

# The Jersey Devil bottles and The Legend of the 13<sup>th</sup> Child born in New Jersey Was he killed by order of President Monroe?

By David T. Tripet



Fig.1 Shows a Clevenger Brothers, Clayton, NJ bottle I bought off eBay for only \$25.00.



Fig. 2 Shows a Pharmacy Bottle from Atlantic City, that a friend owns.

Well it all began when I was a small tot at the age of seven (when gas was .25¢ a gallon). We lived in a small town in South Jersey called Belleplaine. This was a town where mostly everyone was related in some way or another. Except, The Tripet's, we were known as "outsiders," (if your last name didn't begin with the letters M, H, C or R, you was considered an outsider) who moved into town and had the first inside toilet (with running water) my Daddy bought this house at a Sheriff's Sale for only \$200.00, he and my Mom and older brother gutted the house and modernized it.

I befriended a guy named Moe, he too was an "outsider". Most of the people that lived in Belleplaine were poor folk, they did hunting for food or worked at the local Pig Farm or at the State Colony in Woodbine or at the local basket manufacturer.

Belleplaine had one general store called Socky's, owned by an old man you guessed it Socky. He loved kids, We used to go there and he would give us cookies and a Coke and tell us all stories around the potbelly stove of his duck hunting days. He had this funny rubber nose. One story Moe and I remembered a lot was when he went duck hunting at Leed's Point. As the story goes he was hunting ducks in his boat and he saw this weird thing flying around him, scooping down and getting his decoys, flying off in the fresh meadow winds. Well needless to say he was getting mad, losing his decoys. So he shot at it, then it swooped down upon him. Well that was when he pulled that rubber nose off. He said "that Jersey Devil got my nose." (we later learned that he got it shot off during the D Day Landing in WW II.)

This was my first story that I ever heard about The Jersey Devil, over the years I have heard about many sightings, believe it or not sightings as far



**Fig. 3 Shows a Bitters made by somebody, I hocked it from the web, it might be Wheaton Glass.**



**Fig. 4 Shows a Glass Slag made by Clevenger Brothers who my friend has, who by the way owns the property were The JD was born.**



**Fig. 5 Shows a brick from the foundation of the old farmhouse.**



**Fig. 6 Well that is me digging for bricks, I offered to sell some for him on my web site, he just lost his job.**

away as California.

As the story goes he was the 13<sup>th</sup> child Mrs. Shrouds of Leeds Point, NJ who made a wish that if she ever had another child, she wanted it to be a devil. Her next child was born misshapen and deformed. She sheltered it in the house, so the curious couldn't see him. One stormy night, the child flapped it's arms, which turned into wings, and escaped out the chimney and was never seen by the family again.

Well anyway that's enough about how he came about. Being an avid collector of bottles I started collecting and doing research on bottles about this South Jersey Legend. There are only a few bottles about him as you see.

An article in a recent local newspaper had an announcement of artifacts that were on display at a local book store in Asbury Park, NJ

It's time to learn about the President of the United States, James Monroe (who apparently had a thing for The JD too.). He sent Commodore Stephen Decatur (5 January 1779 – 22 March 1820) to New Jersey to test the ironworks of Hanover and Batsto. Decatur is sent on another secret mission, accompanied by Dr. James Killian, Cryptozoologist. What Decatur and his team find in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey tests the boundaries of belief... An American hero meets an American legend.

According to these artifacts, the Commodore had an encounter with The JD, apparently he killed it, the artifacts prove it. (Apparently not so, he has been sighted in recent years).

Knowing how newspapers report stories, (worked for the same newspaper that reported it for 22 years, then I got "outsourced".) I decided to investigate it. The reporter also tried to find out from other sources, but he got no response.

Well it said that Commodore Decatur used a "Phantom Ship" called "USS Minuteman," (these



Fig. 6 Display showing The JD head.



FIG. 7 The Order from Monroe to Decatur

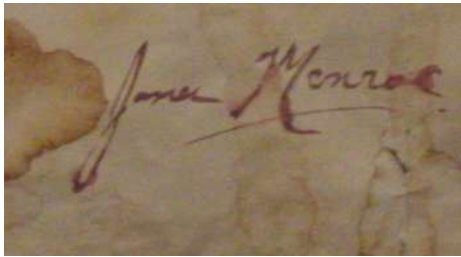


FIG. 8 Signature of President Monroe

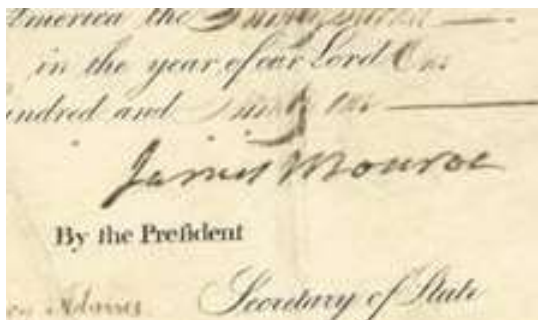


FIG. 9 Signature of President Monroe from an article from the web, there are many out there, and they all look like this. SO YOU BE THE JUDGE.

were ships captured from Pirates and were used by the Navy. So I contacted a guy who has “connections” about these things, his reply “No such ship, only in Star Trek and that was way after the time period”) I also contacted the IRS to find out about the Foundation that got these items, according to my connection with the IRS, “no such foundation.” I even contacted The Decatur Museum in Philadelphia, this is where The Foundation got the items, to date no reply from them.

The most interesting thing is about these displays are that there seems to be many questions unanswered.

Figure 6 shows the head of The JD, it looks like a mountain goat. They also claim that The JD killed one of the sailors, according to all the stories that I heard and also on the web is that He never killed anyone. Also that they even have “body fluids” from The JD.

Figure 7, 8 shows the Presidential Order to Commodore Decatur, very interesting. So I did some research on this too. I sent the image to have the document verified. I got a reply from a famous auction house, the reply was: “No known document, plus the signature is very questionable.”

Figure 9 shows the actual signature of President Monroe, note the J, M, o, r, now I am no expert BUT?

Well it is up to all to decide if the part about President Monroe is true, all I can say is you be the judge.

I will say the displays are very interesting, they can be seen at The Paranormal Books and Curiosities, Cookman Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ.

The newspaper article in its entirety is here <http://stufforsale.com/jd/jerseydevil.htm> with other interesting links about that famous South Jersey Legend. (due to space limitations the paper took the article off the web, so I copied it before they did it)

