

## A MEMORIAL IN RICHMOND

To Col. James Taylor II.

Restoration of James Taylor Sun dial to the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

How a quaint, old Sun dial, of ancient and unusual design, which has marked the shadows and sunshine of 210 years, has after being preserved by the members of one family for one hundred and twenty-five years, been restored to the Diocese of Virginia of the Episcopal Church, is told in the Southern Churchman of August 1, 1925.

"The sun dial was presented in 1715 to the Upper Church of St. Stephens's Parish, by James Taylor, the great grandfather of both President James Madison and President Zachary Taylor. When the church was abandoned years after, a family in the neighborhood, loving the old church, attempted to save some of its property, and carried the sun dial to its home, to take care of it. For the last one hundred and twenty-five years it has been in the possession of the family of Fielding G. Lucas, formerly of Fredericksburg and now of New Brunswick, N. J., by whom it has been presented to the Diocese of Virginia.

The sun dial is of bronze, octagonal in shape, and is unusually large, measuring fourteen inches across its face. It bears this inscription: "The gift of Coll. James Taylor to ye Upper Church of St. Steven's Parish, 1715." It also bears the name of the maker, "John Bowen," and the word, "Bristol" (England, of course), where it was doubtless made. It has further, the information, "Lat. 38 degrees, 00 minutes." The much-decorated, curious face of a sun, at the head of which the base of style is set, is its only decoration, in addition to the numbers."

As the Upper Church of St. Stephen's, to which the Sun dial was first given by Colonel Taylor, was razed many years ago, and the Sun dial cannot be restored to it, Mr. Lucas approved of having it mounted on the lawn of the Mayo Memorial Church House just across the street from the Jefferson Hotel where hundreds of passersby will see it daily.

At the annual meeting of The Taylor Family Association, in October, 1925, a Committee to co-operate with the Episcopal

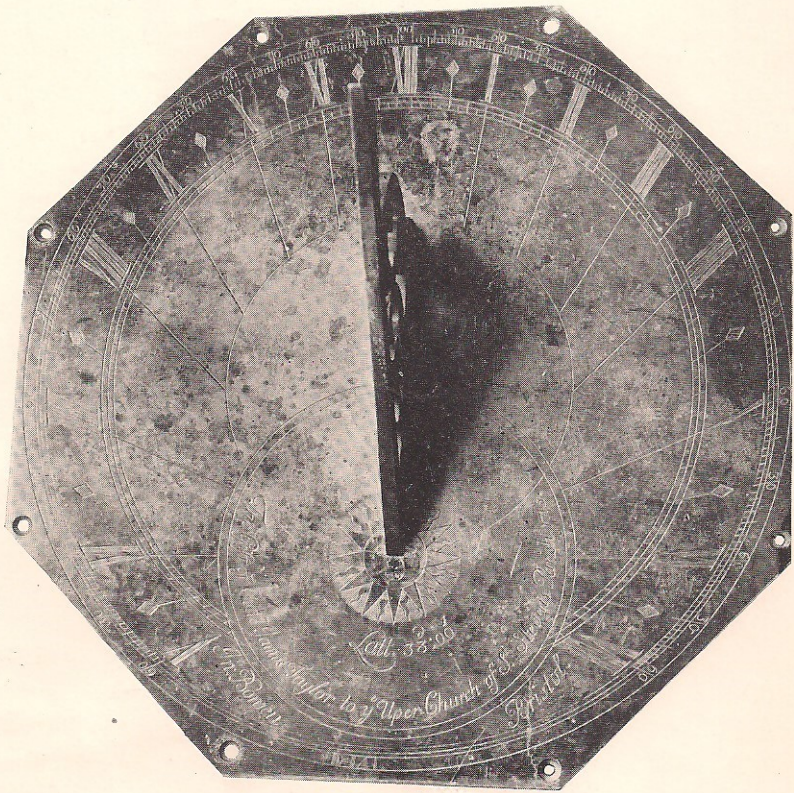
Diocese looking to the restoration of the old Sun dial, was appointed, and it was voted to erect a suitable granite pedestal for the Sun dial, mounted so as to conform to the English style of that period, and to place a bronze tablet on the front of the pedestal, giving a sketch of Colonel James Taylor II, together with a smaller tablet in honor of the donor of the Dial.

Subscriptions received for that purpose total about Fifty Dollars. We need Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars more to complete the fund.

In order to accomplish our purpose without further delay, every member of the Association should participate in this worthy undertaking. The Treasurer will be glad to receive your contribution.

COMMITTEE ON THE JAMES TAYLOR SUN DIAL

Daniel Grinnan, Chairman  
Mrs. Charles A. Doremus  
Mrs. Mildred A. Dorsey  
Miss Marion A. Green  
Jaquelin P. Taylor  
Donald R. Jacob



SUN DIAL PRESENTED BY COL. JAMES TAYLOR II TO THE  
UPPER CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH,

1715.