



The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 31

JUNE 1975

NO. 10



Left to right: Past President Stanley A. Salomon receiving gift from Mannie Reggel; President Louis Bernstein looking on at the annual dinner.

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ROBERT A. SMITH

Guest Editor

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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was organized in 1934 for the purpose of encouraging research and study in Masonic Philately, and to establish bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors. The need for the organization has proved itself through the years with its ever-increasing membership and the formation of other Masonic stamp clubs in the United States.

★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Every Month
(Except July and August)

COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING
22 East 35th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10017

FROM THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank all the members who have contributed articles so that this publication can be of interest to all. Even if it sometimes gets out a little late, we all feel it's worth waiting for.

My hope is that next year's issues, which will start after the summer, will be on a solid schedule.

From the entire club's officers and board we all wish each and every one of you a happy and healthy summer.

WHEN IS A MAN A MASON?

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizons, with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope and courage — which is the root of every virtue.

When he knows that deep down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic and as lonely as himself; and seeks to know, to forgive and to love his fellow man.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, even in their sins —.

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And a wealth of joys fraternal,
In a friendly atmosphere.

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American Revolutionary War Period

Dates, Descriptions, and Locations of Significant Events, Battles, etc.

1775

Date	Event	Explanation	Location of Event
Mar. 23, 1775	Patrick Henry's Speech	Addressing members of Virginia's House of Burgesses, Patrick Henry urged his countrymen to prepare for war and closed his speech with these famous words: "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"	St. John's Church, Richmond, VA
Apr. 18, 1775	Paul Revere's Midnight Ride (" — Midnight Ride of Paul Revere —" by Longfellow)	Paul Revere slipped out of Boston in the evening of April 18th, crossed the Charles River, and rode toward Lexington and Concord to warn that "the British are coming!" He warned Sam Adams and John Hancock and rode on toward Concord. He was stopped briefly by British pickets and released, but he had accomplished his purpose; the warning had been given to the Massachusetts patriots.	Boston, Lexington & Concord, MA
Apr. 19, 1775	Battles of Lexington and Concord (" — fired the shot heard round the world" — Emerson)	The first fight between British and American fighting men. In the early morning hours of April 19th, British regulars fired upon and dispersed American militiamen lined up on the Lexington Green. The British moved on to Concord, and, after several skirmishes with other militiamen, they were repulsed at Concord's North Bridge and driven in retreat back toward Boston.	Lexington & Concord, MA
May 10, 1775	2nd Continental Congress	Convened at Philadelphia's Pennsylvania State House, later known as Independence Hall.	Philadelphia, PA
May 10, 1775	Ticonderoga & Crown Point	Fort Ticonderoga, held by the British, was attacked and captured by Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys. Later that day, Benedict Arnold of Connecticut, with some of the Americans, also captured another British fort at Crown Point.	Ticonderoga & Crown Point, NY
May 14, 1775	First Naval Engagement of the War	At Dartmouth (now New Bedford), MA, Americans attacked and successfully overcame and captured two British vessels in the harbor.	New Bedford, MA
May 20, 1775	Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence	North Carolinians of Mecklenburg County, assembled at Charlotte, declared themselves independent of rule by the British Crown.	Charlotte, NC
Jun. 15, 1775	Birth of the United States Army. George Washington — Commander of the Continental Army	The 2nd Continental Congress authorized the formation of a Continental Army and appointed as its Commander-in-Chief George Washington, who accepted immediately. This date is viewed as the birthday of the U.S. Army.	Philadelphia, PA
Jun. 17, 1775	Battle of Bunker Hill	Americans, commanded by General Ward, were ordered to fortify a location on the Charlestown peninsula known locally as Bunker Hill. Erroneously, the fortifications were placed on Breed's Hill, nearby. The British attacked the fortified position in the first real battle of the War and won a costly victory. (British losses: 1,054 dead of 2,200). In the years since, the battle has become known by the name of Bunker Hill.	Charlestown, MA
July 3, 1775	Washington Assumes Command	Gen. George Washington arrived at Cambridge and assumed command of the Continental Army.	Cambridge, MA
Oct. 13, 1775	Birth of the United States Navy	The 2nd Continental Congress authorized the use of armed vessels. This date is viewed as the birthday of the U.S. Navy.	Philadelphia, PA
Nov. 10, 1775	Birth of the United States Marine Corps	The 2nd Continental Congress also authorized the formation of a Marine Corps for its Navy.	Philadelphia, PA
Nov. 13, 1775	Capture of Montreal	An expedition under American General Montgomery, loosely authorized by the Continental Congress, moved down Lake Champlain into Canada and captured the city of Montreal.	Montreal, Canada
Dec. 31, 1775	Battle of Quebec	After taking Montreal, Gen. Montgomery moved down the St. Lawrence River toward Quebec City. Another American expedition under Benedict Arnold, which had left Massachusetts in September, moved through Maine and reached Quebec from the south. A joint attack by both forces against the city on the last day of 1775 failed. Montgomery was killed and Arnold was injured.	Quebec City, Quebec

June 17, 1775

JOSEPH WARREN LOST HIS LIFE AT BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL

By John M. Sherman, 32°

Reprinted from The Northern Light, June, 1975

When the visitor to the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown climbs the steps leading to it and enters the little granite lodge at the base of the great shaft, he faces a heroic statue of striking aspect in the passage directly ahead. It is the figure of Joseph Warren, tall, debonair, and costumed after the manner of colonial times.

This statue, carved out of the best Italian marble and mounted on a pedestal of beautiful American verde antique, is the work of Henry Dexter of Cambridgeport, Mass., a self-taught American artist. He has adopted the original portrait of Warren, by John Singleton Copley, as the basis of his likeness, and has probably attained as perfect a resemblance of the youthful hero as it is now possible for the most skillful artist to produce.

The history of this statue is told in a book published in 1858, edited by William W. Wheildon of Charlestown. Wheildon was a member of the committee of the Bunker Hill Monument Association, which undertook to carry out the proposition of having a statue of Warren made for the Association. The project was originated by Col. Thomas H. Perkins, who had been 10 years old on the day when the battle of Bunker Hill occurred. In 1850, he proposed to the Association that if the members would consider the undertaking he would subscribe the sum of \$1,000 in aid of the object.

Three-quarters of a century had passed since that momentous event occurred, and although the Continental Congress had resolved on April 8, 1777, that a monument should be erected to the memory of General Warren in the town of Boston, they had never appropriated the funds needed for its execution. It was hoped that with the impact of Col. Perkins' offer and the financial support of others through private subscription, the possibility of obtaining the appropriation from Congress could be achieved. However, in spite of the best efforts of the committee to obtain support, the Congress did nothing, and in the end (1854) it fell to the Association and private subscribers to carry the project through to completion.



In one of his letters to the committee, Col. Perkins had recommended Dexter, as a sculptor fully competent to undertake the work. At the annual meeting of the Association in 1855, it was reported that an agreement had been made with Dexter and that he had completed his design of the statue, which the committee had approved.

The committee took occasion to make several visits to the studio of the sculptor, in Cambridgeport, while he was modeling his design. The work took two years to finish. It was received and dedicated on June 17, 1757, and on this occasion there was a rather elaborate ceremony at which prominent public officials gave stirring addresses.

The catalog of the works of Henry Dexter shows that in 1857 he made two studies (in clay) for the statue of General Warren, items numbered 106 and 107. Number 108, the finished statue, done in marble, was the one dedicated at Bunker Hill on June 17, 1857. One of these clay "studies" was purchased by Mr. Otis E. Weld, a Boston merchant and a Mason, who presented it to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1876. Since Joseph Warren at the time of his death occupied the highest station in our order (Provincial Grand Master for North America under the Scottish Constitutions), he is venerated for his place in history and for setting the highest example of a Patriot and a Mason who gave his life for his country in the cause of freedom, and it is most appropriate

that this statue by Dexter should adorn the Masonic Temple in Boston. It stands in a niche in the wall just above the second landing in the marble stairway between the first and second floors of the edifice.

Other monuments have been erected to the memory of Joseph Warren. The first was in 1794, when King Solomon's Lodge in Charlestown erected and dedicated one on Bunker Hill in the shape of a Tuscan pillar, 18 feet high, on the top of which was placed a gilt urn with the initials and age of General Warren enclosed within a square and compasses. A fence surrounded it to protect it from injury. The dedicatory services and procession were elaborate.

The lodge kept the monument in repair until March 8, 1825, when they voted to present the land and monument to the Bunker Hill Monument Association upon condition that there should be placed within the walls of the new monument the Association was about to erect a suitable memorial of the ancient pillar in order to perpetuate that early patriotic act of the Masonic fraternity. In fulfillment of that condition, King Solomon's Lodge, on June 24, 1845, placed within Bunker Hill Monument an exact model in marble of the original monument.

The public ceremonies were conducted by the Grand Lodge and included many distinguished brethren from other jurisdictions. An interesting feature of the occasion was the presentation of the working tools to Grand Master Augustus Peabody, by Past Grand Master John Soley, who had himself, as Master of King Solomon's Lodge 50 years before, dedicated the first monument. The cornerstone of the present monument was laid with Masonic ceremonies on the 50th anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill (June 17, 1825) under the direction of Grand Master John Abbott, assisted by our illustrious Brother Lafayette. The completion of the monument was celebrated on June 17, 1843, the Masonic portion of the procession being under the direction of King Solomon's Lodge. On that occasion, Past Grand Master Benjamin Russell, a soldier of the Revolution, wore the Masonic Apron of General Warren, which is one of the most prized relics in the Grand Lodge Museum in Boston.

On June 17, 1857, Most Worshipful John T. Heard, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers and 2,000 brethren inaugurated the statue of General Warren made by Henry Dexter, which we have already described.

On June 17, 1904, in Roxbury, near the places of his birth and early manhood, a second statue of General Warren was formally dedicated in the presence of about 10,000 spectators. This statue, of bronze, had been made by Paul W. Bartlett at his studio in Paris, France, and then shipped here via New York. The subject of erecting a monument to Warren in Roxbury, near his place of birth had come up for discussion from time to time over the previous 100 years, but no action was taken until after the annexation of Roxbury to Boston in 1867. In 1874, a Joseph Warren Monument Association was formed, and in 1875, the city government set aside a triangular lot on Warren Street opposite the birthplace of Warren as the site for the monument. In March of that year, Congressman Pierce obtained from Congress a donation of ten brass cannon, and in 1884 ten more were obtained from the U.S. Government. After another 10 years, in 1894, another agitation was started in Roxbury. This time the city started to build up a fund for the purpose, and in 1895 entered into a contract with Bartlett for a monument. The design showed Warren in the physician's coat, combined with a manuscript under the arm holding a sword. This formed the sculptor's conception of the doctor, orator, and soldier.

The presentation speech at the dedication in 1904 was given by the Hon. Charles T. Gallagher, who was a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons (1900-1902) as well as a prominent citizen of Boston.

There was no Masonic ceremony of dedication, but the emblem of the fraternity was placed under an inscription prepared by President Eliot of Harvard University.

Joseph Warren's boyhood life was much like that of other country boys of his period. He was born June 11, 1741, at his father's farm in Roxbury. Joseph was the oldest of four boys in the family. When he was 14, his father died by an accidental fall from a ladder in his orchard, and his mother was left in charge of the four sons, two of whom later became physicians. Joseph Warren entered Harvard the year his father died (1755). He graduated in 1759 and was master of a grammar school in Roxbury in 1760.

On September 10, 1761, soon after giving up his work at the school, he was admitted to St. Andrew's Lodge of Masons, which had been formed but a few years. He was regular at its meetings, and made earnest effort to establish the

character and widen the influence of this association. "It was his Alma Mater," it has been said, "and as such, he was ever zealous to defend its honor and promote its welfare." He continued through life a member of this institution, and rose to its highest honors.

In 1769, St. Andrew's Lodge, of which he was a member, united with two lodges, which consisted of members who belonged to the British regiments then in Boston, in sending a petition to the Earl of Dalhousie, Grand Master of Masons in Scotland, "appointing the Most Worshipful Joseph Warren, Esq. to be Grand Master of Masons in Boston, New England & within One hundred miles of the same." He was installed December 27 at the Masons' Hall in the Green Dragon Tavern. Among the grand officers of this second Grand Lodge (there was another Grand Lodge in Boston, founded in 1733, working under the Grand Lodge of England) were Thomas Crafts and Paul Revere, two zealous patriots, and Captains French and Molesworth, two officers of the 29th Regiment.

Soon after this Masonic promotion, Warren took part in the great town-meeting which was occasioned by the firing of the troops on the citizens, when the 16 months' question of their removal was forced to a conclusion.

Warren had chosen the profession of medicine for his calling. Dr. James Lloyd was an eminent physician in Boston, and Warren went through the usual preparatory course under his direction. He received his degree at Harvard in 1762. He began practice in 1763 and is said to have distinguished himself at once. In 1764, smallpox prevailed extensively in Boston and he was very successful in treating it. About this time he began to take an active part in political affairs, and his letters and newspaper essays soon attracted the attention even of the government. They were remarkable for clearness of thought and cogency of argument.

In 1774, he was chosen to represent the town of Boston in the Provincial Congress and in the following year was elected President of that body. Here he manifested extraordinary powers of mind and a peculiar fitness for the guidance and government of men in times of difficulty and danger. The Congress was then sitting in Watertown, Mass., and upon its daily adjournment he hastened to the military camp there to participate with the common soldiers in the exercises and drills and to encourage and animate them by exhorta-

tion and example. The Provincial Congress offered him the appointment of Surgeon General, but he declined it and accepted a Commission as Major General, dated only three days before the Battle of Bunker Hill.

On the night of June 16, 1775, he presided at the meeting of the Colonial Congress, which continued in session a great part of the night in Watertown. Early in the morning of June 17th while visiting a patient in Dedham, Warren left her saying that he must go to Charlestown to get a shot at the British and would return to her in season for her confinement which was almost hourly expected.

He arrived at Bunker Hill only a few moments before the first attack of the British troops. There he refused to take command when offered it by Putnam and Prescott, seized a musket, and fought as a private. His reluctance to obey the order to retreat resulted in his death as he was only a few rods distant from the redoubt when the British obtained full possession, and he was instantly killed by a bullet in the head. He was buried in a shallow grave on the field.

Immediately after the evacuation of Boston his Masonic Brethren determined to go in search of the body. They repaired to the spot indicated by an eyewitness of his death. It was at the brow of a hill, and near the head of the grave was an acacia tree. Upon the removal of the earth which appeared to have been recently disturbed they indeed found the body of their Grand Master. This was on April 6, 1776.

They carefully conveyed the body to the State House in Boston. Two days later an oration was delivered over his remains by Perez Morton, who was at that time Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge. After the funeral ceremonies the remains were deposited in a tomb in the Granary Burying Ground, where they remained for nearly 50 years.

In 1825 his remains were found, identified, and deposited in a box of hardwood, designated by a silver plate in the Warren Tomb under St. Paul's Church, Boston. A number of years later they were again removed and found their final resting place in Forest Hills Cemetery.

The Anti-Masonic "Excitement"

By Herman Herst, Jr.

These days, membership in a fraternal organization is taken for granted, not only by the member himself, but by the general public, but it was not always like that.

A century and a half ago such a feeling of antagonism for secret organizations developed that Masonry in the United States came as close as it could have without having its light permanently dimmed.

For lack of other important issues, opponents of Masonry used it in their campaign for the White House. Masonry's greatest enemy, John Quincy Adams, used both his intellect and writing ability to let Americans know what a demoralizing force he thought Masonry was.

William Morgan, a resident of Batavia, N.Y., became a Mason in 1826. Never a citizen of good repute, it is today suspected that he joined merely to learn the secrets of the fraternity, in order that he might share them with the public at large. With resentment against all secret societies building, he had no trouble finding a publisher. "Illustrations of Masonry", was printed in 1827 by Col. David C. Miller of Batavia, and tens of thousands of copies were sold, many to people who bought simply out of curiosity.

Morgan's violation of his oath was known to his Lodge Brothers long before the book appeared. His honor was appealed to in vain; he refused to order the book not to be published.

The veil of mystery comes over Morgan at this point. Masons in Batavia claim they traced him to Western Canada where he went to seek a fortune. What is known is that he never returned to Batavia, and out of this fact, Masonry's enemies had all the evidence they wanted on the vile oaths of the fraternity. While the charges were never dignified with formal accusations, the entire nation, and especially those who despised secret societies, were convinced that the penalties assumed by every Mason when he takes his obligation were visited upon Morgan.

By 1830, fifteen hundred Lodges were abandoned, and 45,000 Masons, out of 50,000 in this country, left the order, especially when economic reprisals, and worse yet, personal attacks, forced them to renounce the fraternity. A few lodges met secretly. Some destroyed their dis-

pensation, thus making it difficult for them to open again when the excitement died down in the mid-1830s. Masonic records, memorabilia, working tools, aprons and insignia were destroyed or hidden, thus making it difficult today to reconstruct Masonic activities of the period.

By 1830, Adams had retired from the Presidency. Past 63, his intense hatred for everything Masonic made him automatically a leader of the anti-Masonic forces, and when he was asked to associate himself with a proposed daily newspaper in Boston which had as one of its aims the complete suppression of Masonry, he declined, not for lack of sympathy with the policy but because he felt that the movement needed younger men to sustain it in subsequent years.

The text of the letter comes down to us, thanks to its having been part of a collection of Presidential letters, the property of a well known collector. We are happy to offer it here:

"It is my opinion that the Institution of Free Masonry so far as it enjoins secrecy upon its members ought to be suppressed . . . Such secrecy cannot be necessary for any benevolent or useful purpose of the Society or of its members; and it always may be, as we know it has been abused for purposes the most atrocious . . . It is incompatible with the principle of equal rights which lies at the foundation of Republican Government, and however harmless in the ordinary course of events, whenever brought into active operation, can be maintained only at the expense of the Peace and harmony of human society.

"It is much to be desired that the whole body of Freemasons in the United States should unite in an explicit and formal renunciation of all secrecy in their future proceedings . . . That they should by common consent abolish every part of their Institution which now shrinks from the light of day, and without proclaiming their beneficence and charity from the housetops discard the affection of covering them with a veil and permit them to be felt by their effects. I am not without hope that they will in time perceive the necessity and be

made sensible of the moral obligation of unmasking themselves before their country . . . They now stand arraigned before the world of mankind for the murder of William Morgan. The guilt of perpetrating this crime is doubly confined to a few — but the secret laws, by the influence of which it was committed and by which the criminals have been sheltered from detection have made the secrecy of the order an accessory to the fact. . . . The secret that is written in blood should be revealed — the tree that bears such fruit should be cut down. But I do not feel it to be my duty to take any part in the controversy which has arisen from this Event — it must be conducted on both its parts by younger men . . . Nor have I been altogether satisfied with what I have observed of anti-Masonic proceedings, I see no specific object, which the anti-Masons look to as the consummation of their operations and their electioneering influence, bears both in favours and prejudice more upon individuals, and less upon the vice of the Institution than I think just or equitable.”

Adams lived to a ripe old age. His wavering signature on franked covers is well known, especially since shortly after his term as President ended. He was elected to Congress, serving there for 17 years, until he died of a paralytic stroke suffered on the floor of Congress in 1848. But Masonry as a political issue had long since been forgotten. The nation had other more serious things to argue about. For one thing, the issue of slavery, which was beginning to divide the States, and more important than that, the Panic of 1837, the most severe economic depression the nation had suffered since obtaining its independence.

BLACKBURN, Joseph Clay Styles

He was a Mason and Knight Templar. No further record is available.

He was a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission and head of the Department of Civil Administration of the Canal Zone from 1907 to 1909.

He had served in the House of Representatives from 1871 to 1875. He also served as Senator from 1895 to 1897 and again from 1901 to 1907.

He had received his law degrees from Centre College in Kentucky and had practiced law in Chicago before he entered politics in Kentucky.

After serving in the army of the Confederacy during the Civil War he resumed his law practice in Kentucky.



Just because you have your Apron on you need not think that you are going to attend to your Masonic stamp collection before you have washed the dishes.

Submitted by Bro. T. J. Fray, Plymouth, England

BENES, EDWARD 1884-1948

Benes was initiated in Jan Amos Komensky Lodge #1 of Prague in 1924 or 1925. This Lodge was considered to be the oldest modern Czechoslovakian Lodge.

He later affiliated with Pravda Vitezi Lodge (Truth Shall Prevail) of Prague, being passed and raised in this Lodge about 1927 or 1928.

When he was elected President of Czechoslovakia he withdrew from active Masonry, but remained interested in the Fraternity, and rendered his full moral and financial support, when the National Grand Lodge of Czechoslovakia in exile was established as well as the Comenius in exile Lodge.

Benes succeeded Thomas Masaryk as President on December 18, 1935. Later when France and Britain yielded to Hitler by signing the Munich agreement, Benes resigned on October 5, 1938 rather than submit to Communist rule. During World War II, he led the Czech government-in-exile from France and later in London. When Prague was liberated on May 5, 1945 Benes was reelected as President and served until Klement Gottwald, his Communist Prime Minister, demanded the installation of a Communist cabinet. He permitted this Communist movement, but resigned a second time on June 7, 1948.

Evidently the pressure of his position had been too great and he died soon after at Sezimovo Usti on September 3, 1948.