

## The Negro in Colonial New England

Posted by GerryD - 2012/06/28 03:21

---

### RHODE ISLAND: LEADING FAMILIES IN THE 1700 WHO WERE SLAVE HOLDERS, OF THE NARRAGANSETT COUNTRY.

In the 1700's Governor William Robinson owned a tract of land four and one half mile long and two miles

wide, he was reported to have "kept forty horses and as many slaves". Most of the Negroes worked in his

large dairy.

Rowland Robinson his son, is said to have owned at one time twenty-eight Negroes and possibly more.

Colonel Champlin, reputed owner of more than on thousand acres of land possessed thirty-five horses, fifty-five cows, six hundred to seven hundred sheep, and a "proportionate" number of slaves.

James Babcock of Westerly, with two thousand acres of land is said to have had "horses, slaves and stock in proportion."

Colonel Updike, one-time attorney for Rhode Island, Hezekiah Babcock, and Mr. Sewall at Point Judith were also proprietors of extensive land holdings worked by slave labor.

The Stanton family one of the largest of all the slave holders, whose forty slaves equaled in number the servants of the Robinsons.

Robert Hazard of South Kingstown, Rhode Island was one of the richest slave owners in 1730. He was reported at one time to have held title to 12,000 acres of land, part of which he converted to a dairy

farm. Twenty-four Negro women are said to have worked in the creamery alone. Under the task system they

were required to make twelve to twenty-four huge cakes of cheese daily.

(\*\*Under the task system a certain amount of work is assigned the slave for a given period of time.

Should he complete the work earlier, the rest of the time is his own.)

This is a short list of the leading slave holders in Colonial New England. You can read more in the book THE NEGRO IN COLONIAL NEW ENGLAND. Lorenzo Johnston Greene.

=====