

**HISTORY OF PAWTUCKET CHURCH AND
SOCIETY: WITH REMINISCENCES OF
PASTORS AND FOUNDERS,
SKETCHES OF CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCHES IN LOWELL, AND A BRIEF
OUTLINE OF CONGREGATIONALISM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649124633

History of Pawtucket Church and Society: with reminiscences of pastors and founders, sketches of Congregational churches in Lowell, and a brief outline of Congregationalism by A. C. Varnum

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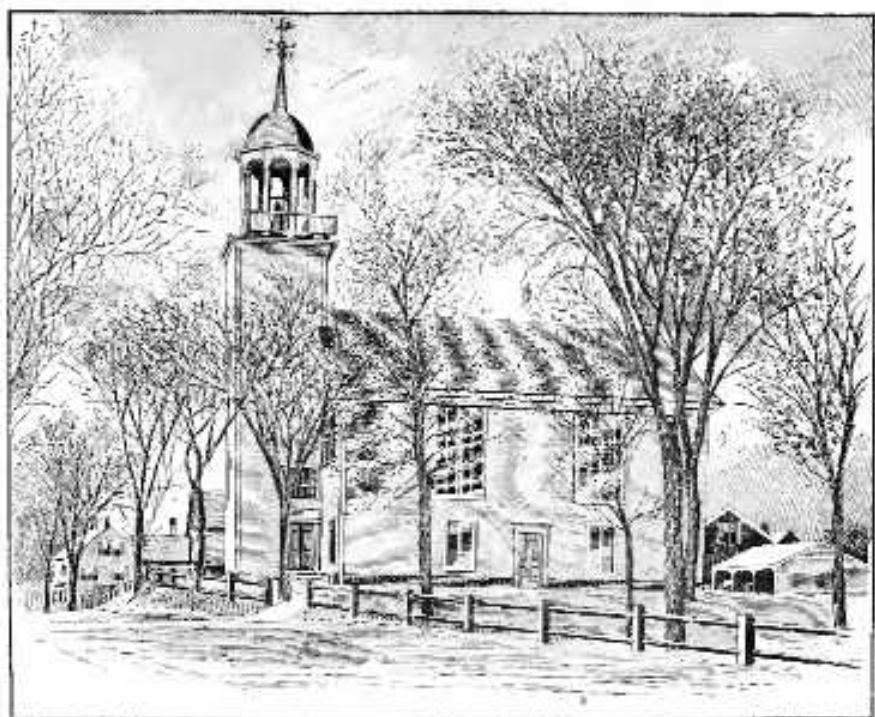
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A. C. VARNUM

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PAWTUCKET CHURCH — ERECTED 1794.

HISTORY

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Hawtucket Church and Society

WITH REMINISCENCES OF

Pastors and Founders, Sketches of Congregational Churches in Lowell,

AND A

BRIEF OUTLINE OF CONGREGATIONALISM.

BY A. C. VARNUM,

AUTHOR OF VARIOUS ESTABLISHED

"SHAYS' REBELLION," "BURBINE'S SCHEMERS," "THE OLD GLASSBORO HOUSE,"
"LIFE OF GENERAL JAMES M. VARNUM," "LIFE OF COLONEL LOUIS ARSANT,"
"THE COBURN FAMILY," "YOUNG MAN'S LYCEUM," "TEMPERANCE IN
MASSACHUSETTS," "ORIGINATIONS, RISKINGS AND RANSOMS," "OLD
MIDDLESEX CANAL," "NAVIGATION BY THE MERRIMACK," ETC.

LOWELL, MASS.,
MORNING MAIL PRINT, 15 JACKSON STREET,
1886.



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PRELIMINARIES.

LOWELL, June 4, 1887.

At a meeting of the Pawtucket Society, holden this day, the warrant having been read, Dr. John J. Colton was elected moderator.

The first article to be acted upon by the Society was as follows, viz :

ARTICLE 1.—To see if the Society will vote in favor of having a history of the Pawtucket Church and Society written, or act in any way relative thereto.

After remarks and inquiries made by several members of the Society, the following preamble and resolutions, presented by Dr. Colton, were unanimously adopted.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, The Pawtucket Church and Society were organized many years ago—at a time to which the memory of man runneth not back—and tradition informs us that there are many interesting events in connection with its history, and many pleasant and valuable reminiscences which it would be well to preserve in some tangible form, therefore,

Resolved, That an invitation be extended to A. C. Varum, Esq., to gather such historical facts as may be found, and write a history of this Church and Society for publication, at his earliest convenience.

Resolved, That a committee of six persons be appointed to confer with

Mr. Varnum and extend to him the invitation embraced in these resolutions; and, if favorably received, to aid and co-operate with him in the publication of the work when it is satisfactorily completed; and that full power and authority be conferred upon this committee to do and perform whatever may be necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes herein contained.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Society be requested to record these resolutions in the records of this Society, for reference.

The Society then elected Dr. John J. Colton, Rev. Charles H. Willcox, Samuel B. Simonds, Thomas Varnum, Henry L. Newhall and Joseph M. Wilson a committee for the above-named purposes:

ORFORD R. BLOOD,

Clerk Pawtucket Society.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence subsequently transpired.

TO A. C. VARNUM, ESQ.:

Dear Sir—The undersigned were appointed a committee by the Pawtucket Society, at a meeting regularly called and held on June 4, 1887, and we herewith communicate to you the action of that meeting in regard to obtaining a written history of said Society. The enclosed resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, and which we were instructed to present for your consideration, are well calculated to express the sentiments of those who were present when they were adopted.

We take pleasure, therefore, in compliance with the duty entrusted to us, in extending to you an invitation to write a history of this Church and Society for publication. We also take this opportunity to express our personal interest and approval of the project contemplated, and hope it may be favorably received and entertained by you. The task to which you are invited will undoubtedly be a laborious one; but we trust that

your appreciation of its importance and the pleasure it may confer upon all who take an interest in the preservation of important historical events, will induce you to undertake it.

We have the honor of subscribing ourselves

Your obedient servants,

JOHN J. COLTON,
CHARLES H. WILSON,
SAMUEL R. SIMONDS,
THOMAS VARNUM,
HENRY L. NEWHALL,
JOSEPH M. WILSON.

LOWELL, June 6, 1887.

Committee.

TO JOHN J. COLTON AND OTHERS, COMMITTEE OF THE PAWTUCKET SOCIETY:

Gentlemen — Your communication, with copy of resolutions adopted by the Pawtucket Society, is received. The interest which you express in the subject mentioned is reciprocated, and the confidence manifested in myself by the Society is appreciated. I am aware that the undertaking involves considerable research and labor, as it is understood that the records of this ancient organization are meager and incomplete. Trusting in your generous cooperation, however, I will undertake that part of the duty required of me, and hope by the exercise of much patience and proper diligence, we may succeed in meeting the just and reasonable expectations of all charitable friends.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

A. C. VARNUM.

LOWELL, June 10, 1887.

