

NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

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Mrs. Pat Clark, Alton, R.I., a Society member, will give a talk on the results of her research on the village of ALTON. Anyone having any information or items of interest on Alton, is invited to bring the items for the SHOW & TELL table.

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RICHMOND COOKBOOK COMMITTEE REPORT

By Mildred Chatalian, Chairman

The Committee is busily working on compiling recipes donated by members and friends.

We have unfortunately lost the active services of Mrs. Yvonne Dawley and Mrs. Virginia Arnold and are delighted to have Mrs. Ida Bader join us.

The Food & Crafts sale at the Hope Valley Fire Station was cancelled. Not enough people to "man" the tables.

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SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP OPEN TO ALL

Send three dollars to Ida Card Bader, Woodville Road, R.F.D. Hope Valley, R. I. It is tax deductible.

GIFTS TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

V. - 42.

(Continued from Vol. V. - page 38)

<u>ACCESS. NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WHERE FILED</u>
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69.9.1	Copy: Richmond Statistice-1850 Geft of Mrs. Leone Kelley	
69.10.1	History of Wood River Church - Compiled by Elizabeth Smith and Kirk House. Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Barber Smith	
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69.13.1	Desk set of ten state and government flags. Geft: Peter & Nancy Oppy Merrifield	
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69.15.1 69.15.2	Cloth rope Christmas tree trim Collection: Hope Valley Advertisers Geft: Oscar C. Pratt	
69.16.1 69.16.2	Wooden sign for the town pound, Made by Earl Smith Wooden sign for Dawley Tavern, Made by Earl Smith Gift: Earl Smith	
69.17.1	Rhode Island Highway Map.	
69.18.1	Westerly Sun-Jan. 7, 1969- 1968 in review. Gift: Mrs. Eleanor H. Smith	
69.19.1	Cemetery Record Book Compiled by Carl Stoner Gift: Carl Stoner Family	

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70.1.3.	Booklet:Pen Pictures of Narr.History	
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70.2.1	Picture postcard: Dawley's Hotel, Wyoming, R.I.	
70.2.2	Photo: Post Office, Wyoming.	
70.2.3.	Photo: Scene in Wyoming.	
70.2.4	Photo: Buildings & Men, Wyoming.	
70.2.5	Photo: Wm. Segar Store & other buildings, Wyoming.	
70.2.6	Photo: Mill & buildings, Wyoming.	
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70.2.9	Photo: Men working on Route 3, Wyoming (Nooseneck Hill Road)	
70.2.10	Book: paper cover-History of Richmond 1747-1876, by James R.Irish,D.D.	
70.2.10d	Book:hard cover-same as above.	
70.2.11	Booklet:Revaluation of municipalities, By J.M.Cleminshaw Co.	
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70.2.15	School Commission Report - 1881.	
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70.2.17	Richmond Tax Book 0 1967.	
70.2.18	Typed genealogy of Clark Family of Richmond, taken from Wood River Advertiser - Aug. 24, 1876. Gift:Deniel R. James Estate Donate by the courtesy of Charles A. McIntosh, Administrator.	
68.28.1	Handwritten poem:Song used at Indian meetings Gift: George Knowles	
68.29.1	Pamphlets: Signal Lights from the U.S.Navy. Mailed to the Archivist.	

(Fifty Years Ago)

Feb. 1 - Always, everywhere, taxes are an affliction. That is the basic fact about them. Governments have been levying taxes in one form or another, I suppose, for 10,000 years; but in that length of time men haven't really got used to it. The world over he still regards taxes, in the main, as a sort of robbery to which he must submit. Now taxes are our most immediate, obvious and familiar contribution to the commonweal. They are what we chip in the general pot for the purpose of carrying on the necessary collective enterprise of government. Hence they illustrate, better and more conclusively than anything else, our natural, ingrained attitude toward the collectivism. An old saying couples death and taxes as the two things from which there is no escape. Death has been called our debt to nature. Taxes are our most immediate and familiar debt to the commonweal. We pay the one debt just about as cheerfully as the other.

Feb. 8 - OBITUARY: Mrs. Lydia A. Lewis Clarke, who died at her home in Wood River Junction on Wednesday, January 24, aged 75 years, was a most estimable, useful and widely known woman ... only daughter of Hannah B. Northrup & Nathaniel S. Lewis of Charlestown ... born in Cventry, April 23, 1847 ... united in marriage to John Ray Clark in Charlestown, May 16, 1867 ... six children ... moved from Shannock to Wood River Junction 34 years ago ... funeral in Wood River Junction Congregational Church of which she was one of the first members ... burial was in the family lot in White Brook Cemetery, Carolina ... survived by three sons, W. Fred Clark of Wood River Junction; Adelbert Ray Clark of Hope Valley and William H. Clark of Lafayette; a daughter, Mrs. Fred Wilson of Providence ...

Feb. 8 - WASHINGTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. The executive committees of the Washington County Agricultural Society, under whose auspices the annual Kingston fair is held, have fixed the dates for the 1923 exposition. The fair this year will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 11, 12, 13 and 14. Herbert E. Lewis was elected to succeed John G. Clarke, who resigned after serving many years, in that capacity, because he must devote his entire time to his business.

The committee re-elected Dr. Geo. L. Salisbury of North Kingston, secretary of the race committee and allowed him \$4150 as a working fund. William J. Dawley of West Kingston was elected a member of the fair committee to succeed Mr. Lewis.

Philip A. Money of Exeter will again be superintendent of the fair grounds. Chesman O. Childs of South Kingstown succeeds Peter J. Byrnes of North Kingstown as superintendent of flowers, plants and shrubs. The committee voted to place William R. Wells of Ashaway in charge of the poultry department.

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Wilbur Lot

(Located in back of Alton Store, Alton, R.I.)

FONES G. WILBUR, died July 11, 1852. Age 54 years.

KATHARINE ESSEX, died March 30, 1855. Age 75 years.

NATHANIEL WILBUR, died May 4, 1876. Age 74.

MARY, his wife, fell asleep, April 12, 1848. Age 45.

MARY L., daughter of NATHANIEL & MARY WILBUR, fell asleep, June 20, 1842. Age 18.

FONES C. WILBUR, died July 2, 1885, age 55 years, 6 months, 14 days.

MARIA E., wife of FONES WILBUR, died July 12, 1899. Age 85, 11 months, 26 days.

LENA BELLE, daughter of FONES & MARIA WILBUR, died May 15, 1875. Age 9 years and 4 months.

Our WILLIE, son of MARIE & FONES WILBUR, died April 10, 1864. Age 9 years.

ABBY ANNE, daughter of GEORGE W. & SUSAN WILBUR, died May 31, 1878. Age 41 years, 10 months, 23 days.

SUSAN, widow of WILLIAM B. HOXIE AND former wife of GEORGE WILBUR, died March 7, 1844. Age 71 years.

MARTHA, wife of J. WEEDEN BURDICK; died August 11, 1860. Age 23 years, 10 months, 11 days.

THANKFUL BARBER, wife of JESSE WILBUR, died August 20, 1870. Age 82.

DENNIS WILBUR, died June 24, 1854. Age 61 years.

Infant son of NATHANIEL & ROSETTA WILBUR, died December 15, 1859.

NATHANIEL S. WILBUR, JR., born Feb. 23, 1812, died April 26, 1865.

JESSE WILBUR, born May 9, 1838. Died October 18, 1864.

JOHN F. WILBUR, born March 9, 1834, died Jan. 12, 1897.

His wife, SARAH P., born April 22, 1843, died Jan. 7, 1909.

(Continued from Vol. V. - Page 40)

Reference: James N. Arnold, NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL REGISTER:
Vol. V. No. 3 - page 266.

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MARRIAGES

- James Elizabeth, and John Tefft, Dec. 26, 1752.
 Patience, and Job Wilcox, Dec. 9, 1756.
 Amos, and Nancy Swan, both of Richmond; m. by John Webster,
 J. P., Oct. 1, 1758.
 Jonathan, Jun., and Thankful Dye, both of Richmond; m. by
 John Tefft, J.P., Dec. 7, 1758.
 Benjamin, Jun., and Rhoda Kenyon, both of Richmond; m.
 by Edward Perry, J.P., June 23, 1764.
 William and Elizabeth Sabins, both of Richmond; m. by
 George Webb, J.P., May 14, 1767.
 Ezekiel, of Edward, and Hannah Bailey, of Richard, both
 of Richmond; m. by Gideon Moshier, J.P., June 3, 1768.
 Sarah, and Clarke Bailey, Mar. 19, 1772.
 Thomas, Jun., of Col. Thomas, and Dorcas Perry, of George,
 both of Richmond; m. by Elder Henry Joslin, May 30, 1805.
 Sheffield, and Judith Card, both of Richmond; m. by Elder
 Elder Phineas Palmer, June 28, 1812.
 Caleb B., and Lucy Reynolds, m. by Elder Daniel Greene,
 May 4, 1823.
 Frances, and Gardiner Kenyon, Nov. 25, 1824.
 Nancy, and Joseph T. Barber, Jan. 27, 1825.
 Malinda, and Samuel A. Hoxsie, Oct. 2, 1839.
 John L., and Mrs. Eliza Kenyon, m. by Elder Thomas
 Tillinghast, Mar. 22, 1841.
 Simeon C., and Mrs. Elizabeth S. Locke, m. by Elder Benedict
 Johnson, Oct. 3, 1841.
 Mrs. Mary, and George F. Burdick, Aug. 16, 1842.
 Mehitable, and Barber Hoxsie, Jan. 1, 1843.
 Eliza A., and Stephen Champlain, Mar. 10, 1850.
 Johnson Ezekiel, of Charlestown, and Mercy Kenyon, of Richmond:
 m. by John Webster, J. P., Feb. 3, 1754.
 Mercy, and William Kenyon, Dept. 25, 1828.
 Rufus J., and Hildah A. Fenner, m. by Elder Steadman
 Kenyon, Apr. 10, 1849.
 Kenyon, of Jonathan, and Sally E. Davis, of Preserved;
 m. by Elder George K. Clarke, Sept. 33, 1849.
 Jones, Hannah, and Peter Wilbur, Sept. 25, 1761.
 Jordan, Mary A., and William Clarke, Feb. 27, 1840.

(Fifty Years Ago)

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ALTON, RICHMOND, RHODE ISLAND

Written by Mrs. Patricia Clark

The village has been known through its history by three different names. When the village was built in 1862, it was called Plainville. The name of the village was changed around 1870 to Richmond Switch, the reason being that the villagers got their mail at the Richmond Switch Post Office which was located in what is now Wood River Junction. The name changed again around 1888, the reason being, because of the post office being established in the village. Changed the name so as to avoid confusing it with the Richmond Switch Post Office which was then known as the Wood River Junction Post Office. Part of the name of Mr. William Walton, owner of the mill in the village, originally called Wood River Woolen Mills, was used and the village was renamed Alton and has remained the name of the village up until the present time.

Before going into the history of Alton I would like to go briefly into the history of Richmond.

Connecticut received in 1660 a royal charter embracing the territory from Narragansett Bay and the river, westward to the Pacific Ocean. The next year Rhode Island received from the same royal authority, a charter extending its limits westward to Narragansett River, which the King explained as identical with the Pawcatuck River. As the colonies increased in number, jealousies ensued and to settle the dispute a Quo Warranto was issued by order of the King in 1665, both the above charters were dissolved and the government assumed by the King. By various fortunes, the settlements progressed and at length the disputed territory was accorded to the jurisdiction of Rhode Island. In May 1669 it was organized by the General Assembly of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations under the name of Westerly, as the fifth town in the colony. Westerly embraced what is now Westerly, Charlestown, Hopkinton and Richmond.

In 1738 a town was set off from Westerly bearing the name Charlestown. This covered what is now Charlestown and Richmond. At this period Charlestown extended from Westerly on the west to South Kingstown on the east. The town of Exeter on the north to the Atlantic ocean on the south.

Richmond was set off as a separate town from Charlestown on August 18, 1747. It is believed that the town of Richmond was named in honor of Edward Richmond, attorney general of the Colony 1676-80. He also took an active part in the settlement of Westerly

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(To be continued)

I would like to take this opportunity to speak for the entire Executive Board and to say "Thank you" to our President, Lucy Rawlings Tootell, for the lovely dinner we enjoyed at the Dovecrest Restaurant in Arcadia at our February Executive Board meeting.

Although not much business was discussed at our February E.B. meeting, it was generally agreed that we continue our annual exhibit during May, Rhode Island Heritage Month. Our exhibits have never been particularly well attended by general public; however, they have been of genuine interest to the school children and we feel that by annually offering an educational experience to the 500 children students at Richmond School, we are making successful advances toward one of our primary goals as a historical society: serving as an educational resource. This year the theme of our exhibit will be the industrial growth of Richmond. This will cover a specific era in our town's history. Help, donations, and suggestions will be gratefully accepted.

For those who have been overcome by wanderlust and are anticipating substantial income tax returns, the Providence Preservation Society is sponsoring a fine opportunity for travel. The 1973 Tour of Southern England, Wales and Southern Ireland is scheduled for June 12 - 26 with stops at many historic places for a tour price of \$1099. per person. If you are interested, further information may be obtained from the Providence Preservation Society at 831-7440. We have a brochure and registration form on file.

On Tuesday, March 20, (our public meeting night) at 7:30 P. M. a program entitled "FABRICS IN FURNISHINGS: THE AMERICAN HOME, 1700-1850," will be presented in the Quinn Hall Auditorium at URI. The visiting scholar is Mrs. Florence Montgomery, author and curator, is particularly knowledgeable in the furnishing of homes over the past three centuries. This program is being sponsored by the URI Department of Textiles, Clothing, and Related Art. Miss Marion Fry, Home Furnishings instructor in the above department and President of the East Greenwich Historical Society particularly extended this invitation.

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The forty-ninth town meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held Tuesday evening, May 15th, at 8 P.M. in the Richmond Town Hall. The public is invited. Watch the newspapers for the program.

RICHMOND BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

The Richmond Town Council has appointed Mr. Paul Michaud as the Chairman of the Richmond Bicentennial Committee.

JOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Send three dollars to Ida Card Bader, Woodville Road, R.F.D., Hope Valley, R.I. It is tax deductible.

The forty-eighth town meeting of the Richmond Historical Society was held at Richmond Town Hall, March 20, 1973.

President Lucy Tootell opened the business meeting at 8:10 P. M., with ten members, five guests and the speaker present. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Napper, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Holberton and Mrs. Frederick Strong; all of Alton.

The Secretary's report was noted accepted as written in the February Newsletter.

The president had received a letter from the League of Rhode Island Historical Societies which enclosed a list of speakers available. The letter inquired whether we had interesting programs to offer to the League, and enclosed a form for notation of same.

Leonard Penaggio's choice of "Progress and Preservation" is the title for Heritage Month in May.

The last paragraph of the minutes of the February Executive Board Meeting was read in regards to an exhibit in May: "It was generally agreed that an exhibit should be held in the month of May and discussion came around to featuring the industrial growth of the town with the young people being involved in the construction of miniature buildings and fences."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:-

Eleanor Smith stated the Archivist's department is tootling along just fine. The girls have been very busy. Lucy added that the lists of acquisitions is being printed in the Newsletter.

Ida Bader, chairman of the Membership Committee, suggested using the old membership cards left over from previous years. The members agreed these could be used if she thought them suitable.

Mildred Chatalian, chairman of the Bell School Cookbook Committee, announced the presence of the sale table as a permanent fixture at this and future meetings. Eleanor Smith is currently in charge of the table. Items can be donated or consigned and can include handcrafts, historical items or baked foods.

She called attention to the very nice wooden bank, in the shape of the Bell School, which was constructed by Ray Bader and donated to the Society. The purpose of the bank is to receive free-will offerings, via the chimney, to be used toward restoration of the Bell School interior.

Millie also announced a relic sale will be held July 13 from 11:00 to 4:00. In case of rain, the sale will be postponed until July 20. The location of the sale shall be just past the Hillsdale Road, on the south side going towards Kingston. Signs will be posted. Another sale is planned for a later date. All donated items and help to man the tables will be gratefully received. The Cookbook balance is \$42.05. There will be no meeting of this

committee in April.

V.- 49.

Paul DeGannett asked for a report from the Bell School Moving Committee. Lucy, Tootell and Earl Smith replied that the Department of Natural Resources has put the exterior work out to bid.

Paul asked, "Has the money been appropriated for that purpose?" The answer was given that the State is to pay for this work.

Paul referred to the Bell School bank made by Ray Bader: "That's a beautiful little schoolhouse there." He compared putting the donations down the chimney to the way we put money into schoolhouses and education today!

Lucy referred to a news clipping in regards to the Rhode Island Bicentennial, wherein the Bicentennial Committee offered matching funds (up to \$1,000), to any town which had already set up a Bicentennial Committee.

Lucy said, "We need more publications on the history of Richmond. Hopkinton Historical Society has already started work on the history of that town and has set up \$250 for a Bicentennial Fund." Lucy suggested the Richmond Historical Society should ask the Richmond Town Council to set up such a committee.

Harry Chatalian: "What would be the purpose of such a committee in this little town?"

Lucy: "Setting up programs - possibilities of sponsoring publications -."

Harry: "You're always thinking about work. How about some fun?"

Guest, Mrs. Holberton: "A year or so ago, the Town of Hopkinton held a 210th anniversary party. It was FUN!"

Ida Bader called attention to the fact that some of the villages have already been written about. "We already have a start on the history."

No motion was made on Lucy's suggestion and the business meeting was concluded.

Mrs. Pat Clark, of Alton, then gave us a brief, interesting history of that village. Her lecture was illustrated by hand-drawn charts of the village and photographs, old and new. Mrs. Clark's enthusiasm for history is to be commended.

At the conclusion of her lecture, refreshments of delicious squares, crackers and cheese and coffee were served by Mr. and Mrs. DeGannett, Mrs. Millar and Mrs. Warren.

These minutes were taken by Eleanor Smith in the absence of the secretary who was attending a lecture on historic decorator fabrics. It is with appreciation to Mrs. Smith (Mother) that I type and submit them herewith!

Patricia A. Millar

(Continued from Vol. V.- page 45)

Reference: James N. Arnold, NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL REGISTER:
Vol. VI. No. 3 - page 272.

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MARRIAGES

- Kelley Charles, and Sarah Moshier, both of Richmond; m. by Edward Perry, J. P., Dec. 28, 1775.
- Kenyon Elizabeth, and Stephen Hopkins, Feb. 27, 1734/5.
John, and Elizabeth Webster; m. by Joseph Clarke, J.P., Jan. 18, 1748.
- Hannah, and Simeon Watson, Oct. 24, 1748.
- Penelope, and Simeon Perry, Apr. 13, 1749.
- David, Jun., and Mary Potter; m. by Stephen Richmond, J. P., Apr. 21, 1751.
- Mercy, and Ezekiel Johnson, Feb. 3, 1754.
- Mary and William Tefft, Mar. 21, 1754.
- William, and Hannah Niles; m. by Stephen Richmond, J.P., Mar. 9, 1755.
- Elizabeth, and James Clarke, Apr. 24, 1755.
- Thomas of David and Ruth Tefft; m. by Stephen Richmond, J.P., Apr. 15, 1756.
- Susannah, and Charles Church, Jan. 12, 1758.
- Elizabeth, and Samuel Barber, Apr. 26, 1759.
- Joseph, Jun., and Catherine Enos; m. by Edward Perry, J.P., June 14, 1759.
- Giles, and Presilla Briggs; m. by Samuel Tefft, J.P., Jan. 3, 1760.
- Sarah, and Sylvester Kenyon, Jun., Feb. 14, 1760.
- Sylvester, Jun., and Sarah Kenyon; m. by Samuel Tefft, J.P., Feb. 14, 1760.
- Benedict, and Amie Barber; m. by Thomas Kenyon, J.P., May 29, 1760.
- Rhoda, and Benjamin James, Jun., June 23, 1764.
- Thomas, Jun., and Sarah Steadman; m. by Rev. Joseph Torrey, Nov. 15, 1764.
- Peleg, and Elizabeth Stanton; m. by Edward Perry, J.P., Oct. 1, 1766.
- Mercy, and George Ney, Sept. 6, 1767.
- Lydia, and Solomon Baker, Feb. 4, 1770.
- Abigail, and James Woodmansee, Jan. 7, 1773.
- Esther, and Joshua Webb, Feb. 16, 1777.
- Mercy, and Benjamin Clarke, Feb. 1778.
- Philip, of Richmond, and Catherine Greene, of Charlestown; m. by Joseph Woodmansee, J.P., Mar. 13, 1780.
- Jonathan, of Samuel, of Charlestown; and Martha Kenyon, of George, of Richmond; m. by Robert Stanton, J.P., May 30, 1780.
- Martha, and Jonathan Kenyon, May 30, 1780.

Clark Lot

(Continued from Vol. V. page 39)

HENRY W., son of WILLIAM W AND ELIZA CLARKE, died March 27, 1851. Age 18 years.

ROBERT S. HOPKINS, 1934 - 1936.

PHEBE A. SPICER, 1853 - 1938.

WILLIAM HOPKINS, 1864 - 1926.

ABBIE H. HOPKINS, wife of WILLIAM HOPKINS, 1860 - 1945.

CHARLES D. CHASE, died October 28, 1916. Age 85 years.

MARTHA, wife of CHARLES D. CHASE., died September 24, 1885. Age 42 years.

ANNA, born September 9, 1873. Died January 1, 1875.

CHARLES CLARK, died May 9, 1870. Age 52 yrs., 3 months, 16 days.

MARY CLARK, wife of CHARLES CLARK, died April 5, 1889. Age 68 years, 5 months, 18 days.

CHARLES P. CLARK, died December 25, 1870. Age 31, 1 month, 8 days.

JOSEPH W. TUCKER, died October 11, 1886. Age 72 years.

ESTHER TUCKER, wife of JOSEPH TUCKER, died April 7, 1890. Age 44 years, 4 months, 10 days.

FRANKLIN B., son of GEORGE F. AND MARY E BROWNING, died September 25, 1863. Age 11 months, 27 days.

PETER CLARK, son of WAIT R. AND SUSAN S. CLARK, born January 24, 1824. Died October 8, 1893.

CORDELIA MARIA, wife of PETER CLARK, daughter of RANDALL S. AND FANNY W. BRAYTON, born January 1, 1832. Died July 22, 1901.

RANDALD BRAYTON CLARK, 1850 - 1858.

ROWLAND CLARK, 1852 - 1870.

RANDALL S. BRAYTON, 1808 - 1848.

SUSAN STANTON, daughter of RANDALL AND SARAH K. BRAYTON, Born April 26, 1864. Died June 21, 1939.

(Continued)

NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The forty-ninth town meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held Tuesday evening, May 15th, at 8 P.M., in the Richmond Town Hall. The public is invited.

The program will consist of OLDE TYME FUN AND GAMES. The members and guests are asked to contribute or participate in old songs, dances, poems, stories, games, or musical renditions.

COLLATION COMMITTEE

The Collation Committee for the next meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be: Mrs. Hope Blaine, Chairman; Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Taylor, and Mr. & Mrs. Henry Boucher. Instruction can found on page 27, Volume III.

NOMINATI

The nominating Committee for the annual meeting in June will be: Harry Chatalian, Chairman; Esther L. Kenyon, Oliver Stedman, and Carolyn Stoner.

They will nominate the following:

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Member-at-large

The terms of office of two members-at-large have not run out - they are Ida Card Bader & Capt. Marcus L. Whitford.

BELL SCHOOL

Members will be happy to know that repair action is going forth on the old Bell School House. Take a look as you drive by.

RHODE ISLAND BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Paul Michaud has been appointed by the Richmond Town Council as Chairman of the Richmond Bicentennial Committee.

HISTORICAL CEMETERY PRESERVATION: a massive cleanup of old cemeteries will be undertaken.

BICENTENNIAL DEBATE SERIES: co-sponsored with the Dept. of Education, a series of Bicentennial debates will be held throughout the state beginning in September.

WOULD GIVE \$1,000 TO TOWN: allocated on a dollar-to-dollar matching basis, to be used for Bicentennial purposes only.

Witeen by Mrs. Patricia Clark

(Continued from page 47)

Disposition of lands in the town of Richmond seems to have been a difficult matter for years and the general assembly appointed a committee to dispose of vacant lands held by authority of the colony. This committee sold a large tract of land in 1709, known in the records as the Shannock Purchase. This tract extended from Exeter town line on the north to the Pawcatuck River on the south, bounded on the east by Beaver River and on the west by a meridian passing at the east end of the cemetery at the Wood River Church. There were 27 purchasers listed and it is believed that most of them became actual settlers. What is now Alton was part of this purchase.

During the early years of Richmond's history, manufactories for wool and cotton were unknown in the country. The clothing of the inhabitants was manufactured by hand. Every farmer devoted a plot of ground to the raising of flax and in his pastures grazed the sheep whose fleeces furnished material for the garments that were to protect their person. The flax was broken and swingled, the mother hatcheded the flax and early taught her daughters to card and spin the coarser parts known as tow. In process of time cotton was introduced as a supplement to the tow and linen. The first cotton factory in the town was built in 1810 on the Richmond, Hope Valley side of Wood River. This mill was purchased by David Aldwich in 1853.

N . Sheffield Wilbur owned extensive land property in Plainville, in the late 1850's he offered mill privileges, right of flowage with four acres for milage purposes, as a free donation to David Aldwich. David Aldwich built the mill and village of Palinville. Mill opened in 1962, it was an excellent one, built for eight sets of wooden machinery all gotten up in the most approved style and superior cassimeres were manufactured. Thirty-two tenements and a store were evidence of the growth of the place. Frederick Steere ran the store.

David Aldrich was born in 1822, very prominent, owned several mills beside the one in Plainville. He was president of the Wood River Branch Railroad, part of the Providence and Stonington Railroad which was built in 1837.

The Wilbur family have had a long and honorable standing in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. The spelling of the name originally was Wildbore, when the father died, his children and in turn their children changed the spelling to Wilbour, Wilbor, and Wilbur.

Samuel Wildbore from Boston was the first Wilbur. Born in England, he had four sons, Samuel, born 1614; Joseph, no birth date; William, born 1630; and Shadrach, born 1632; and perhaps a daughter Sarah. Samuel Wildbore died in 1656.

(To be continued)

GIFTS TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

V.-54.

(Continued from Vol. V. - page 43)

<u>ACCESS NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WHERE FILED</u>
70.2.19	Book: Mary Dyer, Quaker Martyr By Horatio Rogers	
70.2.20	Picture Cover from old box of chewing gum.	
70.2.21	Book: History of the World War 1918 by Francis A. March	
70.2.22	Book: Hopkinton and Charlestown Directory (business) 1922-23	
70.2.23	Booklet: Westerly's Oldest Witness By Ralph B. Cooney	
70.2.23d	Duplicate of above.	
70.2.24	Ladies' fan.	
70.2.25	Ladies' fan.	
70.2.26	Collection newspapers: Hope Valley and Wood River Advertisers Gifts: Daniel R. James Estate Charles A. McIntosh, administrator.	
70.3.1	Printed postcard: artist's picture of Abraham Lincoln	
70.3.2	Printed postcard: Artist's picture of George Washington.	
70.4.1	Gifts: Mrs. Helen Brunskill Printed layout plans for Peacedale Braid & Columbia Narrow Fabric buildings Round in filed purchased there.	
70.5.1a	Odd - sized filing cabinet	
70.5.1b	Same	
70.5.1c	Same	
70.6.1	Purchased by Society from Columbia Narrow Fabric Brown Silk & velvet dress Worn by mother of Daniel James	
70.7.1	Gift: Charles A. McIntosh, admin. Branch of chestnut burrs found on Field Trip near Toll Gate on New London Turnpike	
70.8.1	Gift: Eleanor Smith Color photo: Bell School in original location	
70.8.2	Color photo: Bell School in different view	
70.9.1	Gifts; Lucy Rawlings Tootell Color photo: Danny James and Lucy Rawlings Tootell	
70.10.1	Gift: Charles Edmonds Copy Talk: on Woodville By Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Bader.	

(Continued from Vol. V.- page 50)

Reference: James N. Arnold, NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL REGISTER:
Vol. VI. No. 3 - page 274.

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MARRIAGES

Kenyon Thomas, of John, of Richmond; and Sylvia Saunders, of Elisha, late of Westerly, dec.; m. by Joseph Crandall, J. P., Nov. 30, 1780.
Thankful, and Samuel Barber, Dec. 27, 1782.
Mary, and John Lillibridge, Nov. 2, 1789.
Anna, and Joseph Webster, Nov. 29, 1789.
Jonathan, of Richmond; and Mercy Crandall of Hopkinton: m. by Elder Joshua Clarke, Jan. 21, 1790.
Pnenelope, and Benjamin Enos, Jan. 13, 1791.
John, and Elizabeth Webster, date not given.
John, of Richmond; and Charity Barber, of Hopkinton; m. by Elder Phineas Palmer, May 1, 1808.
George, of John, and Martha T. Hoxsie, of Joseph; m. by Elder Gershom Palmer, Nov. 30, 1817.
Barber, of Benedict, and Honor Reynolds, of Jesse; m. by Elder Gershom Palmer, June 8, 1823.
Gardiner, of Silas, and Frances James, of Thomas; m. by Elder Matthew Stillman, Nov. 25, 1824.
Corey, and Mrs. Waitey Barber; m. by Elder Henry C. Hubbard, June 1, 1828.
William, and Mercy Johnson, of Stephen; m. by Thomas A. Hazard, J.P., Sept. 25, 1828.
Ruth Ann, and William W. Kenyon, Mar. 19, 1838.
William W., of Richmond, and Ruth Ann Kenyon, of Hopkinton; m. by Elder Thomas Tillinghast, Mar. 19, 1838.
Deborah, and Thomas P. Dye, Jan. 1, 1840.
Hannah E.C., and George S. Peckham, Jan. 13, 1840.
Mrs. Eliza, and John L. James, Mar. 22, 1841.
Amie A., and Silas Moore, Jan. 1, 1843.
Pamelia C., and John S. Clarke, Oct. 2, 1844.
Lavina, and Nathan L. Richmond, Sept. 21, 1846.
Clarissa, and George C. Sanford, Oct. 21, 1847.
Abigail, and John Weaver, Dec. 20, 1847.
Benjamin F., of Hopkinton, and Mary J. Kenyon, of Richmond; m. by Elder Steadman Kenyon, Jan. 28, 1850.
Mary J., and Benjamin F. Kenyon, Jan. 28, 1850.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Kenyon Pheneas, of David and Mary	Oct. 3, 1744
John,	Oct. 22, 1747
Mercy, of Samuel and Hannah	June 24, 1746

Clark Lot

(Continued from Vol. V. page 51)

SARAH R., wife of RANDALL BRAYTON and daughter of WAIT R. & SUASAN S. CLARK, died August 12, 1887. Age 53 years, 16 days.

RANDALL BRAYTON, son of RANDALL S. & FANNY W. BRAYTON, Born December 1r, 1836. Died October 22, 1897.

HANNAH K. CLARK, wife of JAMES C. TUCKER, Died March 25, 1888. Age 78 years.

JAMES C. TUCKER. Died Setpember 1, 1873. Age 63.

HENRY C. KENYON. Born June 4, 1849. Died January 30, 1899.

MARY E. TUCKER, wife of HENRY C. KENYON. Born March 1, 1845. Died January 25, 1927.

WAIT CLARK, born June 26, 1828. Died December 31, 1881.

SUSAN CLARK, wife of WAIT CLARK, born June 2, 1832. Died July 26, 1920.

HENRY W. CLARK, son of above, born April 1, 1856. Died October 23, 1917.

BENJAMIN STANTON CLARK, 1869 - 1927

FINIS

(Fifty Years Ago)

Mar. 1 - It is reported that Roy Rawlings has sold his Spring Street bungalow to Mrs. Janette Meserve and will remove to his farm soon ...

Mar. 8 - Mrs. Hannah (Barber) Matteson observed the 100th anniversary of her birth Friday at her home on Spring Street ... among the guests was a delegation from the Wood River Six Principal Baptist church, of which Mrs. Matteson has been a member for more than 82 years ...

Mar. 29 - Edgar Thurman Spencer, editor and publisher of the Hope Valley Advertiser for the past twenty-eight years, died at his home in this village last Friday after an illness of about two months of gastritis following an attack of the grippe. He was in his 76th year. ... February 1, 1895, he purchased the Hope Valley Advertiser, which he published up to the time of his death ...

May 3 - Mrs. Eva Hinchliffe of Carolina was painfully injured in Westerly on Saturday while trying to save her three year old son from being hit by an automobile. The youngster was crossing the street ahead of an approaching auto, when his mother rushed out to carry the child to safety. The machine hit Mrs. Hinchliffe, knocking both she and the child down, but the mother succeeded in interposing her body between the car and the youngster, thus saving his life, receiving the full force of the blow, and being severely injured herself. She was given medical treatment after which she was taken to her home in Carolina.

May 24 - Henry E. Babcock, for many years station agent at Carolina, died at his home in that village yesterday. ...

May 24 - SPRING STYLES - ROYAL WORCETER CORSETS - See the new Hip Confiner. Especially adaptable for one who indulges in athletics - HEPWORTH'S ON THE SQUARE - Advertisement.

May 31 - CONCERNING MEMORIAL DAY - May I also call the attention of the people of the community to one circumstance which was unfortunately very noticeable. It is customary, when the American flag is carried in procession for all men and boys in civilian attire who may be in the vicinity to stand and take off the hat, holding it over the left shoulder. Persons seated in automobiles are expected to step out of the machine and show proper respect for the flag. Persons in uniform salute with the right hand.

I realize that there was probably no intentional disrespect shown on Memorial Day, but as the flags passed the various groups along the line of march very few men removed their hats, and quite a number remained seated. ... I trust that when next we have a patriotic demonstration, the people will be thoughtful of their duty to the nation's emblem... very truly yours, H.T. LOWE.

NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The fiftieth town meeting and sixth annual meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held Tuesday evening, June 19th., at 6:30 P.M. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Bader, Woodville, R.I. This will be a POT LUCK SUPPER.

Each person is asked to bring his own plate, cup, cutlery, napkin, and one food item such as: main dish, salad, rolls, butter, dessert, coffee, cream, soda, etc., If in doubt, call Eleanor Smith for suggestions.

There will be an interesting program. If it looks like rain, close your windows so that you don't have to rush home. Election of new officers will take place at this meeting.

COLLATION COMMITTEE

The Collation Committee for the next meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be: Mr. & Mrs. Earl Smith, Co-Chairmen; Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hawkins, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Chatalian, and Mrs. Patricia Clarke.

TIME FOR DUES

Time to send your dues for the new year to Mrs. Ida Bader, Woodville Road, R.F.S., Hope Valley, R.I. Anyone who has joined in May or June will not have to pay again.

BELL SCHOOL

Take a look at the Bell School House. It looks better every minute. The shingles and roof are almost complete. The workers did a splendid job. Let us hope the School will be ready for visitations during the Bicentennial.

RICHMOND BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

At the organizational meeting of the Richmond Bicentennial Commission, the following officers were elected:

President: Paul Michaud (previously appointed by Richmond Town Committee)

Secretary: Patricia Clarke

Treasurer: Lucy Rawlings Tootell

Sub-Committees:

1. School Curriculum on Local History (Lucy Rawlings Tootell)
2. Preservation of Historic Sites & Places
3. Preservation of Historic Cemeteries
4. Historic Publications
5. Plaques on Houses & buildings
6. Bicentennial Celebration Festivities

Written by Mrs. Patricia Clark

(Continued from page 53)

The Richmond Wilburs were descendants of Samuel Wilbore's third son William. Wilburs in Richmond in 1774 spelled their name Wilbour. There were four families, Samuel Wilbour, Samuel Wilbour Jr., Peter Wilbour and John Wilbour. The families all lived in the Plainville area. There was a large old fashioned heavily timbered farm house which sat on the river next to the Wilbur cemetery which is on Riverview Drive in the village. This house, which was the Wilbur homestead, dated back to the early 1700's. The house was burned by the fire company about 25 years ago. There are two homes left in the village at the present time which are known to have belonged to the Wilburs. One is on Riverview Drive and is owned by the Robert Clark, Jr. family. The other is on Church Street and is owned by the Donald Caddick family.

The Plainville School District was originally part of District No. 1. The School was built in 1839. It was a small cheap affair which was abandoned in 1859 and a substantial house was built. In 1865 the village of Plainville, having been recently built up, the district was divided and District No. 1 moved further north.

John B.F. Wilbur, born 1835 in Plainville, son of the above N. Sheffield, was in the war of the Rebellion from March 1862 to June 1865, in Company F, first Rhode Island light artillery as a volunteer under General Burnside.

The present Saint Thomas Church in Alton was originally called the Wood River Free Chapel Society. There is no record when the church was built. It was dedicated in 1878.

David Aldrich, after the Civil War, sold the mill to Lafayette Reynolds and a man named Potter. The business failed after a few years and they sold the mill to James Greenhalgh about 1870. In a few years he failed also and the mill was sold back to David Aldrich. He, in turn, sold the mill to William Walton in 1880.

William Walton called the mill the Wood River Mills Company. He also bought the mill in Woodville about the same time.

The mill in Plainville was successful from the start. Mr. Walton planned a model village. He built several double tenement houses and planted over 200 rock maple trees. The rents ranged from \$2.50 to \$4.00 a month with 1/8 an acre of land allotted to each tenement.

Land was manured and plowed every year by the company. The company supplied water to all the houses. The company also kept the sidewalks in order. The mill employed around 180 men and women and produced cassimeres evaluated at \$350,000 annually.

(To be continued)