

REPORT

of the

Association

of

Descendants of RALPH SMITH

of

Hingham and Eastham, Mass., Inc.



1941

- GREETINGS -

To the Smith Association Reunion

Dear friends and comrades, one and all,
As well as kinsfolk true,
Would I could make a clarion call,
In thus saluting you.

In your convening genial band,
Could I but take a part,
To give you all a real glad hand
And prove a loyal heart.

But since that pleasure is denied
To me, which I regret,
In spirit true, I sit beside
The friends, who here have met.

We all feel reasonably proud
Of our ancestral stock,
Distinguished from the common crowd
And firm as Plymouth Rock.

Of all the various tribes and clans
Recorded on the page
Of history, those good Pilgrims
Were brave as well as sage.

Now to you all I bid good cheer
And pledge you in a toast,
Which wishes you, for many a year,
May glorify this coast.

Written by Moses H. Nickerson
Melrose, Mass.,
September 10th, 1941. (*His 97th Birthday*)

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Association of Descendants of Ralph Smith held its Fifth Annual Meeting at the Hotel Westminster, Boston, Sunday, September 21st. The meeting was preceded by a very delicious dinner and a real "family" spirit prevailed. Seventy-nine members participated and later other members joined the company.

The business meeting was called to order by the President, Capt. Arthur N. McGray at 2:45 P. M. Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Mrs. Beatrice Smith Hunt, and the hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds" was sung. The report for the past year was given by the Secretary, followed by the report of the Treasurer. The Association arose to pay a few moments of silent tribute to those whom God had called to join the Family Eternal during the past year, namely:-

Fred Hayden, a Charter Associate Member.

Andrew Turnbull MacCoy, Charter Member and one
of our Founders.

Jessie Iona (Dickson) Hoult, Charter Member.

A paper by the Historian, Thomas Edison Smith, was then read which was of much interest, the text of which appears in this Report. This year of 1941 being the 300th anniversary of Samuel Smith, one of the sons of Ralph and the one from whom the greater number of our members trace their ancestry, it seemed most appropriate that the paper should deal with the history of this particular son. It was received with much interest and the reading was followed by appreciative applause.

The business executed was as follows:-

1. Lawrence Winburn Brown was elected to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors caused by the death of Andrew T. MacCoy. Mr. Brown is a Charter Member.

2. James Dean Brown was elected President of the Junior Group. Young Mr. Brown is an Honor Student of Gloucester High School and a student at Tufts College. The Association looks for fine things from him both in his scholastic life and in his work for our society.

3. Miss Ruth Smith of Salem, Mass., and Mrs. Guy P. Livingstone of Winchester, Mass., were elected as Councillors of the Junior Group.

4. The matter of a memorial boulder in memory of Ralph Smith was brought up and discussed. The exact spot of burial of this ancestor is not known, but thought to be in the old cemetery at Eastham, Mass. Various opinions were expressed as to the style of marker we should place and it was decided that one similar to that erected to the memory of Dea. John Doane would be most appropriate. This memorial is a field boulder with a bronze plate. It was voted to elect a committee to look into this matter and report at the next meeting. Those elected to serve were:-

Georgia Mary Clark, Chairman

Lillian Everton Cook

Thomas Edison Smith

5. Motion was made that the Treasurer be instructed to give \$10.00 from the treasury to British War Relief. Motion Carried.

The President presented a very fine address after the business was concluded and there being no further matters of importance to come before us, after the singing of "God Bless America", the meeting was adjourned.

G. M. C.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

September 21, 1941.

OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND GUESTS:-

It is fifteen months since we last met together and many matters of importance to the world in general and to ourselves in particular have transpired.

During this period we have admitted only one new member to our company, namely, Warren Arnold Smith of Vineland, New Jersey, who joined on May 16th of this year. Our regular membership is now 146. We have 45 Associate members and 21 belonging to the Junior Group, making a total membership of 212.

Again the Great Reaper has gathered for His harvest, three of our dearly loved ones, namely:-

Fred Hayden, husband of Mina Smith Hayden, a valued Associate Member, entered into rest on December 10th, 1940. Mr. Hayden was a member of the Masonic Fraternity and much loved by all who knew him.

On January 11th, 1941, Andrew Turnbull MacCoy, Charter member and one of our Founders, answered the call of the Supreme Grand Master, while in his beloved Lodge Room. He was a much loved and respected member of Mariners Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Cotuit, Mass.

On July 15th, 1941, Jessie Iona (Dickson) Hault, was called; also a Charter member and beloved sister of Isabelle Stuart Dickson, formerly of Cape Sable Island and for the past several years resident of New Westminster, British Columbia.

Since our gathering we have lost another very dear and respected Charter member, Caroline Atkinson (Brown) Carter, daughter of James Dean Brown and Maria Adelia (Ross)

Brown, of Gloucester, Mass. Our loving sympathy goes out to her husband, Raymond I. Carter, and her daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Gillis. Also to her brothers and sisters, all of whom are members of our Association.

As in all states of life and society, age depends upon the progress of youth, so we depend upon our young people for the growth and progress of this Association. Our Junior group has not increased in membership as it should, and very little has been done by us to hold their interest. Will not the parents and those interested in our success and progress take a little time and make an effort to bring in the children? I would ask you to give this matter serious thought. Let them feel we are interested in and love them very much. They must take our places in the years to come that this group may continue and our Country needs family Associations such as ours. Children of families such as ours are one of the strongest lines for future National Defense. The need is obvious. At the present time we have eight Juniors who are at this date, or will be before our next meeting, eligible to join the Senior group. But if we do not try to interest them, and make them feel welcome, they will lose all desire to continue with us. Your Officers ask your hearty co-operation in this matter.

Last year's Report was sent to all the Libraries and Societies on our list, and cards or letters of thanks were received in every instance.

We sent Ten Dollars to the American Red Cross for the War Relief Fund after our last meeting, and I quote from the letter of acknowledgement:-

"Please accept our sincere thanks for the donation of Ten Dollars to the War Relief Fund. . . . It is gratifying to feel that in the tremendous task ahead, the Red Cross has such loyal and generous support."

At this time I would make an earnest appeal that members assist me in my duties as Secretary by sending in changes of address, birth and death notices and any family matters which would help to keep our records up to date. All these matters are of vital importance to this office for without correct addresses mail goes astray, notices do not reach members and our work is hampered and records become incomplete and inaccurate.

Another year stretches ahead of us. Let us not be dismayed at any turn of circumstance but press on with courage, following in the footsteps of the dear ones who have gone on before, and who have set us such a fine example of faith and trust. Dark days will come to us all, but the dawn is sure to come, bright and glorious.

Let us give a friendly handclasp
And a kindly word of cheer
To each and every member
As we start another year.
Remembering that each act of kindness
Each handclasp and sunny smile
Are the very things, dear members
That make our lives worth while.

Georgia Mary Clark
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

1940	June Balance	\$111.22	
	July - dues	4.00	
	August - dues	6.00	
	September - dues	12.50	
	October - dues	8.50	
	November	—	
	December - dues	6.00	
1941	January	—	
	February - dues	5.00	
	March	—	
	April - dues	3.00	
	May - dues	1.00	
	June - dues	2.00	
	July - dues	3.00	
	August - dues	7.00	
	September - dues to date	10.75	
	Total receipts to date	\$179.97	\$179.97

Disbursements

1940	June	\$ 10.75	
	July03	
	August	5.25	
	September	30.49	
	October	1.46	
	November	—	
	December35	
1941	January	5.25	
	February	2.10	
	March	—	
	April	5.00	
	May	—	
	June15	
	July	2.39	
	August	—	
	September	1.86	
	Total disbursements to date	\$ 65.08	65.08

Balance on hand as of this date \$114.89

(Signed) Georgia Mary Clark
Treasurer.

Examined and found correct

(Signed) Raymond I. Carter
Arthur L. Gilchrist
Caroline A. Carter.
Auditing Committee.

SAMUEL SMITH

(Paper Read by the Historian, Thomas Edison Smith)

Samuel Smith, the eldest son of Ralph Smith, was baptized at Hingham, Mass., July 11, 1641, married January 3, 1665, Mary Hopkins - born November 1640, died July 2, 1700.

When he was about twelve years of age, his father moved his family to Eastham, and we are told they there established a store, which later Samuel took over and for years he was very successful as a trader, the whale and mackerel fishery, and inn keeper. Later in life he engaged in stock raising, buying and selling lands and at one time he owned more than one thousand acres. On November 1, 1684, he sold to a large number of his townsmen, four hundred acres in the southern part of Eastham. This tract of land was known for many years as "Smith's Purchase".

His interest in Monomoit, now Chatham, began with the purchase of a farm of John Savage, before 1690, which he evidently bought as an investment, placing William Cahoon in charge of it. This farm was sixty acres of upland and six acres of marsh. Early in 1691, he purchased from John Cousins (Indian) and his mother, the territory owned by them at Monomoit (Chatham). The deed was recorded May 6, 1691, in Book 1, Folio 66 of Old Barnstable Deeds. It conveyed to him "All that our parcel of land lying and being at Momomoy at a place commonly known by the name of Toms Neck." On March 10, 1691, the deed from Sarah Covell, conveyed to him "all my parcel of land lying and being at Monomoy known by the name of Toms Neck." These two parcels of land comprise a considerable part of the present village of Chatham. Mr. Smith also acquired an interest in a part of Cotchpinicut Neck by a mortgage dated August 19, 1693, and given by Doggimus, Stephen and Richard (Indians).

mortgage was £20.8s.6d. By deed dated June 27, 1694, in company with William Nickerson, he purchased of John Quanon, Jr., another tract in the easterly part of Monomoit, Nickerson taking one third and he two thirds.

After his death in 1697, his son John Smith, and his daughter Mary, wife of Daniel Hamilton, also his two grandsons, Samuel Smith and Joseph Smith, (sons of his deceased son Samuel) had a share in some of this property. Mr. Samuel Smith (he is styled "Mr." in the records) held various local offices in Eastham and in August, 1695, he was chosen by the village of Monomoit, as commissioner to carry a list of its "rates" and an account of its "effects" to the shire town, Barnstable.

He appears to have been an outstanding business man in his community, a man of great energy and an early historian has said he was a "resolute and determined man".

Samuel Smith died March 22, 1697. His wife Mary died July 2, 1700. She was daughter of Giles Hopkins and Catharine Whelden and granddaughter of Stephen Hopkins, who came on the Mayflower 1620. Giles was about fifteen years of age and came with his father. He was married October 9, 1639, to Catharine, daughter of Gabriel Whelden, who had

a permit from the Plymouth Court to dwell at Mattacheese (the early name of Yarmouth, Cape Cod) September 3, 1638. He removed to Lynn, Mass., and died January —, 1653-4. The name of Mr. Whelden's first wife and mother of Catharine is unknown.

Samuel and Mary (Hopkins) Smith had seven children recorded at Eastham:-

1. A son born and died March 1667 (unnamed)
2. Samuel Smith, born May 26, 1668, died September 22, 1692.
3. Mary Smith, born June 3, 1669, died before 1708.
4. Joseph Smith, born April 10, 1671, died September 22, 1691.
5. John Smith, born May 26, 1673, died —, 1717.
6. Grace Smith, born September 6, 1676, died December 1, 1691.
7. Rebekah Smith, born December 10, 1678, died young.

Joseph, Grace and Rebekah died without issue before their parents. The eldest son Samuel, married May 26, 1690, Bathshuba Lathrop and had two sons. He also died before his parents.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

(Capt. Arthur N. McGray)

OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION:-

It has been my happy privilege, on this Fifth Annual Meeting, and particularly on this 300th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Smith — eldest son of the rugged old gentleman whose name we are dedicated to preserve — to again extend to you all a most hearty welcome; a sincere and cordial greeting. You heard that welcome supplemented by a fine poetic greeting to us all from the able pen of the Grand Old Man of Cape Sables, Moses H. Nickerson; written on his 97th birthday, (September 10) and your applause was ringing and sincere.

There were a number of new faces among us; some, members who had been unable to attend previous meetings; others, I venture to believe, because of a longing for the satisfying social contacts for which these reunions are already becoming famous. The presence of our senior member, Capt. W. Wallace Cunningham, of Salem, was an added inspiration. He is nearing his 91st birthday now and I wish for you all the good fortune to likewise be strong and hearty — and attending these gatherings — when you reach that enviable age. No better evidence of the wide and steadily advancing interest which your organization has created could be desired than by the fact that, for the first time, every person present — with possibly one or two exceptions — was, or did become a member before the final adieus were exchanged.

You have stood in silent tribute to the Roll Call of those members who have passed on during the interval of our meeting. We sadly miss the wise counsel and genial presence

of one of our Founders and Board Members — one whom we all admired and loved, Andrew T. MacCoy; our esteemed and active Associate Member, Fred Hayden; and our Charter Member, Mrs. Jessie (Dickson) Hoult — a co-contributer, with her sister, of an annual ode to our assemblage. These have gone from us forever. "May their souls rest in Peace."

Our Historian has given you many very interesting facts concerning the life activities of Samuel Smith, son of Ralph, through whose line most of us have descended. You have heard the reports of your various officers and have elected your official staff for the coming year. You have had presented, and taken action upon proposals for stimulating still further activities of this fine Association; notably, that of bringing the Junior Group forward to a strong and healthy participation in the progress of these reunions. You have had presented a proposal for erecting a fitting memorial to Ralph Smith, in the old Eastham burial plot, near where he lived. Your enthusiastic approval has insured that this will be accomplished. It is hoped that all arrangements as to exact location, design of the memorial plaque and the necessary financial support will admit its actual dedication on that historic spot at our next — or following — reunion.

I would leave with you all the continuing thought that by your active support and participation you are not alone honoring the memory of Ralph Smith, but also that of your own parents — and grandparents — all the way back to the Founder of our Family — and, how pleased they all must be to look down upon these family assemblages, and know their memory lives on in loving hearts.

"God be with you 'till we meet again."

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Herbert Oliver Smith, son of Clayton and Judith (Cunningham) Smith, to Miss Barbara Wing, Saturday, September 20th, 1941, at Saugus, Massachusetts.

O perfect Love, all human thought transcending
Lowly we kneel in prayer before Thy throne,
That theirs may be the love that knows no ending
Whom Thou for evermore dost join in one.

AMEN.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Job C. Cunningham, married November 19th, 1891. Fiftieth Anniversary held at their home, November 19th, 1941, Rockland, Maine.

Reflected in the golden glow
Of Memory's Candlelight,
You two review your fifty years
And all that's made them bright.
And may this Anniversary add
An even deeper glow
To that bright candle lit by love
So many years ago.

IN MEMORIAM

Each Year the Master calleth

Some loved ones to endless rest;

And our hearts though filled with sadness

Can but say, "He knoweth best."

Entered into Rest

Fred Hayden, December 10, 1940.

Andrew Turnbull MacCoy, January 11, 1941.

Jessie Iona (Dickson) Hoult, July 15, 1941.

Caroline Atkinson (Brown) Carter, October 17, 1941.