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RHODE ISLAND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
NEW SERIES, VOL. III, 1895**

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VOLUME III. 1895



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1895

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OF THE

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

ELECTED JAN. 8, 1895.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
1894-95.

At a meeting held Jan. 23, 1894, Hon. Joseph W. Symonds of Portland, Me., read a paper entitled, "The Silent Changes of Laws and Institutions."

February 6th, Rev. Dr. Henry W. King, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Providence, read an essay entitled, "Religious Liberty Historically Considered."

February 20, Rev. Anson Titus of Natick, Mass., read a paper entitled, "Puritan Sociology."

March 6, Hon. Mellen Chamberlain addressed the Society, having for his subject, "Some Political Maxims."

March 20, Professor J. F. Jameson read a paper written by Mr. William D. Johnston of Chicago University, entitled, "Slavery in Rhode Island During the Palmy Days of the Institution, 1755-1775."

At each of the above-mentioned meetings the thanks of the Society were extended to the speaker of the evening.

The first quarterly meeting of the year was held April 3d. The secretary read the record of the last annual meeting and abstracts of the records of five meetings subsequently held for the reading of papers.

The librarian reported additions to the library. The most valuable genealogical work received is entitled "Family Histories and Genealogies." Special attention was called to six volumes of "Diplomatic Correspondence of the Revolution," edited by Francis Wharton. On recommendation of the nominating committee the following persons were elected active members: Messrs. Henry Richmond Chace, George Franklin Weston, Henry Gould Day, Augustus Remick and Wendall Phillips Hale, all of Providence.

Information being called for in regard to the bequest of Dr. Charles W. Parsons, Mr. Charles H. Smith made a brief report as a member of the committee appointed to act for the Society in securing that bequest.

The Rev. Dr. Vose requested that his resignation might be accepted as a member of the publication committee, but after mature deliberation consented to withdraw said resignation, and the committee was reinforced by the addition of the Hon. John H. Stiness and the secretary of the Society.

The desirability of having a field-day, and of visiting Plymouth, was called up by the treasurer, and on motion it was

Voted, That the subject be referred to the committee on field-days and hospitalities, Messrs. Stillman White, James Burdick and Charles Gorton.

At a meeting held April 17, Rev. Oliver Dyer read a paper entitled, "The United States Senate Forty-six years ago, with Personal Recollections of Calhoun, Benton, Clay, Webster, and other distinguished senators of that period," receiving the thanks of the Society for his able and highly entertaining lecture.

May 2, Rev. Oliver Dyer read a paper on General Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States, containing an account of General Jackson's career up to the time when he became president of the republic. Mr. Dyer received an invitation to give another paper containing an account of Andrew Jackson's further career, and the hope was expressed that Mr. Dyer would favor the Society with a paper on the hero of Lake Erie.

The second quarterly meeting of the Society was held July 3d. Reports were read from the secretary and librarian.

The secretary read a letter from Prof. Jameson of the special committee appointed by the Society to memorialize the General Assembly of the State for the purchase of the original General Greene papers, stating that Mr. William Nightingale of Brunswick, Ga., had sold the Greene papers to a dealer in New York for a much larger sum than the State could be induced to pay for them.

A letter was also laid before the Society asking for information in regard to the kind of lottery wheel that was used in the lottery schemes that prevailed in this State during a long period of time.

On recommendation of the nominating committee