

Director Rego embarked enthusiastically upon the second purpose of his visit i.e. THE NATURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM IN SOUTH COUNTY. He gave a brief summary of the history of the Department which was reorganized from the State Division of Agriculture and Conservation to the Department of Natural Resources in 1965 and now encompasses the sub-sections known as Parks and Recreation, Harbours and Rivers, and Water Resources. Mr. Rego feels the State is moving ahead rapidly in these areas and a reorganization is again in order to keep up with the resource development. Law and enforcement are a prime factor in resource development; there are some laws such as the Marsh Laws which are very good but unrealistic in some respects. For instance, an individual needs permission to build a dock for a 14 inch skiff, but must submit a professional engineer's design for that specific dock. John feels this needs revision. Naturally money is a key factor in progress: there's a tremendous amount of Hiring particularly for summer jobs in the department. People want more services, marinas with sewage disposal are needed, the Green Acres program planned for Snakes Den calls for \$350,000; the recently installed fish ladders on the Saugatucket River cost \$35,000-\$50,000 each; a cleaning of debris in the Pawtuxet River is planned soon; and the new Red Crab project will be costly to get underway.

Leona Kelley questioned a proposed State Park fee. The suggested fee would be similar to one in effect in Misquamicut and would be applicable to all State Parks: \$5.00 annual fee for residents or \$1.00 per day, \$2.00 per week-end. Camping areas would charge according to services offered; that is, \$3.00 per day with sewage and water, and electricity; \$2.00 for water and electricity; \$1.00 for only electricity. The State does not want to compete with the private enterprise in Rhode Island.

Dr. Rego thanked us for the invitation to speak. He is very enthusiastic and likes to get things done.

Lucy waxed poetic again and read TRUE LOVE following with the announcement that the 35th wedding anniversary of Earl and Eleanor Smith had been September 1st and that such a record of merital bliss of two of the Society's founding members should not go unrecognized. The couple was surprised and received a card signed by the members present. Virginia Arnold had made special efforts for the celebration in the area of refreshments.

FILM ON RHODE ISLAND

During Rhode Island Heritage Month in May a new film attracted attention. Produced for the Rhode Island Development Council by Mr. Morton Blender and staff of Blender Films, RHODE ISLAND STATE CAPITOL is a film of distinction in color and sound, lasting fourteen minutes. Although the film does show all six buildings located in various parts of Rhode Island and once used by the General Assembly, buildings still standing and being used otherwise now, it concentrates on the beautiful present-day Capitol located in Providence. This film is made available for borrowing without charge by club groups, civic organizations, etc. Make arrangements through your local library or directly to: Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, R.I. 02886. Telephone number is 739-5440.

18.

LETTER FROM CAPTAIN MARCUS L. WHITFORD

Dear Mrs. Miller:

Your letter dated September 4th inviting me to speak on the historical background of the Bell School House received too late to accept, in that I have a prior commitment for the evening of Tuesday, September the 9th; but I am honored that your Executive Board suggested that I be the one to speak on the background and history of the Bell School.

My first adventure in the field of education was at the Bell School in 1904, at the age of four; where I completed the 5th grade on three different occasions, not that I was considered a delinquent or a school drop out, but because those of us living in the country on a farm had no choice but to continue on with school until age 16. We did not have a school bus to pick us up in 1904, and there were no automobiles in this area to push us off the road; we walked to school through the snow and in the rain, and as we look back to the early 1900's, we remember those years as the "Good Old Days."

In the school yard there were several tall walnut trees just right for two boys to climb up to the top and bend it to the ground like a bow, then invite a small boy to hold on to the top while the larger boys let go; at this moment, the green light was on, and the small boy was on his way through space; thus, the first boy astronaut came into being.

Inside the school house on the back wall was printed, "Knowledge is Power", and on the north side of the room hung two pictures, one of Whittier and the other of Longfellow. In the center of the room stood the old wood stove that gave warmth and comfort during the cold and wet winter days. Our teacher gave us, among other things, warmth and comfort, too.

I could go on and on reminiscing about the incidents that took place during my school years at Bell School, but lets save something for the day when the Bell School House is located where the Richmond Historical Society would like it to be.

May we be so fortunate in preserving the heritage of an institution such as the Bell School House, be it ever so small, that generations to follow may also be privileged to enjoy this heritage. Things need not be big to be useful and strong, it has been said that "all the darkness in the world cannot dim the light of a single candle."

I am confident that Mr. Rego will do whatever he can to help you and to help all of us to relocate the Bell School House. If he does, I would recommend that his picture also be placed in the school alongside Longfellow and Whittier.

In closing, let me quote one famous short speech that Popsie Matteson delivered to the graduating class each and every year; "I hope that all of you boys and girls will grow up t be GREAT MEN some day." This quote may seem a little confusing but as we look at some of the boys and girls today, perhaps Popsie Matteson knew what was coming.

With kind personal regards to all members of the Society, and to your guest, the Honorable John L. Rego, I am,

Marcus L. Whitford
Captain, U.S. Navy Retired

LEAGUE OF RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES
1969 Aut Tour - Saturday, October 18
HOST SOCIETIES

Blackstone Valley Historical Society
 Old Slater Mill Association

Two Registered National Historic Landmarks are included in the itinerary of places in the Blackstone Valley associated with Rhode Island's fame as a cradle of American industry, as a proving ground for practice of religious freedom and as a scene of struggle between the white colonists and the Indians. Some places were included on the itinerary simply because of their power of nostalgia for old-fashioned ways.

YOU WILL SEE ON THIS GUIDED TOUR:

- *The Old Slater Mill (now a museum of textile industrial history)
- *The Eleazer Arnold House (famous for its stone end chimney 1687)
- Friends Meeting House (1703)
- The Blackstone Canal (early attempt to facilitate transport and trade)
- Limestone Works dating back to Roger Williams' time.
- A Monument to William Blackstone (first white man in territory now within R.I.)
- Mt. Moriah Lodge Hall (erected 1804)
- Grandfather's House (noted for old-time wares and goodies, with an art exhibit to boot)
- Monument marking the battlefield of Captain Pierce's Fight, in which colonists' forces were ambushed and virtually wiped out during King Philip's War)

* Registered National Historic Landmarks

Registration will take place at 9:30 A.M. at the Old Slater Mill Museum (Roosevelt Ave., Pawtucket). FREE PARKING at OLD SLATER MILL. There is a tour OF THE MUSEUM, and coffee and doughnuts will be served there before the Blackstone Valley Tour parties leave on four chartered buses.

A CATERED BUFFET LUNCHEON will be provided at the new Lincoln Central Elementary School. There will be an exhibit of historical interest at the school, sponsored by Pawtucket Public Library.

Parties will return to the old Slater Mill at about 3:30 P.M.

DAGGETT HOUSE (1695) at Slater Park will be open for visits.

THE COST: \$5.00 per person, which includes transportation, luncheon and admissions.

 REGISTRATION FORM

Register the following persons for the Blackstone Valley Fall Tour of the League of Rhode Island Historical Societies, Saturday October 18, 1969, at \$5.00 each.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SOCIETY</u>

Make checks payable to League of R.I. Historical Societies, and mail to NORMAN E. WRIGHT, TREASURER, BOX 6, LINCOLN, R.I. 02865.

NECROLOGY

September 9, 1969

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, J. CARL STONER, Vice-President of the Richmond Historical Society, died on September 3, 1969; and

WHEREAS, he was a Charter Member of the Richmond Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, he was Chairman of the Society's Historical Cemeteries Committee; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to searching out old Family Cemeteries within the town of Richmond, and having them properly recorded and marked has contributed immeasurably to Richmond's Historical Heritage; and

WHEREAS, his notebook containing data on the aforementioned cemeteries and information on many of the families so interred has inestimable value to the Researcher and Town Archives; and

WHEREAS, his willingness to share his knowledge with others and act as guide to visit these newly discovered locations has made the public more aware of Richmond History; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Richmond Historical Society does hereby express most sincere regrets at the death of J. Carl Stoner; directing the Secretary to transmit a copy of this resolution to his widow, Martha H. Stoner, and to his children.

Vol. II, No. 5 L.R. Tootell, Wyoming, R.I. 02898 OCTOBER 1969

NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The Eighteenth Town Meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held Tuesday evening, November 11th at 8 P.M., in the Richmond Town Hall. Being Veteran's Day, we will be most fortunate to be able to listen to Richmond's outstanding War Veteran C/PT/IN MARCUS WHITFORD, who will relate some of his REMINISCENCES. The public is invited.

COLLATION COMMITTEE

The Collation Committee for the next town meeting will be: Mr. & Mrs. Earl Brunskill, Co-Chairmen and Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dyson. (See Volume I, page 11 for instructions).

NEXT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The Executive Council meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held at the home of Lucy Rawlings Tootell on Wednesday evening, November 19th at 8 P.M.

NEXT FIELD TRIP

The next Field Trip will be held on Sunday, November 23rd at 2 P.M. Interested members and friends are invited to meet at the Richmond Town Hall and wear warm comfortable walking clothes that will not easily snag. The cavacade will proceed to the talked about QUEEN'S FORT in North Kingstown and do a bit of exploring. Read about this famous Indian fort elsewhere in the News Letter. Bring your cameras.

FREE BROCHURE ON MILITIA FLAGS

The Rhode Island Development Council is offering a four-page color brochure illustrating and describing the flags of Rhode Island's Militia commends from the Revolutionary War to the Dorr Rebellion (1840-42) in honor of this year's Veterans' Day observance. Write to "Militia Flags," Rhode Island Development Council, Roger Williams Building, Hayes Street, Providence, R.I. 02908.

LET'S MAKE IT ONE HUNDRED PERCENT

Less than a dozen members have not yet renewed their dues. Why not take care of this before Christmas while you still have the three dollars!!!

JOIN OR REJOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mail your check to
Charles Edmonds, Treasurer
Carolina, R.I.

Dues	\$3.00	Family membership
Jan. 1	1.50	
Mar. 1	#.00	includes next year

RICHMOND HISTORY
Lucy Rawlings Tootell
Wyoming, R.I. 02898

22.

BELL SCHOOL HOUSE

The Bell School House Committee and interested members met on Sunday October 12th and traveled up to the Bell School House where they were met by Mr. Wendell Phillips who had removed some of the boards from the windows for light and from the door so that the visitors could enter and look at the interior of the old school. Still to be seen are some of the old black painted blackboards and the little bench that extended across the rear of the building. After viewing the building the motorcade went back to the Town Hall where the committee with advice from the members established a location for the building to be placed. Mr. John Rego has assigned Mr. William Cotter to carry on with the moving and setting up of this building. Also Mr. Wendell Phillips is working with Mr. Cotter in meeting with various contractors to bid on the moving of said building, etc. Chairman Rob Roy Rawlings is keeping in constant touch with the officials and as soon as business arrangements have been completed, the great exodus down Hills-dale Road will take place. If there are any questions, members of the Bell School House Committee should call Chairman Rawlings.

LAST TOWN MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Secretary Paticia Miller

A resolution on the death of Daniel R. James (September 26, 1969) was read, moved, accepted, and placed on file in our archives as there are no near relatives in the area. Henry Boucher suggested that a copy be sent to Mr. Charles MacIntosh, 23 Aborn Street, Providence, R.I. inasmuch as Mr. MacIntosh managed Danny's financial affairs and was very close to him. After the estate is settled, many of Mr. James' accumulated historical data will come to the Historical Society.

Mr. Richard Bachelder, Kay Dee Prints, has been contracted to do a professional sketch for the proposed Society Seal. This will be done very shortly. Membership cards will be sent when the Seal is completed.

Peter and Nancy Merrifield presented a very colorful program on **FLAGS OVER RICHMOND**. Their own flags representing various stages of our country's development were a stirring sight. We all waxed a little more patriotic, a little more proud of our heritage after the display. The program was concluded with a presentation of a set of desk flags and standard to the Society. Richmond was incorporated under the Oliver Cromwell Flag, most colorful with its all red field.

Lucy Tootell presented the Society with a metal index file cabinet, two colored enlargements of the Bell School and an enlarged copy of the photo of Cpl. John S. Slocum.

NEW VICE-PRESIDENT

The Board of Directors elected Mr. Earl Smith as Vice-President to fill the incompleting term of our first Vice-President, Carl Stoner.

HISTORIC MARKERS REMOVED

It is nice to know that the HISTORIC MARKER COMMITTEE is right on the ball. Chairman Earl Smith and crew have removed the markers placed throughout the town during Heritage Month and will store and repair them for next Heritage Month. It is hoped that the Society will be able to add a few more each year.

COLLATION COMMITTEE

II-23.

Below is listed the Collation Committees for the year. It would be nice to have three families on each committee but our active membership list does not allow for this. If anyone is willing to serve on the refreshment committee more than once during the year, notify Lucy Tootell and she will be very happy to add your name to fill some of the vacancies.

For refreshment instruction, see Volume I - page 11.

CHAIRMEN

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. July 1969 | Milton Kelleys | - Lucy Tootell | - |
| 2. August | Omitted | - | - |
| 3. September | Herbert Arnolds | -William Ironsides | -Esther Kenyon |
| 4. October | Charles Edmonds | - Olga Nimmo | -Lucy Tootell |
| 5. November | Earl Brunskills | - Charles Dysons | - |
| 6. December | Frank Dawleys | - | - |
| 7. January 1970 | Richard Millars | - Clarence Handells | -John Machons |
| 8. February | Stuart Kenyons | - Oliver Stedmans | - |
| 9. March | Henry Bouchers | - Russel Kenyons | - |
| 10. April | Hope Blaine | - Melvin Taylors | -Jesse Cottrells |
| 11. May | Allan Warnens | -Hugh Robertsons | -John Hoyles |
| 12. June | Earl Smiths | - Paul Hawkins | -James Niles |

RHODE ISLAND HERITAGE MONTH

At the annual meeting of the Rhode Island Heritage Month Committee, Inc., the following officers were elected for the Heritage Month 1970:

- Chairman: Lucy Rawlings Tootell
 Vice-Chairman: Roswell Bosworth, Jr.
 Secretary: Leonard J. Panaggio
 Treasurer: Albert Lowned

The theme for 1970 will be RHODE ISLAND AND THE SEA. This will cover many aspects of the Sea such as; navigation, seafood, rivers leading to the sea, roads leading to the sea, people connected with the sea, bridges over the water, boats, fishing, oceanography, food derived from the sea, other products such as salt, etc. stories, customs, etc. such as seaweed rights, canals, shipbuilders, pirates, privateers, whaling, Widow's Walks on houses. This is a very broad subject - you're in the NAVY now! And don't forget the early navigators - the Indians!

Special events for the Heritage Month Brochure should be brought or mailed to the Heritage Month meeting on December 1st at the AAA Building, Cranston, R.I. at 2 P.M.

24. R E S O L U T I O N

October 14, 1969

WHEREAS, DANIEL R. JAMES, first Honorary President of the Richmond Historical Society, died on September 26, 1969; and

WHEREAS, he was a Charter Member of the Richmond Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, he was State Senator from Richmond for six years; and

WHEREAS, he was at one time a member of the Richmond Town Council; and

WHEREAS, he was at one time on the Republican Town Committee;

and

WHEREAS, he was member of the Board of Tax Assessors; and

WHEREAS, he took an active interest in town politics and history from the moment he arrived in Wyoming, Rhode Island in 1930; and

WHEREAS, he showed a great concern over the vandalism of old historic family cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, he dedicated himself to restoring and preserving these ancient grave yards, many times at his own expense; and

WHEREAS, he served as Superintendent of the Wood River Cemetery almost forty years; and

WHEREAS, due to information found on these grave stones and data left by an aunt, Mrs. Harriet F. Kenyon, his knowledge of the history of Richmond was limitless; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Richmond Historical Society does hereby express deepest regret at the death of Daniel R. James; directing the Secretary to include a copy of this resolution in the minutes of the Richmond Historical Society and place a second copy in the Genealogy File of the Richmond Historical Society Archives.

Queen's Fort was the spot around which lay the great "town" of the Narragansetts in 1675, and from behind the stone walls of which the Indians fired thirty shots upon the advance post of the English army on the 15th December of that year. The Queen was Quaiapen. She had been the wife of Mexanno, who was the eldest son of Canonicus. She was a sister to Ninigret, the Great Niantic Sachem, not one of the debased Ninigrets of the following century. This Squaw-Sachem had, like all distinguished Indians, several successive names, thus, Magnus; Matantuck; the Saunck Squaw, meaning the wife of a Sachem; and the Old Queen of the Narragansetts. She was the mother of Quequagenet, the great Sachem, who sold the great tract called Pottaquamscut and other large tracts to the English. She was also the mother Scuttape, who signed one of the Confirmation Deeds in 1659. She was related by blood or marriage with the most distinguished Sachems of both tribes, the Niantics and the Narragansetts. Canonicus, Mascus, Ninegret, Miantinomi, Wawaloem, the wife of Miantinomi, and the mother of Canonchet Mexanno, Quequagenet, Scuttape, all were her relations, either by blood or marriage; all were Sachems, and all being dead, Quaiapen became the great Squaw-Sachem of the Narragansetts, and her last stronghold was the Queen's Fort. Late in the month of June, 1676, Quaiapen with the small remnant of her tribe left living after the Swamp Fight, left the Queen's Fort on an expedition the nature of which is unknown. She had passed Nipsachook and encamped not far from Nachek on the south bank of the south branch of the Pawtuxet River, in what is now Warwick. It was on Sunday morning, July 2nd, 1676, when she was attacked by a party of Connecticut horsemen on one of their warlike excursions through Rhode Island; her band was stampeded and destroyed. It was indeed a massacre; not one escaped. Major Talcott, who commanded the troop, gives the number killed as being 238; other authorities swell the number to 300. On that day was slain Quaiapen; and Potuck, her counsellor, a man considering his education, of wonderful subtlety, as one of the ancient chroniclers relates; here, too, was slain Stonewall John, the great Indian Engineer of the Narragansetts. In describing the death of Quaiapen, Major Talcott describes her as "that ould peice of venum the Saunk-Squaw," (Sidney S. Rider, THE LANDS OF RHODE ISLAND. Providence, Rhode Island: Chronicle Printing Co.: 1904. Page 240)

"This rude fortification (Queen's Fort) stands upon a small elevation exactly on the line separating North Kingston from Exeter. It is now surrounded by timber and huge rocks. It stands upon the road running parallel with the Ten Rod road, and about one mile north from that road. The Fort is about two miles from the Wickford Junction Station on the Consolidated Railway.

Let me enter upon some accounts of this interesting spot; interesting not alone for its historical association with the last of the Narragansetts, but also interesting because of the extraordinary character of the surface of the country. It is the extreme eastern spur of the hills which extend east and west through Exeter. The builders, taking advantage of huge boulders, laid rough stone walls between them, making a continuous line.

(Continued on page 26)

26. (Continued from page 25.) QUEEN'S FORT

A military friend who made the rough drawing says: "There is a round bastion, or half moon, on the northeast corner of the Fort; and a Salient, or V-shaped point, or Flanker, on the west side." From the south the Fort is unapproachable because of the immense mass of huge boulders with which the hill is covered; the passage by men in force among them is impossible. East, north and west the approaches are extremely difficult from the precipitous nature of the hill. The climbing of this hill is difficult even with a friend to help. What must it have been with an Indian, with his rifle in front? Many boulders lie within the walls of the Fort; beneath some of them are excavations sufficient to give shelter to one or two persons, but these are as nothing taken in comparison with the Queen's Chamber. This extraordinary chamber is not within the Fort, but outside, west, and distant perhaps a hundred feet. It consists of an open space beneath an immense mass of boulder rocks; the tallest men can stand within it; the "floor" is fine white sand; the entrance is so hidden that six feet away it would never be suspected; the boulders piled above it represent a thickness of fifty or sixty feet. Such is my rough description of the Queen's Chamber. The earliest mention by a direct name, in history, is that by Elisha R. Potter in 1835 (Early History of Narragansett, p. 84). Mr. Potter continues in a foot note: "These are the remains of an Indian Fort still known by the name of Queen's Fort, near the line between North Kingstown and Exeter; it is on the summit of a high hill completely covered with rocks, and the Fort appears to have been surrounded with a strong stone wall; there is a hollow in the rock which has been always known as the Queen's bedroom, and a large room, the entrance of which is nearly concealed, which is supposed by tradition to have been a hiding place for the Indians, and in which arrow heads and other things have been found." This was written in 1835. (Rider, THE LANDS OF RHODE ISLAND, page 236)

DANIEL R. JAMES COLLECTION

It was the desire of Daniel R. James, first Honorary President of the Richmond Historical Society, to remove the historical data on Richmond which he had placed in safe keeping with the Westerly Library in 1940 to the archives of the newly formed Richmond Historical Society. He intended to go to the Library himself but was taken ill and could not do this. He then instructed the Secretary to compose a letter which he would sign which was done but Mr. James became so ill he was unable to sign the letter. However he kept mentioning to his friends that he wanted this material to come to the Historical Society. Because of this anxiety on the part of Denny, the Society Board of Directors appointed a committee i.e. Henry Boucher, Chairman, Charles Edmonds, and Earl Brunskill, who went down to the Westerly Library and returned with a cardboard carton containing this historical data. The data is being organized and filed and indexed and will be placed in the archives of the Richmond Historical Society in the vault at the Richmond Town Hall under supervision of the Archives Committee. For research availability, contact the Society Archivist, Eleanor Smith or place request through our Town Clerk, Hazel Dyson.

Vol. II. No. 6 L.R. Tootell, Wyoming, R.I. 02898 NOVEMBER 1969

NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The Nineteenth Town Meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held Tuesday evening, December 9th at 8 P.M. in the Richmond Town Hall. MARION DAWLEY HAWKINS who gave that most interesting talk on the Second Baptist Church in Richmond at the May meeting, will again delight us with CHRISTMAS REMINISCENCES. The public is always welcome.

COLLATION COMMITTEE

The Collation Committee for the next town meeting will be: Mr. & Mrs. Frank Dawley, Co-Chairmen and Lucy R. Tootell.

See Volume I - page 11 for instructions.

Members should check Volume II - page 23 to remind them as to when they are to be on the Refreshment Committee.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The Executive Council meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held at the home of Lucy Rawlings Tootell on Wednesday evening, December 17th at 8 P.M.

FIRST BLOW FOR FREEDOM

The United States is already starting to prepare for the Bicentennial Celebration of the American Revolution in 1976. According to Mr. David Stackhouse, the first blow for freedom took place in Rhode Island on June 9, 1772, when the British schooner GASPEE was burned in Narragansett Bay. He is hoping that Rhode Island will start the kick-off for the 1976 celebration by having a first kick-off in Rhode Island in 1972. He has organized a permanent committee of Rhode Island representatives of publicity, historical and civic minded groups, to begin making plans for this important occasion. For more details on the BURNING OF THE GASPEE, read Mr. Stackhouse's article, FIRST BLOW FOR FREEDOM in the Rhode Island Yearbook for 1969, which may be obtained at any public library or better still, purchase your own copy at any magazine store.

JOIN OR REJOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mail your check to:
Charles Edmonds, Treasurer
Carolina, R.I.

Dues	\$3.00	Family membership
Jen. 1	1.50	
Mar. 1	3.00	includes next year

RICHMOND HISTORY
Lucy Rawlings Tootell
Wyoming, R.I. 02898

28. LAST TOWN MEETING - CAPTAIN MARCUS WHITFORD SPEAKS

By Virginia Arnold

"I think our service men in all branches are doing a good job," said Captin Marcus Whitford, U.S. Navy retired of Richmond, speaking of the present conflict in Vietnam. He soberly added, "I am worried about the length of time it is going to take."

Captain Whitford was the program speaker at the meeting of the Richmond Historical Society Tuesday night.

He spoke of incidents aboard ship prior to the invasion of the Gilbert Islands in the central Pacific Ocean during World War II. He read the last letter of a 20 year old service man, to parents and brothers, telling that men were fighting for "the freedom we hold so dear." There was the little dog who had somehow gotten on board, went with the men as they landed, lived through the attack, and was among the first to return to the ship. He spoke of the neat little Japanese tank, captured and redecorated with lettering on the side "under new management" to lead the parade on the return to Pearl Harbor.

Captain Whitford told of being among the first to go into Hiroshima about two weeks after the "bomb" was dropped. The lily pads were burned to a crisp, and he saw elderly men and women as they crawled on hands and knees picking up grains of rice to eat. Devastation was everywhere.

He told of a home visited in the Phillipines where the furniture consisted of an old piano, a box for a table, two pictures on the wall, one of President McKinley, the other of Christ.

He recalled the ship of Marines going to Okinawa with 600 men and 100 officers. During the showing of a movie, an ice-cream cone landed on the Captain's head. The movie was stopped, no one knew who was responsible for the ice-cream incident. All liberties were cancelled, and this went on until the return trip and three days out of San Francisco, a young man confessed he dropped it accidentally but had been afraid to tell.

Earl Smith, vice-president conducted the meeting in the absence of Mrs. Lucy Tootell, the Society President.

Refreshments were provided by Mr. & Mrs. Earl Brunskill, and Mrs. Hazel Dyson.

LAST FIELD TRIP TO QUEEN'S FORT

About seven cars of rugged, physically fit individualists drove to the ancient Indian Fort in Exeter and climbed over huge glacier boulders to seek out the bastions, salients, and walls which formed the boundary of this famous fortification of the Narragansetts. The young fry entered every cravass and potential cave trying to discover the QUEEN'S BED CHAMBER. Later in the week Leone Kelley visited the Fort with some of her school children and they think they have found a spot which could be this cave.

Here is a location which should be cleared up and used as a National Landmark and include rustic signs along a well defined path so that historically minded people can stroll through this authentic Indian Fort without losing their way which is not too difficult right now. Yes, one could climb, slide, and hop from one huge boulder to another and reach

(Continued on page 29)

the road once again, but anyone who needs to stay on a path can easily lose the route over which they came as the many vallies within the Fort look pretty much the same and confuses the hiker. After visiting this spot it is easy to see why the Fort was not discovered by the White Men until long after the Indian Wars!

GEORGE WASHINGTON REFERENCE

The following letter was found in the Fanny Kenyon Collection now in the Richmond Historical Society Archives:

The Noswood
126th St. & 7th Ave.
New York Mar. 8, 1904

Mr. John L. Kenyon
Hope Valley, R.I.

Dear Sir:

The late Dr. Kenyon's daughter, Mrs. E. N. Denison of Westerly, Rhode Island, sent me your name as one upon whom I could rely to furnish me some information relating to the early Kenyons of your State from whom I am descended. My Grandfather's name was William Kenyon who was born in 1767, and married Martha Burdick, born 1771. My understanding is that they were both born in Rhode Island but where I am not informed. Having gone carefully over the Vital Records of Rhode Island on file at the Lenox Library of our city without disclosing their births or baptisms, I have an idea that they may have migrated with their respective parents, and been married in our own State. If not, then I am at a loss how to disclose them. My object is to plant a Kenyon tree that will embrace both the old and the new New England. To that end I most respectfully solicit your hearty cooperation. Can you throw any light upon these people?

There is a tradition in our family that Great-Grandfather, on one occasion during the war of the Revolution, rode the lines with General George Washington. If this is a fact, then it would suggest Lieutenant William Kenyon or one of the others who were officers at that time.

Hoping to enlist you in the good cause, I am,

Respectfully yours,

?? Kenyon

AMERICAN KENYONS By Captain Howard N. Kenyon:

- I. John Kenyon (See page 53)
- II. David Kenyon (See page 62)
- III. William Kenyon (See page 81)
(Was this the Kenyon where George Washington stopped in 1781 when he traveled through Richmond?)
- IV. William Kenyon (See page 119)
- V. Parent of Letter Writer
- VI. Writer of Letter

THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF RICHMOND
SHANNOCK, RHODE ISLAND

II-31.

By
Marion Dawley Hawkins

(Continued from Vol. II. page 12)

Some of the burdens presented before the church were indeed serious, and then again some were so trivial that it would seem that much valuable time may have been spent needlessly. However, if it brought about peace and good fellowship among those who were being "burdened" it was unquestionably worth while, and perhaps if this method was practised more today, it might solve many of the problems which in this year of our Lord 1969, seem to appear almost unsolvable.

The following is typical complaint, which was brought before the church by a sister, Sarah Bentley. She had been visited by a committee from the church, to be interrogated as to why she had not been attending services, and taking active part, as she had covenanted to do when she joined the church. (Visits were made to any and all members who had not attended the church meetings for some time. If they had no excuse ready, and refused to return and take active part, they were said to have broken their vows to the church, and were dropped from the roll.)

Sister Bentley complained that she was burdened with Nathaniel Perkins, who a long time ago had said, "religion did not consist in a loud voice, nor an abundance of tears," and he denied fellowship by his answer to what she said. She believed there was such a satisfaction to be gained of another's conversion, that she could not be deceived. And he told her "to let alone such fellowship," all which was such a matter of burden, she could not travail with him in the church.

He said it had been such a long time ago he couldn't remember what had been said, but remembered he had cautioned her giving knowledge of other brethren, as she was in a state of imperfection herself, and he had intended it for her own good. Then she proceeded to tell of a dream wherein Mr. Perkins was holding out rules for the church that were no better than old strings, and sprouted potatoes, broken spools and old bits of boards.

Elder Boss endeavored to reconcile her mind, but to no avail. So the Elder called upon the church to take action against one or the other, or both. The ruling board of the church answered that as Mr. Perkins had laid a burden in Sister Bentley's way, it was his duty to remove it. Mr. Perkins then asked what rule he had broken, by what was alleged, and they answered that they did not know that he had broken any rule. But as he had laid a burden in her way, it was his duty to clear it out of her way. So said one, and so said the majority.

After Elder Oliver Knight was relieved of the pastorate in 1805, the church was without a pastor until 1815, when Elder Sawyer was called as a temporary supply pastor.

In 1818 Elder John Hammond was appointed pastor for five years.

(1823)

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32. (Continued from page 31) SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF RICHMOND

From 1823 to 1828 there is no record of any meeting, save one. It was stated that Elder Benjamin Barnes served as pastor until his death, July 28, 1830.

The number of members on the roll were:

April	1808	85
October	1809	80
October	1810	76
October	1813	65
October	1815	60
October	1816	66

It is noted by the records dated May 27, 1815 started by calling the church THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN RICHMOND.

From 1823 to 1833 only one notation was made, and that was in 1828.

On May 28, 1836 the church voted to withdraw from the Stonington Union Association, to unite with the Warren, R. I. Association.

In 1836 Rev. David Bennett was called to preach at the meeting house half of the time, and operate as a Missionary in the region nearby the other half. This was agreeable to the State Convention, who had promised their aid. Pastor Bennett left in February 1837.

Reverend John Baker took over the pastorate in 1837 and served until 1842. Many new members were added to the roll while Rev. Baker was pastor. It was in Dec. 1841 that several couples, with Rev. Baker, united with others to form the Second Baptist Church of Hopkinton, near Brands Works.

August 26, 1843 Brother Leander E. Wakefield was called as pastor, and was ordained Sept. 30, 1843. He came from Hamilton Seminary and served capably for nine months.

Next called was Rev. Joseph P. Burbank from Plattsburg, N.Y.. He served from Aug. 24, 1844 until his resignation March 9, 1848. He was beloved by his people and retired with the good will and prayers of the church.

Brother George K. Clarke was called May 26, 1849, was ordained on June 13, of the same year, and was dismissed by letter on March 25, 1885.

October 8, 1855 at a meeting presided over by Rev. Henry Jackson D.D. of Newport, it was decided to build a new church. Rev. J.H. Baker was appointed chairman of the committee, and given full power to arrange for building the new house.

Mr. Joseph Hoxie donated a lot to the church, which was located in the extreme north part of Charlestown, near Clarke's Mill. Rev. Baker was pastor of the church, having been called soon after Rev. Clarke's departure in 1855.

The new church was completed, and dedication ceremonies were held in October 1856. Rev. Henry Jackson D.D. preached the dedication sermon. Rev. N.A. Read preached an appropriate sermon in the evening. The entire cost of the building was about \$2,500.

(To be continued)