"Col. Meriwether Smith and His Time, 1730-1794"

by EMORY L. CARLTON

Mериwether Smith was born about the year 1730 at "Bathurst", Essex County, Virginia. He died at "Marigold", Essex County, on the 24th day of February 1794 and was interred at the burial ground at "Bathurst" on the 21st day of April and was buried by the Reverend Jo. Mathews. He was the son of Colonel Francis Smith of "Marigold", Essex County, the grandson of Captain Nicholas Smith of Essex County, Gentleman Justice between 1720 and 1730, Vestryman in 1739, Sheriff and collector in 1730; the great grandson of Nicholas Smith of Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County, Virginia. Colonel Francis Smith was Vestryman and Gentleman Justice, 1740, Major of horse, 1759, and afterwards Colonel, member of the House of Burgesses for Essex County 1752-1758 and Lucy Meriwether, daughter of Francis and Mary (Bathurst) Meriwether of "New Kent" County, Colony of Virginia. Francis Meriwether was the first clerk of Essex County. He was born on Jamestown Island and was the son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Woodhouse) Meriwether. Meriwether Smith's grandmother on his maternal side (Mary Bathurst) was a daughter of Launcelot Bathurst, a patentee of nearly 8,000 acres of land in New Kent County, Colony of Virginia, in 1683, who was appointed August 1, 1684, by Edmund Jenings, Attorney General of Virginia, his deputy for Henrico County. Launcelot's father was Sir Edwin Bathurst of England whose estate was sequestered by Oliver Cromwell because of Bathurst's loyalty to the crown.

Mериwether Smith had two sisters of the whole blood, Elizabeth Smith (1737-1792), married William Young (1729-1782) on 30 November 1755; he was a member of the Essex County Committee of Safety during the revolution and Mary Smith who married James Webb, Jr., a signer of the Association in opposition to the Stamp Act 17 February 1766. He had two brothers and one sister of the half blood, namely William, Frances and Anne Smith. It may be of interest to know that James Edwin Webb, one time head of the U. S. Space Administration was descended from James Webb, Jr., and Mary Smith Webb.

Mериwether Smith married twice—first, about 1760, Alice, daughter of Phillip Lee, third in descent of the emigrant Richard Lee, and widow of Thomas Clarke; and secondly, September 29, 1769, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Colonel William Daingerfield of King and Queen County. She died at Bathurst 25 January 1793 and is buried with her husband at "Bathurst".

Governor George William Smith, of Essex County and Richmond, Virginia, was the son of Meriwether Smith and his first wife, Alice (Lee) Smith, born in 1762. He is buried in the portico of Monumental Church, Richmond, Virginia and lost his life in the burning of the Richmond theatre 26 December 1811. It has been recorded that he lost his life attempting to save the life of one of his infant sons. Unbeknowing to Governor Smith, his son had been carried out of the burning building. He died in the fire not knowing that his son had been saved. Governor Smith was a lawyer, member of the House of Delegates for Essex, 1790-93 and for Richmond City, 1802-08; of the Privy Council 1809; Lieutenant Governor, 1810-11; Governor of Virginia 1811. He married first, 7 February 1793, Sarah (born 14 January 1766; died 30 September 1806), fourth daughter of the elder Colonel Richard Adams of Richmond. He married, secondly, Jane Reade (Jones) widow of Meriwether Jones, editor of Richmond Examiner. He had no issue by his second marriage. Colonel Richard Adams was a large property holder and the Assembly considered for a time the erection of the State Capital upon a site in Richmond, on Church Hill, owned by him and proffered as a gift to the State.

It may be seen from the foregoing that Mériwether Smith was descended from many of the leaders of the early settlers of the Colony of Virginia. It was natural that he and his son George William became two of the most distinguished men in Virginia and of the new nation. Meriwether Smith served Virginia with zeal and distinction through a long series of years, and in important stations. He was one of the signers of the Articles of the Westmoreland Association at Leedstown, Virginia on February 27, 1766, which, in opposition to the Oudious Stamp Act, was pledged to use no articles of British importation. The Sixth Article resolved as follows: "If any attempt shall be made on the liberty or property of any associator for any action or thing to be done in conse-

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quence of this agreement, we do most solemnly bind ourselves by the sacred engagements above entered into, at the risk of our lives and fortunes to restore such associate to his liberty, and to protect him in the enjoyment of his property." Meriwether Smith, as early as 1766, had taken his stand and placed his life and fortune on the line for liberty. During his entire life he never deviated from this stand. Needless to say, all of the citizens were not in favor of this bold act at Leedstown for it is written in the Virginia Gazette, number 1, Friday, May 16, 1766, "That a certain Archibald Ritchie of Hobb's Hole, merchant, having declared publicly at Richmond Court, that he was determined to clear out his vessels on Stamp'd paper; at the same time saying, that he knew where to get such paper: Enraged at the said Ritchie's matchless impudence, in making such a declaration, and alarmed at the dangerous consequences that such an iniquitous practice might be counter productive of the Liberty of their Country, if other merchants should pursue so pernicious an example; a number of gentlemen met at Leed's-Town on the twenty-seventh of last month (Feb.) in the evening, to consider of what measures it would be necessary to take, against a man who was thus attempting to introduce a law so destructive to the community. At this place they chose a committee to regulate their plans of operations, who drew up a Scheme of an Association. This Association was immediately signed by the whole company and a great number since. The Committee also prepared a declaration to be made, signed, and sworn to by the said Ritchie, and came to a Resolution, that if he should refuse to sign and make oath to the same, his person should be taken and stripped naked to his waist, tied to the tail of a cart, and drawn to the public pillory, where he should be fixed for one hour, and if in that time he did not comply, that he should be brought up by the whole company to Leed's-Town, there to be further determined on, as should seem expedient to the Friends of Liberty. The next day about four hundred citizens confronted Ritchie and he signed the declaration presented to him. Parenthetically, there was nothing said about 'undue influence' or 'duress'; the times demanded drastic action.

Meriwether Smith was one of the most distinguished citizens of Essex County. Gentleman Justice, merchant, legislator, captain, major and colonel of militia, and most of all statesman. He was an accomplished musician as it is recorded that he was a violinist of wide repute. He owned the race horse "David" imported in 1764. From 1774, when he became a member of the Essex County Committee of Safety, he was seldom out of public office during the period of the Revolution. He was a member of the House of Burgesses for Essex 1774-75; of the Virginia Conventions of 1775, 1776 and 1788; of the Privy Council 1776, 1780-81, 1783-85; of the Virginia House of Delegates 1777, 1782, 1786, 1789; of the Congress three times, 1778, 1779 and 1780.

In the Virginia Convention of 1776, he was chosen to the important committee on privileges and elections and second on the committee to prepare a declaration of rights. On May 5, he was one of the three members, the other two being Edmund Pendleton and Patrick Henry, who drafted resolutions of independence. David John Mays, in his biography of Edmund Pendleton (1721-1803), wrote that "At least three resolutions bear-

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system, etc., etc. and which I will with pleasure furnish... The evidences of his patriotism show that it was not less influential in directing and fixing the destinies of his country than it was bold and manly and honourable for himself."

"Colonel Smith's patriotism was distinguished at that early period of the revolution when men's souls were most tried. Judge Marshall remarked to me (Bathurst Lee Smith), 'I was well acquainted with your grandfather, Meriwether Smith - among the first to move forward in the cause of his country.' Mr. Monroe said, your grandfather was one of the earliest and most ardent patriots of the revolution. He, from the beginning, struck boldly and confidently for independence and nothing less."

"He, Meriwether Smith, wore a cocked hat, took much snuff when earnestly engaged in conversation and had great influence and control of the people-the likeness of him taken by his son, Bathurst, and sent to you by my sister Ann, is said to have been a most correct likeness." (Quarles to John Adams Smith 1859). A copy of this likeness of Colonel Meriwether Smith is in the possession of Emory L. Carlton. It has been hung in his law office.

407 Prince Street, Tappahannock, Virginia.

Returning to the early period of the revolution, the following is taken from an Historical Address delivered by Hon. Henry Wise Garnett at Occupia, Essex County, July 4, 1879: "Will the people a long time to realize the fact that the mother country of whom they were so proud was fixed in her intention to ride over their rights. It took them a long time to realize this fact but when the truth burst upon them, immediately through the length and breadth of the land ran the cry, 'we demand that our rights shall be held inviolate, for are you children and not your slaves.' " Nor was Essex County behind hand in this general cry as the following will testify. Meriwether Smith, native son of Essex took a conspicuous and leading part in the struggle for freedom. He was a leader in opposition to the Stamp Act, he was a leader in the meeting held in the Court house of Essex County on 9 July 1774 as the following will testify.

"At a meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of Essex County, Virginia at the Court House thereon, on Saturday the 9th of July 1774, seriously to consider the present dangers which threaten ruin to American liberty. Mr. John Upshaw being chosen Moderator, the following resolves were proposed and unanimously agreed to:

"14th. Resolved that a subscription be set on foot for raising provisions for the poor of Boston who now suffer by the blockading up of their port, and that Robert Beverly, John Lee and Muscoe Garnett in St. Anne's Parish, and Archibald Ritchie and John Upshaw in the upper part of South Farnham Parish, and Meriwether Smith and James Edmondson in the lower part thereof, take in subscriptions for that purpose, who are to consign what may be raised to some proper person to be distributed; and the before mentioned gentlemen are empowered to charter a vessel and send it to Boston."

"16th. Resolved James Edmondson and William Roane, Esquires, the late Representatives of the County be, and they are hereby, appointed deputies to represent us at the general meeting of deputies for the several counties of the Colony on the first day of August in Williamsburg and we desire that they will exert their best abilities for the security of our constitutional rights and liberties, and to appoint deputies to meet at the general Congress, the deputies of the other Colonies on this continent."

"17th. Resolved that the clerk transmit the foregoing proceedings to the printers to be published in their Gazette. William Young, Clerk of the Meeting."

"These resolutions speak with no uncertain sound. The time for indecision has passed; the struggle had commenced; the first Congress which met on the fifth of September, 1774, at Philadelphia, adopted a course of passive resistance and by a strict enforcement of non-importation hoped to convince the British Government of the difficulty with which they would be met in the attempt to enforce their tax laws. Few understood whither they were drifting, and as we have just seen, their resolutions were generally prefaced with expressions of loyalty.

"To carry out the measures of resistance, committees were elected in the several counties, and the following is that of Essex."

"At a meeting of the freeholders of the County of Essex at the Court House in Tappahannock, on Tuesday the sixth day of December, 1774 for the purpose of choosing a committee to see that the association is duly kept agreeable to the resolutions of the General Continental Congress. John Upshaw, gentleman, was unanimously elected Chairman, and William Young, Clerk, after which the following gentlemen were elected: William Roane, James Edmondson, John Upshaw, Thomas Boulware, John Lee, Meriwether Smith, Thomas Roane, Robert Beverley, Muscoe Garnett, William Young, Augustine Moore, John Beal, Henry Garnett, Robert Reynolds, John Brockenbrough, Thomas Shreshley, Thomas Waring, and Archibald Ritchie. William Young, Clerk."

"This committee was no idle form in the county of Essex as frequent investigations of suspected persons and orders concerning them will testify. In the Spring of 1775, the clash of arms warned all to prepare for war. In July of this year, the Assembly of Virginia divided the Colony into districts and ordered a battalion of five hundred men to be raised in each district, the age of military service being from 16 to 50. These minute men, as they were called, were to be kept and trained under an adjutant for twenty consecutive days and beside such battalion duty, the companies should in their respective counties meet and exercise for four successive days in each month except December, January and February, at times and places appointed by captains; in addition the battalion was to meet twice in each year and train for twelve successive days at places appointed by the committee of deputies. Gloucester, Middlesex, Essex, King and Queen and King William Counties were made one district, and the times for the meeting of the battalion fixed for the Fourth of May and the Twentieth of October."

"All free male persons, hired servants and apprentices above sixteen and under fifty, with a few exceptions, were liable for militia duty."

"Owing to its exposed condition, in the distribution of troops in 1775, a regiment is assigned for the protection of the peninsula between the Rappahannock and York. It is interesting to read the oath prescribed for the troops of Virginia in December, 1775. I do swear that I will be faithful and true to the Colony and Dominion of Virginia; that I will serve the same to the utmost of my power in defense of the just rights of America against all enemies, whatsoever, that I will to the utmost of my abilities obey the lawful commands of my superior officers agreeable to the ordinances of the Convention and (continued on page 4)
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the articles of War to which I have subscribed, and lay down my arms peaceable when required to do so, either by the General Convention or General Assembly of Virginia; so help me God.'

"It would take too long a time to enumerate the various events concerning Essex County, with the War of the Revolution. Her sons represented her on all its hard fought fields. In the person of William Daingerfield, Esquire, she furnished a Colonel for the Seventh Continental Regiment, and in Meriwether Smith, Esquire, she supplied one of the counsellors who, in Congress, guided the newly launched ship of state safely through the tempest which raged around her. In all the levies made for troops, we find the name of Essex high among the list of Counties whose sons are to step forward to repel the invader and bravely did they respond. It is impossible to tell the Counties from which the troops of Virginia came, but on looking over the list of officers of both the Continental and state service, there appear many names still familiar in this county.

"The theme of the Revolution is one on which it is natural this day at least, to dwell with pride. The lapse (now two hundred years) has made it a tale of long ago and yet not so old a story but that its history is still fresh in the minds of the descendants of its brave veterans, and we can with a feeling of just and honest pride whenever its glories are repeated, exclaim: And in all these Essex County has gained a part."

On Monday 1 April 1776, at Williamsburg, the Committee of Safety of Virginia took this action: 'ordered, a letter be written Mr. Meriwether Smith to know whether his vessel is appraised and fitted for a cruiser acco. to former order, and if it is, what progress is made thereon, but if it is not begun to be fitted, that he be desired not to begin the repairing her, and in that case that Mann Page and Fielding Lewis, Esquires, be desired to purchase a proper vessel to be employed as a second cruiser in Rappahannock, and proceed to have her fitted up under the directions of Lieut. William Green.' (a letter written accordingly.)

In the "List of the Revolutionary Soldiers of Virginia by Eckenrode", the following is listed. Smith, Meriwether (Colonel) Aud. Acct. 1780, 292.

Of interest is a synopsis of a letter from Honorable Meriwether Smith to Governor Thomas Jefferson, which is contained in the "Calendar of State Papers", as follows:

"Hon: M. Smith to Gov: Jefferson: He is on his way to Philadelphia and has only time to say he has letters from "De Francy" at Bordeaux, who gives information of his being able to comply with his contracts with this State; and that he will return in the Spring. He urges the sending forward Tobacco, as this is to be the Chief source from which supplies are to be procured. M. de Beaumarchais is still disposed to Assist America, and it will be our fault if we do not turn to advantage his plans - continues 'The Loss of Charlestown & the Reports which were industriously circulated that it had been given up by Lincoln, & that Congress were disposed to make peace with Britain, on any Terms, have served to embarrass our affairs in France, as the Ministry were much alarmed on the occasion; having before, for some Time, entertained suspicions of such a Design."

De Francy writes me that he shall be out with ten ships, well armed, two of which will be of the Line.

I rejoice with you on Morgan's late success - 'tis a great affair - and will be very important, I apprehend, in its consequences. Without it, I suspect that Genl: Green would have found himself shortly in a very perilous situation. This will give spirits to the People, strengthen our Hands & give us TIME, which I believe we want. The Speaker left this place yesterday. My carriage is broken down, but I shall proceed tomorrow. I am with great esteem & Regard; D. Sir, your most obedient servant, &c; &c."

In searching the records in the Clerk's Office of Essex County and in the Virginia State Library I found many items concerning Colonel Meriwether Smith. Some of them are as follows:

There is a deed recorded from Francis Smith to his son, son, Meriwether Smith dated 20 April 1761. Deed Book 28, page 301, conveying "all that plantation now in the possession of Meriwether Smith containing 724 acres bounded by land of John Fauntleroy and Hoskins Creek.

Meriwether Smith conveyed to his son, George William Smith lot number 5 in the Town of Tappahannock, and formerly owned by Charles Mortimer, Moore Fauntleroy and Hudson Muse.

In Will Book 15, page 92, appears the bond of George William Smith, Administrator of the estate of Meriwether Smith and Inventory and appraisement of the personal estate was recorded on May 1794. The total value of personal estate at "Marigold" was 905 pounds, 13 shillings and 10 pence. The value of the personal estate in the County of Henrico was 306 pounds and 172 pence.

In Deed Book 34, page 299, appears a deed dated 4 December 1795 from George William Smith to Thomas Jones, conveying "Bathurst" Plantation containing 818 acres. This conveyance was in exchange for land in King William and Henrico Counties.

A synopsis of an advertisement appearing in the Virginia Gazette and Richmond and Manchester Advertiser issue of December 16, 1793, page 3, column 4, pertaining to advertising "Bathurst" for sale as follows:

For Sale on Credit

That valuable tract of land in Essex County called "Bathurst", containing 700 acres, lying on the waters of the Piscataway Creek about 2 miles below Tappahannock.

There is a commodious dwelling house, containing 4 rooms below and 4 rooms above stairs, with kitchen, laundry, dairy, meat house, stable, etc; a large barn nearly central of the plantation, with a comfortable house for an overseer and quarters for negroes convenient thereto, a grainerie situated directly on the bank of the Piscataway there there is a sufficient depth of water to admit a vessel of 2000 bushels to approach and receive her load within 15 or 20 feet of the door of the said grainerie; and at the distance of a few yards from which, on the hill stands a house which was built and used for a retail storehouse etc. etc.

George W. Smith
Bathurst 15 December 1793

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6. Ibid. 5 and 1

AUTHORITIES

Genealogy of the Smith Family of Essex County, Virginia, by C. W. Coleman, William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. VI, 1897-1898, p. 41.

Virginia Historical Collections, Vols. I and II.


Edmund Pendleton 1721-1803, by David John Mays.

Archibald Cary of Ampthill, by Robert K. Brock.

American Biography.


Minutes of the Society

PHILIP SPIESS, AUTHOR, LECTURER ADDRESSES
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Essex County Historical Society met in the Court House at Tappahannock, Virginia on July 18, 1982 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Charles W. H. Warner, president, presiding. Mr. Warner presented two projects which need additional funding. The society has voted to have a portrait of Colonel Meriwether Smith, a distinguished son of Essex, painted and hung in the court house. This man's portrait was one of those destroyed in the fire and has not been redone to date. At the request of the Historical Society the board of supervisors agreed to contribute $1000 leaving $500 to be raised by the Historical society. Emory L. Carlton has done extensive research on Smith and has asked the effort to have the painting commissioned. The artist will be Helen Bailey, a well known artist. Mr. Warner appealed to all members and to interested persons to make donations, large or small, checks should be made payable to the Essex Historical Society and mailed to Mr. Ludwell Smither, Treasurer, Tappahannock, Virginia.

A second project will require more money. It had been voted to publish all twenty bulletins in book form for the Tricentennial celebration this summer. The cost is beyond the present limits of the society's funds. Some projects are expected to be undertaken to fund this project at a later date.

Mr. Warner appointed Emory L. Carlton, Mrs. Polly Taliaferro and Robert T. Ryland as the Nominating Committee and asked them to present a slate of officers at the fall meeting.

The program chairman and vice president, Dr. Calvin N. Warfield, presented our guest speaker, Mr. Philip Spiess, author and lecturer from Fredericksburg, who spoke on historical preservation. He disputed a recent news story which had accused President Reagan of "axing" the preservation program. According to Mr. Spiess "no president, Democratic or Republican" can "ax" this program because it was officially constituted by the Congress of the United States.

It is not set up as a government agency. In the '60s funding was started by government, but not directly from the federal budget. The monies come through the park service mainly. In the 1985 budget of the service there will be a cut, but there will still be funds to provide essential programs and grants, according to Mr. Spiess. "The staff will be cut from 40 to 25" he said and added that this may not reduce the effectiveness of the program.

Mr. Spiess called on each and every person to "educate ourselves first" concerning historical preservation and then to educate other citizens. He voiced optimism about the interest in history of this nation and indicated he sees a trend toward growing interest in, and support for preservation of historic artifacts and buildings. The present and forthcoming Tricentennial celebration in which our county is involved this summer particularly shows how much our present community is involved in our local historical background.

Following this splendid address the meeting adjourned to the Woman’s Club House for the social hour and enjoyed delicious refreshments served by Mrs. Nancy Ball and her committee of hostesses for this meeting, for which we thank them.

H. NEILL WARE ADDRESSES
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Essex County Historical Society met at Rappahannock Christian Church, Dumfries, Virginia, Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. October 17, 1882, with Mr. Charles W. H. Warner, president, presiding.

Mr. Warner asked for a report of the nominating committee from the Chairman, Mr. Emory L. Carlton, who named the following slate of officers for 1983. Dr. Calvin N. Warfield, president, Mr. Eldon W. Christopher, vice president and program chairman, Mr. Ludwell F. Smither treasurer, and Mrs. William A. Wright, secretary. Mr. Carlton moved acceptance of the slate of officers as presented and it was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Warner introduced Mr. James Slaughter, who has been appointed by the Board of Supervisors to write a history of Essex County to be published in the not too distant future. Mr. Slaughter has been gathering material for this history and has gone through the files of the Society's and found much valuable information, and in so doing has prepared an inventory of these materials for us, which will be a great help to anyone searching these files in the future for a particular subject. We are delighted to have Mr. Slaughter join our society and look forward to working with him.

Mr. Carlton announced that the portrait of Col. Meriwether Smith was now hanging in the Court House (continued on page 6)
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and stated that everyone who had seen it was most pleased. He moved that the artist, Helen Bailey be sent a check from the society immediately paying our share "$500". Mr. Smither, treasurer, had reported that $342 had been given as donations for the portrait, and Mr. Warner expressed the hope that there would be some more donations toward this in the future. The motion was seconded by Mr. Warfield and Mrs. Wright and voted on and Mr. Smither was instructed to send the check immediately.

The secretary, Mrs. Wright, reported that she did not have minutes from the July meeting because she had been out of town, and because the tape recorder did not function properly, the minutes would have to be made up from the news articles which had appeared in the Rappahannock Times. She thanked the hostesses, Mrs. John Ecker, Mrs. Charles DeShazo, Mrs. Edmund Haile and Mrs. D. Berrien Halstead II for the refreshments which they will serve during the social hour following the meeting.

Following this short business session, Mr. Warner introduced Mr. H. Neill Ware who presented an excellent talk on the Ware family, with many interesting sidelights and anecdotes. He had a chart which traced the ancestors of the present members of the Ware family living in Essex for the past four generations. Beginning with the first Edward Macon Ware at Ware's Wharf, his great grandfather, before the War Between the States and it made it much easier to follow the stories of the family.

Following this interesting and excellent talk by Mr. Ware, Dr. Warfield, the president-elect adjourned the meeting for a delightful social hour with delicious refreshments. Dr. Warfield asked the officers elect to meet with him a few minutes to set up an executive board meeting at the home of the secretary, November 4 at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes of Executive Board

The Executive Board of the Essex County Historical Society met at the home of the secretary, Mrs. Anne T. Wright, with Mr. Calvin N. Warfield, President elect, Mr. Ludwell F. Smither, Treasurer, Mr. Charles Warner, President, Mrs. Wright, and Mrs. J. M. Evans present. Mr. Eldon Christopher, Vice-president elect was absent due to doctor's appointment.

Mr. Warner and Mrs. Wright brought up immediately the fact that our membership is not as large as it should be. After discussion, Mr. Warner moved that our president elect appoint a chairman of a Membership Committee composed of three others from each area of the county appointed by the Chairman to work with each other to increase our membership. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Evans and carried.

The next discussion was a change in meeting time. It was moved that we meet at 2:30 p.m. in January and April and 3:00 p.m. in July and October. Motion was passed.

Mr. Warner suggested that publicity of the Historical Society be presented to the public for new members on a cultural and present historical interest basis which would mean more to the newer citizens of our county.

The House Tour which had been planned for the Fall was discussed and Mr. Warner reported that Mrs. Ellis and Mrs. Smither, co-chairman had decided to wait until Spring 83 to have the House Tour. Several places were suggested that they might be able to secure for the House Tour: Kendale, Hiltons, Oakalona, Rosemont, Fonthill, Elmwood, Johnville, William Justin Waring home. It was also suggested that if at all possible we try to get some homes to meet in, in the spring and fall, even if we have to ask members whose homes are in King & Queen County.

Mr. Smither reported balance in treasury as $688.31, the $500 for our share of the Smith portrait having been paid, only $342 was collected as special gifts for the portrait, we still have hopes of getting a few more contributions toward this. The ladies have kept refresment spending to a minimum, as have Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Mary Evans in sending our notice of meetings and the bulletins. It is most important that we have a money making project soon or we cannot afford to continue the bulletins which have doubled in price of printing.

Mr. Warner moved that we buy stationery to be made up bearing the name of the Essex County Historical Society, Tappahannock, Va. to be used by the officers of the society and especially for the newly appointed corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. M. Evans. It was also decided that we should have a separate mail box for the society and Mr. Warfield was to obtain it from the Post Office and have Mr. Smither pay the rent.

Mr. Warfield moved that Mr. James Slaughter be appointed chairman of the Committee for Historical Materials of the Society. Motion was seconded by Mr. Warner and adopted. Motion was amended that Mr. James Slaughter also serve on the Publications Committee.

There being no further business to attend to, the meeting adjourned to meet again on Dec. 7, 1983 at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Wright.

Anne T. Wright, Secretary

Officers of the Society

President .................. Mr. Charles W. H. Warner
Vice President ............ Mr. Calvin N. Warfield
Treasurer .................. Mr. Ludwell Smither
Secretary .................. Mrs. William A. Wright

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman, Mr. Charles W. H. Warner; Members: Mrs. William A. Wright, Mrs. J. M. Evans, Mrs. Charles N. DeShazo.

Meetings are held quarterly in the Essex Court House, 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.

Barbour Printing Services, Inc., Tappahannock, Virginia 22560