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RHODE · ISLAND · SOCIETY
OF · THE · SONS · OF · THE
AMERICAN · REVOLUTION



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MANUAL
OF THE
RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY
OF
THE SONS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 1, 1890



THE REPUBLIC PRESS
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BY

EDWARD FIELD,

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

1892

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, &C.,
IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
January Session, A. D., 1891.

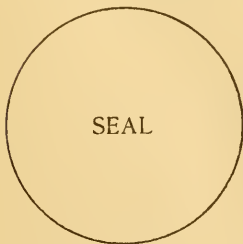
AN ACT TO INCORPORATE RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows :

SECTION 1. W. Maxwell Greene, William W. Hoppin, William Goddard, Albert Gallatin Barton, E. Benjamin Andrews, Daniel B. Pond, and their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, for the purpose of cherishing and maintaining the Institutions of American freedom, and perpetuating the spirit and memory of the deeds of the patriots who achieved American independence, with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties and liabilities, set forth in Chapter 152 of the Public Statutes, and in any acts in amendment thereof or in addition thereto.

SEC. 2. Said corporation may take, hold, transmit and convey real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect immediately.



A true copy.

Attest :

GEORGE H. UTTER,
Secretary of State.



CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

Name. The name of this society shall be the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

ARTICLE II.

Objects of the Society. The purposes of the Society are patriotic and social; to cherish and maintain among ourselves and our descendants and in the community, the institutions of American freedom; to perpetuate the spirit and memory of the deeds of the patriots who achieved American Independence, and who secured to us the blessings of Liberty; to promote the fitting celebrations of anniversaries commemorating the events connected with the War of the Revolution; to collect and preserve documents and relics relating to the War for Independence; to encourage the education of every child in reference to developing his power to use to the highest purpose and the fullest extent all the faculties with which he is endowed, thus, by rendering the individuals most strong and happy, give strength to our country; and to promote social intercourse and fellowship among its members now and hereafter.

ARTICLE III.

Eligibility. Any person in good standing in the community shall be eligible for membership in the society, who is above the age of twenty-one years and who is descendant from an ancestor that assisted in establishing American Independence during the War of the American Revolution while acting in any of the following capacities:

A military or naval officer.

A soldier or a sailor.

An official in the service of the United States or Colonies.

An official in the service of any one of the thirteen original States or Colonies or in the State of Vermont.

A recognized patriot who rendered material service.

Provided: That such loyalty was continuous.

ARTICLE IV.

Officers. The officers of this society shall be a President, Vice-President, a Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, a Historian and a Poet.

ARTICLE V.

Meetings. A meeting for the election of officers and transaction of business shall be held annually in the city of Providence on the 29th day May, and a meeting for social purposes shall be held annually at such place and time as the Board of Managers may determine. At each annual meeting there shall be elected, in addition to the officers provided for in Article IV, one Delegate at Large and one Delegate for each one hundred or fraction of one hundred, exceeding fifty members, who together with such officers as are provided for by the Constitution of the National Society, shall represent this society in the National Society.

ARTICLE VI.

Board of Managers. There shall be a Board of Managers whose duty it shall be to conduct the affairs of this society, which board shall consist of the officers of this society, the delegates to the National Society, who shall be elected at the annual meetings.

ARTICLE VII.

The President and Vice-President shall not be eligible for a second re-election as their own successors.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Constitution may be amended, altered, or repealed, provided written resolutions to that effect are first presented to the Board of Managers and approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the said Board, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, and provided said amendments are approved by a majority of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the society.

BY LAWS.

SECTION 1. All applications for membership in this society shall be upon blank forms furnished by the society, and each application shall be accompanied by the membership fee, which shall be returned if the applicant is not accepted.

SEC. 2. All applicants for membership shall be submitted to the Registrar for examination, and shall be reported by him to the Board of Managers, and when approved by said board shall be returned to the Registrar for preservation, and upon the payment of membership fee the applicant shall become a member of the society.

SEC. 3. The membership fee shall be one dollar, and yearly dues two dollars. The payment of fifty dollars by a member at any one time shall constitute the person paying such sum a life member, and he shall thereafter be exempt from the payment of annual dues. Annual dues shall be paid to the Secretary on or before the 29th day of May in each year. The Secretary shall notify the members three months in arrears, and non-payment of dues in three months thereafter shall be regarded as terminating the membership of such person unless the members shall present a satisfactory excuse.

SEC. 4. The members of this society shall meet in the city of Providence on the 29th of May, 1890, and on the 29th day of May, 1891, and annually thereafter, for the election of officers and the transaction of the business of the society. In case said day shall fall on Sunday, the meeting shall be held on the following day. In the election of officers a majority of the ballots cast shall be necessary for a choice.

SEC. 5. The society shall hold an annual meeting for the purpose of celebrating some event in Revolutionary history; and the time and place for holding such annual meeting to be determined by the board of managers, and said board shall also determine the manner of such celebration, which shall include an oration, a poem and a dinner whenever practicable.

SEC. 6. The regular meeting of the board of managers shall be held upon the third Tuesday of April and October in each year, and special meetings may be called by the President at any time, and shall be called upon the request of any three members of the board of managers. Three (3) members of the board of managers shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of said board. Five (5) members of the society shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of said society.

SEC. 7. The President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, or, in their absence a chairman *pro tem.*, shall preside at all meetings of the society and of the board of managers, and shall have a casting vote. The presiding officer shall preserve order, and shall decide all questions of order, subject to appeal to the meeting.

SEC. 8. The Secretary shall receive all money from the members, and shall pay it over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same. He shall conduct the general correspondence of the society, shall notify members of their election and of such other matters as the society may direct. He shall have charge of the seal, and such records of the society as are

not herein given especially in charge of the other officers of the society; together with the presiding officer he shall certify all acts and orders of the society. He shall, under the direction of the or acting President, give notice of the time and place of all meetings of the society and of the board of managers, and shall attend the same. He shall keep accurate reports of the meetings of the society and of the board of managers, and shall give such notices of the votes, orders and proceedings of the society or board of managers as they shall direct.

SEC. 9. The Treasurer shall receive all the money from the Secretary and give his receipt for the same; which money he shall deposit in the name of the society and shall pay out only for the benefit of the society, in such sums as the society or the board of managers may direct, and upon the order of the Secretary, countersigned by the President. He shall keep a true account of his receipts and disbursements, and at each annual meeting shall make a full report to the society. The books of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be open to the inspection of the President and the board of managers and to the auditing committee at all times.

SEC. 10. The members of the board of managers shall be elected in the same manner and at the same time as is provided for the election of the officers. They shall judge of the qualifications of applicants for membership and shall have control and management of the affairs of the society. They shall appoint an auditing committee. They may call special meetings at any time, and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of any five members of the society. They shall also have power to fill vacancies.

SEC. 11. The Registrar shall receive all applications and proofs of membership from the Secretary after they have been passed upon by the board of managers and shall make a record of same in a book of forms prepared for that purpose. He

shall also have the custody of all the historical, geographical, genealogical papers, books, manuscripts and relics of which the society may become possessed. He shall receive twenty-five cents for recording each accepted application, and shall make a report in writing at each annual meeting.

SEC. 12. These by-laws shall not be altered or amended unless such alterations or amendments shall have been proposed in writing at a previous meeting of the board of managers and entered upon the records, with the name of the member proposing the change, and adopted by a majority of the members present at a regular meeting of the society or at a special meeting called for that purpose.



LIST OF OFFICERS.

OFFICERS FOR 1890.

*	President,	-	-	-	E. BENJAMIN ANDREWS,
*	Vice-President,	-	-	-	WILLIAM T. BARTON.
	Secretary,	-	-	-	THEODORE F. TILLINGHAST.
	Treasurer,	-	-	-	OLNEY ARNOLD, II.
	Registrar,	-	-	-	EDWARD FIELD.

Delegates to Convention of National Society Sons of the
American Revolution:

*	JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN,	ALONZO WILLIAMS,
	And the President and Vice-President.	

OFFICERS FOR 1890-1891.

*	President,	-	-	-	JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN.
	Vice-President,	-	-	-	ALFRED STONE.
	Secretary,	-	-	-	THEODORE F. TILLINGHAST.
	Treasurer,	-	-	-	OLNEY ARNOLD, II.
	Registrar,	-	-	-	EDWARD FIELD.
	Historian,	-	-	-	WILLIAM E. FOSTER.
	Poet,	-	-	-	REV. FREDERICK DENISON.

Delegates to Convention of National Society Sons of the
American Revolution:

ALONZO WILLIAMS,	THOMAS A. JENCKES,
And the President and Vice-President.	

OFFICERS FOR 1891-1892.

	President,	-	-	-	ALFRED STONE.
	Vice-President,	-	-	-	JOHN CARTER BROWN WOODS.
	Secretary,	-	-	-	AMASA M. EATON.
	Treasurer,	-	-	-	OLNEY ARNOLD, II.
	Registrar,	-	-	-	EDWARD FIELD.
	Historian,	-	-	-	WILLIAM E. FOSTER.
	Poet,	-	-	-	REV. FREDERICK DENISON.

* *Did not qualify as regular members,*

Delegates to Convention of National Society Sons of the
American Revolution:

REUBEN A. GUILD, JOHN T. BLODGETT,
And the President and Vice-President.

OFFICERS FOR 1892-1893.

President,	-	-	-	JOHN CARTER BROWN WOODS.
Vice-President,	-	-	-	AMASA M. EATON.
Secretary,	-	-	-	R. GRENVILLE BROWN.
Treasurer,	-	-	-	OLNEY ARNOLD, II.
Registrar,	-	-	-	EDWARD FIELD.
Historian,	-	-	-	WILLIAM E. FOSTER.
Poet,	-	-	-	REV. FREDERICK DENISON.

Delegates to Convention of the National Society of the
Sons of the American Revolution:

JAMES F. MALLET, CHARLES W. ABBOT, JR.,
And the President and Vice-President.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Historian, Poet and Delegates to the National Convention.



NAMES OF MEMBERS,

TOGETHER WITH THE NAME OF THE ANCESTOR FROM
WHOM MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS DE-
RIVED, WITH A SHORT ACCOUNT OF
SUCH ANCESTOR'S SERVICE IN
THE WAR FOR INDE-
PENDENCE.

Compiled by Edward Field, Registrar.

[Names designated by * indicate charter members who have not filed their application for membership. Deceased members are designated by a †.]

ABBOT, Charles Wheaton, Jr., First Lieutenant United States Army, Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Great great grandson of Nathan Miller, of Warren, Deputy from Warren, 1772 to 1774 and 1780, 1782, 1783, 1790; Commissary under General Hopkins, 1775; Commissary of Brigade, established 1776; Member of Committee to ascertain deficiencies in military quota, 1777; appointed by General Assembly to advance bounties, 1777; Colonel of Regiment of Militia in County of Bristol, 1777, 1778, 1779; Recruiting Officer, 1777-1780; Member of Council of War, Bristol County, May, 1779; Brigadier General of Brigade in Bristol and Newport Counties, 1779, 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784; Delegate to Congress, 1786; Delegate to Constitutional Convention at Newport, 1790.

ALLEN, Crawford, Providence. Great grandson of Isaac Senter, of Londonderry, N. H., Surgeon in Arnold's Expedition to Canada, 1776. President of the Society of the Cincinnati.

*ANDREWS, Elisha Benjamin, Providence. President Brown University.

ANTHONY, Edwin P., Pharmacist, Providence. Great great grandson of Paris Gardiner, of South Kingston, R. I., Adjutant in Colonel Sands' Regiment, 1777; Captain Second Company South Kingston Division, State Militia, 1779, 1780.

ARNOLD, George Carpenter, manufacturer, Providence. Great great great grandson of James Arnold, of Providence, First Lieutenant, 1776; Captain Lieutenant, 1778; Kent County Rhode Island Militia; member of Council of War; great great grandson of Robert Rhodes, of Pawtuxet; Captain of Alarm Company in Warwick, R. I., 1779; Captain, Senior Class Artillery Company, First Battalion, Kent County, Lieut. Col. Thomas Tillinghast, 1780, 1781-1784; of Com-

- mittee on Recruits for Warwick, 1777-1780; great great great grandson of James Rhodes, of Warwick; Deputy in General Assembly, 1760, 1766, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773 and 1777; Commander of 250 men ordered to proceed to New Shoreham, 1775.
- ARNOLD, Olney, Banker, Pawtucket, R. I. Great grandson of Nathan Arnold, of Cumberland, R. I.; Captain of Militia, 1770-1778, at the Battle of Rhode Island, August 29, 1778.
- ARNOLD, Olney, II., Secretary American Screw Company, Providence. Great great grandson of Nathan Arnold, of Cumberland, R. I.; Captain of Militia, 1770-1778, at the Battle of Rhode Island, August 29, 1778.
- BALCH, Joseph, Bank Clerk, Providence. Great great grandson of Joseph Balch, Captain in Colonel Thomas Craft's Regiment in the Massachusetts Train of Artillery, June 27, 1776; of Third Company from Nov. 1, 1776, to Feb. 1, 1777, and Aug. 1, 1776, to Sept. 1, 1776; of Second Company from Feb. 1, 1777, to May 8, 1777; of First Company from May 9 to Aug. 1, 1777, and Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 1777; also in same regiment April 30 to December 30, 1777.
- BALLOU, Charles Fales, Lawyer, Woonsocket, R. I. Great grandson of Benjamin Bosworth; Major in Continental Army, great grandson of Nathaniel Fales, of Bristol, R. I.; Deputy from town of Bristol in General Assembly and Member of Committee of Safety.
- BARSTOW, George E., Manufacturer, Providence. Great grandson of Caleb Barstow, of Hanover, Mass., Lieutenant; great grandson of Daniel Eames, of Haverhill, Mass.; Captain of First Company of Haverhill; great great grandson of Jeremiah Mumford, of Eastford, Conn., Colonel and Paymaster.
- *BARTLETT, E. O., Providence.
- *BARTLETT, John R., Providence.
- BARTON, Albert Gallatin, Auctioneer, Providence. Grandson of William Barton, of Warren and Providence; Colonel of a Rhode Island Regiment and Captor of General Prescott on the Island of Rhode Island, July 9, 1777; participated in the operations in Rhode Island, and was wounded at Bristol, R. I.; Major General of the Militia of Rhode Island after the War.
- *BINNEY, William, Jr., Providence.
- BLODGETT, John Taggard, Counsellor at Law, Providence. Great grandson of William Taggard of Hillsboro, N. H.; ensign and lieutenant Second New Hampshire Regiment, Colonel Hale, 1776-1783; wounded at Hubbardstown, Vt., 1777; great grand son of Bartholomew Trow of Charlestown, Mass.; member of "Boston Tea Party"; minute man at Lexington, Mass., April 19, 1775; lieutenant in Captain Josiah Harris' Company in Colonel Thomas Gardiner's Regiment at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775; Captain of 25th Massachusetts Regiment, Colonel William Bond, March, 1776, with General Wolf at

Siege of Quebec; great great grandson of Hezekiah Welch, of Boston, Mass.; 2nd Lieutenant frigate Boston, Captain Samuel Tucker, 1778; great great grandson of Jonathan Blodgett of Hudson, N. H., who responded to Lexington alarm, April 19, 1775, in Captain Samuel Greely's Company; subsequently served as a private in a New Hampshire Regiment.

BOWEN, Henry, Providence. Great grandson of Jabez Bowen of Providence; Justice of Superior Court, Rhode Island, 1777; Colonel First Regiment of Providence, 1776, 1777, 1778; Deputy Governor of Rhode Island, 1778, 1779, 1780; member of Council of War, 1778; Delegate to Continental Congress, 1778.

BOWEN, William Manuel Peres, Assistant Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Providence. Great grandson of Nathan Bowen of Rehoboth, Mass.; a private appointed July 27, 1780, discharged October 30, 1780; in Captain John Perry's Company in Colonel Abial Mitchell's Regiment raised by act of the Great and General Court of the Massachusetts Bay, passed June 2, 1780, to reinforce the Continental Army.

BROWN, Daniel Russell, Merchant, Providence. Grandson of Elias Dart of Bolton, Conn., who enlisted April 1, 1782, in Captain Durkee's Company; taken prisoner by the British and discharged April 1, 1783.

BROWN, Robert Perkins, Merchant, Providence. Great grandson of Abial Brown of Providence; with the Rhode Island troops at Bunker Hill, 1775; third Sergeant of the Seventh Company, Captain David Dexter, in Colonel Christopher Lippitt's Regiment June 18, 1776; served through the war; was at Princeton and through the New Jersey campaign.

BROWN, R. Grenville, Providence. Great grandson or Nicholas Brown of Providence; who was among the first to take measures against the imposition of unjust taxes and to protest against the unlawful acts of British officers; furnished munitions of war and assisted in raising recruits for the Continental Army; Member of Committee appointed by Congress to build vessels for the Continental Navy; Commissioner to adjust accounts between Rhode Island and the United States.

BROWN, Will E., Expressman, East Greenwich, R. I. Great great grandson of Ebenezer Adams of Charlestown, R. I.; with the party who captured Gen. Prescott, July 10, 1777; promoted to the rank of Major; great great grandson of Benjamin Spencer of East Greenwich; member of Kentish Guards and served with them during the war at the battle of Rhode Island, August 28 and 29, 1778.

BROWNELL, Frederick R., Lawyer and Town Clerk, Little Compton, R. I. Grandson of Sylvester Brownell of Westport, Mass.; in Colonel Prescott's command at Bunker Hill, 1775, and of General Sullivan's command at Long Island; great grandson of Lieutenant Jonathan Brownell, of Westport, Mass., who died from injuries received

at Bunker Hill; great grandson of Thomas Church of Little Compton, R. I.; Colonel commanding a Rhode Island regiment at the siege of Boston; Commissioner to exchange prisoners; Colonel of the Army of Observation, 1775.

BROWNELL, Walter S., Assessor of Taxes, Johnston, R. I. Grandson of Sylvester Brownell of Westport, Mass.; in Colonel Prescott's command at Bunker Hill, 1775, and of General Sullivan's command at Long Island; great grandson of Lieutenant Jonathan Brownell, of Westport, Mass., who died from injuries received at Bunker Hill; great grandson of Thomas Church, of Little Compton, R. I.; Colonel commanding a Rhode Island regiment at the siege of Boston; Commissioner to exchange prisoners; Colonel of the Army of Observation, 1775.

*BROWNELL, Stephen, Providence.

CADY, Alfred E., Merchant, Providence. Great grandson of John Henshaw of Newport, R. I.; Second Lieutenant in Captain John Warner's Company, Colonel Robert Elliott's Regiment of Artillery, March 16, 1779; great grandson of Jonathan Cady of Putnam, Conn.; Lieutenant in Captain Cady's Company, Colonel Williams's Regiment of the Connecticut Continental Line, May 18, 1774; Captain of a Company in Colonel Conant's Regiment of the Connecticut Continental Line May 25, 1779.

CADY, Louis E., Salesman. Great grandson of John Henshaw of Newport, R. I.; second Lieutenant in Captain John Warner's Company, Colonel Robert Elliott's Regiment of Artillery in Rhode Island, March 16, 1779; great grandson of Jonathan Cady of Putnam, Conn.; Lieutenant in Captain Cady's Company, Colonel Williams's Regiment of the Connecticut Continental Line, May 18, 1774; Captain in Colonel Conant's Regiment Connecticut Continental Line, May 25, 1779.

*CHAMPLIN, William A.

*CHURCH, George L.

*CHURCH, Nathaniel B.

COLE, Joseph Carpenter Wheaton, Providence. Great grandson of Joseph Wheaton, of Rehoboth, Mass.; minute man in Captain John Perry's Company, April, 1775; private in Captain John Perry's Company, Colonel Timothy Walker's Regiment; held on prison ship at New York by the British; great grandson of Richard Cole, of Foster, R. I.; Ensign in Fourth Company of Scituate, R. I., 1781; Ensign of Second Company of Foster, R. I., 1784; great grandson of James Sabin, of Providence, at whose house the burning of the *Gaspee*, June 10, 1772, was planned, and from which the expedition started; great great grandson of Caleb Arnold, the "Patriot" of Gloucester, R. I. Deputy to General Assembly, May, 1773 and May, 1778; of Committee to receive recruits; of Committee on Bounties, 1778; on War Committee, 1780.

- CRANSTON, William A., Assistant Treasurer American Screw Company, Providence. Great grandson of Benjamin Cranston, of Warren, R. I.; Quartermaster on the galley Spitfire, Captain Joseph Crandall; private in the army, served a period of three years in both branches of the service.
- *CROSS, Samuel H.
- DAVIS, Nathaniel French, Teacher, Providence. Great grandson of John Maxfield, of Salisbury, Mass.; was at Bunker Hill, Ticonderoga and Valley Forge; served six and one-half years in Continental Army.
- DENISON, Frederick, Clergyman. Grandson of Isaac Denison, of Stonington, Conn., who served from 1775-1781 as a Member of Committee of Correspondence and Public Safety, and was an active patriot; also grandson of Benadam Gallup, of Groton, Conn.; Commander of a Regiment of Connecticut Militia.
- DENNIS, Arthur W., Cotton Broker, Providence. Great grandson of Peter Rhodes, of Warwick; officer on board Pigot galley, 1778; private in Pawtuxet Rangers, September 28, 1781.
- *DE WOLF, J. Halsey.
- EATON, Amasa Mason, Lawyer, Providence. Great grandson of John Brown, of Providence; leader of party who destroyed H. B. M. ship Gaspee, June 10, 1772; furnished munitions of war to the Continental Army, and assisted in raising recruits for the same; taken prisoner in irons to Boston for participation in the "Gaspee Affair," 1775; Member of General Assembly during the Revolutionary War; Delegate to Continental Congress, 1784, 1785; Member of Congress, 1799.
- †ELDRIDGE, James H., Physician, East Greenwich, R. I. Grandson of James Eldredge, of Brooklyn, Conn.; Captain in Continental Army.
- FARNSWORTH, Claude J., Attorney at Law, Pawtucket, R. I. Great grandson of Amos Farnsworth of Groton, Mass., in Captain Henry Farwell's Company of Minutemen of Groton, April 19, 1775; Corporal in Colonel Prescott's Regiment at Battle of Bunker Hill, where he was wounded; Ensign in Colonel Reed's Regiment at Ticonderoga, July, 1776; First Lieutenant in Captain William Swan's Company of Matrosses in Colonel Reed's Regiment serving in New Jersey; Captain of a Company of Matrosses in the Brigade in the County of Middlesex; commissioned Major, July, 1794.
- FIELD, Edward, Clerk of the Municipal Court and Record Commissioner, Providence. Great grandson of Darius Thurber of Providence; enlisted as a fifer January 17, 1777, in Captain William Tew's Company in Colonel Israel Angell's Regiment (Second Rhode Island); in 1778, 1779, 1780, in the same company as a private; in 1781, of Colonel Christopher Greene's and Colonel Jeremiah Olney's Regiment, served through the war from date of enlistment, and participated in the Battles of Red Bank, October, 1777; wounded at Monmouth, June

28, 1778; at Valley Forge and West Point; at Springfield June 23, 1780, and Yorktown at the surrender, October 19, 1781; great great grandson of John Field of Providence; member of the watch ordered by the town of Providence, April 26, 1775.

FOSTER, William Eaton, Librarian Public Library, Providence. Great grandson of Moses Foster, Sr., of Ipswich, Mass., and Milford, N. H.; private in Captain Abraham How's Massachusetts Company on occasion of Lexington Alarm, April 19-20, 1775; in General Sullivan's Army on Rhode Island, January 10, 1778, to January 1, 1779; great grandson of Ithamar Eaton of Weare, N. H.; private in Captain John Hale's Company, in Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Gerrish's Regiment, N. H. Vol., in General Gates's Saratoga Campaign, September 29 to October 25, 1777; Ensign in Captain Aaron Quimby's Company, in Colonel Moses Kelly's Regiment, N. H. Vol., in General Sullivan's Army on Rhode Island, August 6 to August 27, 1778; Lieutenant, 1780; Major of Second Battalion, New Hampshire Militia, 1792; Colonel New Hampshire Militia, 1820.

***GAMMELL**, William.

***GODDARD**, Robert H. I.

***GODDARD**, William.

GREEN, Clarence H., Student, North Providence. Great great grandson of Stephen Olney of North Providence; private in North Providence Rangers, 1774; Ensign in Captain John Angell's Company of Colonel Daniel Hitchcock's Regiment, 1775; First Lieutenant, 1776; Captain in Colonel Israel Angell's Regiment, 1777; participated in Battles of Bunker Hill, Long Island, White Plains, Monmouth, Springfield, Red Bank and Yorktown; chosen to lead the attacking column at Yorktown.

GREEN, Frederick Albert, Student, North Providence. Great great grandson of Stephen Olney of North Providence; private in North Providence Rangers, 1774; Ensign in Captain John Angell's Company of Colonel Daniel Hitchcock's Regiment, 1775; First Lieutenant, 1776; Captain in Colonel Israel Angell's Regiment, 1777; participated in Battles of Bunker Hill, Long Island, White Plains, Monmouth, Springfield, Red Bank and Yorktown; chosen to lead the attacking column at Yorktown.

GREENE, William Maxwell, Manufacturer, Warwick. Grandson of Christopher Greene of Potowomut, Warwick; Member of Committee of Safety; Volunteer in Sullivan's Expedition on Rhode Island; Member of State Convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States; great grandson of Samuel Ward of Westerly, and Newport; delegate to General Congress of the Colonies, 1774, and Continental Congress May 10, 1775; Governor of Rhode Island, 1762-63, 1765-1767; grandson of Wanton Casey, member during the Revolutionary War of the Kentish Guards of East

Greenwich; great grandson of Major Nathan Goodale, who was an officer from Massachusetts in the Army of the Revolution.

- GUILD, Reuben Aldridge, Librarian Brown University, Providence. Great grandson of Aaron Guild of Dedham, Mass; Ensign in Captain Fale's Company of Colonel Nichol's Regiment of Foot; also Captain in same Company; Member of Committee of Safety, 1774; Muster Master, 1775; Member of Committee to make provision for the families of non-commissioned officers and soldiers, 1779; of Committee of Correspondence and Safety, 1780-1781.
- HALE, Wendell Phillips, Merchant, Providence. Great grandson of Thomas Johnson of Newbury, Vermont; Captain of Volunteers from Newbury, 1777; Colonel and Aid to General Lincoln at Ticonderoga; captured by the British and held as a prisoner in Canada, 1781, paroled October 5, 1781.
- HARRISON, George A., Clerk. Great grandson of Robert Harrison, Private in Colonel Greene's and Colonel Olney's Rhode Island Regiment, 1780; at the surrender at Yorktown.
- HART, George Thomas, Clerk, Providence. Great grandson of Benjamin Rhodes, of Pawtuxet, Warwick; enlisted in the Spring of 1778, as seaman on board guard ship "Pigot Galley," Captain Jeremiah Clarke, during General Sullivan's campaign on Rhode Island; private in Pawtuxet Rangers, Captain Benjamin Arnold, 1780; great great grandson of Peter Rhodes, officer on board "Pigot Galley," 1778.
- HASBROUCK, Sayer, Physician, Providence. Great grandson of Elias Hasbrouck, of Kingston, Ulster County, New York, Captain of the Ninth Company of the Third Regiment of New York; Colonel James Clinton, 1775, with General Montgomery at Quebec.
- *HALL, J. Milton.
- HAWKINS, Amos M., Manufacturer, Providence. Great great grandson of Esek Hopkins, of North Providence, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Navy, December 22, 1775.
- HOPKINS, Charles W., Clerk, Providence. Great great grandson of Samuel Hopkins, Jr., of West Greenwich; Committee to make a list of persons in West Greenwich able to bear arms, March, 1777; Committee from same town to procure blankets for soldiers, April, 1777; appointed Captain of First Company of Militia of same town May, 1779, and June, 1780; member of Committee to receive recruits for said town, July, 1780; great grandson of Jonathan Lillibridge, of Exeter, Ensign of Third Company of Militia of the town of Exeter, June, 1778;
- *HOPPIN, Frederick S.
- †HOPPIN, WILLIAM W.
- HUMPHREY, George, Merchant, Providence. Grandson of William Humphrey, of Swansea and Rehoboth, Mass.; Lieutenant in Arnold's Expedition to Canada, 1775, where he was taken prisoner and paroled

August 11, 1776; Captain in Colonel Israel Angell's Regiment, 1780; commissioned Major by General Washington; participated in battles of Springfield and Yorktown; member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

*JENCKES, Thomas A.

JOSLIN, Henry Van Amburgh, Secretary Union Rail Road Company, Providence. Great great grandson of Israel Angell, of North Providence; Colonel of the Second Rhode Island Regiment of the Continental Line.

KENDRICK, John E., Manufacturer, Providence. Great grandson of Oliver Kendrick, of Dedham, Mass., who served in Captain Ebenezer Battle's Company of Dedham, fourth parish, on the occasion of the "Lexington Alarm," April, 1775; also, Sergeant in Captain Wallbridge's Company in Colonel Reed's Regiment of the Massachusetts Continental Line, December 1, 1775; great grandson of Ananias Cooke, of Smithfield; private in Captain Amos Whipple's Company in Colonel John Matthewson's Regiment, Second Division, August and September, 1778.

LIPPITT, Christopher, Manufacturer, Providence. Grandson of Christopher Lippitt, of Cranston; Lieutenant-Colonel of a Regiment of Minutemen in Rhode Island; Colonel of a regiment, 1776; breveted Brigadier-General at Morristown by General Washington; participated in battles of Princeton, White Plains and Trenton.

*LIPPITT, Peleg W.

*LITTLEFIELD, George A.

MALLETT, James Fenner, Farmer, Milo, Ill. Great grandson of Arthur Fenner, Jr., Member of the General Assembly which repealed the Act of Allegiance to the English Government, 1776.

MARTIN, Jacob Sterry, Insurance Agent, Providence. Great grandson of Luther Martin of Barrington; Enlisting Officer from Barrington June, 1775; Ensign of Captain Thomas Allen's Company of Artillery, 1776; great great grandson of Nathaniel Martin of Barrington, Colonel of First Regiment of Rhode Island, October, 1776; Deputy from Barrington, 1772-1774; Member of Committee of Safety, 1776; appointed to advance bounties for the town of Barrington.

MASON, Orray T., Manufacturer, Providence. Great grandson of Pardon Mason of Providence, private in Captain Daniel Brown's Company, Massachusetts Continental Line, August 14, 1777, and September 5, 1777; in Captain Ebenezer Newell's Company, in Colonel Symond's Regiment, July 9, 1777; participated in the Battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777.

*MOORE, David.

MORRIS, Edward D., Providence. Great grandson of Ephraim Emerson of Rehoboth, Mass., private in Captain John Fuller's Company, Colonel Bradford's Fourteenth Massachusetts Regiment, June 5, 1780; at

Springfield, N. J., and West Point, N. Y., in Simeon Cole's Company, Colonel Dean's Regiment, Massachusetts Continental Line, March 6, 1781; re-enlisted April 18, 1781, and served until surrender at Yorktown.

*MUNROE, W. H.

NEWELL, Timothy, Physician, Providence. Son of Stephen Newell, of Sturbridge, Mass.; Sergeant and Lieutenant in Captain Abel Mason's Company at Burgoyne's surrender, Saratoga, October 17, 1777.

NIGHTINGALE, George Corlis, Jr., Manufacturer, Providence. Great grandson of Joseph Nightingale, of Pomfret, Conn., and Providence; complained to Governor Wanton regarding depredations made by the British in Narragansett Bay, March, 1772; Captain of Independent Company of Cadets, August, 1775-March, 1776; Member of Committee to build vessels of war, December 14, 1775; chosen Major-General of Militia of Rhode Island, December, 1776; Captain of Senior Class Company, Providence, July 3, 1781; Member of General Assembly that ratified Constitution of United States, 1790; great great grandson of George Corlis, Member of the Committee to see that the associations entered into by the Continental Congress be strictly adhered to by all persons within this (Providence) town; great great grandson of William Greene, for which see William Greene Nightingale.

NIGHTINGALE, William Greene, Manufacturer, Providence. Great great grandson of William Greene, of Warwick, Member of Committee for measures of safety, October, 1775; Member of Legislature repealing act of allegiance to Great Britain, May, 1776; First Associate Justice of Superior Court, August, 1776; Chief Justice, May, 1777; Member of Council of War, December 10, 1776; Commissioner to meet commissioners from the other colonies, December, 1777; Governor of Rhode Island, May, 1778-1786; Member of Electoral College that elected George Washington President of the United States, October, 1792; great grandson of Joseph Nightingale and great great grandson of George Corlis, for which see George Corlis Nightingale, Jr.

PECK, Allen Millard, Accountant, Providence. Great grandson of Ambrose Peck, of Swansey, Mass.; Captain of a company in First Regiment of Militia in the County of Bristol, Mass., commanded by Colonel Shubael Peck, July 1, 1781.

PECK, James G., Postmaster and Bookkeeper, East Providence. Great grandson of Samuel Peck, of Milford, Conn.; Captain of Tenth Company, Seventh Regiment, May 1, 1775; Captain Third Company, Fifth Battalion, in Wadsworth's Brigade, Colonel Douglass, 1776; at Battle of White Plains, October 28, 1775; Captain in Second Regiment Connecticut Militia, 1777; Captain in Volunteer Company in 1779; at New Haven affair, July 5, 1779.

POND, Daniel B., Lawyer, Mayor, Senator, Woonsocket. Great grandson of Eli Pond, of Franklin, Mass., drummer in Captain John Boyd's

- Company of Minute men, April 19, 1775; Sergeant in Captain Josiah Fuller's Company of Colonel Wheelock's Regiment, December 8, 1776; Lieutenant in Captain Amos Ellis's Company in Colonel Benjamin Hawes' Regiment September 25 to October 31, 1777; Lieutenant in a Company commanded by Lieutenant Hezekiah Ware from June 20 to July 14, 1778.
- PORTER, Henry Perry, Clerk, Providence. Great grandson of Benjamin Porter of Assonet Village, Freetown, Mass.; served as a militia man from 1756 (French and Indian War) until 1792, when he was commissioned Captain of the First Company of Foot of Freetown, Mass.
- *POTTER, Isaac M.
- POTTER, Dexter Burton, Counsellor-at-Law, Providence. Great grandson of John Potter, of Scituate; served under Colonel Joseph Knight, guarding the shore of Rhode Island; commissioned Captain by Governor William Greene July 29, 1780 and June 4, 1781.
- RHODES, Christopher, Real Estate Agent, Providence. Great grandson of Robert Rhodes, of Warwick, R. I.; recruiting officer 1777; Captain of Alarm Company in Warwick, 1778; participated in the Lexington fight, April 19, 1775, and Battle of Rhode Island, August 29, 1778; Captain Senior Class Company, 1780; Member of Committee on Recruits; Captain First Battalion, Artillery Company, Senior Class, 1781.
- RHODES, Edward Smith, City Messenger, Providence. Grandson of Benjamin Rhodes, of Pawtuxet, Warwick; enlisted as seaman on board guardship, "Pigot Galley," in the spring of 1778; served during General Sullivan's campaign on Rhode Island; private in Pawtuxet Rangers, Captain Benjamin Arnold, 1780; great grandson of Peter Rhodes, officer on "Pigot Galley," 1778.
- *RHODES, William B.
- *ROELKER, William G.
- SMITH, Franklin A., Jr., Treasurer and Secretary, Providence. Great grandson of Benjamin Rhodes of Pawtuxet, Warwick; enlisted in the Spring of 1778 as seaman on board guardship "Pigot Galley," Captain Jeremiah Clarke, during General Sullivan's Campaign on Rhode Island; private in Pawtuxet Rangers, Captain Benjamin Arnold, 1780; great great grandson of Peter Rhodes officer on board "Pigot Galley," 1778.
- *SOUTHWICK, Isaac H.
- *SOUTHWICK, Isaac H., Jr.
- STONE, Alfred, Architect, Providence. Great grandson of Thomas Treadwell of Ipswich, Mass.; Sergeant in Captain Samuel Reed's Company of minute men, Colonel Prescott's Regiment, April, 1775; also Sergeant in Captain Samuel Gilbert's Company, Colonel Prescott's Regiment, 1775; Sergeant in Captain John Nutting's Company in Colonel William McIntosh's Regiment, General Lovel's Brigade, in

Rhode Island, 1778; great grandson of Jonathan Stone; Sergeant in Captain Henry Farwell's Company minute men, in Colonel William Prescott's Regiment. April 19, 1775; Corporal in Captain Aaron Jewitt's Company, Colonel Samuel Bullard's Regiment, Massachusetts Militia, 1777; grandson of Solomon Stone of ———, private in Captain Bowker's Company, Colonel Webb's Regiment, Massachusetts Militia, raised to reinforce the Continental Army, 1781.

SWINBURNE, William J., Merchant, Newport. Grandson of William Tew of Newport; Captain of a Company in the Second Rhode Island Regiment, 1775; bearer of money to pay Rhode Island troops at Valley Forge; member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

*TAFT, Royal C.

TILLINGHAST, Theodore F., Attorney-at-Law, Providence. Great great grandson of Stephen Hopkins of Providence; Governor of Rhode Island, Chief Justice, Delegate to Congress, and Member of Council of War; one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

TILLINGHAST, Willard Wheaton, Inter-State Commerce Commission, Washington, D. C. Great great grandson of Charles Tillinghast of Quidnesset Neck; appointed by General Assembly; Enlisting Officer for Continental Army; died on Block Island from injuries received at the hands of a Tory mob.

*TOWER, James H.

VIAL, William Angell, Machinist, Providence. Great grandson of Nathaniel Viall of Seakonk, Mass.; served as a private at Portsmouth.

*VINCENT, Walter B.

WATSON, S. T., Physician, Nayatt Point. Great grandson of Asa Waterman of Norwich, Conn.; Captain and Issuing Commissary of Rhode Island, and Deputy Commissary General; commissioned by Governor Trumbull of Connecticut to receive and deliver provisions for Connecticut troops in Rhode Island, December 14, 1776.

WILLIAMS, Alfred M., Journalist, Providence. Great grandson of James Williams of Taunton, Mass.; Captain in a Company of Massachusetts Infantry, and promoted successively from Brigadier or Corporal.

*WILLIAMS, Alonzo.

WILLIAMS, James W., Lawyer, Providence. Great great grandson of Timothy Wilmarth of Chepachet, R. I.; Captain of Company of Infantry in Gloucester; at Battle of Rhode Island, and accompanied General Sullivan's expedition to New York; great grandson of Squire Williams of Scituate; guard at the Beacon erected on Chopmist Hill, Scituate, for the purpose of alarming the country at the approach of the enemy.

*WOODBURY, Augustus.

WOODS, John Carter Brown, Attorney at Law, Providence. Great great grandson of John Brown of Providence, who was among the first to resist the imposition of unjust taxes, and to proteat against the unlawful acts of British officers; leader of the party who destroyed H. B. M. Ship Gaspee, June 10, 1772; furnished munitions of war to the Continental Army and assisted in raising recruits for the same; Member of Committee appointed by Congress to build vessels for Continental Navy; Member of General Assembly during the Revolutionary War, and of the General Assembly that passed the act renouncing allegiance to the British Crown, May 4, 1776; Delegate to Continental Congress and Member of Congress; he was taken prisoner in irons to Boston for participation in the Gaspee affair; great great grandson of Nicholas Brown of Providence, who was among the first to take measures against the imposition of unjust taxes and to protest against the unlawful acts of British officers; furnished munitions of war and assisted in raising recruits for the Continental Army; Member of Committee appointed by Congress to build vessels for the Continental Navy; Commissioner to adjust accounts between Rhode Island and the United States.



PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNIVERSARY DINNER

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SAILING OF THE FIRST AMERICAN FLEET UNDER COMMODORE ESEK HOPKINS, OF RHODE ISLAND, FEBRUARY 17, 1776.

The first anniversary dinner of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was held on the evening of February 17, 1891, at the parlors of L. A. Tillinghast, Westminster Street, Providence, the date being the one hundred and fifteenth anniversary of the sailing of the first American fleet of eight vessels from Delaware Bay, February 17, 1776, under the command of Commodore Esek Hopkins, of Rhode Island.

The members and guests, numbering about forty, sat down to dinner at 8 o'clock, and enjoyed the following menu provided by Caterer Tillinghast :

MENU:

	Oysters on shell	
	a la Gaspee	
	Mongol soup	
	Salmon and peas	
	a la Gen. Greene	
	Roast Duck	
	a la Commodore Hopkins	
	Maraschino Punch	
	Salad	
	Rolls	Olives
	Ices	
Fancy cakes		Apollinaris
Coffee		Cigars
	Punch a la 1776.	

After the dinner had been disposed of and cigars lighted, Vice-President STONE, after a few explanatory remarks on the significance of the event, introduced Mr. Luther L. Tarbell,

Registrar-General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and a son of a Revolutionary soldier, who made an address of much interest, in which he explained the history and work of the Society. He was followed by Rev. Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, President of Brown University, who spoke at some length on the service of the Revolutionary soldier. The historical address was delivered by William E. Foster, Esq., Historian of the Society, who spoke as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Society:

He who is commanded by your august body to speak on topics connected with Rhode Island history is not wholly to be envied, for he finds himself embarrassed by the wealth of the subject. "Infinite riches in a little room" is, indeed, a designation true in few other connections so emphatically as here in Rhode Island; for the extent, and richness, and significance of its historical materials are out of all proportion to its somewhat familiar limitations of area. A writer of our day who was at once a recognized authority on the political institutions of antiquity, and a close student of American development, has acutely remarked that the "diversity of character and interest in [this] smallest of the colonies is another illustration of the truth taught by Greek and Italian history, that it is not always the large states that afford the most instructive data for political history." Rhode Island history is instructive—that of few communities more so—but it has also a quality given to but few historical topics in any intensified degree, namely, the quality of brilliant and almost unflagging interest. Here again its neatness of size is a help rather than a hindrance. It is like a gem, the brilliancy of whose flashing light bears no relation to its size; or, better—for the lines of connection between history and literature are innumerable—it is like those epigrammatic dispatches with which Rhode Island naval heroes have from time to time lighted up the dull average of the historic page. I am not now referring so much to the well-known instance of

Commodore Perry at Lake Erie, which every American school-boy knows by heart, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours," as to that of a much earlier Commodore, Abraham Whipple, in Narragansett Bay, who, in 1775, when Sir James Wallace, the British admiral, thus wrote him, "You, Abraham Whipple, on the 10th June, 1772, burned His Majesty's vessel, the *Gaspée*, and I will hang you at the yard-arm," sent back this reply: "To Sir James Wallace,—Sir, Always catch a man before you hang him."

Since the year 1775, the naval annals of our country have supplied many a brilliant page to American history, and to this brilliancy Rhode Island has more than once contributed, not only in the persons of Whipple and Hopkins in the first war with Great Britain, and of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, just mentioned, in the second war with Great Britain, but of his almost equally distinguished brother, Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry, in opening the far East to American commerce, forty years ago, and in our own day, in Commander Silas Casey of the *Wissahickon*, winning distinction in action, and Commander John R. Bartlett of the *Blake*, winning almost equal distinction in scientific achievements, as well as in the late war.

But it is the signal distinction of Rhode Island, that the beginnings of American naval history are here,—intimately associated with our bay and our islands, intimately interwoven with the Rhode Island history of one hundred and fifteen years ago.

As later speakers will touch more fully on the significance of some of these historic features, I will here place in the hands of the Registrar, for deposit in our archives, the detailed annals* relating to that period, and will pass at once to the particular subject on which I have agreed to speak this evening, namely, the question whether the patriotic spirit is transmitted from one generation to another.

* These are printed as an "Appendix," later in this volume.

That history everywhere has to take account of transmitted tendencies is a proposition requiring no argument to convince us of it; yet, had we need of such an argument, where could we find a stronger one than in the signally distinguished connection of Rhode Island with the beginnings of our naval history, upon which we have just been touching. For this was no accidental result, as a glance at a map of the North American colonies will show us. Where among them all was there a colony with a physical configuration such as this colony had, closely hugging the bay, with navigable waters penetrating everywhere inland, and from a very early period covered with the white sails of commerce? It was, I say, no accident, that from a period long preceding the War of the Revolution, the term "Rhode Islander" had come to be synonymous with "a born sailor." From official and family records one may draw forth many a particular instance in corroboration of this tendency. We have time for but one. Governor Stephen Hopkins himself never followed the sea, although largely interested in commercial ventures; but, of his four brothers who attained mature age, every one followed the sea, and all but one became masters of vessels. Of his four sons who reached adult life, every one followed the sea, and all but one became masters of vessels. In the attack on the *Gaspee* in 1772, out of a company by no means numerous, four were so near akin to him as nephew, cousin, and nephew and grand-nephew by marriage. Out of the officers who led the earliest American war-vessels into action, three were so near akin to him as brother, nephew and cousin.

But if the achievements of the men of that period are seen, in the light of instances such as this, to have been in some sense due to transmitted tendencies, why should it not be possible that some of the events and activities of our own time are due to hereditary impulses from the men of the Revolution? The phenomena so easily accessible forbid us to doubt this. And yet it is surely one thing to say that these principles of heredity have undoubtedly been influential, and quite

another thing to say that we understand so fully the exact relation between cause and effect, as to know with mathematical certainty precisely what results will ensue. The science of heredity—if, indeed, this use of language be admissible—is not yet an exact science. It is still in very much the same stage of advancement as that in which the science of astronomy was in those ages when the terms “eccentric” and “eccentricity” were brought into use to describe certain evolutions of the heavenly bodies. The word contains, indeed, a picture of distortion, of incompleteness, but it is the incompleteness of the knowledge which men had on the subject, and not of the principles themselves. And so in the field of heredity, while the observation of phenomena will always be in order, deductions or generalizations from these phenomena must be conducted with caution.

And yet we may, I think, with safety assert that there are phenomena of the kind which we are considering, sufficiently definite and sufficiently familiar not to occasion surprise when brought to our notice. Certainly if, as we read the annals of ancient Greece, we find, without surprise, representatives of one and the same family, but in successive generations, serving with distinction at Marathon, at Thermopylae, and at Salamis; if, as we read English history, it does not surprise us to find the illustrious name of Napier represented, with distinction, at the battle of Badajos in 1812, and the same illustrious name of Napier, but twenty years later, winning no less distinction at the second naval battle off Cape St. Vincent, in 1833, we need not feel surprise when a similar result follows an examination of the great names of this little colony of Rhode Island, in the Revolutionary period—of Nathanael Greene and Stephen Olney in the field; of Abraham Whipple and Esek Hopkins on the ocean; of Stephen Hopkins, Samuel Ward, and William Ellery on the floor of the Continental Congress—and of their descendants during the generations down to our own. In nearly every instance we find it the case, that the blood which coursed through the veins of these Rhode Islanders of

the last century, compelling them to service for their country, by whatever agency was most directly fitted to their situation, whether the sword, the naval fleet, or the pen wherewith to sign the Great Declaration, coursed also through the veins of their descendants, compelling them also to their country's service. I have said that the principles of heredity are not yet so minutely understood that we can always see why a particular result follows a particular cause; why it was, for example, that the descendant of a distinguished military hero, as Colonel Ebenezer Webster, of New Hampshire, in rendering his country a service seldom surpassed by that of any other man—for in the first half of the nineteenth century there is no single individual who more profoundly influenced public opinion in the direction of American unity and nationality, than Daniel Webster—should have performed that service in civil rather than in military life: But it has more than once happened in our national history, that the duties of civil life have been not inferior, in opportunities for patriotic service, to those of the camp; and a signal instance of the truth is found in the career of the late Thomas Allen Jenckes, of Rhode Island, descended from one of New Hampshire's military leaders in the War of the Revolution, but associating his name indelibly on the floor of Congress with acts of constructive statesmanship which are destined to affect most profoundly our political life.

It need, therefore, occasion no surprise when we find Rhode Island names—inextricably intertwined as they are, with the memories of the Battles of Rhode Island, of Monmouth, of Long Island, of Red Bank, of Princeton, of Trenton, of Ninety-Six, and of Yorktown, in the struggle of a century ago,—as inextricably intertwined in the great conflict of our own time, with the memories of Fredericksburg, of Newbern, of Chantilly, of Antietam, and of Gettysburg. When we find a descendant of Stephen Hopkins, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence (Capt. Charles Tillinghast), laying down his life at the siege of Newbern in 1862; when we see how the spirit which lived in William Ellery,

another signer, who, as he tells us, took his stand where he could observe the features of each successive signer of the Declaration, and, he exultantly declares, "Undaunted resolution was displayed in every countenance"—how the same spirit, I say, was not only living in his grand-nephew, who served in the United States Navy against the Barbary pirates, but in his own grandson, William Ellery Channing, a soul of Titanic proportions in a puny body, whose heroic attitude towards the great evil of American slavery is a matter of common history. Nor need we even be surprised at such an instance as that of Governor Samuel Ward, of Rhode Island; for to few Rhode Islanders—to few Americans, indeed—has it fallen to be connected with the parent stock of a family flowering out into so brilliant and so bewildering a variety of activities—literary, artistic, military, mercantile, reformatory, social, philanthropic, and patriotic. And yet even here, notice how squarely the patriotic note is struck, not only in such names as the two distinguished military officers (General William G. Ward and Colonel John Ward), but their illustrious sister, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, one of the noble women of our century, contributing a notable impulse to the patriotic movement by her "Battle Hymn of the Republic," in the dark days of the Civil War, and in numberless other ways. In the annals of Rhode Island patriotism a century ago few names are more constantly connected with notable impulses at critical moments than that of the Nicholas Brown of that day; and in the annals of our late Civil War the gallantry and chivalrous achievements of many of his descendants were conspicuous. Without enumerating any of those now living, there are two names among the honored dead, worthy of undying remembrance; that of Lieutenant Robert Hale Ives, Jr., receiving his mortal wound at Antietam in 1862, and that of Lieutenant-Commander Thomas Poynton Ives, surviving indeed to witness the close of the struggle, but dying soon after, from injuries contracted in the wholly unique service which he performed for his country—a service to find a parallel to which one must go back to the

days of the knights of old. A still different modification is to be observed in the case of James Burrill, born as he was in Providence, in 1772, and breathing almost in his cradle, "the spirit of '76." Not only did he live to render distinguished service on the floor of Congress, but to be the ancestor, in the next generation but one, of Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Bridgham Curtis, slain on the field of Fredericksburg, in 1862, and of George William Curtis, still, fortunately, with us, and performing unequalled service in measures looking to a purer political and national life—a service which demands the gratitude of every lover of his country.

There are some Rhode Island families which have seemed to run the whole gamut of American wars. Such are the Perry and the Fry families. Christopher R. Perry, serving with honor in the War of the Revolution, became the father of the five well-known sons (Nathanael Hazard Perry, James A. Perry, Raymond H. J. Perry, Oliver Hazard Perry and Matthew Calbraith Perry), all of whom were naval officers, and two of whom rose to be Commodores in the United States Navy. Moreover, both of his two daughters married naval officers, Dr. William Butler, U. S. N.; and Commodore G. W. Rodgers, U. S. N., the latter being the father of Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers, U. S. N., and Commander G. W. Rodgers, U. S. N. Oliver Hazard Perry won his laurels in the War of 1812; in the Seminole War of 1852, James A. Perry, of the next generation, bore an honorable part; in the Mexican War, Matthew C. Perry, Jr., of the same generation; while James A. Perry, just mentioned, survived to render important service in the late Civil War. In the War of the Revolution both Colonel Richard Fry and Major Benjamin Fry were conspicuous Rhode Island leaders. A son of the latter, Ensign John Fry, served in the War of 1812. In the third generation, Brevet-Major Thomas William Gardiner Fry died a few years after the late war, from wounds received in the Wilderness Campaign in 1865. In the next generation, his son, Sergeant Alfred Brooks Fry—Secretary of the Mas-

sachusetts Society of the Sons of the American Revolution—also served, though at the time but a boy, in a Michigan regiment, in the same war. Sergeant Fry is not the only contribution of Rhode Island, either to the United States Army, or to this Society, credited to the somewhat remote State of Michigan. From Commodore Abraham Whipple, with whom the beginnings of our naval history are connected, are descended two Michigan men, Col. E. S. Sibley (of the U. S. Regular Army) and his son, Frederick T. Sibley, of Detroit, Secretary of the Michigan Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. General Nathanael Greene, to whom, next to Washington himself, in the judgment of careful students of military history, the final success of our arms in the field was due in the Revolution, was only one of a numerous family of brothers. From one of his own descendants, the late George Washington Greene, came more than one patriotic impulse during our late war, notably his Lowell Institute lectures in 1863; but from another branch of the Greene family is descended the brave General George Sears Greene, whose achievements on the field of Gettysburg are a part of its imperishable history, and his sons, George S. Greene, Jr., and Francis Vinton Greene, and Samuel Dana Greene, some of whom have added in recent years other laurels to those won by the others in the Civil War. Among the descendants of Silas Casey, of East Greenwich, are Major-General Silas Casey, U. S. A., and Brigadier-General Thomas L. Casey, Chief of Engineers, U. S. A.; and Lieut. Thomas L. Casey, Jr., of the Engineer service; also, Lieutenant Edward Wanton Casey, U. S. A., and Commander Silas Casey, U. S. N., of the *Wissahickon*. There are few instances, however, so noteworthy as that of Colonel Daniel Lyman, of Rhode Island, of the Continental Army, in the number of his descendants of distinction who have rendered patriotic service. They include General Richard Arnold, U. S. A., and Sergeant Daniel Lyman Arnold, U. S. A., in the late war; Commander Kidder Randolph Breese, U. S. N., and Colonel George E. Randolph, U. S. A., wounded at Gettysburg and serving

through many another hard-fought battle; and Brigadier-General Hazard Stevens, U. S. A., son of Major-General Isaac I. Stevens; Henry Lyman Tillinghast, of the First Rhode Island Regiment, and his brother, Captain Charles Tillinghast, of the Fourth Rhode Island Regiment, already mentioned above. A sister of General Arnold married Brigadier-General Isaac P. Rodman. Of these gallant officers, Captain Tillinghast was killed at Newbern, General I. I. Stevens at Chantilly, General Rodman at Antietam, and Lieutenant Casey in South Dakota, in a fight with the hostile Indians since the present year (1891) came in.

But while the patriotic record just referred to is found to characterize Rhode Island, it is not true of Rhode Island only. When we examine the records of other States, we find that they tell the same tale. Indeed, the same wide variety of patriotic service impresses us there as here. Take the case of John Lowell, an officer in the Massachusetts troops, in the Revolution. In the next generation, we find his son, Dr. Charles Lowell, bending all his energies in conflict with American slavery. What wonder that these transmitted tendencies showed themselves in the next generation in James Russell Lowell, in whose prose and verse, saturated as it is with the spirit of his time, the student of literary history a century hence will perhaps find the literature most characteristic of this period, as that of Sir Walter Raleigh is of the age of Elizabeth? In the next generation still, the heroic young officer, Charles Russell Lowell, Jr., received his fatal wound at Cedar Creek in 1864 while supporting Sheridan's attack on Winchester. Or in Rufus King of Massachusetts,—in the then district of Maine,—serving in the War of the Revolution as an aide to General Sullivan, afterwards distinguished in civil affairs, and father of two officers in the war of 1812, Lieutenant John Alsop King and Adjutant James G. King. Another son was Charles King whose distinguished career was as President of Columbia College; but in 1861 it is a noteworthy fact that every able-bodied son and grandson of Charles King

took the field at the first call. We find, therefore, in the third generation, Brigadier-General Rufus King; Captain Cornelius L. King; and Augustus F. King, of the New York 7th Regiment; and in the next generation still, Lieutenant Rufus King, who served in the Artillery in the war, and Captain Charles King, who at the age of 16 fought with his father's brigade in the late war, and has since served on our Indian frontier, being also the secretary of the Wisconsin Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Doubtless every State Society can supply instances of the same general character. The case of the Harrison family is a familiar one. Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, rendered many important services during the Revolution. His son, General William Henry Harrison, not only fought with distinction against the hostile Indians, but took his seat in the presidential chair; in the next generation, John Scott Harrison served on the floor of Congress; and in the next generation still, Colonel, and afterwards General Benjamin Harrison not only led the 70th Indiana Regiment in the Civil War, but now occupies the highest civil position in this nation. In the Indiana Society of the Sons of the American Revolution also, Colonel Samuel Merrill, who succeeded Colonel Harrison in the command of the 70th Indiana, is descended from Captain Samuel Merrill, of the War of the Revolution. Lieutenant Joseph Winlock, of Virginia, of the War of the Revolution, served as General (of Kentucky troops), in the War of 1812, in which also served his son, Fielding Winlock. In the next generation, Joseph Winlock, U. S. N., and in the next generation still, William C. Winlock, the secretary of the Sons of the American Revolution of the District of Columbia, have inherited their patriotic tendencies. But there is probably no more striking instance than that of the family of the late Admiral Porter, who at the time of his death was president of the Sons of the American Revolution of the District of Columbia. In the War of the Revolution there served in the American Navy three generations of this family, Captain Alexander Porter,

his two sons, Captain David Porter, and Captain Samuel, and his grandson, who later became Commodore David Porter in the War of 1812. The third generation also embraced John Porter, also of the Navy. The fourth generation gave to the Army two brilliant officers, Lieutenant Theodoric Porter, (a member of the Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution), and Brigadier-General Fitz-John Porter; and three to the Navy, namely, the late Admiral David D. Porter, and his brothers, Commodore William D. Porter, and Lieutenant Henry O. Porter; while in the next generation still, the 5th, are three who served in the late Civil War, one of them on the Federal side, and the other two on the Confederate side.

For the "Spirit of '76" was one which burned, and shone, and flamed, South as well as North. If it does not surprise us that descendants of the Greenes, the Perrys, or the Whipples were unable in 1861 to retain the sword in its scabbard, no more should it surprise us when, south of Mason's and Dixon's Line the same impulse led the son of General Henry Lee of the War of the Revolution, to draw his sword for the cause which appealed to his deepest sympathies; nor that in all the territory along the border line, Maryland and Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, family after family was represented on both sides in the heroic struggle. And so it is that we find Colonel Charles Marshall—a member of the Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and a descendant of Colonel Thomas Marshall of the War of the Revolution—standing side by side with General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox, and his kinsman, Colonel Charles A. Marshall, fighting on the Federal side; that we find Colonel James C. Breckenridge in the Federal Army, while his own cousin, Colonel William C. P. Breckenridge, fought at the head of a Confederate regiment. I have spoken of some of these men as being members of our Society. I hold in my hand, Mr. President, a list of names, which is eloquent in its suggestiveness. It is the roll of members of the Kentucky Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, on

the margin of which have been written the initials "U.S." or "C. S.," against the names of members, to indicate their participation, on one side or the other, in our late war. What impresses one in the first place is the small number of men who did not fight on one side or the other, and in the second place the striking manner in which the letters "U. S." and "C. S." alternate with each other.

This Society of ours, Mr. President, founded as it is on the memories of 1776, is almost the only one of our patriotic societies which in so signal a manner unites in its membership North and South alike. There are other organizations to which many of us belong, which naturally and appropriately lay emphasis on those distinctive principles on which the late war was fought, from our side. It is right that these organizations should exist, and it is right that they should thus lay emphasis on the principles which were so gloriously upheld in that conflict. But, sir, I believe there is room for a society with aims such as ours. I believe, moreover, that it offers to patriotic citizens in our day, one of the best possible agencies of welding us, North and South, into one people—the American people. I believe, sir, that even the heroic deeds of the late war itself will come, year by year, to contribute to the same end. In two* years more, Mr. President, we shall reach the thirtieth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg. The life of an average generation will very nearly have passed since the date of that tremendous struggle, in which both sides rose to a level of heroic endeavor and almost superhuman endurance, not elsewhere surpassed in the history of that war, and in but few of the great military encounters of all history. I believe that it will become, from year to year, an increasingly difficult thing for an American citizen to read the narrative of that struggle—whether it be of the great deeds of Slocum, of Hancock, of Warren or of Greene, or of the heroic efforts of Pickett, of Ewell, of Early or of Stuart—without quickened breath, without an accelerated

* The above address was delivered in 1891.

pulse, without a feeling of pride that he is an American, and that these men are his brothers.

Mr. President, the patriotic impulse and the patriotic inspiration, and the heroic example have their appropriate place in times of peace as truly as in times of war. The patriotic citizen of our own day need be at no loss to find fields for the exercise of his best service, whether in seeing to it that the children of the generation now growing up to manhood shall have impressed upon their minds the necessity of preserving our government in its integrity, and the greatness of the sacrifices which have been made in its behalf; that these young minds be made familiar with the history of our country, and with the principles of civil government; or whether in the support of measures for the purity of the ballot and the purity of the civil service; or, in general, in everywhere holding the interests of our country far above all narrower, or partisan, or petty interests. The time has not passed when love of one's country is either an unknown or an unneeded virtue. It is still a duty laid upon us, by all that we have received from the generations before us, in impulse, and in inspiration, and in example, to pass the torch, with undiminished flame, to those who stand ready to take it from our hands.

At the close of the address, remarks were made by Prof. Alonzo Williams, and the exercises were brought to a close by the reading of the following poem, prepared for the occasion by Rev. Frederic Denison, poet of the Society:

PATRIOT REFLECTIONS ON THE REVOLUTION IN
RHODE ISLAND.

I.

The genius of history sings of the beauty
Of children surrounding the shrine of their sires,
Constrained by a hallowed dictation of duty,
Rekindling, in pureness, the old altar fires.

II.

Our faith-girded fathers the wilderness planted,
Deep laying foundations of empire anew;
Beside them our love-loyal mothers, undaunted,
Set Sharon's sweet roses where pagan thorns grew.

Though silently all in "God's acres" are sleeping,
 Their deeds stand as sentinels guarding their tombs;
 Where bravely they toiled, we, their memories keeping,
 Bring new to their sepulchres choicest of blooms.

No fields are so rich, so in harvests abounding,
 With all that exalts and ennobles mankind,
 As those where brave spirits contended in founding
 New alters for worship and freedom of mind.

III.

The flame lit by Williams—a new age divining—
 Pure truth that his Puritan neighbors despised,—
 So bright in its glow, so for all souls abounding,
 By breadth of its beams, all opposers surprised.

It shone through the gloom of his lonely plantation,
 As star of the morning leads up from the night,
 Becoming, at last, the glad boast of our nation,
 The symbol and pledge of humanity's right.

IV.

So hold we our sires in devout estimation,
 Their patriot service the theme of refrain,
 Their virtues imparting a fresh inspiration,
 To far generations conveying the strain.

V.

Alas, that old England, intent upon treasures,
 Should purpose her dutiful children to chain,
 Adopting despotic, tyrannical measures,
 Embittering their lives by her passion for gain.

But planters resisted illegal taxation,
 Bold merchants and sailors, asserting their claims,
 Revealed to King George their intense detestation
 Consigning his tea and the "Gaspee" to flames.

And when on our shores broke the billows of battle,
 Unfearing to meet the great conflict, were seen
 Such leaders, of true and invincible mettle,
 As Hopkins, Ward, Olney, Brown, Whipple and Greene.

Rhode Island's sons, first to declare Independence,
 Foresworn to the rights of men given of God,
 Accepted the challenge, and stood as defendants,
 Nor stinted devotement of treasure and blood.

Her beautiful islands were trodden by Hessians,
 Her wide-spreading commerce was swept from the seas,
 A plot for enhancing the royal possessions,
 Subserving a merciless tyrant's decrees.

But hills of the North and the balmy savannahs,
 With bayonets gleaming, sent forth their strong bands
 Aligned as a phalanx beneath their free banners,
 To conquer or perish, at Freedom's commands.

VI.

Here haply the fabled Hesperides olden,
 With rivers and forests and vales to allure,
 Potential of fleeces and apples, pure golden,
 That only a Hercules' arm could secure.
 That arm was the freedom appointed of Heaven,
 Imparted by Him who stilled Galilee's waves.
 The spirit and strength to our forefathers given
 By which they could never consent to be slaves.

VII.

'Twixt Kingcraft and freedom the strife, here beginning,
 A warning conveyed to the thrones of the earth;
 Truth battling hoar error, supremacy winning,
 Predestined to bring a new epoch to birth.
 The problem, by Providence, set for our nation,
 That prophets and Magi but dimly foresaw,
 The brotherhood rights of all men by creation,
 And government shaped to express the great law.
 Consider convulsions not always as evils,
 The terrible earthquake brings good in disguise;
 By fiery, gigantic, transforming upheavals
 The mountains were raised to commune with the skies.
 The tyrannish yoke by our fathers was broken,
 Who marshalled the stars as their light and their guide;
 In face of all kings their new charter was spoken—
 That edict a hemisphere's life to decide;
 To crowned heads exciting profound consternation,
 As if a true Daniel had spoken again—
 The spirit and pith of the new Declaration
 That God made the earth, not for kings but for men.

VIII.

What our ancestors laid on our national altar,
 The rights they defended, and battles they fought,
 Shall grateful be sung in our patriot psalter,
 Their record in granite memorials wrought.
 Whoever stands forth as a shield for his fellows,
 And holds as his own the true rights of his race,
 Though falling for Freedom in war's bloody billows,
 Shall evermore live in his country's embrace.

That life is the noblest that freely is given
 To rescue a people from peril and shame,
 So kindred to Him who descended from heaven
 To lift up the fallen from thralldom and blame.

Men prize their philosophies, creeds and confessions,
 As potent to scatter oblivion's gloom;
 But when will they weigh that sublimest of lessons,
 That paths of true service end not in the tomb.

IX.

Our nation will tenderly, thankfully cherish
 The names of our chivalrous Gallic allies;
 In Liberty's garden the Lilies shall flourish
 So long as the Red, White and Blue we shall prize.

While history guards that band, knightly and royal,
 One star in the galaxy never can set,
 That one to the cause of true brotherhood loyal,
 The noble, the gallant, the loved Lafayette.

But more, by grace given, that General peerless—
 A Moses to lead the emancipate host—
 Our Washington, giant like, matchless and fearless,
 Commander and statesman, our continent's boast.

And one, for his skill and sagacity noted,
 On whom our great leader could confident lean,
 A son of Rhode Island, to Freedom devoted,
 Whose virtue and fame shall forever be Greene.

But why call the list, since the whole generation
 Went forth to the field like the Grecians of old
 On Marathon's plain, to resist the invasion,
 Their names on the tablets of honor enrolled.

Heroic were all who confronted the Lion
 And humbled the pride of a monarchy strong,
 Esteeming it justly far better to die on
 The field than to slavishly bow to the wrong.

For insight and tact in supreme legislation
 They reached to the happiest height of renown,
 As here in the New World they throned a new nation
 And bound on the brows of the people the crown.

Proud potentates, posing in purple pavilions,
 Beholding our land, superciliously sneered;
 Yet secretly pondered the march of the millions,
 And much for their sceptres' stability feared.

X.

By Providence meant, whatso actors intended,
 From Concord to Yorktown our sires woke a wave
 Of triumph to be with the angel song blended
 Till earth shall no more hear the wail of a slave.

Heaven sent them a banner of beauty and glory
 Ordained to be borne in humanity's van,
 Whose victories wide-winged by anthem and story,
 Foretoken the full disenfranchisement of man.

The Star Rhody lent to the new constellation
 In lustre supplied what was wanting in size,
 And there it remains in serene radiation
 Not second to any in Liberty's skies.

APPENDIX.

CONNECTION OF RHODE ISLAND WITH THE SUCCESSIVE STEPS LEADING TO THE FORMATION OF THE AMERICAN NAVY.

June 10, 1772, the British schooner, *Gaspee*, was captured and burned off Gaspee Point, R. I., by a company of Rhode Island citizens. This was the first overt act of resistance in any of the colonies, but occurred before the battle of Lexington had begun formal hostilities.

May 11, 1775, the British schooner *Margaretta*, was attacked and captured near Machias, in the District of Maine, then a part of Massachusetts. This is the first attack by sea after the battle of Lexington, but it was the act of uncommissioned assailants.

June 15, 1775, the tender of the British ship *Rose*, was attacked off Conanicut Island, R. I., and, after a sharp fight, was captured, by an armed sloop, under command of Captain Abraham Whipple, an officer who had been commissioned by the colony of Rhode Island for the defense of the American colonies.

June 12, 1775, the Rhode Island General Assembly had voted to place two other armed vessels under command of Whipple, with the rank of Commodore.

By October 1, 1775, vessels had also been fitted out by the colonies of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

In August, 1775, the Rhode Island General Assembly forwarded to their delegates in the Continental Congress, Hopkins and Ward, a memorial, calling for an American fleet, "at the Continental expense."

October 3, 1775, Messrs. Hopkins and Ward presented these Rhode Island resolutions in Congress.

October 13, 1775, one vessel was ordered by Congress, and a "marine committee" appointed.

October 30, 1775, a second one was ordered, and Stephen Hopkins, of Rhode Island, was appointed a member of the marine committee.

In November, 1775, General Washington was authorized by Congress to commission one or more vessels.

December 11, 1775, Stephen Hopkins, of Rhode Island, was appointed a member of a committee to furnish "a naval armament."

December 22, 1775, Esek Hopkins, of Rhode Island, was appointed by Congress "Commander-in-Chief" of the Navy. "His official appellation among seamen," says Cooper, "appears to have been that of 'Commodore.'"

February 17, 1776, his fleet of 8 vessels sailed from Delaware Bay, on its first cruise.

In March, 1776, the first naval action of the American fleet took place off the Bahamas. Commodore Hopkins captured two forts, and sailed away with his prisoners, cannon, and other military stores.

In April, 1776, by a succession of engagements, he freed Narragansett Bay from British cruisers.

January 2, 1778, after much opposition to the measure, from John Adams, and other members of the marine committee, a vote was passed by this committee, dismissing him from the service.

After a succession of commissions, etc., under the name of a "board of assistants," a "board of admiralty," a "secretary of marine," and an "agent of marine," the present Department of the Navy was created in 1798, George Cabot becoming the first Secretary of the Navy, May 3, 1798.



ANNUAL MEETING
AT
RHODES-ON-THE-PAWTUXET,
JUNE 4, 1892.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, was held at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet, a popular suburban resort situated near the village of Pawtuxet, on Saturday afternoon, June 4, 1892.

Shortly after two o'clock the meeting was called to order by President Stone, and the following officers for the year ensuing were elected:

President—John Carter Brown Woods.

Vice-President—Amasa M. Eaton.

Secretary—R. Grenville Brown.

Treasurer—Olney Arnold, II.

Registrar—Edward Field.

Historian—William E. Foster.

Poet—Rev. Frederic Denison.

Delegates—James F. Mallett,

Charles W. Abbot, Jr.,

And the President and Vice-President.

The officers of the Society were elected the Board of Managers.

At three o'clock the members and guests, about 60 in number, sat down to a Rhode Island clam dinner, with some extras prepared by Proprietor Thomas H. Rhodes, a grandson of Benjamin Rhodes of Warwick, who served as a seaman on the guard ship "Pigot Galley," and as a private in the Pawtuxet Rangers during the Revolutionary struggle.

After the dinner the meeting was called to order by President Woods, who thanked the members for the honor of the

election, and then called upon Alfred Stone, Esq., retiring president, who presented the following address and report :

Members of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution :

We are gathered to-day to perform the duties appertaining to the Annual Meeting of this Society, which, by the Constitution, should have been holden on the 30th day of May, but was adjourned to this time and place; and also to take counsel together to devise plans to infuse into our body more life than has characterized its past existence, and to bring into its membership a larger number of those who can claim the distinctive honor of descent from those patriots who, more than a hundred years ago, had the courage to resist the unjust oppressions of the mother country, and by persistent effort under most severe and discouraging conditions, to win a triumph which placed the people who lived on these shores in a position to form themselves into a nation based upon the government of the people by the people, and to found a State without a King.

In the more than one hundred years which have elapsed since those days, the memory of which we deem it our duty, as well as our privilege to preserve, what changes have taken place in the position which we hold as one of the brotherhood of nations, and what duties do the opportunities of the hour impose upon us!

This is not the occasion, and, if it were, I have neither the power nor the time to enumerate them. There is, however, one duty which belongs peculiarly to this Society, namely, the duty to infuse into the people who make up the citizenship of this country, whether native or foreign born, whether descended from the Revolutionary patriots or not, the idea that this country was established with a government distinctively Republican and American, and those who live under it must adapt themselves to these two distinct ideas, and they must become and continue to live, as long as they enjoy the privi-

lege of residence here, both Americans and Republicans, and must cease to be wedded either to the government or the practices of any other nation or any other people.

We must foster, in a broad and comprehensive spirit, that aphorism, "America for Americans," but we must not be misunderstood, and our proverb must not be construed to confine our definition of Americans to any narrower limits than what our generous and liberal naturalization laws have set; but we *must* insist that when one becomes an American citizen, he must, not only in fact but in spirit, cease to be an alien.

Various reasons have contributed to prevent the officers of the Society from calling meetings, and from pursuing a more active policy during the past year, but we trust we have put its affairs into such condition that our successors, whom you will elect to-day, may put to shame those of us who retire from office by the interest which they will awaken and the success which they will achieve.

You will learn from the reports of the registrar, the secretary, and the treasurer, the present status of the Society's affairs; and I am sure you will appreciate the work which these officers have done, especially the very effective and thorough work of the secretary, who has copied into suitable books the records and a roll of members; and of the registrar who has prepared the manuscript for printing the Manual which was authorized a year ago. It is proposed in this Manual to print the history of the Society, its Constitution and By-Laws, a list of its members, with a brief outline of the lineage by which each person is entitled to membership, and so much of the addresses and proceedings of this meeting, and of the one which was holden last year, as the Committee appointed at that time may deem expedient. It is confidently expected that the Manual will be issued and ready for distribution by the first of October next.

In the very short address which I made last year, I spoke of the importance of marking and preserving sites which possessed an historic value and the officers have not been unmind-

ful of this duty; and they would at this time say that steps have been taken with a view of securing the fort at Field's Point, known as Fort Independence, an earthwork thrown up in the days of the Revolution, and still preserved in sharp and well-defined outline, crowning a prominent hill, and with it as much of the adjoining land as possible. In fact, it would be a wise step for this Society to take such action as would induce the city to secure this whole point as a public reservation, and then obtain permission to take such steps as might be necessary to erect a suitable monument to mark the spot, and to so environ it as to secure it from injury.

Upon it we might place the statue of a Continental soldier with his flintlock, three-cornered hat and top boots, as recommended by Dr. Chauncey M. Depew in his after-dinner address at the Congress which was held in New York on the 30th of April.

Another object which has been definitely considered is the fixing of a bronze tablet on the west end of the Board of Trade Building, to commemorate the Providence Tea-Party, which will be celebrated in fitting terms by our poet, before we adjourn to-night, and which will no doubt so inspire you that you will all wish to contribute in money and in influence to make the suggestion on assured fact. A sketch of a tablet has been hung upon the wall for your inspection, suggestions and criticism.

The Board of Managers have memorialized the General Assembly to cause the Revolutionary Muster Rolls of Rhode Island to be indexed and printed, as has already been done in some of the States. New Hampshire has published four volumes; Connecticut has published a magnificent work containing 30,000 names; New York has a book containing 40,000 names; New Jersey has published the results of twenty-five years of labor of Gen. William S. Stryker; Pennsylvania has printed four volumes, and a fifth is in preparation; and Massachusetts is preparing to arrange and print its muster rolls.

In 1850, Hon. Benjamin Cowell published a book called

“The Spirit of '76 in Rhode Island, or Sketches of the Efforts of the Government and People in the War of the Revolution, together with the Names of Those who belonged to Rhode Island Regiments in the Army, with Biographical Notices, Reminiscences, etc.”

This volume is out of print, is rare and necessarily imperfect, but is full of interest and contains much that would undoubtedly have been lost to the world if it had not been published. It should be supplemented by the printing of the rosters of the regiments, so far as they can be procured, and I understand that much that has never been printed is already in manuscript in the hands of the Secretary of State, in condition for speedy publication, if the work shall be ordered by the General Assembly.

Since our last meeting, the women of Rhode Island, with characteristic energy and zeal, have formed the Gaspee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and its roll of members already numbers about one hundred.

The Chapter gave an exhibition in the rooms of the Cabinet of the Rhode Island Historical Society, which was very fully attended, and in its completeness of arrangement and large display of interesting relics was worthy of the brilliant, delighted and enthusiastic crowds of people who attended it.

The most important events which have taken place during the year that are directly connected with the purposes of this organization were, first, the dedication of the monument erected near the site of the Battle of Bennington; and second, the Annual Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in New York on the 30th day of April.

It was my privilege to attend the ceremonies at Bennington, with two other members of the Society, and to participate therein as delegates from this Society, having been appointed to that duty by the President of the National Society. We were the guests of the City of Bennington, and were assigned to a prominent place in the procession, to seats under the great

tent to assist in the services at the monument, and at the great banquet after the dedicatory exercises we were accorded a very favorable position at the table, near that occupied by the President of the United States. The city was filled with people, the procession was long and impressive, and the address of welcome, the extremely felicitous speech of the President of the United States, and the masterly dedicatory address of the Hon. Edwin J. Phelps, were worthy of the great occasion which celebrated, not only the Battle of Bennington, but also the centenary of the founding of Vermont; and the after-dinner speeches of the President of the United States, of the Orator of the Day, of the Governor of the State, of Gen. O. O. Howard of the United States Army, a prominent corps commander in the Civil War, and those of many others, were full of patriotic fervor and inspired the spirited enthusiasm of the immense audiences.

It was not in my power to attend the Third Annual Congress of the National Society in New York on the 30th of April, because of my necessary presence in Chicago upon that day, but the published accounts of the proceedings at the Convention and the brilliant dinner which followed fully justify the words of the Historian-General, Henry Hall, who I hoped would be our guest on this occasion, and who writes to me: "You cannot speak too strongly in praise of the late Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution. It was an unqualified success in every particular; large, enthusiastic, held in a noble room, composed of splendid men and every way admirable."

As our Secretary attended the Convention, I will leave it for him to give a fuller account than what I can gather from the report in the *New York Tribune* of May 1st, but I wish to call your attention to some of the things which were reported to the Congress.

The report of the Registrar-General showed at that time a membership of 3,503, and that the national archives contained 3,027 individual records of lineal descendants of patriots of the

Revolutionary War. A rigid scrutiny is made of all the applications, both at home, by the officers of this Society, and in Washington, by the Registrar-General, before issuing certificates of membership or permits for badges. To illustrate, let me cite the instance of one applicant whose record was thought to be sufficient by the officers of this Society, but it was sent back here for amendment and added evidence before it would be received as satisfactory at Washington. A close study of the composition of the membership of the Sons of the American Revolution shows that it includes the descendants of nearly all the signers of the Declaration of Independence, as well as those of hundreds of persons, soldiers and sailors, who led the American Army to victory.

The report of the Historian-General shows that of a population of 2,300,000, 328,345, at least 14 per cent. of the whole, served in the combined forces of the Continental Army and the militia; and, therefore, there must of necessity be a very large number of persons who are now eligible to membership in the twenty-two societies already formed in the United States. I am not aware how many Rhode Island can claim, but she doubtless did not fall behind her sister States in the quota which she furnished, and we have in our small Society descendants of Stephen Hopkins, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, a delegate to the Convention convened at Providence, December 25, 1776, of the Committees appointed by the States of Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, to consult upon means to support the credit, prevent monopolies and high price of goods, regulate vendues, embargo on shipping, etc.; and again to another convention for similar purposes of the same States and New York, holden in Hartford on the 20th day of October, 1779, and the constant counsellor and the promoter of all movements looking to the Independence of America; of Esek Hopkins, the first Commodore of the American Navy; of the intrepid General William Barton, who captured Major-General Prescott on the

Island of Rhode Island; of General Nathan Miller; of Colonel Christopher Greene, who commanded the First Battalion of Rhode Island in the invasion of Canada, and was taken prisoner at the storming of Quebec. He afterwards held command at the battle of Red Bank on the Delaware River, was presented with a sword by Congress for his conduct in defense of the Fort, and was brutally murdered by British troops on the 14th of May, 1781, near Croton River, in New York, and his body cut and mangled in a shocking manner; of Col. Christopher Lippitt, who commanded a regiment in the campaign in New Jersey, and in the action at Princeton; of Col. Israel Angell, commander of a regiment of the First Battalion of Rhode Island; and of Major Samuel Ward, Captain Stephen Olney, Captain William Tew, and Captain William Humphrey.

Of Capt. Olney it is related that he, with John Strange, one of his soldiers, was the first to enter the redoubts at Yorktown, and with loud voice called out, "Captain Olney's company to form here," to make the enemy believe that there were other companies besides his, and immediately received several severe and dangerous bayonet wounds, and had a gun leveled at his head; but John Strange saved his life by shooting down the man who was about to shoot Col. Olney. Of Col. Jabez Bowen, of John Brown, a powerful advocate of the first legislative act passed by any Colony looking to independence, and ordering that in all legal documents "The Governor and Company of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations" was to be substituted for the name of the King. Of Nicholas Brown, Arthur Fenner, Jr., and Dr. Isaac Senter, and of many others whose position was perhaps less noticeable than those whom I have named, but whose sacrifices were often greater, and whose service to their country was not less important.

The object of this Society being broadly patriotic and American, using both words in their highest sense and without any partisan or narrow limitations, it appeals to a wide con-

stituency, and is meant to be conducted upon democratic American lines, as distinguished from the English and monarchical idea. Its membership is based on the service of its ancestors in the ranks, in the humblest service which they may have been called upon to perform, or upon service in the higher line of official duty, whether as a commissioned or a non-commissioned officer, and with the true republican and distinctively American principle it does not in any way recognize the claim of primogeniture, and it is hoped that it is destined to become a powerful factor in maintaining the exalted standard which was established by those from whom we should have received patriotic instincts and high aspirations.

The Reports of the officers of the Society were then read in the following order:

REPORT OF OLNEY ARNOLD, II., ESQ., TREASURER.

RHODE ISLAND SOCIETY, SONS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION, IN ACCOUNT WITH
OLNEY ARNOLD, II., TREASURER.

1891.	
June 19	Cash in Bank to credit of Society..... \$8 30
July 11	From Members in payment of fees, etc., per account with F. Tillinghast, ex-Secretary..... 70 30
1892.	
April 1.	From Members in payment of fees, etc., ¹ per account with Amasa M. Eaton, Secretary..... 60 00
May 14.	Ditto from Amasa M. Eaton, Secretary..... 101 00
" 20.	Payment from Member, fee, etc..... 3 00
	<u>\$242 60</u>
1891.	
June 23.	To Providence Journal Co., rent of Hall for Annual Meeting, June 19, 1891..... \$2 00
July 30.	To Bugbee, Thompson & Co., bill July 27..... 1 50
Aug. 10.	To Edw. Field, Registrar, for Charter..... 1 25
Oct. 24.	To S. A. R. Year Book..... 3 00
1892.	
Apr. 20.	To Akerman Co., bill March 31, 1892..... 7 65
May 19.	James Otis, Treas. Gen'l, Nat'l Society, two years dues to April 30, 1892..... 41 50
May 19.	To ditto for $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 certificates of membership..... 35 00

May 20.	To Stationery, postage and express, per vouchers from Amasa M. Eaton, Secretary.....	\$14 75
May 30.	Cash in Bank to Credit of the Society.....	135 95
		<hr/>
		\$242 60
1892.		
May 30.	Cash in Bank to balance..... Examined and found correct.	\$135 95

R. GRENVILLE BROWN,
Auditing Committee.

REPORT OF AMASA M. EATON, ESQ., SECRETARY.

To the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution :

In accordance with the provisions of Article Nine of our By-laws, the Secretary herewith presents his annual report.

Owing to delay in the completion of our organization, and in the preparation, printing and binding of a suitable roll of members, there has been much delay in the collection of our annual dues. In accordance with Section Three of our By-laws, which provides that "Annual dues shall be paid to the Secretary on or before the 29th of May of each year," during the last year a suitable roll of members with printed alphabetical pages, has been prepared and bound for the Secretary's use, and this year for the first time, these due bills have been sent out in advance as the By-law requires. The fees and taxes overdue have also been collected, as far as possible. The amount now due and unpaid by members is as follows:

For certificates of membership,	- - - - -	\$6 00
" admission fees,	- - - - -	4 00
" annual taxes due on or before May 29th, 1890,	- - - - -	12 00
" " " " " " " " " 1891,	- - - - -	26 00
" " " " " " " " " 1892,	- - - - -	70 00
		<hr/>
		\$118 00

As the result of experience the Secretary ventures the suggestion that the work of his successor will be materially lightened if the members will send promptly to the Secretary the amounts they owe the Society.

Notices having been sent twice to all members in arrears, the Secretary also suggests that in three months from now it

would be well to drop from our roll of membership all whose taxes or dues prior to this year then remain unpaid, in accordance with Section three of the By-laws, which provides "Annual dues shall be paid to the Secretary on or before the 29th day of May in each year. The Secretary shall notify members three months in arrears, and non-payment of dues, in three months thereafter shall be regarded as terminating the membership of such person, unless the member shall present a satisfactory excuse."

The Board of Managers have memorialized the General Assembly to cause the Revolutionary muster rolls of Rhode Island, now in the hands of the Secretary of State in manuscript, to be indexed and printed. It is hoped the members present at this meeting will sign this memorial, a copy of which is upon the Secretary's desk for that purpose.

Three members of our Society, Messrs. Stone, Humphrey and Eaton, were present at the impressive ceremonies in August last in Bennington, Vermont, to celebrate the completion of the monument of the battle of Bennington. They desire to return thanks for the generous hospitality with which they were received and entertained as the guests of the State.

As delegates from this Society, Messrs. Guild and Eaton attended the Annual Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution, held in New York April 30th last. The business meeting occupied the greater part of the day, was well attended, and much interest was manifested. It seemed like a return to Revolutionary days to meet Paul Revere, Jonathan Trumbull and many other lineal descendants of Revolutionary heroes.

A committee of one member from each State was appointed to confer with the Sons of the Revolution, with the object of effecting a union of the two Societies, and if the Society of Sons of the Revolution will meet us in a spirit of amity and conciliation, we may look for success. The unhappy difference arises from the fact that the New York Society, organized in 1883 (and hence seven years after the

California Society, the parent Society), arrogated to itself, under Article V of its Constitution, the right and the power to organize auxiliary branches in other States, and subsequently, under the attempted exercise of this self-conferred power, denied to citizens of New Jersey, in 1889, its approval of their action in organizing a Society in New Jersey, because, in the opinion of the Board of Managers of the New York Society, it was inexpedient and unnecessary to establish a Society in New Jersey, as members who lived in New Jersey would be able to attend meetings in New York or Pennsylvania with as much ease as members who lived in different parts of those last-named States—New York and Pennsylvania. In 1889 a Society was organized in Connecticut, and made application to the New York Society to be admitted to fellowship, which was refused, unless the Connecticut Society would agree to become an auxiliary branch of the New York Society. The result was the inauguration of the movement that has now resulted in the establishment of 25 State Societies, all united into one National Society, under the name of Sons of the American Revolution, with 3,503 members.

The reports of the Acting Registrar-General and of the Historian-General, containing matter of remarkable interest and value, would alone furnish sufficient reason for the existence of our Society, as will be evident when they are distributed in print. The delegates to the Congress were the guests of the New York Society, and were given a lunch, and also a brilliant dinner at Delmonico's, presided over by Mr. Chauncey M. Depew. The speeches made by such orators as Mr. Depew, Ex-Senator Bayard, Charles A. Dana, Ex-Governor Robinson, General Porter, and others, were not only patriotic, but were admirably suited to the requirements of the occasion, and the Congress was by far the most successful and inspiring yet held in the history of our organization.

REPORT OF EDWARD FIELD, ESQ., REGISTRAR.

To the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution :

The By-laws of this Society make it the duty of the Registrar "to receive all applications and proofs of membership from the Secretary after they have been passed upon by the Board of Managers, and make a record of the same in a book of forms prepared for that purpose, to have the custody of all the historical, geographical and genealogical papers, books, manuscripts and relics of which the Society may become possessed, and make a report in writing at each annual meeting; from the fact that this is the first report of the Registrar, it would appear that this officer had not followed the laws prescribed, but when the reason for this is considered, the failure will be more readily excused.

With the organization of a Society like this comes a multitude of detail which is necessarily imposed upon the officers, systems must be perfected and rules and regulations prescribed by the parent Society complied with, delays of various kinds have occurred, and it was not until the present year that the completed organization of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was attained. This was largely due to the failure of members to file the required evidence of qualification for membership in this office.

The Society at this date numbers 98 members.

Since the organization of the Society, death has removed two members, Hon. William W. Hoppin and James H. Eldredge, M. D., and in this connection, I would suggest, that the By-laws of the Society be so amended as to provide for the appointment of a committee whose duty it shall be to prepare a memorial of deceased members, for preservation in our archives. This custom is followed by several of the State Societies.

The ancestors from whom membership in this Society is derived served their country in the following capacities:

On Committee of Safety,	4
“ “ to furnish munitions of war,	1
“ “ of correspondence,	2
“ “ of inspection,	2
“ “ to exchange prisoners,	2
“ “ on recruits,	2
“ “ on emergency,	2
“ “ to provide for the families of soldiers,	1
“ “ to provide bounties,	1
Member of State Convention,	2
“ “ Council of War,	4
“ “ General Assembly,	4
“ “ Electoral College that elected Washington President,	2
As Judges,	5
“ Commissioners of various kinds,	4
“ Governors,	4
“ Deputies,	5
“ Delegates to Congress,	2
“ Deputy Governor,	1
“ Colonels,	10
“ Lieut.-Colonels,	2
“ Captains,	29
“ Lieutenants,	16
“ Sergeants,	6
“ Corporals,	3
“ Ensigns,	8
“ Seamen,	4
“ Majors,	5
“ Chief Commander,	1
“ Brigadier-Generals,	2
“ Naval Officers,	4
“ Brigadier,	1
“ Drummer,	1
“ Fifer,	1
“ Enlisting Officers,	4

As Quartermaster,	1
“ Commissary,	1
“ Adjutant,	1
“ Muster Master,	1
“ Major-General,	1
“ Privates,	26
“ Surgeon,	1

As members of expeditions and special service as follows:

Of the Boston Tea Party,	1
“ “ <i>Gaspee</i> Party,	1
“ “ party that captured Gen. Prescott,	2
“ “ Expedition under the command of Benedict Arnold to Canada,	3

As a guard at the Beacon erected in Scituate, R. I., to alarm the country, 1, and a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The excess in the number of positions held by ancestors over the number of members is accounted for in the fact, that credit is given each ancestor for the different positions in which service was rendered, as shown by the member's application. The average age of these ancestors at the time of the Declaration of Independence, was 30.10 years.

Of this total service, 26.59 per cent. of it was rendered in official positions other than military, while 73.41 per cent. was for the performance of military duty; of this 73.41 per cent. of military service only 30.28 per cent. served as private soldiers, a fact which admits of an interesting study.

The Society in its brief season of existence, has performed a service of inestimable value to Rhode Island history in securing for permanent record much historical information, which, but a few months ago, was scattered and mostly inaccessible. This has all been committed to writing and signed by the persons giving such information, with the reference to the authority for the statement.

Some of the duties imposed upon the Registrar by the laws of the Society have not required much attention. No “manu-

scripts, relics or documents" have been received; one volume, however, the "Year Book" of the Connecticut Society, for 1891, has been received and duly acknowledged; this constitutes the sole property of the Society of which the Registrar is custodian, other than his own records. The Registrar is constantly in receipt of letters from different parts of the country asking for information regarding the service of Rhode Island soldiers in the Revolution; while it is the desire of the Registrar to assist all who wish to ascertain these facts of Revolutionary history, yet to answer these letters properly is an impossibility, owing to the imperfect arrangement of the Records of the State for that period.

In order to ascertain any particular information regarding a soldier it is necessary to search through the volumes of muster rolls and regimental and company abstracts in the archives of the State until such soldier's name is found; this involves many hours of search which is often fruitless. This state of affairs should not exist in a State whose part in the Revolutionary struggle was such an important one. Our neighboring States, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut, have a most perfect system of indexes of the Revolutionary papers; New Hampshire and Connecticut have printed lists of her patriotic sons; and the State of Massachusetts, not satisfied with the system of indexing in use for many years, is at present engaged in reindexing these records similar to that with which the records of the soldiers of the Civil War are indexed in this State. These facts I brought to the attention of the Board of Managers in March last, and a committee was appointed consisting of the Registrar, Vice-President and Secretary, to present a memorial to the General Assembly, asking that these records of Rhode Island soldiers be indexed and printed. It is hoped that the Legislature will favorably consider this proposition. When this work is accomplished, much of the Revolutionary history of the State now inaccessible will be brought to light. I know of no other State where the records of the Revolution are so scattered as

they are in this State; besides the volumes in the office of the Secretary of State there are several volumes of muster rolls in the archives of the Rhode Island Historical Society, and the City of Providence possesses a mass of documents, relating to this period, of great value; with regard to the latter, I am pleased to say that the Record Commissioners are at present engaged in arranging and classifying them, so that their contents may be made useful.

At the annual meeting of the Society in May last a committee was appointed "to look over the field and ascertain where a suitable memorial of the Revolution should be erected in Rhode Island." The Registrar was subsequently made a member of this committee, a preliminary report was made regarding the matter to the Board of Managers in April last, and, among other sites mentioned, Fort Independence, at Field's Point, was favorably regarded. The Registrar was appointed a committee to inquire into this matter and ascertain such facts as would warrant the Board in giving it further consideration, and for the purpose of bringing this subject to the attention of the Society, for any decided action relative to the matter must be by the Society, I desire to briefly state certain facts in this connection. Fort Independence, as it is now called, was erected early in the Revolutionary struggle when it was expected that an attack would be made on the town at any moment. The conditions and circumstances under which it was erected will be found fully set forth in a paper read by me before the Rhode Island Historical Society on January, 26, 1886, and is contained in Vol. V, No. 3, of the Narragansett Historical Register.

This earthwork is in a fair state of preservation, considering the years that it has remained uncared for, and occupies a commanding position overlooking the city and harbor, one hundred and twenty-five feet above high-water mark. The parade inside of the inclosure is about one hundred feet by thirty feet, and would be ample in size on which to erect a shaft of appropriate design. The property belonged to the estate of the

late Amos D. Smith, and stands on the books of the Assessors of Taxes in the name of A. D. Smith, two-thirds, and Amy A. Smith, one-third. If a title to this spot could be acquired, it seems reasonable to believe that a sufficient sum could be obtained by subscription, or otherwise, to erect an appropriate memorial, and provide for the perpetual care of the earth-works and thus preserve for posterity a relic of the struggle which resulted in American Independence, though no hostile cannon reverberated from its height, yet it is as valuable a relic of this crisis in American History as though human blood had once stained the grass around it.

In March, 1891, the Registrar and William E. Foster, Esq.,* were appointed a committee on the part of the Board of Managers to publish a volume for the Society which should include the Charter, Constitution and By-Laws, list of the officers and members, together with an account of the First Anniversary Dinner, held February 17, 1891, in commemoration of the sailing of the First American fleet under the command of Commodore Esek Hopkins of Rhode Island. The work was at once commenced, and it was anticipated that the volume would be issued within a reasonable time. In preparing the list of members together with the name of the ancestor from whom membership in the Society was derived, with a short account of his service in establishing American Independence, it was found that but few who had joined the Society as charter members had filed any application in which the ancestor's service was given. Notices were then sent to these members to furnish such applications. Some delay was caused by this, and at the same time it was found that the Society had no approved standing in the National Society other than that it had been regularly organized, and the work was suspended until the Society should be on an equal footing with the other societies in the country. Considerable correspondence was had with the National officers by our officers in this respect. After a time most of the applications were re-

* June 11, 1892, Mr. Foster resigned as a member of this committee.

ceived. This was not on account of neglect, but more on account of the difficulty which the members experienced in getting at the facts of their ancestor's service; in many cases it had been a family tradition, but where to find the evidence to confirm this was a difficult problem. I am glad to state, however, that all of these difficulties have been adjusted, and that the work is now ready for the press, although I regret to state that thirty out of the total membership of ninety-eight have yet failed to file their applications.

The reports of these officers were received and ordered placed on file. At the conclusion of the Registrar's report, President Woods called upon Col. John C. Wyman, who spoke in his characteristic pleasant vein.

The annual historical paper was read by William E. Foster, Esq., Historian of the Society, which was as follows:

THE REVOLUTIONARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF RHODE ISLAND
MEN OUTSIDE OF RHODE ISLAND.

It is fitting that steps should be taken to mark the historic spots within the boundaries of our own State. By such memorials not only will the heroic deeds which they commemorate be recalled to the minds of those of us who are familiar with the localities, but the visitor from another State will in like manner find something appealing to his own interest and adding to his information. In the Revolutionary actions occurring on Rhode Island soil, it was sometimes Rhode Island men alone who acted, as in the affair of the *Gaspee*; at other times, Rhode Island men in conjunction with others, as in the battle of Rhode Island in 1778, called by Lafayette "the best-fought action of the war." But the reciprocity of interest which is thus indicated has another side to it, for if a Massachusetts man or a New Hampshire man can find in the earthworks at Quaker Hill and Butts Hill, reminders of the valor of men from these colonies respectively, there are places outside of this State equally suggestive to a Rhode Island man to-day. In which direction, indeed, shall

one go, not to find such reminders? From Georgia northward, through the entire length of the thirteen Colonies with but few exceptions—and including the Province of Quebec—the traveller finds the memory of Rhode Island men's achievements inseparably associated with historic localities. The shores of Pointe-aux-Trembles, along the St. Lawrence, recall the sufferings and the bravery of Rhode Island soldiers under Simeon Thayer and Christopher Greene in 1775¹. In Massachusetts the earthworks and trenches at Prospect Hill and Roxbury recall the heroic exertions of Nathanael Greene, Christopher Greene, and James M. Varnum, in 1775². In New York, one may still see, near the upper extremity of Manhattan Island, the site of Fort Washington, opposite which, in 1776, a fearless Rhode Islander, Silas Talbot, boldly undertook to explode a British ship of 64 guns at the risk of what was apparently certain death³. In New Jersey, a monument erected over fifty years after the event, at Red Bank, on the Lower Delaware, commemorates—so reads the inscription—"the patriotism and gallantry of Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher Greene, who, with 400 men, conquered the Hessian army of 2,000 troops⁴". These heroic four hundred men in 1777 were two Rhode Island regiments. In Pennsylvania, Rhode Island is equally well represented in the sufferings and heroism associated with the name of Valley Forge, in 1778. Two of her bravest officers—Waterman and Jennings—laid down their lives there; while in the encampment it was Gen. Varnum's brigade which occupied the position of honor and danger, guarding the bridge⁵. In Virginia, the decisive event of Yorktown in 1781 is indelibly associated with the

(1) Capt. Simeon Thayer's Journal, printed in the "Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society," v. 6, p. 1-45.

(2) Cowell's "Spirit of '76 in Rhode Island," p. 19; Greene's "Life of Nathanael Greene," v. 1, p. 87-99.

(3) Tuckerman's "Life of Silas Talbot," p. 25-32.

(4) The epitaph is printed in Lossing's "Pictorial field-book of the Revolution," v. 2, p. 89.

(5) Map at p. 196 of v. 5 of Sparks's "Writings of Washington."

heroism of Captain Stephen Olney¹. In North Carolina, at Guilford Court House², in 1781, and in South Carolina, at Eutaw Springs³, in the same year, the military strategy of Gen. Nathanael Greene was strikingly exemplified; while in Georgia two localities not far from Savannah will forever possess an interest for Rhode Island men—the one as the place of Gen. Greene's death, in 1786, and the other as the locality of his burial⁴.

Nor is the interest to which we have referred confined to the land and to military operations solely. On the sea, when passing Cape Henry, one remembers that it was there that Capt. John B. Hopkins in 1779 captured a fleet of seven vessels from the British⁵, while the Bahamas recall the daring exploits of Esek Hopkins in 1776⁶, and Lieut. Trevett in 1778⁷. The deeds of men who wrought in establishing our liberties in still other fields, are not uncommemorated, moreover. The visitor from Rhode Island when in Philadelphia has pointed out to him Independence Hall⁸, in which Stephen Hopkins and William Ellery, acting for the colony of Rhode Island, affixed their signatures to the Declaration of Independence, in 1776. Somewhere near it stands, or stood, the house in which during the sessions of the First Continental Congress, in 1774, the far-seeing political insight of Stephen Hopkins served to enlighten others less sagacious than himself, as to the nature of the struggle which was before them. It was there that in the hearing of Paul Revere a few months before the hostilities at Lexington and Concord, he declared: "Powder

(1) Report of Yorktown monument commission. Washington, 1883.

(2) Greene's "Life of Nathanael Greene," v. 3, p. 193-202.

(3) *Ibid.*, v. 3, p. 391-405.

(4) *Ibid.*, v. 3, p. 533-35.

(5) Cooper's "History of the Navy," v. 1, p. 177-78.

(6) *Ibid.*, v. 1, p. 104-7.

(7) *Ibid.*, v. 1, p. 156-57; Arnold's "Rhode Island," v. 2, p. 413.

(8) Etting's "Historical account of the old State House of Pennsylvania," p. 105.

and ball will decide this question. The gun and the bayonet alone will finish the contest in which we are engaged,"¹ words which must have been ringing in Paul Revere's ears as he spurred his horse through one after another "Middlesex village and farm" on that eventful April night in 1775. In still another part of Philadelphia one may see the site of the burial ground in which was laid all that was mortal of Samuel Ward of Rhode Island, who was the only member of the Second Continental Congress to die during its sessions, and who but for his untimely death in March, 1776,² would have placed his signature with that of Hopkins, on the Declaration of Independence a few months later.

But it is not everywhere that one finds the locality so satisfactorily designated as that marked by the monument at Red Bank, New Jersey, already mentioned. What would not one give to know the exact spot on another battlefield in the same State,—that of Princeton, in 1777,—where Washington, at the close of the engagement, took by the hand a Rhode Island commander,—Col. Daniel Hitchcock,—and, in the presence of the Army, desired him to convey his personal thanks to his men?³ Or, to identify the exact localities, in every instance, along the brilliant charge of Capt. Simeon Thayer at Quebec, in 1775?

Could it be more vividly recounted than in his own language, as entered in his journal for December 30? He writes: "We were to receive the signal by the firing of three sky-rockets, to attack, but not observing them soon eno', Capt. Dearborn's company, on acct. of being Quartered over Charles' river, [St. Charles River], and the tide being high, did not come up, and march'd on without him, imagining he would soon overtake us. They fir'd briskly upon us as we

(1) Quoted in Stone's "John Howland," p. 199. Compare Goss's "Life of Col. Paul Revere," v. 1, p. 166; Frothingham's "Joseph Warren," p. 388.

(2) Gammell's "Life of Samuel Ward," p. 349-50. In 1860 his remains were removed to Newport, R. I.

(3) Arnold's "Rhode Island," v. 2, p. 394-95.

pass'd the street for the space of half a mile, killing and wounding numbers of our men, of whom was Capt. Hubbard, who died shortly after, in the hospital of Quebec. The front having got lost by a prodigious snowstorm, I undertook to pilot them, having measur'd the works before, and knowing the place. But coming to the Barrier, two field-pieces played briskly on us, that were placed there. But on their drawing them back to re-charge, Capt. Morgan and myself Quickly advanced through the Ports, seized them with 60 men rank and file, which was their main guard, and made Prisoners."¹ How plainly one can see it all,—the winter night, the dense darkness, the straining of their eager eyes through the murky air for the sky-rockets which failed to ascend in season, the thick descending snow in which they lost their way, though within the city lines, the desperate charge, and the capture.

On the battlefield of Gettysburg the erection of monument after monument—by both Federal and Confederate survivors—is gradually contributing to make the place one on which the historian may identify the several localities where the fortunes of the battle turned, and where the high-water mark of heroic effort may be fittingly commemorated. What would not the historical student give to see a similar treatment of the battlefield of Yorktown in the near future! When that time shall come, such commemoration should not fail to include the locality associated with Capt. Stephen Olney's charge, which was the critical point of the engagement. How like the incident, as narrated by a survivor, is to some of those related in Plutarch. "When the column began its march towards the redoubts, it was slow, silent, and solemn." "The redoubts were well manned, and the palisades thick." In the struggle which ensued Olney found himself standing, indeed, inside the enemy's lines, but with several different bayonet stabs in different portions of his body, one of which placed him in the most painful and embarrassing situation in which a man can be imagined as standing, and yet continuing to live. In this ex-

(1) "Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society," v. 6, p. 28.

treme moment, with death a matter of momentary expectation, he acted as if only in the most common and advantageous situation. His voice was heard above the din and confusion—"Captain Olney's Company,—form here!"¹ His men with desperate determination pushed in after him. Almost every movement was marked with blood, and with the life of an opponent; and in a remarkably short time the redoubt had surrendered to them. "The first sword," says Arnold, "that flashed in triumph above the captured heights of Yorktown was a Rhode Island sword."²

It is such deeds as these which societies like ours can best use their efforts to assist in suitably identifying, and in such efforts all State societies have a common interest.

REVOLUTIONARY ENGAGEMENTS OUTSIDE OF RHODE ISLAND
IN WHICH RHODE ISLAND MEN WERE PRESENT.

1775,	Dec.	30-31.	Quebec.
1776,	March	3.	Naval battle at New Providence, Bahama Islands.
"	Aug.		Explosion of British ship <i>Asia</i> ; opposite Fort Washington, New York.
"	Aug.	27-28.	Battle of Long Island, Brooklyn, N. Y.
"	Sept. 14, 15, 16.	"	" " Harlem, N. Y.
"	Dec.	26.	" " Trenton, N. J.
1777,	Jan.	3.	" " Princeton, N. J.
"	Sept.	11.	" " Brandywine, Pa.
"	Oct.	4.	" " Germantown, Pa.
"	"	22.	" " Red Bank, N. J.
"	Nov.	10-15.	" " Province Island, Pa.

¹ Cowell's "Spirit of '76 in Rhode Island," p. 237; Mrs. Catherine R. Williams's "Biography of revolutionary heroes," p. 277.

² "Captain Stephen Olney, who was the first to mount the parapet and form his company in Hamilton's redoubt on the 14th."—(Robert C. Winthrop's Centennial oration at Yorktown, October 19, 1881. Winthrop's "Addresses and speeches," 4th series, p. 320.) Arnold's "Rhode Island," v. 2, p. 477. Alexander Hamilton's "Works," v. 1, p. 271.

1778, Feb.		Naval battle at New Providence, Bahama Islands.
“ June	28.	Battle of Monmouth, N. J.
1779, April.		Naval battle off Cape Henry, Va.
1780, June	23.	Battle of Springfield, N. J.
1781, March	15.	“ “ Guilford Court House, N. C.
“ April	25.	“ “ Hobkirk’s Hill, S. C.
“ May	14.	“ “ Point’s Bridge, N. Y.
“ June	17.	“ “ Ninety-Six, S. C.
“ Sept.	8.	“ “ Eutaw Springs, S. C.
“ Oct. 14, 15, 16.		“ “ Yorktown, Va.

Rev. Frederick Denison, Poet of the Society, then read the following:

THE PROVIDENCE TEA PARTY OF MARCH 2, 1775.

A BALLAD.

No lightest wave breaks on the beach
 But leaves its perturbation;
 No beat of blood for brotherhood
 But helps uplift a nation.

The patriot town of Providence,
 Of deeds may boast a number;
 Her tea-affair, on Market Square,
 We summon from its slumber.

Nor ought, in these serener days,
 The strife to be forgotten
 By men of trade and plans deep laid
 For working wool and cotton.

We need some measures of relief
 From study, scheme and trading,
 Some note of song to cheer along
 'Mid work and worry wading.

King George, soul-set on revenue
 To yield him bread and honey,
 Issued decree for taxing tea
 To win the needful money.

It was but three-pence on a pound;
 But that was not the grievance,
 It was his claim to tax by name,
 A serious malfeasance.

In hope, if it were possible,
 To check the usurpation,
 The colonists clinched firm their fists
 To fight for reformation.

They held their freedom as their life,
 Sworn 'gainst unjust taxation;
 Without their votes, not down their throats
 Went any king's potation.

Throughout the town fast flew hot words
 About the greedy Lion,
 With what fit acts to meet the tax,
 Or arguments, or iron?

They fixed upon a blazing scheme
 To give their thoughts full flaming;
 The use of fire met prompt desire,
 It only needed naming.

When struck the chosen hour, was heard
 The chime of convocation,
 The bells deep tolled, and town-wide rolled
 The tea-tax condemnation.

Appointment made at five o'clock,
 The town crier, hale and hearty,
 And unappalled, the people called
 To swell the big tea party.

From Stamper street to India Point
 The citizens came streaming,
 Antipathy to tyranny
 From every visage beaming.

The merchants brought their chests of tea,
 The women brought their caddies,
 And on the square was held the fair
 By plucky dames and daddies.

They brought out barrels, boxes, logs,
 Borne on their sturdy shoulders,
 A proof of zeal for public weal
 Amazing to beholders.

The students flocked from College Hill,
 The sailors from the shipping,
 Though most that they achieved that day
 Was at the toddy dipping.

Men kindled quick a rousing fire
 At which the children wondered;
 Then merrily they threw on tea,
 Of pounds a round three hundred.

From high and burning purposes
 The air was heavy freighted,
 With odors strong of old Souchong
 To Freedom immolated.

They greatly wished King George were there
 To test his taxing tethers;
 They'd fit him out with a surtout
 Right warm, of tar and feathers.

They styled him forger insolent
 Of handcuffs, chains and shackles,
 Who sure would find another mind,
 When drawn o'er freemen's hackles.

They certified, as was the truth,
 They always had been loyal,
 But now, as free, they'd drink no tea,
 Save native pennyroyal.

Here were the gritty men who smote
 The prowling English cutter,
 That daring stroke on royal oak
 That made the Lion mutter.

That storm of powder, ball and flame
 That left the *Gaspée* burning,
 The evidence of brave intents,
 The tyrant's edicts spurning.

The crowd, mayhap, had Santa Cruz
 Or nip of good Madeira;
 Whatever strains were in their veins
 Their heads were clear of error.

All bravely stood as Englishmen
 Upon old Magna Charta,
 In calms or fights, the inborn rights
 Of men they could not barter.

They much preferred the native tea
 That Roger Williams planted,
 So all the throng loud raised the song
 And freedom full they chanted.

The women vowed they'd sooner drink
 The meanest wildwood bitters
 Than humor George who aimed to forge
 His despicable fetters.

Some thought they saw the very shades
 Of early planters rising,
 In patriot love, to full approve
 This new evangelizing.

The smoke of this new sacrifice
 Delighted all the people;
 It curved around and fitly crowned
 The new-built Baptist-steeple.

In Boston, tea was wrathful plunged
 Where choked the demon legion;
 But here men free consigned the tea
 To Pluto's heated region.

They threw on tar, with Lord North's speech,
 And all the Tory papers;
 And everything that praised the King
 Was doomed as funeral tapers.

The blaze rose high, the shouts went round,
 The tea was steeped in ashes;
 While doors and signs, with tea's designs,
 Were smeared with lamp-black splashes.

In fancy now we see the light
 Reflected from all faces;
 Would some had sketched, and art had etched
 The scene in all its traces.

No "tempest in a tea-pot" that,
 But patriotic lightning
 That flashed a ray of coming day,
 A new horizon brightening.

Would that our honored Board of Trade
 Might raise or bronze or granite
 To keep aflame that deed of fame,
 For History's breath to fan it.

No picture truer to the mark
 Of old Rhode Island spirit,
 To have her right, or have a fight
 To vindicate her merit.

Prophetic of events to be
 So shortly in attendance,
 One patriot stout a flag flung out
 And styled it Independence.

In what few weeks that flag arose
 Above the British symbol,
 And-on the shore the cannon's roar
 Caused tyranny to tremble.

The sun had set; so sank the crown
 Of England's western glory;
 But Stars broke forth to light the earth
 And win renown in story.

Such is the pulse of Freedom in
 Our human breasts expanding;
 To break the gyves, not vain it strives,
 The will of God commanding.

Such were the true teetotalers
 Who gave to George their pledges.
 And with their words drew out their swords
 Of sharp and tempered edges.

If you dig down on Market Square,
 No doubt you'd find the embers
 Of that big fire—tea's funeral pyre—
 As History remembers.

So, with the virtues of our sires
 May we our lives embellish;
 They drank the tea of Liberty
 And left with us the relish.

Out of the ashes of the old,
 Effete, monarchic measures,
 See Freedom rise, in sacred guise,
 To spread world-wide her treasures.

At the conclusion of these exercises Chairman Denison, of the committee appointed, at the last annual meeting, to inquire into the matter of a memorial of the Revolution, presented the following report.

REPORT BY COMMITTEE.

Mr. President, and Members of the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the American Revolution :

Your Committee, appointed June 19, 1891, "to look over the field and report upon the subject of erecting some memorial or monument of the American Revolution, in this State," would respectfully report that, as the matter committed to us is only preliminary and initiative, we can only present certain facts and certain suggestions.

I. Of facts we present the following :

[1.] While our Sister States around us have their memorials and monuments of the Revolution, Rhode Island, as a State, thus far has none.

[2.] Since Rhode Island nobly acted her full part in the Revolution, she owes it to herself and to our republic to have within her borders some memorial or memorials of the old heroic struggle.

[3.] Already the Society of the Daughters of the Revolution has taken steps to secure and preserve the Vernon House and grounds in Newport, once the headquarters of Count Rochambeau.

[4.] On the field of this State we find the following historic spots :

[a.] Gaspee Point, where well might be erected a beacon, since here began the tragedy of the Revolution in our State and in our country, June 10, 1772.

[b.] Market Square, Providence, where 300 pounds of tea were burned, March 2, 1775.

[c.] The site of Liberty Tree on Olney street, where the Sons of Liberty held their meetings.

[d.] The site of the Signal Fire, on the summit of Prospect Hill.

[e.] Fox Point, where in 1775 was erected a battery of six guns.

[f.] Fort Independence, on Field's Point, erected in 1775, and still preserved in its outline.

[g.] University Hall, of Brown University, used as barracks and a hospital.

[h.] The French Camp in Providence, a part of which still remains with the tent pits.

[i.] The spot on Rhode Island where Col. Barton captured Gen. Prescott.

[j.] The field on which was fought the battle of Rhode Island in 1778.

II. Of suggestions we present the following :

[1.] That for a memorial spot, the most available at present is Fort Independence, on Field's Point.

[2.] In regard to Gaspee Point, it might well bear a light or beacon, erected by the United States Government.

[3.] In regard to a general monument, it would be happy if a memorial arch could be thrown over the main avenue to the contemplated Union Railroad depot in Providence.

[4.] That a permanent committee be chosen, to have charge of the general matter of memorials, to report to the Society annually.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FREDERIC DENISON,
STEPHEN BROWNELL,
R. H. I. GODDARD,
WILLIAM E. FOSTER,
E. BENJ. ANDREWS,
EDWARD FIELD,
ALFRED STONE,

Committee.

In accordance with the suggestions contained in this report, the President was authorized to appoint a committee of five persons to serve as a permanent committee; subsequently the President appointed the following named gentlemen:

REV. FREDERIC DENISON,
ALFRED STONE,
WILLIAM E. FOSTER,
EDWARD FIELD,
WILLIAM G. NIGHTINGALE.

At 5.30 o'clock P. M., the meeting adjourned.







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