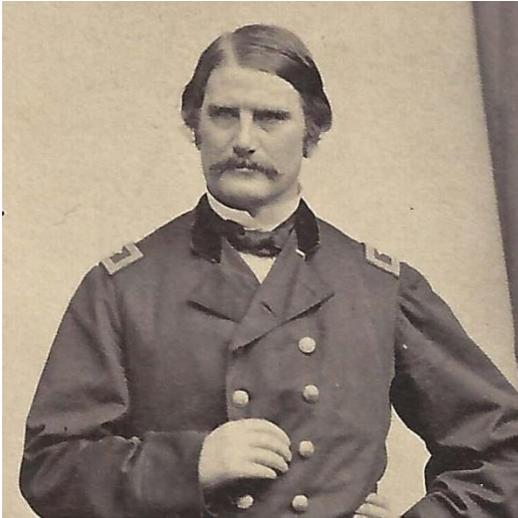


General William Johnson Dale MD

General William J Dale is perhaps the most historical figure of St Paul's. Born in 1815, he was sent to North Andover – his mother's ancestral home-- for schooling at Franklin Academy. He later went to Andover and graduated from Harvard in 1837 and then Harvard Medical School. He married Sarah Frances Adams. A physician in Boston,



he was significantly wealthy by 1860 when he was practicing medicine in Boston. He joined the service of the country in the Civil War rising to the rank of Brigadier General where he served as Asst. Surgeon General of the US, and following the War, became Surgeon General of Massachusetts. For these services he held the title of General for his lifetime. After the war, he returned to his ancestral roots of North Andover, purchasing the old Johnson farm, which had been in his family since 1637. Here he developed a model farm specializing in milk production. The farm, styled The Homestead, still exists today on Dale Street. The General lived into his upper 80's - outliving almost everyone.

General Dale was elected by unanimous vote as the first Sr Warden of St Paul's, a position he held with one short interruption that occurred around the time of his wife's illness and death. At his first election, for which he was absent, eight member cast votes for the wardens and General Dale received eight votes—a unanimous choice. His acceptance the following meeting was by note. In total, he served as Sr Warden for about 20 years. General Dale's actions do not stand out in the records, except when an eloquently worded letter of special note or of memoriam were needed, they turned to Dale. On the resignation of Rev Amory, General Dale wrote the letter of tribute and acceptance. In his only noted assignment role, in 1883 the Executive voted "the care of the grounds about the church be committed to General William Dale with full power to beautify them according to his discretion". Clearly General Dale was a special person—an icon of the community and of St Paul's.

William J Dale Jr

William J Dale Jr. born 1850, was the son of General Dale. He was educated at Phillips Academy. As a career, it would appear that most of his effort went to the management of the family farm, which was a very substantial operation. His biographical notes however include significant accomplishments and involvement in activities primarily in and around Boston. In 1886 he served as assistant postmaster for Boston, was President of Exeter Manufacturing Co, a manufacturer of cotton goods,

and in 1891 was a member of the railroad commission. On Nov 27, 1891, he married Miss Elise Ballou at the Dove Mansion in Andover. Her father was chairman of the Boston Stock Exchange. She was roughly 17 years his junior and it appears that they had no children in their short 5 year marriage. He died in 1896 of Bright's disease and was buried from the Church.

William Dale Jr was at the first founding meeting, a member of the first Executive Committee and the first Treasurer of St Paul's – serving in both capacities for the formative years. It appears he was the designated “do-er” of the Dale family, in fact, “do-er” of the Executive; he made more motions than any other member of record. His name is associated with many activities and assignments in the records—from the first Sunday School teacher of the rambunctious young boys' class to serving on the committee to decorate the hall for Christmas. He was on the committee to raise the subscription for building the church, and originally on the committee to develop the plans for the new building – a position he subsequently resigned. He was a very active supporter of St Paul's until his life was cut short by Bright's disease at the age of 46.

