

Editor's Note

This summer the Woods Hole Historical Collection is publishing *The Diary of Ruth Anna Hatch*, edited by Mary Lou Smith and designed by Diane Jaroch, as are *Spritsail*, *Woods Hole Reflections* and *The Book of Falmouth*. Ruth Anna Hatch grew up in Woods Hole in a yellow house with green trim still standing near the north-western corner of Little Harbor, across from the town beach next to the Coast Guard base. Her teacher, Eva March Tappan, lived nearby and together the two young women explored the delights of Woods Hole: walking, sledding, skating, sailing and picking wild flowers. Miss Tappan sketched many of the scenes which Ruth Anna described in her diary and, soon after, Baldwin Coolidge took photographs of some of the same scenes. Combining the photographs of Baldwin Coolidge and the sketches of Eva March Tappan with the diary of Ruth Anna Hatch has brought back to life those bygone days from January to October, 1881.

Eva March Tappan became a writer, as well as a teacher, and one of her best known poems is the rhyming roll call of the Indian names of the islands of Buzzards Bay and the communities nearby. The verses appear here as Miss Tappan wrote them in Woods Hole on June 20, 1884, and as they were first published in the *Cape Cod Item* of August 15, 1884.

On the Cape

Eva March Tappan

We drove the Indians out of the land,
But a dire revenge those red men planned,
For they fastened a name to every nook,
And every boy with a spelling book
Will have to toil till his hair turns gray
Before he can spell them the proper way.

The islands in Buzzards Bay are these:
Cuttyhunk, Penikese,
Nashawena, Pasqueness,
Great Naushon, Nonamesset,
Uncatena and Weepecket.

But do not yet of your memory boast,
Take another look along the coast,
Chappaquiddick, Katama, Menemsha Bight,
Sippewissett, Nobscusset, Ashumet, Waquoit,
Monomoy, Siasconset and Nobska Light.
There's Quemquamquissett and Monohansett,
Menauhant, Cotuit, Cataumet and Gansett,
Tuckernuck, Sippican, then comes Cohasset,
Muskegat, Nantucket, Teaticket, Pocasset.
There's Titicut, Sankaty Head, Cotochessett,
Squibnockett, Satucket and then Mattakesett,
Succannessett, Namasket, and then Coonamessett,
Mattapoisett, Marshpee, and, last of all Nauset.

Would you walk upon sands with such lingo strewed,
Then take a seat on the "Flying Dude".