

ence in other advertisements or other references. In September 1795 this ad was still running in the *American Gazette and Norfolk and Portsmouth Advertiser*. Also in September was a small card calling for an apprentice, “a well disposed lad of about 13 or 14 years of age” for the jewelers’ business.<sup>1026</sup> In May 1796 they published that “impressed with a grateful sense of the encouragement they have experienced since their commencement in business” they sincerely thanked their “numerous friends and customers...From the decided preference and flattering approbation their work has every where met with, they feel a confidence that their labours in future will have the same success.”<sup>1027</sup> They continued to make and sell their jewelry “in a great variety of elegant patterns”; they worked hair for jewelry “in a manner that never fails to give the completest satisfaction”; they manufactured every article “in the Small Silver Way as may be ordered;” they cut in a masterly manner “Court, Corporation, Church, Society, or Counting-house Seals in SILVER or other METAL.” They arranged to have painted miniatures, which they described as the “most Striking Likenesses taken in Miniature for lockets or bracelets” priced from \$10 to \$20 each. They would paint ladies in their homes in Norfolk or Portsmouth, or further out in the country if transportation was provided. Satisfaction was guaranteed—“no compensation whatever will be demanded, unless the likeness be approved of.” They also wanted one or two “finished” [finishing?] workmen who could “expect to meet...every encouragement their abilities entitle them to.” The miniatures were probably painted by the Sully brothers, Lawrence and/or Thomas, who were in Norfolk at this time and were known to have items in Warrock’s shop in 1800.

After such statements of prosperous business, it is surprising to find the partnership dissolved several months later. On 20 October 1796 Samuel Brooks was advertising independently as a goldsmith, jeweler, and engraver at 3 Church Street. He informed the public that the partnership had dissolved by mutual consent on 17 October and that he would be happy to execute any orders in his business.<sup>1028</sup> William Warrock also advertised independently continuing under the old sign of the Dove and the Locket on Church Street.<sup>1029</sup>

A drawing of a partnership mark was published by George Cutten in his *Silversmiths of Virginia*, page 88, showing a script full surname mark “Brooks&Warrock” in a conforming rectangle with shaped top flat over the initial B and final K and bumping rounded over the K, &, and twice over the W. This author has not found the mark to photograph. This was probably the mark on a ladle engraved “JEB,” exhibited at the Norfolk (now Chrysler) Museum in 1951. Warrock’s surname mark uses this same conforming shape.

**John Brooks**

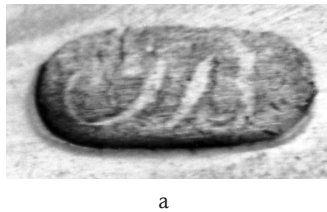
*silversmith & jeweler; Norfolk, VA, c1799–1806*

In 1799 John Brooks was leasing from John Richardson a shop on the east side of Church Street. Richardson’s insurance policy

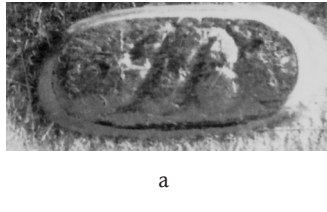
issued on 26 February 1799 noted that John Brooks, jeweler, occupied the one-story wood building, which measured 14 by 26 feet, as a silversmith’s shop and that it had a “neat show front.”<sup>1030</sup> When gunsmith and blacksmith Goldsberry Hackett sold his lease on 10 August that year to the house next door, he referenced that his neighbor was John Brooks, silversmith.<sup>1031</sup> A 1799 audit of the estate of John Armstrong noted a payment to artist John Roberts “in presence of Brooks jeweller.” This may have been John Brooks or Samuel Brooks, the engraver and silversmith who had been working in Norfolk since 1795 and since 1796 also lived on Church Street. It is likely John and Samuel Brooks were related. The only listing in the 1801 Norfolk directory for a Brooks was for Samuel Brooks, jeweler and miniature painter. On 18 December 1809 one John Brooks, originally from Great Britain, took the oath of allegiance in Norfolk to become an American citizen.<sup>1032</sup> This may have been the jeweler.

On 3 September 1806 John Brooks Sr. of Portsmouth leased from William Simington for \$150 a lot and house fronting eleven feet on Commerce street and eighteen feet deep, adjacent James Bennett for £11 annual rent.<sup>1033</sup> This lease was referenced in a deed of April 1811 which identified John Brooks now of the Island of Nevis.<sup>1034</sup> This may be the jeweler relative (brother?) of Samuel Brooks, who claimed experience in the West Indies.

There are a number of other legal references to a John Brooks in Portsmouth (1792 through 1812) none of whom are likely to be the jeweler. These references relate to leasing and reassigning the lease of a property on Holt’s Lane in Portsmouth and buying other property in 1799 and 1806, with a wife Jane (deed of 1799) and a wife Sarah (married Sarah Butt in 1784, named in deed of 1806). There was also a prominent gentleman of this name in Richmond who served as commissioner of taxes between 1787 and 1815.



a



a

An initial mark is attributed to John Brooks. *Mark a:* Script “JB” in oval was recorded on a pair of 8-3/4-inch rounded-end spoons with U-shaped drops on the back of the bowls, slight backward tip, and engraved “AC” on the front (ref. Brooks-2). The spoons and an unmarked ladle came out of an old family from Suffolk in Tidewater Virginia. The spoons were acquired in 2003 by the Virginia Historical Society.

**Samuel Brooks**

*engraver, jeweler, goldsmith (& publisher); Philadelphia, PA, 1790–93; Norfolk, VA, 1795–1802; Brooks & Warrock, 1795–96; Richmond, VA, 1803–23+*

Samuel Brooks was a goldsmith, jeweler, and engraver, probably a native of Great Britain, who acquired his early experience in “Europe, the West-Indies, and this country” although he never explicitly documented his early years.<sup>1035</sup> He was in Philadelphia probably in the late 1780s, but first noted in early 1790. Samuel Brooks designed and engraved and Jacques Manley published in 1790 the first medal issued in this country bearing Washington’s portrait, based on a 1784 portrait by Joseph Wright (1756–1793).<sup>1036</sup> The profile head of George Washington in his uniform fills one side with the legend “GEO WASHINGTON BORN VIRGINIA” around the outer edge and “FEB. 11/1732” below the head; the reverse reads “GENERAL/OF THE/ AMERICAN ARMIE/1775./ RESIGNED/1783./ PRESIDENT/ OF THE/ UNITED STATES/1789.” The medal is signed very small “BROOKS, F[ecit]” on the arm of obverse and “J. MANLY & C, 1790” at the bottom edge on the reverse. It was announced on 3 March 1790 in Philadelphia with attestations dated 22 February that it had a “strong and expressive likeness” of Washington, and widely publicized throughout the country.<sup>1037</sup> Medals were available in white metal (tin) to resemble silver (\$1), in gold colored metal (bronze) to resemble gold (\$2), or of fine silver (\$4) or gold (priced by weight). Impressions in bronze occur without Brooks’ name and sometimes without Manley name. This has been explained that the medals were first cast before being struck, and the casts did not always fit into the die. Impressions in silver (five known), tin (three or four known), and gold (only one known) are extremely rare. A silver medal was exhibited from the collection of Paul Magriel at the Museum of the City of New York in 1957 and was illustrated on the cover and in an article on Washington medals in *Magazine Antiques* in February 1957.<sup>1038</sup> A similar medal was published with a recut obverse with small differences and a signature “S.B.F.” Once thought to be contemporary to Brooks, it is now thought to be a later effort by engraver and die-sinker Selig Baumgarten who immigrated to Baltimore in 1852, father of engravers Julius (of Richmond and D.C.) and Herman (of D.C.).<sup>1039</sup>

Samuel Brooks advertised on 16 September 1792 as a small working goldsmith, jeweler, and engraver at 99 South Front Street near Walnut Street. He had on hand a small assortment of jewelry, plated buckles, spurs, spoons, and “other Plated Hardware” and offered his services “lays hair in the neatest manner, in love mourning and fancy devices; he also cuts cypher crests, coats of arms, and all manner of devices upon gold, silver, steel, and other metal, seals, tradesmen’s marking punches, &c.”<sup>1040</sup> By November he was thanking his friends and customers for the great encouragement he had received since commencing in business and was “particularly obliged to those gentlemen who

have given him their custom in the seal cutting line." In a few weeks he expected to have his tools arranged for cutting in stone as well. "All other sort of engraving" was done with "particular allowance made to goldsmiths, sadlers, whop-makers, &c." He was listed only in the 1793 Philadelphia directory, not before or after, as a goldsmith and seal cutter at 29 Front Street, the same address from which he advertised on 10 June 1793 as a "Small working Goldsmith, Jeweller, Etc." (ref. Brooks-3),

**SAMUEL BROOKS,**  
Small working Goldsmith, Jeweller, &c.  
No. 29. South Front street, Philadelphia.  
**R**ESPECTFULLY informs the public, that he executes every article in the above branches, in the most elegant manner, of the best materials, and on terms so low as to make it the interest of those who with any article in his line to give him a preference; and on trial it will be found, that for goodness of gold and silver, elegance of workmanship, and moderate prices, he is not to be excell'd by any of his profession on the continent.



His new improv'd  
**PERPETUAL CALENDAR SEALS,**

respectfully informs the public, that he executes every article in the above branches in the most elegant manner, of the best materials, and on terms so low as to make it the interest of those who with any article in his line to give him a preference and on trial it will be found, that for goodness of gold and silver, elegance of workmanship, and moderate prices, he is not to be excell'd by any of his profession on the continent. [woodcut of a seal in oval mat in square frame]

His new improv'd  
**PERPETUAL CALENDAR SEALS,** which are calculated to point out the days of every month, as correct and easy as any Almanack and is a proper appendage to a watch, or suitable for a compting house—he makes (beautifully cypher'd) so low as eight dollars in gold, two dollars in silver, and in metal elegantly gilt, at the reduced price of one dollar each. Office and Company Seals, Dies, & etc. with any device, executed proportionably cheap, and in a stile so near perfection, as to ensure the approbation of his customers.

Bracelets, Locketts, Rings, &c &c made in the newest fashions, and hair laid in love mourning and fancy pieces.

Watch cases, Movement, and every species of Metal Gilding done in a stile

of the greatest elegance, and on lower terms than has been yet offered in this city.

He hopes by the above considerations [ded to a constant desire to please, and a respectful punctuality to the commands of his customers, to merit that share of their encouragement which he solicits, and which he will always endeavor to be worthy of.

N.B. the full value for old gold, silver, &c.<sup>1041</sup>

Samuel Brooks left Philadelphia for Norfolk, joining in partnership with William Warrock who had himself just left Richmond. The two commenced on 17 January 1795 as Brooks & Warrock on Market (or Main) Street three doors above Church Street in Norfolk.<sup>1042</sup> They complimented each other's skills, Warrock's jewelry and silversmithing expertise was set off by Brooks' engraving and seal making experience. They expected "to execute every ARTICLE in the above business as Bracelets, Locketts, Rings, plain and set, Ear Rings, Necklaces, Glove Clasps, Hair and Tippet Slides, Pins, &c &c &c; Also every Article in the Small Silver Way, as Buckles, Buttons, Spoons, &c." as well as cutting and engraving of seals, hair plaiting, and gilding on metals. An advertisement of 6 May 1796 offered the painting of miniature portraits, probably by Lawrence or Thomas Sully who connected with other goldsmith-jewelers who would provide the gold locketts and bracelets as settings for the miniatures. Their claim of long experience in Europe and America—"the experience they have acquired in the different branches of their Profession, by a long and steady application to it, in Europe and America,"—is overstated in terms of Warrock who then had some eight-years experience all in Richmond and Brooks who was only known for his Philadelphia experience since 1790. This may have been intended to convey that Brooks was a native and trained in Europe, probably in Great Britain.

Although the business of the partnership seemed prosperous, on 17 October 1796 Brooks & Warrock dissolved by mutual consent, both partners continuing independently. Samuel Brooks gave his new address as 3 Church Street.<sup>1043</sup> The dissolution was amicable and Warrock gave the surety for Samuel Brooks' rental of his business lot from Robert Wills on the west side of Church Street on 30 December 1796 and witnessed the renewal of the lease for fifteen years in November 1800.<sup>1044</sup> Another of the witnesses to the 1800 renewal was Charles Caroline for whom Brooks gave surety for Caroline's bond of marriage to Mrs. Margaret Ridley in December 1798.<sup>1045</sup>

On 30 November 1799 Brooks conducted a jewelry raffle, an event used occasionally by silversmiths at this time for increasing the traffic in the shop, creating excitement about his stock, and moving a group of goods via this distribution method.<sup>1046</sup> In August 1800 he moved his jewelry business from Church Street to the house adjacent to Veal & Bradford's on Bank Street, advertising for two or three apprentices.<sup>1047</sup> In November 1800 he renegotiated

a fifteen-year lease for his former shop at 119 Church Street and returned to that address. The 1801 Norfolk directory listed him as a jeweler and miniature painter at 119 Church Street and dwelling separately at 6 Church Street. On 26 October 1802 Brooks assigned his lease to George White for \$1,000, and White also gave him \$100 for Brooks' interest in two houses and improvements on the leased land.<sup>1048</sup> Note that Stephen Ensko misinterpreted Brooks' Church Street address as Philadelphia, thus mis-states that Brooks returned to Philadelphia between 1796 and 1802, is contrary to local Virginia records.<sup>1049</sup>

His former partner William Warrock had moved to Richmond in 1803 and Samuel Brooks also moved there, perhaps immediately after reassigning the lease of his shop in October 1802. Brooks was visited in his shop in Richmond in October 1803 by a Mr. Ryan, glass cutter, who introduced him to a gentleman, Thomas Logwood, "a person whose manner and appearance was well calculated to engage confidence," who wanted an engraver capable of engraving maps of the western country.<sup>1050</sup> After Ryan retired, "and upon a solemn injunction of secrecy, on masonic principles, by Logwood on Brooks," Logwood revealed his plan for counterfeiting United States bank notes of Boston, Charleston, Savannah, and Norfolk and passing millions of dollars of these notes if Samuel Brooks would use his superior engraving abilities to engrave the counterfeit plates for the scheme.<sup>1051</sup> Logwood exhibited samples of counterfeit twenty, ten, and five dollar bills of the branch banks that he thought were "not well enough executed" and requested that Brooks come to his house in Buckingham County to engrave better ones for him. Fearing for his life if he refused, he stalled several months while Logwood offered more inducements. Brooks recounted,

Wealth was offered to me to gratify my avarice, honours were promised to engage my passions, and power and influence pledged to protect me in all my enjoyments.<sup>1052</sup>

Brooks consulted with a member of the Virginia executive council who raised the issue to Governor John Page who with advise of the attorney for that federal district, advised him to go along with the plan in order to entrap the parties and foil the plan, giving Brooks assurances "of interference for his personal safety."<sup>1053</sup> Logwood sent a confidant, Peter Patteson, to escort Brooks to Buckingham County and they left on 8 March 1804. Logwood furnished materials for the paper that he said came from the same mill that furnished the paper for the Bank of the United States, and Brooks made the notepaper from these materials. Brooks engraved three plates for counterfeiting \$25 and \$100 bills on branch banks of the United States, and Logwood himself added the signatures and numbers in Brooks' presence. Patteson, who resided near Frankfort, went to Kentucky with about \$2,200 of Brooks' notes and \$200 of the impressions from the plates considered as too imperfectly executed to use, where he expected to buy horses and other property. Logwood bragged

that many of the notes would be exchanged in a money laundering effort in Washington by the very person under whose direction the branch banks received their true notes. Thus Logwood would be spending true bills while the branch banks would be distributing his counterfeit ones. Several persons of considerable respectability in Georgia and North Carolina were also named as part of this or of a similar conspiracy. Brooks returned to Richmond with information identifying several of the conspirators and samples that Governor Page said “do credit to his skill as an engraver.”<sup>1054</sup>

With sufficient evidence at hand, Lieutenant Underwood of the Richmond Guard obtained a search warrant and traveled on horseback the 112 miles to Buckingham County in twelve hours. He followed Brooks’ directions to Logwood’s house where he seized about \$14,000 in counterfeit notes, double guineas of France, gold Eagle coins, the papermaking devices, plates, presses, and dies, and arrested Logwood.<sup>1055</sup> Letters of Governor Page dated 12 April 1804 state that Logwood was apprehended and in jail in Richmond by that time. Brooks was perceived to be in danger from retribution of the forgers and wrote to Governor Page on 24 April, thanking him for the offer of protection, specifying that “Suitable arms for my personal defence will be sufficient. If your excellency will be pleased to order such delivered to me, I have no doubt that I shall be perfectly safe...P.S. The arms entrusted to me shall be taken proper care of and returned whenever it may be thought proper by the Executive.”<sup>1056</sup> The publicity of Logwood’s upcoming trial occasioned scandalous stories questioning Brooks’ good intentions, so that even before the trial, on 25 April, Brooks published a public response:

However unpleasant it may be to intrude my humble name upon the attention of the public, yet a duty which I owe to myself, as well as my family and friends, require that I should take some means to correct erroneous and injurious reports, which have been circulated with respect to my conduct in detecting and preventing the execution of a dangerous plot against the interest of the public at large. And this appears the more necessary, as the destruction of my reputation seems to be the principal thing relied on to defeat the operation of the law.<sup>1057</sup>

This was accompanied by an appreciative letter from Governor John Page. Counterfeiting was a major problem and the same day as Brooks’ notice, the editor of the *Virginia Argus* published a discussion of methods for preventing counterfeiting. Brooks responded with his own views on 1 May, taking exception to the editor’s methods and offering his own plan, which he signed “Saml. Brooks, Engraver &c.”<sup>1058</sup> Other articles on 12 May continued the debate on how to combat counterfeiting.<sup>1059</sup>

Thomas Logwood was brought to trial in late May and found guilty by Justice John Marshall who sentenced him to ten years in jail and a \$500 fine.<sup>1060</sup> Other participants in the affair escaped. A young David Greenlaw of

Richmond County was brought to trial for the murder of Lewis L’Orient, and offered to give evidence against others, presenting himself as a “true penitent” formerly influenced by wicked companions; he was found not guilty. Greenlaw agreed to give evidence against the real murderers, George Foley and Joseph Morel, but instead escaped in October 1804, as did Foley and Morel.<sup>1061</sup>

Page had authorized a small bonus to the guards Underwood and his assistants the Allens; however, official state review of expenses for the prosecution of Logwood did not support the bonus and there was discussion that Underwood and the Allens should even reimburse their bonus to the state.<sup>1062</sup> They did not qualify for federal reimbursement for state expenses—payment was given only for extra guards when an escape was feared, and only \$6 was allowed for transporting the forging materials for the trial. Governor John Page sponsored a payment of \$500 to Brooks for his time lost and as a reward for his meritorious services in detecting the forgeries. A paper in the papers of the auditor of Public Accounts records the date 10 June 1804 for the \$500, but the omission of supporting orders to pay Brooks or of his receipt of the amount confirms that Brooks never was paid by the commonwealth.<sup>1063</sup> Page wrote several letters to President Thomas Jefferson, one to Treasurer Mr. Gallatin, and several to the two senators, William B. Giles and Andrew Moore, urging the Federal Treasury or Congress to pay Brooks a reward for his benefit, but also as an “example of Magnificence...becoming a sovereign independent state” and to set an example to the other states to follow in kind. He argued that “at a time when all confidence in bank notes is upon the brink of destruction, by the forgeries which we have information are daily practiced in North Carolina, by a part of Logwood’s associates, all of whom might be apprehended if liberal rewards were offered, and could informers be treated with the indulgence for which sound policy at present loudly calls.”<sup>1064</sup> Setting such a precedent was not to happen. The reward was not given, the government claiming indemnity for expenses of the Bank of the United States against expenses of prosecution of counterfeiters. The Senators replied, however, they “unite with the Executive of Virginia in rendering our tribute and applause to Mr. Brooks for his hazardous and meritorious services, and if in our power would take great pleasure in being instrumental in procuring him an adequate compensation.”<sup>1065</sup> Page told Brooks as a last recourse, he could petition Congress personally, but Brooks refused. He

declared that though poor before and reduced since by his loss of time, and by the address of Logwood’s friends who have diminished his business by depreciating his skill as an Engraver of prints and Maps in which character he was employed by Logwood he cannot stoop to beg, and especially, as he nobly expresses it, to ask for a reward for merely doing his duty.<sup>1066</sup>

John Page continued his entreaty to the senators,

I have therefore, my dear sirs, to request that you will not permit the meritorious services of this honest man, this faithful Engraver, to go unrequited, because his delicacy and manly spirit will not permit him to petition Congress for a reward and to boast of his services.<sup>1067</sup>

Samuel Brooks did continue his engraving work in spite of the adverse publicity and fears for retribution by escaped conspirators. Throughout the year 1804 he engraved a number of seals for the district courts, delivering the first two on 2 January 1804 and receiving payment of \$30 each on 5 January authorized by John Page. Throughout the year he continued to deliver a few seals at a time—three in March, four in June, four in August, five in September, and one in October, with the notation it was the nineteenth and completed the list of district courts.<sup>1068</sup> There was no withholding of these fees; he collected his \$30 each, for a total of \$570 over the year. The governor’s report to the General Assembly on 3 December 1804, that some of the seals had been delivered and the others were ready to be deposited with the clerks of their respective courts.<sup>1069</sup> It was noted that their delivery had been considerably delayed because the governor had used Mr. Brooks’ engraving services in detection of the Thomas Logwood affair. On 2 February 1805 Brooks was again advertising as an engraver, seal cutter, and fancy workman, his shop now located next door to Dr. Wilson and opposite the Bell Tavern.<sup>1070</sup>

In January 1806 Brooks published a proposal to establish a weekly newspaper to be called the *Impartial Observer* in Richmond.<sup>1071</sup> The paper was established on 1 May 1806 with Samuel Brooks the publisher and editor and T.P. Manson the printer. The paper lasted about one year; the last issue located was 2 July 1807. Samuel Brooks advertised in June 1811 as a jeweler, engraver, and fancy worker on the north side of G Street between 3d and 4th streets on Shocke Hill where he

Respectfully offers his services to the public in the various branches of his profession. In all ordinary Jobs which can be equally well done by others, he will be thankful for any preference that may be given to him, and they shall be executed faithfully, upon as moderate terms as anywhere else in the City. But in all difficult and uncommon jobs, that require excellence of Workmanship, he does not profess to work cheap.<sup>1072</sup>

He rented this property from Joseph Bonnardel who insured the one story wood building for \$600 in September 1810. The building measured 20 by 16 feet and sat in the middle of the block.<sup>1073</sup> On 2 April 1819 Samuel Brooks bought for \$1,400 part of lot #21 of Coutts’ addition from William Mann, giving a trust on the property for \$1,100 of the price to John Dreury and Thomas B. Conway who shared an alley with Brooks.<sup>1074</sup> The address was listed in the 1819 Richmond directory as 2d Street between L and M streets.

Seal cutting and punches had been a consistent part of Brooks’ advertising. On 21 Octo-

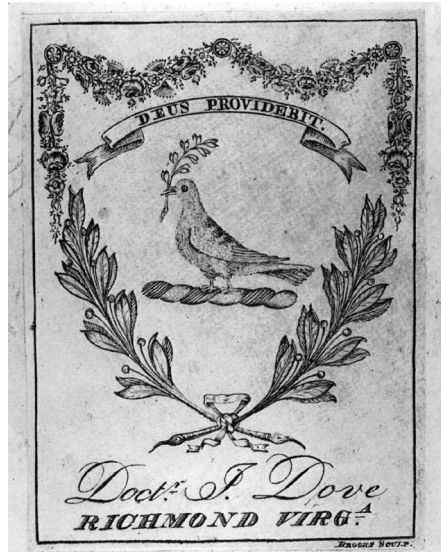
ber 1808 Executive Council allowed to Samuel Brooks a “reasonable computation for the trouble he has been at in presenting devises for the great seal of the Commonwealth.” Although he probably expected to complete the seal, the commission was given to John Michel Carter. After Carter submitted his invoices for the completed greater and lesser seals, Brooks submitted and collected his \$10 for “drawing two emblematical designs for the great seal of the Commonwealth.”<sup>1075</sup> It would be interesting to compare his drawings with the finished seal designs. In 1809 Brooks engraved a cast steel punch for marking examined arms for the Virginia Manufactory of Arms and in February 1820 and April 1821 cut stamps for the years 1820 and 1821.<sup>1076</sup> In 1814 Deputy Adjutant General Clairborn W. Gooch employed Brooks to “prepare a cut of uniform for dragoons of the state,” presumably designing the new uniform which was adopted, for which he was paid \$15.<sup>1077</sup>

In 1818 and 1819 Brooks was paid for another series of Virginia Superior and Circuit court seals. He provided for circuit courts—six in July 1818 (\$150), ten in March 1819 (\$250), twelve in April 1819, ten in May 1819 (\$300), twelve in June 1819—and for superior courts—eight in July 1818, eight in September 1818 (\$200), eight in December 1818 (\$200), twelve in January 1819 (\$300), nine in May 1819, twelve in June 1819 (\$300), and ten in July 1819.<sup>1078</sup>

On 5 February 1820 he advertised as an engraver and copperplate printer, receiving orders at his shop on 2d Street, or if more convenient, orders could be left for him at Reuben Johnson’s jewelry store nearly opposite the Eagle Hotel.<sup>1079</sup> Reuben Johnson died in October 1820, leaving young children including twelve-year-old James R. Johnson who would apprentice in his father’s trade until about 1829. Samuel Brooks engraved a figural watchpaper for the boy (ref. Brooks-4). The watchpaper has James R. Johnson’s name and Norfolk address (used 1844–55), prompting the question whether Brooks worked into the 1840s or did he leave the location blank to be filled in later. A son Samuel Brooks was born in 1823 but died only five months old and was buried in Richmond’s Shockoe Cemetery on 27 July 1823.<sup>1080</sup> He may have traveled outside of Richmond for a time. On 28 April 1829 the Fredericksburg Political Arena printed an advertisement for a miniaturist and painting teacher “Brooks” who was visiting that city; coincidentally J.R. Johnson also began business in Fredericksburg at that time.

Several small examples of Samuel Brooks’ engraving have been recorded, suggesting that other similar items probably exist, yet to be discovered. No maps have yet been identified as by his hand. He engraved a watchpaper for James R. Johnson of Norfolk (ref. Brooks-4) and signed it “S. Brooks sct.” The watchpaper has a figure of the blindfolded goddess *Justitia* holding a level balance scale, her sword propped against a monument that is topped by a time-piece, and overall a variation of his eye as the radiant all-seeing sun. On the side of the monument is written “Jas.R. Johnson (in two sizes of uppercase letters)/ Norfolk/ VIRGINIA” and on the base a script signature of the engraver “S. Brook sct.” Brooks also used a variation of his

eye in the sun, here with a radiating sun. Although he did not sign his masthead for the *Impartial Observer*, it is likely he did the engraving for the eye in the sun with the motto “Numquam Dormio” or “I never sleep” (ref. Brooks-5).



Bookplate Engraved by S. Brooks

He engraved and signed “Brooks Sculp.” a book plate (2-1/2 by 3-1/4 inches) for Dr. John Dove (1792-1876), the prominent physician and Mason of Richmond; one of these bookplates is in a copy of Jean-Antoine-Claude Chaptal’s 1807 American edition of *Elements of Chemistry*, now in the Virginia Historical Society, rare book collection (ref. Brooks-6).<sup>1081</sup> It has a crest of a dove with olive branch under the banner “Deus Providebit” (God provides), framed by a floral swag at the top and a separate larger crossed branch below, and in two lines across the bottom “Doctr.J. Dove/ Richmond Virga.”



c

Mark a: George Cutten’s *Silversmiths of Virginia* published a surname mark “BROOKS” in rectangle with serrated ends, which has not been seen by this author to photograph. This is probably the mark on the five teaspoons advertised by Miles King on 6 October 1806 as stolen from his dining room at 80 Main Street, Norfolk; he noted the spoons were stamped “Brooks” and had a cypher or monogram “K” on the handle.<sup>1082</sup>

Mark b: An initial mark “SB” in oval was recorded but not photographed on a spoon with a history of ownership by Francis M. Charlton of Williamsburg, which is tentatively attributed to Samuel Brooks.

Mark c: “Brooks” in rectangle with a serrated top line and a shaped base occurred on an exotic silver-mounted coconut standing cup or goblet (ref. Brooks-7). Standing 7-1/4 inches high, with 2-1/2 inches from stem to base and over 4 inches of coconut with a 3-inch diameter

at the top, the goblet has a silver band overlapping the rim (1-inch wide, folded with 5/8-inch on exterior) and secured by silver brads. The coconut is carved overall with neoclassical fronds emanating from the base with arching panels above; there is a central circular cartouche in which a silver shield has been tacked with four silver brads, the shield has a bright-cut edge and is engraved with script initials “TEM.” The silver rim-band is engraved with a broad swag and a small bow at each peak, and a simple oval flower with center dot and a short line top and bottom and to each side; there eight repeats around the rim, each 1-1/2 inches wide. The base is also engraved to mark the three steps. A simple zig repeat between dotted borders marks the top of the base at the stem. A second band is a repeat of triangular dots and a stemmed flower bud. The third and outer band is a wider scallop with an inverted-triangle-and-bud repeat inside each scallop. The neoclassical carving and engraving suggest Samuel Brooks’ Virginia years. He was working in the active seaport of Norfolk by 1795. A “coconut cup” goblet by Brooks was referenced in the Ensko list of objects compiled from family notes of earlier generations and published as Ensko IV in 1988, page 350. In the 1930s American marks listing as a “silver-mounted coconut cup” and entered the market again in early 2006, going into another private collection. Silver-mounted coconuts were considered exotic in Europe and Britain, and were even more rare in America. The coconuts were acquired while trading in the Caribbean islands, Pacific islands, Africa, or the Orient, often said to be carved by sailors working from a print source for design or even historic scenes.

### Brown & Huesters

(R.D. Brown & (I) Huesters); jewelers; Portsmouth, VA, 1856

The firm Brown & Huesters was first reported by R.G. Dun financial agents in Portsmouth on 14 November 1856 as “newcomers in our midsts” of whom they knew little.<sup>1083</sup> Senior partner R.D. Brown was personally known to the reporter who judged him steady and attentive but with only his stock in trade as assets. On 4 December another letter reported “from what we can discover they have a fair stock and are generally at their post.”<sup>1084</sup> By January the firm had dissolved and Brown was carrying on alone.<sup>1085</sup>

### Brown & White

(James Brown (I) & Henry White); silversmiths; Fredericksburg, VA, 1787–90

Henry White apprenticed under silversmith James Brown (I) of Fredericksburg from July 1772 for ten years until 1782. James Brown and Henry White joined together as Brown & White, silversmiths, occupying a property on Caroline Street from 1 December 1787. On 16 June 1788 the two leased from William Jackson for twenty-one years starting 1 December 1787 at £20 annually a tenement called a “farm-lett.”<sup>1086</sup> The deed was witnessed by William