Paul Seward Trible, Jr.

by James Slaughter

Senator Paul S. Trible, Jr., past president of the Essex County Historical Society, ranks as the Society's most distinguished member. Appointed to the Essex County Commonwealth's Attorney Post in 1974 at the age of twenty-seven, Paul Trible has since compiled a remarkable political career. After three terms in Congress, Virginia elected Trible to the Senate in 1982. A fast-rising star in the Republican Party, Trible may well be the greatest political figure to come from Essex since Senator R. M. T. Hunter.

In his youth, Paul Trible frequently visited the ancient Trible seat at Johnville near Dunnsville, the present home of Waring Trible. His father, Paul Trible Sr., was born at Johnville. Paul Sr. was a corporate executive and his son grew up in Richmond, New Orleans, and Pennsylvania. Trible returned to Virginia for college at Hampden-Sydney and law school at Washington and Lee. After clerking for a federal judge, Trible served as an assistant United States Attorney in northern Virginia.

The young lawyer then decided to forego a comfortable post as a federal prosecutor and return to his ancestral county. In early 1974, Paul's uncle, Waring Trible, advised him that Joseph Spruill was planning to resign the Essex Commonwealth's Attorney position. Paul recalled, "It seemed to me a tremendous opportunity to return to an area that I loved and to hold public office in Virginia. I had always dreamed of some day holding public office." Paul sought and received the appointment as Essex Commonwealth's Attorney.

Trible began his political career in Essex at a time of transformation in the county's politics. The Democratic Party that had long dictated Virginia and Essex politics was virtually extinct in the county. Essex whites were voting Republican, but most still resisted joining a party that had been virtually dead in the county since the turn of the century. In the fall of 1974, Trible faced his first election for the Commonwealth's Attorney post. Trible remembered, "I ran as a Republican, and I remember being counseled not to run as a Republican." Trible went on to demolish his opponent and became the first Republican county official since the 1890's. One of the highlights of serving in Essex, Trible recalled, was his service as legal adviser to the Board of Supervisors. "I sat with the Board of Supervisors," Trible said, "and learned a lot about local government." Partly because of Trible's enthusiastic leadership, the Essex Republican Party soon became the dominant force in county politics. Many local office holders have since joined the party.

Trible's fast climb up the political ladder helped solidify Essex as a Republican County. In late 1975, the Virginia political grapevine was buzzing with rumors that veteran first district Congressman Tom Downing would not seek another term. Virginia Republican party chairman George McMath visited Paul in Tappahannock and suggested that he run for Downing's seat. Trible was stunned to hear this from the state party chairman. "I never thought of running for the Congress," he recalled, "at least in such immediate terms."

Once Trible decided to seek the Republican nomination for the first district, he applied himself to the task with the high energy that has characterized his career. Trible faced a tough fight for the nomination. Two residents of the populous Hampton-Newport News area, including State Senator Herb Bateman, were seeking the nomination. Trible concentrated on building a base in his home area of the Middle Peninsula and the Northern Neck. In May of 1976, Trible won the Republican nomination in an upset.

The Essex lawyer now faced a tough fight in the fall election with an experienced Tidewater politician. Opposing Trible was veteran Democratic Assemblyman Bob Quinn of Hampton. The Essex Commonwealth's Attorney remained undaunted and worked hard on Quinn's home turf. Trible hoped to come close to Quinn in the cities and win the election with a strong showing in the rural areas. The strategy worked. Trible lost Hampton and the Eastern Shore, but Essex and the other country areas voted overwhelmingly for Paul.

Essex County boasted its first Congressman since another Commonwealth's Attorney, Thomas Croxton, was elected to one term in 1876. Trible joined a long line of Essex County Congressmen dating from Meriwether Smith of Bathurst, who served several terms in the Continental Congress. Trible also followed in the footsteps of the illustrious "Garnett Dynasty" of powerful Essex politicians in the ante-bellum years.
In Congress, Trible built a conservative voting record that won the approval of most Virginians. Paul moved from Tappahannock in 1979 since he could not afford to maintain a home in northern Virginia and in Essex. Paul, his wife Rosemary, and their two children now maintain a home at his father’s residence, “Gascony,” in Northumberland County.

The following address by Paul Trible was delivered to the Essex County Historical Society in 1975. In this talk, Trible discusses an important political figure of antebellum Essex, his great-great uncle, Austin Meredith Trible of Johnville and his kinsman John Trible Thomas Hundley II of Hundley Hall and Lynchburg.

Austin Meredith Trible and John Trible Thomas Hundley II

by Paul S. Trible, Jr.

Tonight I will present brief sketches of two famous natives of Essex County: Austin Meredith Trible, distinguished lawyer and statesman, and Dr. John Trible Thomas Hundley, II, distinguished churchman of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ Church) and educator.*

Austin Meredith Trible was the son of John Trible and Hannah Meredith, and was born at “Johnville,” his father’s home near Dunnsville, in 1818.† His early education was received at a private academy conducted by his brother, Peter Trible. Thomas Croxton and George W. Perkins also attended this academy and later were to become prominent lawyers in Essex County. When Austin Meredith Trible completed his course of studies at the private academy in Essex County, he matriculated at William & Mary College and graduated in law in 1839. Trible returned to his native county and became one of the leading members of the bar. Trible’s friend from boyhood and associate at the bar, Judge Thomas Croxton, described Austin Meredith Trible as “a lawyer of intuition and that for persuasion, eloquence, brilliant wit and quick repartee, he had never seen his superior.”

At that time, the whigs and the democrats were the dominant political parties in Virginia, and the debates of George W. Perkins, the representative of the whigs, and Austin Trible, the exponent of the democrats, were long remembered by citizens of this county. At the age of 29 after a hard fought political battle, Trible was elected to represent this district in the Senate of Virginia. History notes that he served his constituency faithfully and well and that had he continued in politics, he likely would have had a brilliant future. However, Trible’s first love was the practice of law, and he left politics to devote his full time and attention to his profession.

Austin Trible was twice married. His first wife was Mary Wright, a daughter of Thomas Wright of “Farmer’s Hill,” near Lloyds, Virginia, and a sister of Judge Seldon Wright. Mary Wright lived only a few months after their marriage and they had no children. While in the senate, he met and married Aurelia Peters, who was for a long time head of the Latin Department of the University of Virginia. For the first year of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Trible lived in Essex County, staying at the home of his brother-in-law, Captain Richard LaFon Covington; but Aurelia Trible having been born and raised in the mountains of Virginia longed to return to her native Lynchburg. Austin Trible and his wife moved to Lynchburg and he engaged in the practice of law. Trible rapidly became a leading member of the Lynchburg Bar and continued the practice of his profession until an account of failing health he was forced to retire.

Poor health prevented Trible from participating in the Civil War. However, in 1864, while still in ill health, he was elected without solicitation on his part, to the Confederate Congress. The South fell before he could take his seat. Austin Trible died in 1874.

Austin Trible had only one child, a daughter, Julia, who married Colonial Frank Huger, an officer in the confederate army. It was Julia Trible Huger of Roanoke, Virginia, who erected the tablet in this courtroom on December 19, 1910, in memory of her distinguished father. The address at the time of the tablet unveiling was made by William Gregory Renolds.‡

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John T. T. Hundley was born at “Clyde Side,” Essex County, Virginia, on March 1, 1868, a son of John Trible Thomas Hundley, I, and Sarah Elizabeth Garnett Hundley. His parents acquired the old Waring House in Dunnsville in 1870 and renamed the home “Hundley Hall.” Here J. T. T. Hundley, II, grew to manhood. His father was a farmer, a merchant, and conducted a well known school at Hundley Hall for many years. John T. T. Hundley, II, was a great nephew of Senator Austin M. Trible, a grandson of Judge Muscoke Garnett, of “Ben Lomond” and a brother of the late Judge Deane Hundley.

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*The address on Austin Meredith Trible is based on the research of Mr. William Gregory Renolds, a distinguished educator and Superintendent of the Essex Public Schools for over forty years. The address on John Trible. Thomas Hundley is based on an article appearing in the Chesapeake Christian Magazine in 1945. The biography on both men is taken from the chapters on the Trible and Hundley families in Haskins of Virginia and Related Families by Charles W. H. Warner.

†Johnville has been the seat of the Trible Family in Essex County since Oct. 15, 1737 when John and William Trible purchased 170 acres from one James Jones in South Farnham Parish “beginning at the mouth of a branch that runs into Covington Mill Swamp and bordering on the land of John Breedlove.” Today Covington Mill is known as Essex Mill and “Johnville” is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Waring Trible.

‡The Hon. Muscoke Garnett of “Ben Lomond” (1808-1880) was a lawyer in Essex County for fifty years, a member of the Constitutional Convention of Virginia in 1849-1850, a member of the state legislature for 17 years and the first judge of Essex County. “Ben Lomond” remained in the Garnett family for 144 years and is now the restored home of Mrs. Ursula H. Baird near Dunnsville. One of Judge Garnett’s sons was Commonwealth’s Attorney of Essex County, another a state legislator, another sheriff of Essex and a grandson, the Hon. Deane Hundley of “Hundley Hall” was county judge. Judge Hundley was also a member of the Virginia legislature, treasurer of Essex County, on the board of trustees of Lynchburg College and like his grandfather Judge Garnett, an elder of Rappahannock Christian Church.
(whose portrait hangs in this courtroom). J. T. T. Hundley married Sue Fleet Walker, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Walker of King and Queen County. They were the parents of a son and six daughters.

John T. T. Hundley graduated from Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky and Bethany College in West Virginia and accepted an invitation to become the minister at Rappahannock Christian Church and at nearby Smyrna Church. After a ministry of a few years at these churches, Dr. Hundley accepted the leadership of another rural church, Gethsemane of Hanover County. Next Dr. Hundley became the pastor at the First Church of Norfolk. When he went to Norfolk, this church was a small, discouraged group, financially poor and in debt. J. T. T. Hundley left this church self-reliant and missionary in purpose. Upon his resignation at the First Church of Norfolk, he turned again to the country serving the Phillipi, Ephesus and Newland Churches along the Rappahannock River in The Northern Neck. Later he accepted the call of a declining church in Fredericksburg and during his brief ministry there saved the church.

It was as a proponent and friend of Christian education that Dr. Hundley made his supreme gift to Virginia. Lynchburg College stands today as a living memorial to this man. In 1914, the Board of Trustees of then Virginia Christian College drafted Dr. Hundley as field agent in an attempt to save the institution. In this position, Hundley generated confidence until in 1915, the trustees drafted him as president. The college was at that time a sorry spectacle with only about 70 students and overwhelmingly in debt. When in 1936 Hundley resigned as president of Lynchburg College, the college had a student body of more than 300 students and fiscal assets of approximately one million dollars. Today Lynchburg College is one of the outstanding smaller liberal arts colleges of this state. Dr. Hundley’s portrait hangs in the president’s office and Hundley Hall Dormitory has been named after him.

As a church statesman, Dr. Hundley is also remembered. His wisdom guided church conventions in this state and the nation. He was one of the foremost leaders in founding and developing the Board of Higher Education of the Disciples of Christ Church. For nearly twenty years he was Director of the Christian Board of Publication, the National Publishing House of the Christian Church. It was Dr. Hundley’s resolution as presented to the International Convention 43 years ago that gave birth to unified promotion that brought unity and effectiveness in financing the agencies and institutions of the Disciples of Christ Church.

When Dr. Hundley yielded the helm of Lynchburg College after twenty-one years as its president, he turned again to his first love, the ministry of the country church. Dr. Hundley rounded out the last two years of his life as pastor of the Westville and Oak Grove Churches in Mathews County and Phillipi Church in Middlesex County. Dr. Hundley died on the morning of November 9, 1945, at his home at Mathews, Virginia. Following his death, the Chesapeake Christian Magazine included an article entitled “John Trible Thomas Hundley, God’s man and minister.” Quoting in pertinent part from this article it was said about Dr. Hundley: “His passing deprives (the christian church) of the greatest and most dynamic personality of the past generation, a great preacher, a great educator, a great man. Above everything, Dr. Hundley was a christian, not in mere rational commitment, but also in that rare quality of life that bespeaks God’s kinship with the Christ. His theme of life was: ‘That I may know him and the power of his resurrection in the fellowship of his sufferings.’ His conversation with his fellows was always the speaking of a good word for Jesus Christ... As we laid his consecrated body in the cemetery, near the Rappahannock Church, his spiritual roof tree, a great loneliness engulfed us. That John Hundley would no longer love and work with us was unthinkable. His more than 40 years in the vanguard of our Virginia leadership had made us dependent upon his inspiration and wisdom. He was first among us because he loved and gave his all in the most unselfish purpose that motivated mortal man—The bringing in of the kingdom of God on earth.” Funeral services for Dr. Hundley were conducted at Westville Christian Church by Rev. John A. Tate, of Richmond, secretary of the Virginia Christian Missionary Society and Dr. Riley B. Montgomery, president of Lynchburg College. Dr. Hundley is buried in Dunsville.

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In conclusion I would like to add a personal note.

Tonight, at this time in our history, I believe it is especially fitting that we have taken time to reminisce about these two men, Austin Meredith Tribe, lawyer and statesman, and Dr. John T. T. Hundley, II, churchman and educator. Here were men actively involved in the life of their community, striving to improve the quality of life.

At this point in history, America is threatened by gathering storm, at a time when we as a nation appear to have lost our way. Our economic condition is tenuous and our economic problems apparently insoluble. Crime is on the increase, and there is widespread corruption in business and in government. Moreover, the church is under attack. All this has shaken confidence in our essential institutions—the church and government.

Our political system, though far from perfect, has brought us greater personal freedom and a wider distribution of wealth than any system which man has yet devised. And our fundamental and abiding faith in God has given this nation a moral compass that has guided us through the storms and troubled waters of the past 200 years.

Today, more than ever, we need men and women to choose to involve themselves in the great issues and problems that confront this nation. For indeed as the Republican President Roosevelt once said: “It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.”

This generation of Americans faces great, great challenges, and will see great change. I have an abiding faith in the vitality of this country and its fundamental institutions, and absolute confidence that we have the resources to resolve the great issues before us. However, it is imperative that men and women choose to become
involved, dare greatly, and fight to help the Christian church and democratic government meet the challenges before us.

As we in Essex County tonight remember Austin Meredith Trible and Dr. J. T. T. Hundley and as we celebrate our nation’s 200th birthday and prepare to meet the challenges of the next 200 years, we must trust and pray that this county, this state, and this nation will continue to produce men and women of equal ability, faith, and commitment to the public good.

Captain Larkin Hundley of “Rose Hill”*  
*Obituary

Died, on the 16th September 1872, at the residence of his son, Rev. J. H. Hundley, in the County of Essex, Captain Larkin Hundley, age 77 years, 6 months and 24 days.

Captain Hundley was an extraordinary man and would have been a marked man in any age, and among any people. He began life with but little patrimony, and when quite a young man removed to Kentucky. The love of Virginia and his ancestral home was too strong for him to remain long, and he felt it his duty to return. This he soon did, and spent his long, active and useful life in his native state. He was a soldier in the war 1812-13, was High Sheriff and also Magistrate of his County (when none but Virginia gentlemen filled those honorable positions from 1832 to 1864) and at the time of his retirement, the honored presiding justice. It is believed he never missed a court while he was the presiding officer. As a justice, he was prompt, faithful, and just and his decisions generally gave satisfaction. After the constitution of 1861 and when for the first time in Virginia the judiciary was made elective, he was elected by the people to the office he had so well and acceptably filled. He was re-elected at each successive election till 1864 when he declined longer to serve. No longer an officer, he regularly attended the courts and took a deep interest in the administration of the public justice of his county and often from his long experience rendered essential aid to his younger and less experienced successors. Every matter of public interest found in him a warm and active friend. He was a humble and sincere Christian and at the time of his death a consistent member of the Episcopal Church. The writer of this knew him well for over forty years and rarely did he hear him speak unfavorably of any one, never harshly or unkindly. With him has passed away almost the last of that class of men of whom we can truly say, that we shall never see their like again. But he has filled his mission and gone to the grave “full of years and full of honors” and we hope full of the Christian’s best hopes. As son, brother, husband, father, soldier, citizen, a judicial officer who never tarnished the robes of justice, and he leaves a character well worth the study and well worth the emulation of the present and rising generation. He had been a Mason for fifty-one years and was buried with Masonic honors. The large concourse who attended his funeral bore feeling and affecting testimony of the esteem in which he was held by his countrymen. As he was deposited in the sacred ancestral grave yard there to mingle with the dust of his fathers, each one felt that the last link which bound him to the past was broken. Let him rest in peace.

* This obituary was furnished by Mrs. Julian Roden and Mrs. Wayne Davis.

Minutes of the Society

The Essex County Historical Society met in the Court House, January 29, 1984 at 5:00 p.m. with the president, Dr. Calvin N. Warfield, presiding.

Dr. Warfield asked for a report from Mrs. Robert Ellis, membership chairman, who introduced new members Mr. William Stanford Garnett, Mrs. Robert Tyler Bland, Mrs. William Austin Trible, Mr. and Mrs. Everett D. Johnston, and guests and explained the dues and the benefits of membership as to meetings and bulletins.

Dr. Warfield then asked Mrs. Wright, Secretary, to read the minutes of the last meeting. Mrs. Wright moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with since they had been published in the fall bulletin. Mr. Wellford seconded the motion, and the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Mr. Ludwell Smither, Treasurer, gave his report, stating that the balance on hand as of January 24, 1984 was $594.08. Since dues are due in January, we should have enough funds to carry us through 1984. Mr. Smither stated he had transferred the small amount in our Savings account to checking and is looking into the possibility of getting a number for the Society from the government so that we may start another account in the future. Mrs. Wright announced that we should make a drive to get several members to pay $100 for Life Memberships and use these as a basis to start a new Savings Account because the interest would more than pay the dues and we would have a backlog in case of inflationary costs in printing, etc. At this time we have two Life Members, Mrs. Dennis Sheen and Mrs. Lucille Andrews. Mrs. Wright also stated that if we can increase our membership to 200 members or more we could get a special permit from the Post Office which would allow us to send our bulletins, notices etc. for $.11 each—quite a saving.

The president then asked other standing committee chairmen for reports: Mr. Warner, chairman of Publications Committee, and Mrs. Charles DeShazo, chairman of the Revision of the By-Laws and Constitution Committee, reported that the suggested changes were so minute that the Committee had decided to move to table the revisions at this time; the motion was seconded and carried.

The president then turned the meeting over to our program chairman, the vice-president, Mr. Hill Wellford, who introduced our speaker, Mr. James Slaughter. Mr. Slaughter is writing the history of Essex County and has become a very active member of the Historical Society. He has been most generous with his time and has kept up the enthusiasm and interest of the entire county in the history he is writing by speaking to our Society and other organizations giving excerpts from his manuscript as he writes it. He has particularly called on members of the Historical Society to help him gather materials and photographs; he also asked for help with proofreading and explained his plan to carry on an Oral History Research Program in which he would schedule appointments and tape interviews. These taped interviews would be stored in the archives of the Historical Society for future reference to these families in the county and elsewhere. He also asked for volunteers to help type up some of these tapes for use in the History of Essex. He stated that we would have to sell at least 500 copies in ad-
vance at $32.50 per copy or we would have to find some other means of financing the project. He asks the cooperation of all our members to notify friends and relatives in other areas of the History so that they may order one.

After a short period of questions following his address, the meeting adjourned to the Club House for refreshments and a social hour. We wish to thank the hostesses for this delightful hour, Mrs. Ludwell Smither, Chairman, Mrs. Spotwood Taliaferro, Mrs. Robert Ellis, and Mrs. Lewis Myers.

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The Essex County Historical Society met at 2:00 p.m. April 8, 1984 at Vauter's Church in upper Essex. Mr. Hill Wellford, Vice President, welcomed members and guests and gave a short outline of the history of Vauter's which was built in 1731 and operated as a very successful church until the American Revolution. Following the Revolution it was not used as a church for about 40 years and the building was allowed to get into a very delapidated state and only saved from being completely demolished by Mr. Muscoe Garnett. In 1824 Dr. John Payton McGuire revived the Rappahannock River Parishes and they once again became thriving churches. Dr. McGuire in restoring the building changed the pulpit to the center and cut down the high pews. Mr. Wellford told several interesting stories of happenings at Vauter's and stated it was completely renovated in 1969 by Mr. Griegees, colonial church architect.

Dr. Calvin Warfield, President, then asked for the secretary, Mrs. Wright, to read the minutes of the January meeting. The minutes were read and approved. Mr. Ludwell Smither, Treasurer, reported a balance on hand of $956.80. He also stated that he had written to the tax department asking for a tax exempt number for the Historical Society so that we can start a Savings Account when and if we get some more $100 life memberships.

Mrs. Charles DeShazo asked that an announcement of the barter theater production "Tintypes" to be presented Monday, April 9th, at the Intermediate School be made, which it was by Mr. Smither.

Mrs. MacDonald Evans was asked to pass a tablet around so that all members and guests present could sign it.

Mrs. Robert L. Ellis, Membership Chairman, announced that we have a new member, Mrs. B. R. Jordan of Norfolk, and asked Mrs. Lucille Foster Andrews, new Life Member, to stand.

Mr. James Slaughter, Essex County Historian, announced that the date of the printing of the Essex County History he is writing has been extended to next spring, 1985.

Mr. Slaughter handed out copies listing county officials from 1860 to present day to members and hopes that they will help him collect more material about these officials and he is also very interested in getting more old photographs. He also introduced his guests, Miss Abigail Collins, who taught him history in Essex High School, and the Rev. and Mrs. Charles McGuire.

Mr. Warner, Chairman of Publications for the Society, announced the next bulletin will present an article about U.S. Senator Paul S. Trible, a former President of this Society.

Dr. Warfield then turned the meeting over to our vice president, Mr. Hill B. Wellford, who is in charge of programs, to introduce our first speaker, Mrs. Marty Taylor from Rappahannock Community College. Mrs. Taylor spoke of the Educational Foundation formed three or four years ago to promote the College's Scholarship Program and other purposes of the College which serves an area of 3,000 square miles and 13 counties, and has approximately 750 full-time students annually. These students and the college are doing a great deal for the community. Ninety percent of these students would not go to college elsewhere. These students stay in the community and help build up the economy. Mrs. Taylor stated that they are trying to raise $15,000 for this scholarship program, which will furnish approximately $900 per student scholarship, and asked for any support our members might be able to give personally or through their businesses.

Mr. Wellford then introduced Mrs. Helen Schyler Bailey, noted artist, who has done outstanding work in the conservation and restoration of old paintings and made copies of them for institutions and private collections. She also painted for the Essex Historical Society the portrait of Meriwether Smith which is now hanging in our Court House, replacing the one destroyed by fire. She addressed us on "History from a Painter's Point of View." Mrs. Bailey lives in Richmond and stated she was half British and Yankee who married a Virginian. She gave a most interesting and unusual talk about finding the facts of how things look, and often this is very difficult because there are many distortions in old paintings, some of which have been created by poor artists trying to restore or preserve them.

Mrs. Bailey told of the portrait of Elizabeth Fitzhugh Conway which hangs in the Virginia Historical Society Building and which she saw every time she walked by a certain hall. She felt the mouth was very strange and discovered that it had been created by very poor retouching. Also, after quite a study and much research looking for an original photo of this painting, she discovered that during a Puritan influence in artist's portrait, a neck piece had been added to cover up the low neck of the dress in which Miss Conway had originally been painted. This badly distorted portrait had been photographed many times and appeared in many historical books. After slight persuasion, Mrs. Bailey was able to redo this portrait and get it back to its original beauty for the Virginia Historical Society following much detective work on Mrs. Bailey's part. Now her copy is the only accurate clear copy of the original. Some of the early portraits are signed as Sully did on his portrait of John Marshall, not only once on the front, but twice on the back. Mrs. Bailey was asked to paint a portrait of Patrick Henry for a man from the West, from the one of Patrick Henry at Scotchtown, which was supposed to be an original. There were many pictures of Patrick Henry and some of them were very probably pictures of Captain Henry Cook. Patrick Henry by Thomas Sully was painted with a long face and a rosebud mouth as in the Aylett and Meredith miniatures. Benjamin LaTrobe, colonial architect, very carefully delineated a broad forehead and face in his drawing of Patrick Henry, and probably this drawing was much closer to the way Patrick Henry really looked. The Flemming miniature seems much closer to the facts than Sully's portrait which followed the lines of Captain Cooke from an engraving.
Mrs. Bailey did extensive research to find out exactly how Nathan Hale died, whether there was a scaffold for the hanging or whether a rope was hung over a tree limb. She told of discovering that the night of the Boston Massacre a Henry Pelham had made sketches for the newspapers the next day, and later Paul Revere was to claim that they were his drawings.

Mrs. Bailey told of much detailed research she had done in trying to picture the way St. John’s Church in Richmond was at the time of Patrick Henry’s famous speech made there. She has discovered that it was nothing like it is today. It was originally a chapel and the old lintel had been covered up and that there were several different entrances. So her work is very interesting and involves many hours of research and sleuthing in tracing down original photos of original paintings, etc. She warned that it is very important for us to take black and white photos of our portraits and write descriptions on the back, stating color of eyes, hair, skin tones, clothes, etc. if we want them to be preserved for posterity. Every one enjoyed Mrs. Bailey’s address tremendously, after which we adjourned to Vauter’s Parish House for a delightful social hour. We wish particularly to thank Mrs. Spottswood Taliaferro, Chairman, Mrs. Wythe Bowe, Mrs. Hill Wellford, Mrs. Muscoe Garnett, and Mrs. Ludwell Smithier for their hospitality and all the delicious refreshments.

Anne T. Wright, Secretary

Officers of the Society

President ......................... Calvin N. Warfield
Vice President ................. Hill B. Wellford
Secretary ...................... Mrs. William A. Wright
Treasurer ....................... Ludwell Smithier

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Charles W. H. Warner, Chairman;
Mrs. William A. Wright, Mrs. J.M. Evans, James Slaughter

HISTORICAL MATERIALS COMMITTEE
James Slaughter, Chairman

Meetings are held quarterly in the Essex Court House, or in an historic home or church of the County. Dues are $5.00 per year. For copies of publications send $2.00 to Mrs. J. M. Evans, Box 8, Tappahannock, Virginia 22560.