James Pryor Williamson (1839-1879) was the first Treasurer of A.I.M.E. Born in Baltimore, he was a nephew of Thomas Wilson, the owner of the Pioneer Cotton Factory and the Baltimore Coal Company. At the outbreak of the Civil War Williamson enlisted in the Confederate army, but Wilson persuaded him to resign and sent him north to look over his and the Baltimore Co. business in Pennsylvania.

Williamson went into the retail and banking businesses in Wilkes-Barre, and he married well, to a scioness of pioneer NE PA Woodward and Butler families. He was a mason, a vestryman of St. Stephens Episcopal, a foreman of the fire company, and became active in society and part of clique that included AIME founders Swoyer and Charles Parrish; other coal bigwigs; lawyers, bankers, and politicians: the “Crackers and Cheese Club.”