



There was a large attendance at our 52nd annual meeting on September 7th at Roger Williams Park. It was a beautiful day. Luncheon was eaten on the broad veranda of the Casino and old friendships were renewed. Reports showed our organization to be in an excellent condition. Forty-three new members were added to our lists during the past year. The work on the Roger Williams' genealogy is progressing steadily. It was voted to meet for another year in the John Brown House at 52 Power Street, Providence. The new officers of the association are listed on the last page of this folder.

Listed below are the speakers for the October, November and December meetings. No other notice will be sent out.

October 5, 1944 — Mrs. Elizabeth Nicholson White
"The Huguenots in Rhode Island"

November 2, 1944 — Mr. Marshall Morgan
"Warwick"

December 7, 1944 — Mrs. I. Percy Roe
"Twas Christmas Eve" and Xmas program

FOOTPRINTS OF ROGER WILLIAMS

Chapter II

In Chapter I, pamphlet 6, we printed an excerpt from an article in the Narragansett Register by James N. Arnold, appearing more than sixty years ago. For almost fifty years it has been known that though the name "Williams" may be of Welch origin, our Roger Williams was born in Cow Lane, London, about 1603 (Ernst "Roger Williams—New England Fire Brand" 1932 p. 6). That he could not have been born earlier is shown by his father's will dated September 7, 1620, proved November 19, 1621 (Com. Court of London, Vol. 24 etc.) and bond of Alice Williams, his mother, for payment of legacies to Roger and Robert (minors) sons of James Williams, 16th March 1622-3 (G. Andrew Moriarty, A.M.L.L.B.F.S.A.) (R. I. Historical Society Vol. III No. 1, Jan. 1944).

He was the son of James and Alice (Pemberton) Williams of London, formerly of St. Albans, County Herts, and was the god-son and namesake of his uncle Roger Pemberton.

James Williams was probably the son of Mark and Agnes (Audley) Williams of St. Albans. (G. Andrew Moriarty)

Mary Williams, the wife of Roger, was baptized at Worksop, County Notts, in 1609, daughter of the noted Puritan Divine, Rev. Richard Barnard, Parson at Worksop and later of Batcombe, Somerset. Her brother Masachell embarked for New England in 1635 and settled in Weymouth, Mass. (Ref. R. I. Hist. Col. Vol. 29, p. 66).

The children of James and Alice (Pemberton) Williams were: Catherine, born about 1598; Sydrach, born about 1600; Roger, born in 1603 and Robert, born in 1610. Robert Williams came to New England in 1644, settled first in Providence and then in Newport. He apparently had no family. (G. Andrew Moriarty)

Roger Williams, son of Sydrach, settled in Virginia about 1664. In his will he mentions his wife Joan and children Roger, Sydrach and Betty, his eldest daughter, (Ref. Rappahanock Co. Rec. Vol. 1656-64, pg. 303 etc.)

PROVIDENCE WILLIAMS

Providence was the third child and first son of Roger Williams. He was the first white child born in what is now Providence and was named Providence because of God's good-

ness to Roger. He was born Sept. 16, 1538. He died unmarried. He lived in Newport, was a merchant there carrying on trade between Newport and Providence, owning boats on the river. It is said at the time of King Philip's war, he came to Providence and took his mother and her children and other families to Newport for safety, while his father stayed in Providence and "went not away". He died in 1686 at the age of 48.

MEMORIALS FOR ROGER WILLIAMS

ADDITIONAL

17. Memorial tablet in the Old Cloisters of Charter House, London.

18. Tablet at the head of the dock on Conanicut Island, in Jamestown, R. I. put up in 1936 commemorating Roger Williams meeting with Conanicus, persuading him not to join the Pequots and to assist the English.

19. An oak tree planted in Phillipsdale, R. I. on April 27, 1904, "to honor his memory and help preserve the site of his first residence after leaving Salem".

Correction: No. 7 in folder No. 6. The location of "Slate Rock" memorial to Roger Williams is bounded by Williams, Gano and Power Streets.

"The twelve proprietors, as they were afterwards called—thirteen they were, counting Roger Williams, had their home lots on either side of his, which was at the spring.

John Thoekmorton was next him to the South, then William Harris; still farther to the south were William Carpenter, Robert Cole and Thomas Olney; then, (after Thomas Angell) Francis Weston, Richard Waterman, Ezekial Holli-man; and last, Stukely Westcott, whose lot was almost opposite the present Market Square.

On the other side of the Williams' lot, beyond those of Joshua Verin, Widow Reeve (Verin's mother-in-law, banished from Salem) and John Smith, were the 3 lots of John Greene, Thomas James and William Arnold, and at the northern end, that of Francis Wickes.

Later comers settled mostly to the southward on the same line, or Towne Street, following the shore.

Chad Brown, the town surveyor, was just beyond Market Sq. on the south side of College Hill; and Robert Williams, Roger Williams' brother, was at the extreme southern end, where Wickenden Street is now.

The later northward boundary of the original home lots was that of Gregory Dexter, at the present junction of Olney and Benefit Streets.

The Town Wharf was beside the Parade (Market Square) and the wading place (Steeple Street) was over a clam bank near Roger Williams' house."

The above data was copied from pgs. 220 and 221 of Emily Easton's "Roger Williams, Prophet & Pioneer" (1930)

Submitted by Mrs. Mabel G. Thorndike

. . . OFFICERS . . .

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