

The Dudley Association, for gathering and preserving facts about the Dudleys, was formed about 1856, and here is a notice which appeared in the *Boston Transcript*, May 20, 1857:

DUDLEY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this society was held at Cambridgeport yesterday afternoon, the president, Rev. Lucius Robinson Paige, in the chair.—*T. Transcript*, May 20, 1857.

The Board of Directors and the Treasurer made their respective reports, after which the President addressed the meeting in an appropriate speech upon the objects and prospects of the association. He glanced at some of the principal events in the life of the first Governor Dudley,—of whose descendants and those allied to them by marriage this society is composed. The objects of the association are to preserve historical memorials of their ancestor and his family, and by social meetings at stated times, and by the publication of documents illustrative of their lives, to keep in remembrance their virtues and their services to the country.

The secretary then read an anonymous life of Gov. Thomas Dudley,—evidently written in the seventeenth century, and probably not far from the year 1685.—a copy of which has been preserved in manuscript to the present day. It contains some details that have never been published. Cotton Mather must have seen the memoir and copied from it many of his facts concerning Gov. Dudley given in the *Magnalia*.

After the reading of the memoir was finished, and some remarks upon it had been made by the members, the secretary gave an account of his visit to Northamptonshire, England, where Gov. Dudley was born, according to Mather and the above-mentioned memoir. From his researches there he was convinced that our governor was not descended from the Dudley family of that county (the Clapton family), as had been supposed. Probably the governor's father removed from some other county to Northampton, as his arms are totally different from those of the Clapton family.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, with the following result: President, Rev. Lucius R. Paige, of Cambridgeport. Vice-Presidents, J. Wingate Thornton, Esq., of Brookline; Rev. Dudley A. Tug, of Philadelphia, Pa.; E. Gerry Dudley, Esq., of Boston; John Dudley, Esq., of Hampden, Me.; James H. Dudley, Esq., of Milton. Secretary, Dean Dudley, Esq., of Boston. Treasurer, J. W. Dean, Esq., of Boston.

These officers constitute a Board of Directors, who hold monthly meetings in Boston for the admission of members and the transaction of other business.

The meeting was then adjourned to meet on the 14th of May, 1858, at such place as the directors may appoint.

After the adjournment, some of the members accompanied the president—who has in preparation a history of Cambridge and is therefore familiar with the ancient localities of that city—to view the site of the house erected by Gov. Dudley, one of the founders of Cambridge, then Newtown, in the year 1631 or 1632. It stood on what is now Dunster street; and near it the first meeting-house was built. On the same street his son Samuel, afterwards the minister of Exeter, N. H., had a house nearly fronting the meeting-house. Two of Gov. Dudley's sons-in-law, Gov. Simon Bradstreet and Maj. Gen. Daniel Denison, lived at Newtown, while he resided there. The sites of their houses were also pointed out. On a portion of the lot on which that of Gov. Bradstreet stood, the University bookstore is now located. Here the first American poetess, Mrs. Anne Bradstreet, no doubt composed some of her poem that extorted praise even from the pen of the cynical Nathaniel Ward, author of the "Simple Cobbler of Agawam."