

ANNUAL FALL MEETING, BOARD OF GOVERNORS,
 Descendants of the Signers of the
 Declaration of Independence, Inc., at
 Williamsburg, Virginia,

Saturday, November 7, 1964 - 11 A.M.

President General Marsden Churchill Smith called the session of Governors to order at the appointed time in the Scroll Room of the Lodge at Williamsburg, and requested offering of the Prayer of the Society by Mr. Percy Hamilton Goodsell, Honorary President-General. Fourteen Governors were in attendance.

In the absence of the Secretary-General, who sent his regrets for his inability to attend because of impaired health, and of the Assistant Secretary General, the President-General asked Mr. Clinton Axford to take these minutes, and upon motion, duly made and seconded, reading of the minutes of the last previous meeting was dispensed with by unanimous vote.

The President General reported the "tragic passing" of Mrs. Richard Bruce Light, who had been elected to the office of Registrar-General at the Annual Congress last May. He also expressed his gratefulness for the temporary resumption of the duties of that office by Mrs. William Ward III, who had served as Registrar General until Mrs. Light was elected.

The Registrar-General's report, presented by Mrs. Ward, showed:

New adult members	5
New junior member	1
Resignations	4
Deaths	6
Reinstatements	3

New Adult Members

1325	Lynn Clymer Elder (Mrs. Andrew Ross Elder) Dublin, N. H.
1326	John Henry Bennett 107 E. 37th St., New York 16, N.Y.
1327	Colson Henry Hillier, Jr. 9 Beatrice Drive, Bryn Mawr, Pa.
1328	Dwight Harvey Day, Jr., 1109 West Ave., Richmond, Va. (former Junior #446)
1329	Sue Morton Scott (Mrs. Craig Cozens Scott) 4402 ElCamino Corto, La Canada, Cal.

Signers

George Clymer
Richard Henry Lee
John Morton
Richard Henry Lee
John Morton

New Junior Member

568	Mona Simpson Daugette 300 Claremont Drive, Gadsden, Alabama (Born March 31, 1963) Adult #1062
-----	---

Edward Rutledge
Arthur Middleton

Resignations

941	Mrs. Nicholas Biddle Wainwright Ambler, RD 1, Pa.
1181	Mrs. Calvin Lee Lane, Wilmington, N. C.

Oliver Wolcott

Samuel Chase

(continued)

Resignations (continued)

2.

1240	Mr. Spotswood Braxton Hall Richmond, 26, Va.	Carter Braxton
808	Mr. Earle George Jardine, Ridley Park, Pa.	John Hart
<u>Deaths</u>		
578	Comtesse Armel de Kersaint Gilly (former Mrs. James Cullen Daily) New York -- Died May 9, 1964	Philip Livingston
828	Mr. John Jeffries Northeast Harbor, Maine -- Died June 21, 1964.	William Ellery
993	William Byrd Harrison, Jr. Warsaw, Va. -- Died Sept. 18, 1964	Thomas Nelson, Jr.
1097	Miss Carolyn W. Rede 400 Central Park West, New York Died Sept. 17, 1964	George Read
865	Mrs. Richard Light Haverford, Pa. -- Died Oct. 27, 1964	John Witherspoon
1314	John Martin Fultz, III 550 Hansell Rd., Wynnewood, Pa. Died Oct. 29, 1964	John Martin

Reinstatements

723	Henrietta Reeves Ker (Mrs. Howard Ker) 4329 Volunteer Dr., Alexandria, Va.-22309.	George Read
597	Emily Read Alexander Dunn (Mrs. Roswell Colt Dunn) 3365 Woodhaven Rd., Atlanta, Georgia 30305	George Read
440	Lt. Col. George H. Walton T2 Fort Leslie J. McNair, Washington, D.C.	John Hart

Seven members are to be dropped, being delinquent for dues for 1962-63, 1963-64 and 1964-65.

Moved and seconded, Mrs. Ward's report was approved unanimously.

The Treasurer General's report, presented by Mrs. Raymond F. Whitney, showed total assets of \$8,140.76, compared with \$7,059.07 May 1, 1964. However, it was pointed out that bills received since October 31, and the prospective printing of the membership list, will substantially reduce the current balance. The report was accepted unanimously, along with expressions of regret that the Treasurer General, Miss Natalie L. Densmore, was unable to be present, and of high appreciation for the great deal of conscientious work she does for the Society.

Scholarship report: In the absence of Miss Mildred Lee, no report was made.

Bi-centennial Committee: Chairman Goodsell said he had not yet selected the other two members authorized for the committee, and that he would welcome suggestions for a fitting observance; his own ideas, for one thing, include erection of a monument in 1976 at Washington, portraying a large hand holding a quill pen and presenting the words, "And for the Support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor", engrossed upon a scroll. The monument would carry the names of all 56 Signers. There is not in Washington, he believes, any monument to all the Signers.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the invitation of the New York State Society to hold its Annual Winter Meeting on February 13, 1965, at the Colony Club, with the stipulation that this should be a "subscription luncheon," paid for by each person attending. Also voted unanimously was an expression of appreciation for Mrs. Kean in arranging this, and the luncheon session held in February of this year.

In lieu of a Secretary General's report, the Secretary pro tem stated that Mr. Graham had attended and taken part in the organization meeting of a Pennsylvania non-profit organization, "Declaration of Independence House and Library, Inc." on November 5, 1964, formed to recreate the Graff House on Market Street, Philadelphia, in which Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence with the assistance of the members of his Committee: Benj. Franklin, John Adams, Robt. Livingston and Roger Sherman. Mr. Graham serves as one of the 12 Incorporators of this organization which is headed by Judge Edwin O. Lewis, Philadelphia leader in patriotic efforts and president of the Independence Hall Association. It also has as one of its incorporators Edward Hopkinson, Jr., a member of the D.S.D.I. and senior partner, Drexel & Co.

Copies of the Graff House organization's first press release and by-laws were furnished for the record by the secretary pro-tem, who reported that Congress has appropriated \$200,000 for purchase of the site and that the organization will seek \$500,000 for the reconstruction of the Graff House.

The Secretary pro-tem asked for an expression of endorsement and contribution to the Declaration of Independence House and Library project. Action on any contribution was deferred to some future meeting at which the Treasurer General would be present, but consensus of the Governors was an enthusiastic endorsement of the project.

The President General discussed the question of sale of the American Telephone & Telegraph shares in the D.S.D.I. treasury, and said a "Finance Committee" previously named to advise with the Treasurer General could remain active and make recommendations when it may see fit.

The President General discussed the need for specific authorization for recompense for expenses to the Assistant Secretary General and Assistant Treasurer General, whose names had been omitted from the applicable Section 8, Article 6, of the D.S.D.I. Constitution when their offices were added to the Constitution. Honorary President General Goodsell offered an amendment to be presented to the membership 30 days in advance of the next general meeting which would add the words underlined below to the second sentence of said Article:

"..... Should any such accounting be in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) each for the President General, Registrar General, Treasurer General and Secretary General, or fifty dollars (\$50.00) each for the Vice President General, the Chaplain General and the Historian General, and the Assistant Treasurer General and the Assistant Secretary General, when acting in the place of the Treasurer General and Secretary General respectively, for the entire fiscal year of the Society, it must be submitted by the Treasurer General to the annual Congress next ensuing for approval before payment."

Upon seconding of Mr. Goodsell's motion by Mr. Hugh Postles, the submission of this amendment to the Constitution to the membership was approved unanimously.

Member Axford suggested informal consideration of an increase in the Society's dues, but this met with an unfavorable reaction, fear being expressed that there would be a loss of members. He also suggested consideration of increase in the "Scholarship" grant from \$250 to \$300, but this was unfavorably received, also.

A motion was made to send a Resolution of Condolence to the family of the deceased Registrar General, Mrs. Richard Bruce Light, which was unanimously adopted.

It being one P.M., the meeting was adjourned, after which the Governors continued informal discussion of the Society's affairs at a pleasant luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

C. B. Axford, Secretary pro-tem.