send us our new library."



Mr. Walter E. Messenger, Ship Visitor, placed loan libraries on board 355 vessels he visited during the year. He also gave 147 packages of magazines and other literature which was much appreciated by the officers and crews on their long voyages. He is always welcome because he gives real meaning to the word Friend in the title of the Society he represents.



The American Seamen's Friend Society appeals to all patriotic citizens and friends of the sailor for their hearty cooperation and generous support in this worth-while and much needed work for the men in the service of our American ships.

Miss Mary G. Jackson, New Jersey State Chairman Subcommittee The American Seamen's Friend Society and Organizing and Past Regent of New Jersey Garret A. Hobart Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, spoke during the year at eleven meetings of that patriotic society, including the 43d Continental Congress, N. S. D. A. R., Washington, D. C., April, 1934, State Conference of Pennsylvania Chapters, D. A. R. at Philadelphia, Pa., October 23, 1934 and State Conference of New Jersey Chapters at Trenton, N. J. March 14, 1935. Through her efforts eighteen new loan libraries and funds toward others and more than 3,000 books to refill loan libraries were contributed from friends in fifteen States whom she had interested in the educational and patriotic work among seamen.



**SEAMEN'S HOUSE, 550 WEST 20TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY**

The Seamen's House was opened November 4, 1931, and is operated by the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City, under the leadership of a staff headed by George F. Robinson, Executive Secretary, Rev. James C. Healey, Chaplain, and Stafford Wright, Employment Secretary. During the year ending April 1, 1935 more than 686,900 women, boys and men in active service at sea enjoyed its splendid facilities for lodging, food, recreation and moral and religious uplift. Employment was found for 44,711. More than 82,300 beds were occupied and 91,934 meals served. Nearly 25,000 seamen used the fine appointments of the gymnasium and game rooms. Personal interviews were held with 4,040 men and 3,711

boys. The former Sailors' Home and Institute at 507 West Street was used as an annex of the Seamen's House and furnished free of charge 129,957 beds and 411,640 meals to destitute and unemployed seamen. The Seamen's House is apparently the most popular place in the port of New York for the older seamen and the young lads on board ship and the only one that makes provision for the stewardesses. The moral and religious welfare of the seamen is promoted under the leadership of the Chaplain by personal interviews and public religious services giving the house a definite Christian atmosphere.

**FISHERMEN'S INSTITUTE, GLOUCESTER, MASS.**

Chaplain George E. Russell reports that for more than forty years the Fishermen's Institute has been the best friend of the fishermen. It has stood in Gloucester with its doors open offering to them its hospitality and servicing them in many ways. It has been the first place of call for thousands of fishermen when their vessels have docked. Here many of them have received their mail and been cheered or saddened by its news. With the



smell of fish still on their clothes they have come from the vessel after three weeks or more at sea and a bath at the Institute has given them the feeling of well-being that goes with cleanliness. Far from home, but at the next best place to home, they have found attractive lodgings at a low rate with all the privileges of the Institute at their command. "You can't beat it," is a phrase that in common parlance fitly describes the way the fishermen feel about the Institute. It is like a home in which human life has made its contribution of love and all the relationships that make the real home what it is. After the fishing trip our fishermen expect to meet some of their fishing mates at the Institute and to clasp hands and swap experiences in a friendly environment mellowed by the years where they can feel perfectly at home. Twenty-one aged fishermen were accepted at Sailors' Snug Harbor at Staten Island, N. Y., during the year through the medium of the Institute.

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#### SEAMEN'S BETHEL, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Captain William Lamb, Superintendent of the Seamen's Bethel of the New Orleans and Mississippi Valley Seamen's Friend Society,



reports for the year 1934 as follows: The Bethel cooperated with the Federal Relief Agencies in the care of homeless seamen by furnishing 13,060 free lodgings and about 30,000 free meals. Nearly 4,000 magazines were supplied to the crews of outgoing ships. Employment was found for 205 and personal interviews were held with 4,401 seamen. The total attendance was 23,593. The total number of seamen present

at the fifty-two Sunday services, conducted by the ministers of the various Protestant Churches, was 3,321. My attendance in June of the Seamen's Division of the National Conference of Social Workers in New York City proved of great benefit to the work here.

**ADOUÉ SEAMEN'S BETHEL, GALVESTON, TEXAS**

Rev. J. F. Sarner, Chaplain and Superintendent, reports as follows for the year ending March, 1935: Religious services 76 with an attendance of 1,875.



One hundred and eight seamen were visited in hospitals and 39 convalescent cared for. More than 13,100 pieces of literature were distributed. Free meals 156, free lodgings 4,757, and free garments 113 were provided. Employment was secured for 310 and more than 4,500 pieces of mail handled.

Total attendance 28,985. The decreased attendance from the previous year was due to the cutting off of government relief and economies that were necessary.

The bethel is neither a charity institution nor a city mission, though we are doing some work of both; but rather a rehabilitation agency. Our aim is to seek out, encourage and strengthen the good qualities in men who seem to be slipping in their morals, and discourage all tendencies to recklessness and bad habits. The good thus accomplished by the institutions for seamen throughout the land can hardly be overestimated.

**UPPER CANADA TRACT SOCIETY, TORONTO, CANADA**

Mr. George M. Speedie reports for the year of the work for seamen on the Great Lakes administered in their three Institutes, Royal Arthur Institute at Port Arthur, Ontario, Sailors' Rest, Toronto, and Snug Harbor at Kingston, Ontario. Twenty-six religious services were held with an attendance of 478. There were 500 visits made to 492 vessels. Sixteen loan libraries were handled. Two hundred and forty-eight Bibles, Testaments or Scripture por-

tions, 4,421 tracts and calendars, 1,231 magazines, 88 comfort bags, 2,420 free beds and 1,630 free meals were given; mail handled 2,349 pieces and total attendance 3,309. The Chaplain at Kingston reports: Happy to say that I have been able to continue visiting the vessels coming into Kingston Harbor. And I have received a very cordial welcome from officers and men. There is a reaching out after the things of God which makes one all the more anxious to embrace opportunities. I have had the privilege of heart-to-heart talks with them when off duty. Thus the seed has been sown and we pray that it may bring forth fruit.



#### RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, S. A.

Rev. Dr. Hugh C. Tucker reports for the year 1934: The work on behalf of the spiritual and general welfare of the sea-faring classes in the port of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for the year 1934, was carried on after the usual manner and with an equal degree of efficiency as has been reported for the last several years. The Sailors' Home is administered by the Salvation Army. The spiritual and chaplaincy work has consisted of devotional and religious exercises held in the Home and on vessels in port; visits to the sick in hospitals; advice and counsel given to the men and copies of the Scriptures and other helpful literature placed in their hands. The Home with reading and game rooms has been at all times a place of rest, recreation, entertainment and spiritual helpfulness to all the men who have stopped therefor a shorter or longer time and for many seamen who have been ashore during the day or evening from vessels anchored in port. The Home and all connected with it and the hundreds of seamen who have enjoyed its benefits once more join in registering profound gratitude to the British Sailors' Society and The American Seamen's Friend Society for their valuable support.



**VICTORIA SAILORS' HOME, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINE**

Mr. P. J. Wyatt, Superintendent, reports for the year 1934 as follows: During the year financial reasons have forced the Com-



mittee to limit expenditure to necessities with the result that certain entertainments, which previously were a regular feature at the Home, had to be suspended with a consequent drop in the number of men attending entertainments. Seventy-seven more ships visited the port than during the previous year. Out of a total 849 ships, 113 were American, which was one more than in 1933. There were 416 visits paid to ships, 46 entertainments were held with an attendance of 1,764, and 1,955 bundles of literature were distributed to the crews on board the ships.

Sick and injured seamen were visited in the hospitals by the Superintendent and members of the Ladies' Committee. Stranded seamen were sent home and employment was secured for quite a number considering the difficulties of the worldwide economic situation. The cosmopolitan character of the seamen who visited this port is indicated by the list of nationalities, Americans, Arabs, Argentines, Chinese, Danes, Dutch, Esthonians, Finns, French, Greeks, Maltese, Norwegians, Porto Ricans, Spaniards and Swedes.

**SAILORS' REST, GENOA, ITALY**

Rev. R. P. R. Anderson, Chaplain and Superintendent, reports as follows: For ten years I have been in intimate personal command of the work among our sailors here, giving up every evening to the Sailors' Rest and enjoying it. It is an immense comfort to have the confidence of the Committee in charge, as well as of those two stout allies whose support and understanding I value highly, the British Sailors' Society and The American Seamen's Friend Society. In ten years I have never written anything but an optimistic report,



and there is no reason why I should write a retreatist one now. The blue flag which Donald Miller unfurled sixty-five years ago on the old floating Bethel is still aloft, and the difficulties of a new generation are only a challenge to us who are called to the Scottish apostolate of the sea. Space compels me to ask our many friends to accept a vote of thanks that is none the less hearty because it is all-embracing. Staff, voluntary helpers, treasurer, auditor, local committee, subscribers all, senders of literature, knitters of comforts, collectors of donations,—one of them my sister in Ireland, and every ally of the work, pray accept warm thanks and be not weary in well-doing. One word of appeal I shall add. Would it not be on our conscience if our own men, many of them young lads fresh from the shelter of godly homes, had no place in a foreign port where they could worship God after the manner of their fathers and find a haven of shelter from the terrible dangers around them?

#### SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE, LEGHORN, ITALY

Mr. Joseph G. Welsby, Superintendent, reports an increase in shipping during the year 1934. There were 46 American and 224 British ships, also 9 destroyers, 1 cruiser and 4 submarines in port, all of which were visited. Church services were attended by 980 and evening entertainments by 2,830 seamen. Outdoor recreations were attended by 675 and the pieces of mail handled 5,512. Seven seamen in hospitals were cheered by 94 visits. Thirty beds, 36 meals and 1,044 teas were given to seamen. Total attendance at the reading rooms was 13,210. The name of Mr. George Henderson will always be intimately connected with the Institute which was opened in 1912, debt free. He had collected the funds and superintended its construction and was never so happy as when he could spend time in the rooms with his friends the seamen. After only four days' illness he passed away peacefully in his sleep January 28, 1934. By his death all seafarers trading in the Mediterranean lost a real friend.



### SAILORS' REST, NAPLES, ITALY

Mr. A. R. Messam, Port Missionary, reports as follows for the first six months of the year 1934. More than 450 seamen attended the religious meetings and concerts. Two hundred and twelve ships were visited and 43 visits made to seamen in hospitals. Bundles of literature to the number of 94 were distributed on board ships and 458 pieces of mail handled. The total attendance of 3,114 showed an increase from the previous half year. Aid was given to



Maltese seamen who had lost their ships. Missionaries enroute from China to their home in the United States of America were helped. The Rest which had been opened and maintained after the World War by the British Sailors' Society of London, was closed on August 18, 1934, and new work was opened in the port of Haifa, Palestine.

### MARINERS' INSTITUTE, ANTWERP, BELGIUM

Rev. Stanley Parker, Chaplain of the Antwerp Seamen's Friend Society, thus reports for the year 1934: At the Mariners' Church and Institute nearly 350 Gospel and other Church services including entertainments were held with an attendance of about 20,000. More than 1,740 visits were made to ships and 299 visits to sick and injured seamen in hospitals. More than 6,780 pieces of mail were handled and nearly 11,000 frequented the reading room. Among events of outstanding interest may be mentioned the visit to Antwerp during its summer cruise of training ship *Empire State* of the New York State Merchant Marine Academy under command of its Superintendent, Captain James H. Tomb, U. S. N. Ret. The officers and cadets seemed to appreciate the opportunities offered by the Mariners' Institute for recreation and sight-seeing and also for religious services.



### SEAMEN'S HOME, NAGASAKI, JAPAN

Mr. E. R. S. Pardon, President, reports that the Home has been without a resident manager during the past year which has greatly limited its work. Throughout the year, the manager's duties have been discharged as far as possible by the Directors, who have assumed personal responsibility for supervision in rotation. When the British warships were here in the spring, the services of an English-speaking Japanese were obtained to help with the management. In the autumn,



we were fortunate enough to secure valuable assistance from Mr. Edwin Parker, a British ex-serviceman now resident in that port; we regret that Mr. Parker cannot see his way clear to become resident manager, but he has kindly promised to help us until the position is filled. Although, at our own suggestion, no financial grants for the year were received from The American Seamen's Friend Society and British Sailors' Society, we have maintained affiliation with them and much appreciate their advice and encouragement.

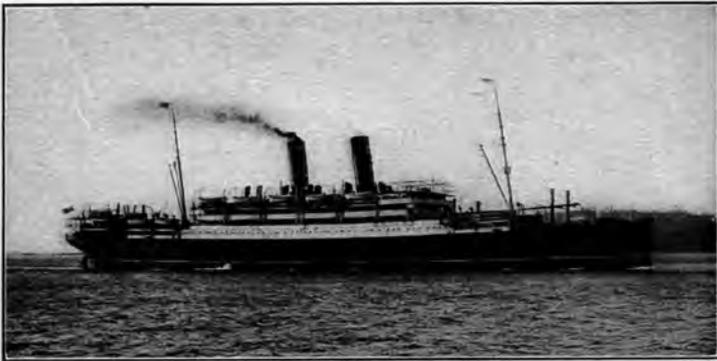
### SAILORS' REST, FUNCHAL, MADEIRA

More than fifty years ago Rev. William George Smart began welfare work for seamen in the port of Funchal on the Island of Madeira. He now bears the title Hon. Superintendent and Hon. Secretary of the Sailors' Rest. He reports that during the year 1934, 454 sailors visited the Rest. They were from H. M. S. Battleship *Hood*, Swedish Battleship *Oscar II*, French Destroyers *Vautour* and *l'Aigle*, Greek Training Ship *Aris*, Polish Train-



ing Ship *Iskra*, U. S. S. *Nantucket*, H. M. S. *Daffodil*, and Danish Training Ship *Danmark*. ...The stay of naval ships is usually 4 days to one week and on all occasions tea was served to sailors on liberty who visited the Rest. The Hon. Superintendent has received letters of appreciation for this work from the Commanders of the various Ships. A German Steward on his discharge from the hospital also visited the Rest 30 times.' We extend our grateful thanks to all local helpers and to The American Seamen's Friend Society of New York for their kind help.

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## The American Seamen's Friend Society

### RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1935

#### RECEIPTS

Balance April 1, 1934.....		\$4,101.74
Legacies (unrestricted).....	\$1,460.74	
Contributions .....	5,949.39	
Income from investments.....	7,866.07	
Unrestricted investments sold.....	3,945.99	
Miscellaneous .....	26.14	19,248.33
Total income.....		\$23,350.07
Legacy—Permanent Fund.....	\$7,200.00	
Investments sold.....	1,382.60	8,582.60
		\$31,932.67

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Grants to affiliated stations.....	\$1,250.00	
Shipwrecked and destitute seamen.....	921.35	
Library books and bookcases.....	1,904.37	
Salaries and pension.....	16,270.00	
Office rent and other expenses.....	2,897.36	23,243.08
Balance March 31, 1935.....		\$8,689.59

ORRIN R. JUDD,  
*Treasurer.*

Examined and approved,  
RALPH H. STEVER,  
*Auditor.*

# The American Seamen's Friend Society

AFFILIATED AND COOPERATING SOCIETIES IN HOME AND  
FOREIGN PORTS

- Seamen's House, 550 West 20th Street, New York City, George F. Robinson, Executive Secretary, Rev. James C. Healey, Chaplain, Stafford Wright, Employment Secretary.
- Fishermen's Institute, 8 Duncan St., Gloucester, Mass., Rev. George E. Russell, Chaplain.
- Seamen's Rest, Newport News, Va., C. C. Larsen, Supt.
- Seamen's Bethel and Institute, 204 West Bute St., Norfolk, Va., Thomas E. Gould, Manager.
- Seamen's Bethel, 2218 St. Thomas St., New Orleans, La., Captain William Lamb, Supt.
- Adoue Seamen's Bethel, Galveston, Texas, Rev. J. F. Sarnier, Chaplain.
- Upper Canada Tract Society, 128 University Ave., Toronto, Canada, George M. Speedie, Supt.
- Salvation Army Sailors' Home, Rua Saccadura Cabral 233, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Rev. H. C. Tucker, D.D.
- Sailors' Home and Mission, Ituzaingo 1522, Montevideo, Uruguay, John H. Johnson, Supt.
- Victoria Sailors' Home, Independencia 20, Buenos Aires, Argentine, P. J. Wyatt, Supt.
- Sailors' Rest, 16 via Milano, Genoa, Italy, Rev. R. P. R. Anderson, Supt.
- Seamen's Institute, 1 via Fiume, Leghorn, Italy, Joseph G. Welsby, Supt.
- Sailors' Rest, via Marina Nuova 47, Naples, Italy, A. R. Messam, Port Missionary.
- Mariners' Institute, 21 Avenue d'Italie, Antwerp, Belgium, Rev. Stanley Parker, Chaplain.
- Sailors' Rest, 18 Rua Roberto Ivens, Funchal, Madeira, Rev. William George Smart, Supt.
- Seamen's Home, 26 Oura, Nagasaki, Japan, E. R. S. Pardon, President.

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The American Seamen's Friend Society is also associated for work in Foreign Ports with the British Sailors' Society, 680 Commercial Road, London, E. 14, England, Herbert E. Barker, General Secretary.

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Contributions and legacies in support of the affiliated work, and to aid shipwrecked, destitute and unemployed seamen and to place on vessels Loan Libraries for seamen at sea (\$25.00) ARE GREATLY NEEDED.

Checks payable to THE AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY may be mailed to 72 Wall St., New York, N. Y.

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## FORM OF BEQUEST

"I give and bequeath to The American Seamen's Friend Society, incorporated by the Legislature of New York, in the year 1833, the sum of . . . . ., to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society."

Three witnesses should certify at the end of the will, over their signatures, to the following formalities, which in the formation of the will should be strictly observed.

1st. That the testator subscribed (or acknowledged the subscription of) the will in their presence. 2nd. That he, at the same time, declared to them that it was his last will and testament. 3rd. That they, the witnesses, then and there, in his presence, and at his request, and in presence of each other, signed their names thereto, as witnesses.