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OLD^E VLSTER



An Historical and Genealogical Magazine



KINGSTON, N. Y.

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OLD^E VLSTER

VOL. V

JANUARY, 1909

No. 1

Governor ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

George Clinton

TWELFTH PAPER



EARS of anxiety, care, labor and struggle were the eight years of the Revolutionary War. This was especially true to those who had the management of affairs for the patriots and were compelled to prosecute the cause to a successful end without the means to provide expenses, pay the soldiers, secure ammunition, fill the commissary, equip the troops, clothe the soldiers or purchase the weapons of war. To one placed as was George Clinton there was a double burden. Not only was he at the head of the army of the new State and responsible for its military affairs, but he was also the executive to whom all were looking for success in the venture in self government. It

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was to a wise administration of its civil affairs, the establishment of precedents which could be safely followed that the future development of a State governed by its own citizens would be due. He could not afford to make mistakes; he could not permit doubtful experiments. Fortunately the new constitution of the infant State had been laid down on wise and judicious lines and he had been consulted at every step.

Among the pressing problems which demanded solution with the new year of 1778 was that of the Indians. The remnants of the tribes which had been found in the valley of the Hudson were not disposed to trouble the patriots. This magazine has shown that the valley of the Hudson had been practically abandoned by the Indians before 1776. Indians came and went up and down the valley. But they had taken their women and children away. They had made their homes on the Susquehanna. (See *OLDE ULSTER*, Vol. III., pages 321-9). On the whole they remained comparatively neutral in the war. The troubles were with the Iroquois and those savages who could be incited by the chiefs of this confederacy, particularly Brant.

Burgoyne had invaded the State from Canada during the preceding year with hosts of Indian allies. St. Leger had come from Lake Ontario and invited the Mohawks, through whose country he advanced, to send with him a band of their warriors to see how the Americans would flee before them as the leaves before the winds of autumn. They had done so and accompanied him to the bloody battle of Oriskany, August 6th, 1777, where many Mohawk braves had fallen in

that bloodiest fight in all the long war. The Indians determined to be revenged. Brant nursed this bitterness for purposes of his own. He and his emissaries visited the Indian settlements on the Susquehanna and artfully tried to seduce them from their neutrality. Too often he succeeded. Too often these red men took the part of the British with the result that they, their villages, their budding civilization with their houses and fields were wiped out.

This battle of Oriskany had taken place during the previous summer. During this winter of 1777-8 the mutterings of the coming conflict with the former possessors of the mountains and valleys of this country were more and more distinctly heard. It became evident that there was a war with the savages on hand. The western frontier of Ulster County was peculiarly open to raids and forays. The valleys and water courses through the mountains furnished comparatively easy access to the fertile farms and bountiful stores of the settlers cultivating the virgin soil. The out-lying settlements soon saw the storm approaching. About the first of January, 1778, Governor Clinton received a petition from the inhabitants of "Wawarsinck" in Ulster county begging for "a Sufficient Guard" "With A feild Piece And Ammunition" "to Defend Ourselves And families when Attacked By a Cruel And Savage Enemy." The patriot troops had made two raids along the rivers in Delaware county when Colonel Levi Pawling received a joint letter from two Esopus Indians, known by the names of "Ben Shanks" and "John Renhope," afterwards concerned in the attack and capture of Captain Jeremiah

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Snyder in Saugerties and the attack on the house of the Jansens in Shawangunk. In this protest they declare "Your Old Friends the Esopus Indians had allwase ment to Screen Your part of the Country as much as Possible in the Present Unhappy Contest." To what extent this neutrality would have been observed cannot now be determined. Brant succeeded in embroiling the Esopus Indians in the conflict and their villages were destroyed before Sullivan's expedition was undertaken.

On the 23rd of February, 1778, the people of Cherry Valley became alarmed and petitioned Governor Clinton for protection. They notified the governor that "Brant and his warriors are preparing to pay us a Visit." On the 8th of March Clinton wrote to the Marquis de Lafayette that "the Defence of the River is an Object of the last Importance to America" and that he had done all in his power to effect it. He adds the hope that Lafayette might succeed to the command then held by General Putnam. On the 16th General Philip Schuyler reported to Clinton that he feared an Indian uprising and added that he had shown a letter from Clinton to Lafayette. Two days afterwards Clinton wrote once more to Lafayette to tell him that Schuyler could be relied upon implicitly and suggested that he advise with Schuyler.

On the 31st of this same month of March the Cherry Valley Committee appealed to Lafayette for protection against the Indians. Lafayette determined to win the Iroquois to the side of the Americans and sent an engineer to Oneida castle for an interview with that tribe and the Tuscaroras. Both of these tribes

Governor George Clinton

had been very friendly to the patriots, particularly the Oneidas. On the 8th of April the situation in Schoharie was reported as critical. On the 1st of May Clinton ordered Colonel John Cantine to keep the Ulster county frontier patrolled. Then Colonel Johannis Snyder was put in charge of the patrol along the same frontier north of that of Colonel Cantine and Colonel Jacob Klock was given charge of the frontier of Montgomery county.

The efforts to conciliate the Indians continued. With the Oneidas and part of the Tuscaroras they were successful. But the Mohawks at the east end of "The Long House," as the Iroquois confederacy was called, and the Senecas at the west were strongly in favor of Great Britain. So were the Onondagas and Cayugas. All of these were dominated by Brant and Sir John Johnson, the son and heir of Sir William. As the trouble was thickening on the frontier on the 2nd of June, Colonel Cantine was directed to bring in all the disaffected persons, their families and effects from the frontier along the Delaware river. Meanwhile Cobleskill was attacked by the savages on June 5th and nineteen were killed. Before the end of the month the whole frontier was ablaze. Not only was the trouble acute along the Mohawk but even that part of Ulster county which is now Sullivan county suffered from Indian raids. On the morning of August 20th, a raid was made upon Peenpack and eleven captives made in the family of a man named Brooks and one man was killed and scalped.

The frontier was in a turmoil. To keep him posted in its affairs Clinton placed his confidence in a resident of Paghkatakan, now Arkville on the Delaware, Harmanus DuMond. But DuMond was unwittingly killed

by the Schoharie Rangers by mistake on the 27th of August, as they thought him a Tory (See OLDE ULSTER, Vol. III., pages 18-23).

During the succeeding six weeks raid and massacre succeeded each other along the frontier. Appeal after appeal was sent to Clinton for help. On the 15th of October Governor Clinton wrote to Washington that something must be done, and he urged an expedition be sent to destroy Anaquaga. This was an Indian settlement upon the Susquehanna near the present city of Binghamton, where the Reverend Gideon Hawley had been laboring, and where he had wonderfully succeeded in Christianizing and civilizing the Indians, who were living in well constructed houses, surrounded by fields of grain, orchards, gardens and meadows, with schools and churches. But Brant and his Indian allies were making it a headquarters from which to raid the patriots. Washington replied to Clinton and asked the routes to this Indian town. These were furnished him. Clinton suggested three: One up the Delaware from the present Port Jervis; one from Rochester in Ulster county over the mountains and the third by the way of Schoharie and the Susquehanna. The last was selected and Colonel William Butler, who was stationed in Schoharie, was directed to the doomed Indian town. He succeeded in utterly destroying it and the civilization that the Reverend Gideon Hawley had spent so many years in building up. It was a sad ending to efforts to benefit the red men, and these red men of Hawley's converts had not been in any manner engaged in the raids of Brant. He had used their town, their resources and their situation to their undoing.

The Story of Jane Strobe



ABOUT half a mile north of the old stone church of Katsbaan in the town of Saugerties during the middle of the century before the one which just closed lived a man by the name of Sebastian Strobe. Just where his house stood can not be determined now but it was near the present residence of Garfield Dederick. About the year 1770 he removed to the town of Catskill and in 1773 to Pennsylvania, settling in Wysockton, Bedford county, taking with him his wife and children. Here in May, 1778, his whole family and three families of his neighbors were captured by the Indians while they were at breakfast.

During the preceding evening a friendly Indian sought the shelter of the house of Strobe and remained there all night. He told the father that he had incurred the enmity of the Indians by his frequent visits to the fort at Wyoming and that they would soon attack his house. He added that formidable preparations were making for a descent upon Wyoming. So the father hurried away in the morning to Wyoming for assistance to escort his family to the fort, only to find on his return that his house and all his possessions were in ashes and every member of the family captive to the savages. Among his children was his daughter

Jane, who became the wife of a man named Whitaker years afterwards.

The captives were taken at once up the Susquehanna river to Tioga Point, where the Chemung river flows into it. There they were turned over to a British officer in command of a party of British rangers and Indians. The captives remained here during the attack upon and massacre at Wyoming. This occurred July the third and fourth, 1778. In the latter part of July these rangers and Indians, together with the prisoners, went to Owego, thence to Bainbridge and Unadika, where they remained a number of weeks. Thence they returned to Tioga Point and remained until the approach of Sullivan's expedition caused the enemy to send their captives up the Chemung river and across the country to Fort Niagara. Here they met the celebrated woman known as Queen Esther, who then resided near Tioga Point at a place called *She-she-quin* (known as "Queen Esther's Flats"). She was exceedingly kind to the captives. She was a half-breed, of French and Indian blood and had been brought a captive from the French settlements in Canada by the Iroquois in return for the hostilities of the French governors. She had become a notable person by this time and is a historical figure in the history of the valley of the Susquehanna.

Before her captivity Jane Strobe had been a frequent visitor at the house of Queen Esther where she had always been made welcome by Esther and her sister Mary. The two sisters had been many times guests at the house of Sebastian Strobe. Both the sisters were tall, slight of form, with cheek bones not

The Story of Jane Strobe

as prominent as those of an Indian, with complexions lighter than those of that race and with hair as black but much softer and finer. The form of Queen Esther was erect and commanding, and her appearance and manners agreeable.

Her influence with the Indians was unbounded. She was treated by them with great deference. Her costume was rich in barbaric wealth and showy with a profusion of ornaments, and she comported herself with queenly dignity. She wore a necklace of pure white beads from which was suspended a cross of stone or silver. Jane received many marks of kindness from this Indian queen. In the journal of one of the officers of Sullivan's expedition is this paragraph :

"August 10th, 1779.—After advancing about a mile through a rich bottom, covered with strong and stately timber, which shut out the sun, and shed a cool and agreeable twilight we unexpectedly were introduced into a plain as large as that of the *She-shu-ko-nah* (*She-she-quin*) called 'Queen Esther's Plantation.' It was in the plains, near the bank of the Susquehanna, that Esther, queen of the Seneca tribe, dwelt in retirement and sullen majesty. The ruins of her palace are still to be seen. In what we suppose to be the chapel was found an idol, which might well be worshipped without violating the second commandment on account to its likeness to anything either in heaven or earth. About sunrise the General gave orders for the town to be illuminated and, accordingly, we had a glorious bonfire of thirty buildings at once."

From Tioga Point, with the Indians which fled before Sullivan, the captives were taken westward. Here Jane remained for a week or two with the famous

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Catharine Montour, who lived at the head of Seneca Lake, and was known as "Queen Catharine of the Senecas." By this title she is celebrated in the history of Western New York. While Jane was detained there a great dance, or harvest festival, was held by the Indians with imposing ceremonies. She distinctly remembered of hearing of their sacrificing a white dog. She remembered seeing them stand up in their canoes singing their war songs the year before this as they departed for the battle at Wyoming. She had witnessed the cruel custom of making male prisoners run the gauntlet both at Tioga Point and Anaquagha. In her narrative Jane says :

"I saw Brant at Fort Niagara often. I became well acquainted with his children and family. I saw him for the first time at the fort. I do not recollect seeing him at Tioga Point when the expedition was fitting out for Wyomiug, nor when it returned. I think I should have recognized him if I had ever seen him before. I know the English officers by sight; heard their names, and also saw the Indian in command at Tioga, but it was not the man whom they called Brant at Niagara. I was young, but things that happened during our captivity I remember with great distinctness . . . The expression of his face was severe and frightful. He was quite spare, and above the medium height of Indians. His dress was very fine. He wore a broadcloth blanket over his shoulders in the usual Indian style. It was of the finest make, with a deep rich red border. When he showed himself about the fort he was always in full and careful costume, glittering with brooches."

Queen Esther was killed while the army was lying at Tioga Point by a part of Sullivan's troops in

The Story of Jane Strobe

revenge for the atrocities at Wyoming where she is said to have led in the attack and sung a war song, while Queen Catharine Montour, who was found by General Sullivan at her residence at the head of Seneca Lake, was visited by the general and treated by him with great kindness. There was no suspicion that Queen Catharine had had anything to do with the horrors of Wyoming, while the evidence was strong against Queen Esther. The patrimony of Queen Catharine was a beautiful level piece of land near the present village of Havana, about three miles south of the head of Seneca Lake. Here is a beautiful natural mound, and it is the universal belief that Queen Catharine is entombed upon it.

The captives of the Strobe family, and of the other three with them, were released in 1780, after two years among the Indians and were restored to their friends. Through the influence of Queen Esther none of them, male or female, suffered any indignity. Jane (Mrs. Whitaker), lived until 1852, when she died in Toulon, Illinois, at the home of her son.



“KIT DAVIS’ KIL” was one of the first names of the Rondout creek and obtained this designation from Christopher Davis, a noted character of the earliest days of “the Esopus.” He was one of the first residents of Fort Orange, and among his other occupations was Indian interpreter. He was usually in trouble. He bought twelve acres of land on the Rondout in 1653 and in 1656 purchased sixty-five on the west side of the Esopus, opposite to the lands of Thomas Chambers.

LETTERS OF CHARLES DEWITT

POUGHKEEPSIE, Feb. 18, 1772.

CHARLES DEWITT, ESQ.

D^R SIR :—

We are informed that there is a Petition gone down in order to have this County divided into two, the inhabitants of Poughkeepsie have had a meeting about it and think that it is expedient to write down to such members and friends as we think will make it their business to do justice and consider the good of the Province as well as the County they represent, the grand point for having a division is because people are obliged to come to Court so far, and the expense is so great, but if there be two County houses half we may say must attend one Court and certainly, it will not make it better for where a man attends as a juror once now he must twice then, I and the people in general will take it as a favour if you will oppose the division, I do not doubt but we could get three times the number of signors for a contra petition but we have so little time that we cannot undertake it.

Your Hum^{bl} Serv^t,

PETER TAPPEN.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1775.

CHARLES DEWITT, ESQ., D^R SIR :—

Received yours of yesterdays date and observe the contents.

Mr. William Elting's son John is come home from New York, which place he left Thursday at five in the evening, by whom we have an exact account of

what happened between the Kings Ships in that harbor and the Citizens there. The Congress it seems had agreed that the cannon on the battery should be removed which they agreed to do with the greatest secrecy, but such is the unhappy situation of that City that there is nothing can be kept a secret even in the Congress itself, however on Wednesday at ten or eleven o'clock at night the people went in order to remove the cannon but soon were discovered and fired on by the Asia's barge which was immediately returned by our people briskly, soon after the man of war began to play upon them, one man in the barge was killed, three of our people wounded but likely to do well, after considerable firing upon the City and battery and doing a great deal of damage to sundry houses the firing ceased 'till morning when the Captain of the Asia sent a letter ashore to the Mayor of the City to know whether it was the sense of the Congress that the cannon should be removed, or only a party of men without the direction of Congress, but received no answer, he sent a second letter but had no answer, he sent a third and declared if he was not answered he would on Friday morning set fire to the City, we have no account since that time. Capt John Elmendorf was to set out home from New York yesterday by whom I expect we shall have further account of the matter. Elting says the city was in the utmost confusion, women and children moving out with all speed, the people however moved the cannon from the battery and have secured them.

It is thought that the Rev. Aughmodey's son and Sheriff Roberts son acquainted the man of War of the

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removing the cannon from the battery as those young gentlemen are missing since that time and are not to be found.

Sr Your very hum^{bl} Servt,
DANIEL GRAHAM.

—————
NEW YORK, Sept. 12, 1769.
CHARLES DEWITT, ESQ.

D^r SIR :—

Whilst the minute guns are now telling us the age of our departed Governor whose soul has fled into yonder world of spirits, and Oh! may it be among those blessed ones who are justified and sanctified thro' the blood of the Redeemer, I can't help telling you the answer of my little Johnny made when he came back from seeing the funeral, on my asking what he thought on seeing it, he seemed to evade answering 'till I repeated the question again and again, then with a serious countenance, said he thought we must all go the same way before long. The death of Gov. Henry Moore is much lamented by all ranks and degrees of men, his disease was bloody flux, as he was seized severely it was not of long duration.

Lady Moore went for London about six weeks ago. a great change in that family, his own the greatest.

Your girls did not arrive here 'till Friday morning and on Saturday set off in a boat with a fine wind for Raraton Landing.

D^r Sir
Your Very Hum^{bl} Servt,
C. G. WYNKOOP.

An Echo of Indian Troubles

NEW YORK, Oct. 20, 1769.

To

CHARLES DEWITT, ESQ.,
One of the Representatives
for
Ulster County.

SIR/

The General Assembly of this Province having by Proclamation issued this day been prorogued to the 21st day of November next then to meet to proceed upon business: I am directed by his Honour the Lieut Governor to acquaint you therewith and that he expect you will punctually attend accordingly.

I am
Sr

Your Most Obedient
humble Servant,
G. W. BANYAN.



AN ECHO OF INDIAN TROUBLES

This magazine published in the number for November, 1907 (Vol. III., pages 321-9), the story of the removal of the Esopus Indians to the Susquehanna about Anaquaga. It has since come into possession, from the papers of Sir William Johnson, Baronet, of a letter from some of the chieftains relating to the troubles of the French and Indian War. The same volume of this magazine on pages 103-13 tells the story of those exciting years in this county. The letter spoken of is part of the same story.

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“Onohaghuage, October the 5th, 1757.

“Brother,

“These are to inform you that about three days agoe we had news of a Company of about 30 men being at Cheningo going to war against Our Brethren the English. We immediately sent two of Our men to stop them, but in spight of all that we & our Brethren, the Nanticokes could do they marched along untill we met them a second time, where after a long Council they all turned back but nine, who were all Cayugaes who are gone along but to what place they are designed we know not, 'tis two days now since they pased by, they say they had thought of going to Esopus, but did not certainly know, untill they met at a place on Delaware River, about 20 miles from hence where we suppose a number of Delawares will join them. Now We beg of you to be strong Brother, and not keep this news private, but to give notice to all the Towns round about there, for it is certainly true, for we saw them with our own eyes, they also inform us that there is another great company not far from Tiaogo coming the same way, mixt with French, and will be here in a few days, now we being altogether, send you Our Love and service hoping they will find you well, and in peace as we are at present

“in great haste from your Brethren

“THE CHIEFS OF ONOHAGHUAGE

“TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.”

Aside from the above letter there was another relating to Ulster county among the baronet's papers:

“SR :

“Last fall I desired Mr. Swords, That he and those Concerned in the Lands at Sagertjes would appoint another agent to Manage the Bufinefs as it interfered so much with my own affairs I could not give the Necefsary Attendance it required.

An Echo of Indian Troubles

“ This Spring I have done the needfull to bring on the Tryal in the fall, and have employd Mr. Blanchard to transact Some Bufiness Relative thereto.

“ If they propose the tryal shall go on, Mr. Kempe must have orders before the last Tuesday in July to make the proper motion in Court.

“ I am now going into the woods, propose not returning till late in the fall, unlefs I hear the Tryal goes on.

“ I Beg therefore those Concerned will appoint another agent soon that the Bufinefs may be properly attended to & prevent any Blame hereafter on

“ Sr

“ Your most obed’t Serv’t

“ WILL COCKBURN

“ Kingston 9 June 1772

“ SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, Bart.”



FOR SALE.

A Very Commodious Brew House and Apparatus.

Formerly occupied by Johannis Slegt, deceased, who has for many years there made the famous *ESOPUS BEER*, noted in historical Remarks respecting this village. As no malt liquor is at present made in this place, and the inhabitants in this Village and its Vicinity have a remarkable predilection, for the use of it, there is reason to calculate in success and encouragement in an establishment of this kind. Also, A convenient Distillery well constructed for the distilling of Rum, Gin, Cyder, Spirits or Cordials, containing two Stills, one of the capacity of 120, the other of 160 gallons. The purchase money may be rendered on easy terms, and an indisputable title will be given by the subscriber.—*Ulster Plebeian*, 1803.

JOHN TAPPEN.

THE HOUSE OF JOHANNES TACK

On the opposite page is an engraving showing the house in Stone Ridge in which the first county court of Ulster county was organized by County Judge Levi Pawling on May 5th, 1778, after the establishment of the State government. It is still standing across the road from the house of Major Cornelius E. Wynkoop, in which General George Washington passed the night of November 15th, 1782, while on his journey to Kingston. (OLDE ULSTER, Vol. III, pages 6-17.)



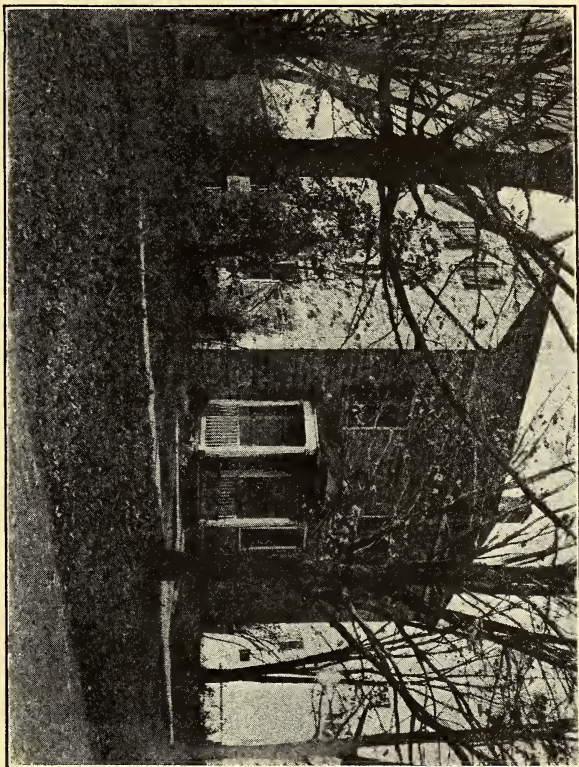
*LINEAGE OF THE ABRAHAM HASBROUCK
FAMILY*

Continued from Vol. IV., page 382

The children of AUGUSTUS HASBROUCK and JANE V. W. ELTINGE were:

- (107) Wilhelmus⁶: B. July 29, 1834; m. Dec. 26, 1855, Margaret Van Iderstine: B. Bergen Co., N. J., Jan. 4, 1833; d. Dec. 5, 1893; dau. of Henry P. Van Iderstine and Gertrude Vreeland. Their children were: (a) Augustus S.⁷: B. Jan. 12, 1857; d. Sept. 1, 1858. (b) Gertrude⁷: B. July 24, 1858. (c) Chas. D.⁷: B. March 30, 1860; m. Ann Bate, dau. of Jno. Bate and Mehetable Cooley, and granddaughter of Judge David W. Bate. (d) Jane E.⁷: B. April 8, 1861. (e) Katharine H.⁷: B. May 23, 1863. (f) Cornelia⁷: B. June 15, 1864. (g) Henry⁷: B. March 12, 1873.

The House of Johannes Tack



The House of Johannes Tack, Stone Ridge

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- (108) Abraham H.⁶: B. Dec. 29, 1835; served in the Civil War in the Cavalry under Gen. Kilpatrick; d. Feb. 7, 1868; m. Dec. 26, 1860 Kate P. Roosa: B. Hurley, May 13, 1836; dau. of Garrett N. Roosa and Catharine P. Post, of Saugerties, N. Y. Their children were: (a) Kittie R.⁷: B. Nov. 6, 1861; d. March 2, 1862. (b) Jane H.⁷: B. June 1, 1863. (c) Garrett R.⁷: B. April 5, 1865; m. Bessie Masten. (d) Hyman⁷: B. Oct. 8, 1866; d. Dec. 30, 1866. (e) Willie⁷: B. Oct. 8, 1866. (f) Catharine E.⁷: B. Jan. 11, 1868; m. Jan. 21, 1889, Peter Elmen-dorf.
- (109) Cornelia S.⁶: B. July 10, 1837; d. Feb. 2, 1838.
- (110) Joseph⁶: B. March 20, 1839; physician at Dobbs Ferry and prominent citizen; m. (1) Dec. 28, 1858, Sarah E. Dayton (dau. of Elias Dayton and Rachel Smith) b. Feb. 17, 1840. One child: (a) Dayton⁷: B. Nov. 8, 1860; d. Jan. 12, 1885. M. (2) April 2, 1875, Anna Dayton; b. Dec. 2, 1844 (dau. of Elias Dayton and Rachel Smith) d. July 12, 1876, at Dobbs Ferry; m. (3) Nov. 22, 1877 Emma S. Archer; b. Dobbs Ferry; d. Nov. 12, 1881 (dau. of Stephen Archer and Deborah —); m. (4) June 6, 1883 Ellen Marks Sewell; b. Mass., Oct. 5, 1840; d. July 5, 1888 (dau. of Rev. David L. and Maria Marks); m. (5) June 13, 1890 Mary Blackledge Roberts; b. England, Aug. 13, 1840; (dau. of Edward Roberts and Anna Blackledge).
- (111) Cornelius⁶: B. Aug. 6, 1840; m. Oct. 24, 1861 Leah Ann Brown.

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

- (112) Stephen⁶: B. Jan. 29, 1842; m. Jan. 28, 1861
Emily Van Blarcom.
- (113) James H.⁶: B. Sept. 26, 1843; m. Dec. 25, 1869
Mary Sawyer; d. Feb. 24, 1874.
- (114) Richard Oliver⁶: B. April 22, 1845; m. Oct 3,
1866 Ann Beard.
- (115) Chas. D.⁶: B. Sept. 2, 1846; d. July 3, 1860.
- (116) Cornelia Schoonmaker: B. May 22, 1848; d. Aug.
19, 1889; m. May 1, 1868 William Simpson.
- (117) Augustus⁶: B. Feb. 28, 1851; m. Dec. 25, 1868,
Anna Devoe.
- (118) Aaron H.⁶: B. Sept. 13, 1851; d. Jan. 16, 1875;
m. May 27, 1874, Amanda Wilson.
- (119) David Farley⁶: B. July 14, 1853; m. Dec. 29,
1876, Frances Amelia Mapes.
- (120) Herman D.⁶: B. April 18, 1855; m. Jan. 15, 1882,
Cora Storms.
- (121) Edward S.⁶: B. Jan. 22, 1857; m. Jan. 20, 1876,
Sarah Van Deuzer; b. Jan. 1, 1855 (dau. of
Joseph B. Van Deuzer and Ann Sly).
- (122) Isaac⁶: B. Sept. 1859; d. y.

(LXXIII.) JOSEPH OSTERHOUDT HASBROUCK⁵
(Joseph I.⁴, Isaac³, Joseph², Abraham¹): B. Dec. 23,
1801; d. May 30, 1871; m. ——— ELIZA RHEA: B.
Dec. 31, 1800; d. July 24, 1871 (dau. of David Rhea
and Betsey Kain). Located at Tuthill, but spent their
last days in Brooklyn, New York. He was one of the
most aggressive Democratic politicians of his day.
Eliza Rhea's father was a merchant, also Sheriff of
Ulster County in 1804. Betsey Kain is probably the
daughter of "Francis Kain j. m., b. and living at

Olde Ulster

Shawangunk, and Elizabeth Graham j. d., b. and living at Walekill; m. Jan. 19, 1766." (New Paltz Records.) Their children were:

(123) Margaret⁶: B. Dec. 27, 1823; d. Feb. 24, 1873; m. April 10, 1841; her cousin, Dr. Joseph L. Hasbrouck—(See Family XCIII).

(124) Beverly R.⁶; m. Elsie Brink.

(125) Sylvester Kain⁶: B. Feb. 16, 1829; m. Janet Storry (dau. of Alexander Storry and Blandina DeWitt.) He was a Justice of the Peace several times in the Town of Gardiner, a leading lawyer, practicing in Kingston, town of Gardiner and adjoining towns.

(126) Elizabeth⁶: B. Shawangunk, May, 1834; d. Dec. 31, 1891; m. Jan. 17, 1861 Jas. Perrin; d. Dec. 1883. Their children were: (a) Stella⁷: B. Dec. 12, 1861; d. Dec. 10, 1867; (b) Frank L.⁷: B. Nov. 9, 1863; d. Nov. 23, 1869.

(127) Henrietta⁶: B. —; m. Charles Sharp. They occupy the homestead at Tuthill.

(128) Frank Kain⁶: B. at Shawangunk, March 22, 1839; d. March 20, 1896; m. at Williamsburg, N. Y., Nov. 15, 1865, Mary E. Schoonmaker; B. New York, June 14, 1849 (dau. of Garrett Y. Schoonmaker and Hannah Van Valsen). Their children were: (a) Joseph O.⁷; (b) Estella P.⁷; m. — Shaut; living at Greenwood, N. Y.; (c) Frank Kain, Jr.⁷; (d) Gertrude Annie⁷; m. Abraham Mowell, living at Stone Ridge.

(CXXV.) SYLVESTER KAIN HASBROUCK⁶ (Joseph O.⁵, Joseph I.⁴, Isaac³, Joseph², Abraham¹): B. Feb. 16,

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

1829; d. Aug. 7, 1863; m. May 6, 1847, at "Scotland," in the town of Rochester, JANET STORRY: B. May 2, 1824; d. March, 1900 (dau. of Alexander Storry and Blandina DeWitt). She inherited her father's home, where she lived and is buried. Her father was b. Sept. 14, 1776, at "Loch House" in Scotland, 18 miles from Glasgow; d. Aug. 7, 1861, at his home "Scotland," in Ulster Co., N. Y. He was the son of Jno. Storry and Janet Nesbit of "Loch House," Scotland, and grandson of Jno. Storry and Agnes Kirkwood of Scotland. He was a merchant of Glasgow when he with two brothers, Andrew and John, came to America and opened a wholesale dry goods store in New York City. Their vessels plied between Charleston, New Orleans and Liverpool, exporting raw cotton, and returned to New York, importing cotton cloth, silks and rare fabrics. The war of 1812 broke up this trade, and they removed to Kingston, opening two retail stores. Here they were joined by their nephews, Jno., James and Dr. Andrew Russell. The two former engaged in the mercantile business, and Andrew, a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, was a skilled physician and surgeon. He is buried in Kingston, where a monument marks his grave. Hundreds of Irish quarrymen who idolized him, followed on foot to his grave. Alexander Storry removed to the town of Rochester, where he married Aug. 14, 1820, Blandina DeWitt: B. in Rochester Aug. 1, 1791; d. Feb. 4, 1868 dau. of Dr. Abraham Ten Eyck DeWitt (beloved physician in Rochester and Member of Assembly in 1808) and Leah Wynkoop. Janet Storry was great granddaughter of Col. Andries DeWitt of Marbletown and Blandina Ten

Olde Ulster

Eyck; also great granddaughter of Col. Cornelius D. Wynkoop of Hurley and Leah DuBois, who was dau. of Cornelius DuBois ⁽²⁸⁾ of Poughwoughtenonk and Anna Margretta Houghtaling ⁽²⁹⁾ (See Family XXV). Janet Storry's great grandfather, Col. Andries DeWitt ⁽⁸²⁾ was born Nov. 10, 1728; d in Marbletown June 26 1813; m. 1753 or 1754 Blandina Ten Eyck. In the Revolutionary War he was Lieut. Col. Northern Reg't. Minute Men, Ulster Co., New York, under his brother Col. Chas. DeWitt ⁽⁵²⁾ of Greenkill. He was delegate to Provincial Congress Nov. 17, 1775; chairman of Committee of Safety and Observation of the town of Kingston, 1778. His home at Marbletown was made the depot of supplies June 4, 1779 ⁽⁸³⁾. He was the son of Johannes DeWitt (See Family LVII): B. March 26, 1701, and Mary Brodhead (dau. of Chas. Brodhead ⁽¹⁴⁾)—(See Family XIV) and Maria Ten Broeck ⁽¹⁵⁾. Janet Storry's great grandmother, Blandina TenEyck, bt. May 11, 1735; d. June 2, 1807; was sister of Matthew TenEyck ⁽⁸⁴⁾, President of Hurley, who in 1782 delivered an address to George Washington as he passed through the village; and was dau. of Abram Ten Eyck who was bt. at Kingston Nov. 5, 1699. Abram Ten Eyck was the son of Matthew Ten Eyck (son of Conraedt ⁽¹⁶⁾)—(See Family XIV)—and Janetje Roosa (dau. of Albert Hymens Roosa ⁽³⁰⁾ and Wyntje Ariens)*, and m. at Kingston Dec. 18, 1726,

* Albert Hymens Roosa ⁽³⁰⁾ sailed from Gelderland in 1660 in ship "The Spotted Cow" with wife Wyntje (Lavinia) Ariens and eight children and settled in Esopus, and was prominent in the early history of this section.

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

Jenneke Elmendorf dau. of Conraed Elmendorf ⁽⁸⁵⁾ and Blandina Kierstede*. Conraed Elmendorf was the son of Jacobus Conraedts Van Elmendorf ⁽⁵¹⁾ of Kingston: B. in Holland (son of Conraedt Elmendorf of

* Blandina Kierstede was dau. of Roeloff (Ralph) Kierstede and Eykee Aldertse Roosa, dau. of Aldert Hymens Roosa ⁽³⁰⁾ and Wyntje Ariens (See foot note page 24). Roeloff Kierstede was son of Dr. Hans Kierstede ⁽⁸⁷⁾ who came from Magdeburg, Prussian Saxony, in 1638 with Director Kieft to New Amsterdam, and was the first practicing surgeon, apothecary and physician there. He m. June 29, 1642, Sarah Roeloffse, "the greatest proficient in the Indian language of any person in the colony, and in 1664 acted as interpreter in the great treaty made between Stuyvesant and the River Indians." She was much beloved by the Indians. She was dau. of Roeloff Jans van Masterlandt and Anneke Jans ⁽⁸⁸⁾ of Trinity Church fame. Roeloff Jans came to Rensselaerwyck with his family in 1630 and was employed by the Patroon Van Rensselaer as superintendent of farms for 6 years at 180 guilders a year, after which he removed to New Amsterdam, securing title to 62 acres on the Hudson (adjoining the Company's Farm) which land is now the property of Trinity Church; though the title was disputed for many years by some of the more than ambitious descendants of Anneke Jans. Little is known of Anneke Jans past history (except that her mother was Tryntje Jansen or Tryn Jonas and emigrated to New Amsterdam). She and her sister Maritje with their families were connected by marriage with almost all of the leading families of the Province.

NOTE.—To the careful research of Mr. Clarence J. Elting, of Highland, Ulster Co., N. Y., I am indebted for much accurate and interesting information.

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Rynborch, Holland) who m. after Feb. 28, 1668, Grietje Aertsen van Wagenen ⁽⁸⁶⁾ dau. of Aert Jacobsen van Wagenen ⁽³³⁾ (from Utrecht—See Family V) and Annetje Gerritse, Janet Storry's great grandfather, Col. Cornelius D. Wynkoop ⁽⁸⁹⁾ was born May 5, 1734; d. Dec. 4, 1792; m. May 28, 1762 Leah DuBois, dau. of Cornelius DuBois ⁽²⁸⁾—(See Family XXV). He occupied the old Wynkoop Homestead at Hurley. In the Revolutionary War, he was appointed Major of 3rd Reg't. Continentals (raised in Dutchess and Ulster counties) June 30, 1775, under Col. Jas. Clinton; promoted to Lieut. Col. of same Reg't. Aug. 2, 1775; made Col. April 11, 1776. He was one of the association of Hurley, July 6, 1775. He was the son of Derrick Wynkoop ⁽⁹⁰⁾ who m. July 3, 1725, Gertrude Cole, dau. of Cornelis Teunesse Cool ⁽⁶⁵⁾—(See Family XVIII) and Jenneke Brink ⁽⁶⁶⁾. Derrick Wynkoop was the son of Maj. Johannes Wynkoop ⁽⁵⁷⁾—(See Family LXI) by his second wife, Cornelia Ten Broeck ⁽⁹¹⁾ who was a dau. of Major Dirk Wesseleze Ten Broeck ⁽⁹²⁾* and Christina Cornelisze Van Buren,

* Major Dirk Wesseleze Ten Broeck (or "Dirk Wessels" as he is known in State Records) was one of the foremost merchants of Albany. He was named in the charter of July 22, 1686, one of the first Aldermen of the city, and the following year appointed Recorder, which office he held until 1696, when he was appointed Mayor. He was member of the first Assembly in 1691, and re-elected to the second, third, fourth and fifth. His influence with the Indian allies was second only to that of Peter Schuyler. He was for several years a member of the Indian Board; was four times appointed political agent to Canada, and was frequently sent

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

daughter of Cornelis Maesen van Buren* of Fort Orange.

The children of SYLVESTER KAIN HASBROUCK and JANET STORRY were :

(129) Alexander Storry⁷ : B. Feb. 20, 1848 ; m. (1) Sept. 8, 1868, Ruth Shaw ; d. Jan. 31, 1870, leaving one son : (a) Frank C.⁸ ; m. (2) April 17, 1872, Augusta Dussman : B. April 1, 1854 ; d. 1906. Their children were : (b) Margaret Mabel⁸ ; (c) Cecil Storry⁸ ; (d) Augusta Jean⁸ ; (e) Grover Cleveland⁸.

(130) DeWitt⁷.

(131) Jessie Nesbit⁷.

(132) Sylvester Kain⁷, who inherited and occupies his grandfather's homestead, "Scotland," in town of Rochester, is an ardent Democratic leader and was Supervisor of the town of Rochester 1890-92, 1894-5, 1904-8. Many of his ancestors

among the Indians of the Five Nations in important public business. He was a member of the Dutch Church and for many years an officer. He was a large land owner, besides being one of the seven partners in the Saratoga Patent, and one of the seven partners in the great Westenhook Patent. He is buried on his farm near Albany, which is still in possession of the family.

* Christina Corneliszen VanBuren was dau. of Cornelis Maesen VanBuren (the ancestor of President Martin Van Buren) and Catalyntje Martens. They came from Gelderland, Holland, in the ship "Rensselaerwyck" in 1631 and were the earliest settlers in Beverswyck. They located on a farm at Papsknee, and here they died and were buried on the same day.

have also ably filled prominent political trusts, and it is a singular fact that in 1710 all of the Board of Supervisors of Ulster County were his ancestors: Kingston, Edward Whitaker; Hurley, Captain Mathys TenEyck; Marbletown, Captain Charles Brodhead; Rochester, Captain Jochem Schoonmaker; New Paltz, Lieutenant Solomon DuBois.

(NOTE.—This concludes the articles furnished by Miss Anne Lee Snyder. It is expected that others relating to the Abraham Hasbrouck family will be sent this magazine.)



THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. IV., page 282

(IX.) YSAAK VAN AAKEN j. m.² (Marinus¹) married RACHEL DEWITT j. d. Both parties born and reside in Rochester. Banns registered 24 March, and April 15, 1723, at Kingston. Children:

- (52) Abraham³: Bp. Rochester Jan. 19, 1724, K.
- (53) Zara³: Bp. Mch. 6, 1726, K.; m. Jacobus Van Sickle.
- (54) Ysaak³: Bp. Apr. 12, 1730, K.; died.
- (55) Jacob³: Bp. Feb. 4, 1733, K.; m. Margaret Van Garden.
- (56) Isaak³: Bp. June 13, 1736, K.; m. Margaret Hornbeck.
- (57) Janneke³: Bp. Nov. 1, 1738, Minissink.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

- (58) Joseph³: Bp. May 29, 1739, Minissink; m. Elisabeth Westfael.

On confession, Minissink church, Rachel Dewett, wife of Isaac Van Aken, year 1745.

(X.) MARYNUS VAN AKEN³ j. m. (Pieter², Marinus¹), born under the jurisdiction of K., m. first, ELISABETH EEN, j. d. born in Hurley, and residing under the jurisdiction of New Paltz—the bridegroom under the jurisdiction of K. Banns registered Sept. 19 1731. Date of marriage not given. Children:

- (59) Elisabeth⁴, May 21, 1733, K.
(60) Pieter⁴, Aug. 4, 1734, K. died.
(61) Pieter⁴, Apr. 26, 1736, K.

MARYNUS VAN AKEN, widower of Elisabeth Een, m. second MARGRET DEJO, j. d. b. and residing under the jurisdiction of New Paltz, and the bridegroom under the jurisdiction of Kingston—Banns registered Aug. 3 and Aug. 22, 1740. Children:

- (62) Christian⁴ Apr. 19, 1741, K.
(63) Maria⁴, Dec. 25, 1742, K., m. Henricus Terpenning.
(64) Jesyntjen⁴, March 24, 1745, K. died.
(65) Jesyntjen⁴, May 14, 1747, K., m. Johannes Schmedt.
(66) Eliphas⁴, May 14, 1749, K., m. Elizabeth Winfield.
(67) Judik⁴, March 24, 1751, K., m. (1) Moses Freer, (2) Isaac Van Aken.
(68) Elisa⁴, Apr. 15, 1753, K.
(69) Sophia⁴ April 27, 1755, K., m. Wilhelm Terpenning.

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- (70) Lydia⁴, Nov. 13, 1757, K., m. Benjamin Van Aken.
(71) Johanna⁴, Sept. 9, 1759, K., m. (1) Petrus Wiest,
(2) Jacob Ekert.
(72) Margaret⁴ June 14, 1751, K., m. Henricus Terpenning.

At the baptism of *first wife's* children the witnesses were Jan Een and Elisabeth Chrispel, Peter Van Aken and wife Maria Terpenning. At *second marriage* Peter Van Aken and wife Maria Terpenning, Gideon Van Aken and wife Maria Ploeg—Eliphas VanAken, Elizabeth Smit, Jeremiah Van Aken, Margaret Van Aken, &c.

(XI.) JAN VAN AAKEN³ j. m. (Peter², Marinus¹): Born in Kingston, married MARGRIET DE GRAAF, born in Albany and both residing in Kingston. Banns registered 19th March and Apr. 8, 1731 in Kingston, Children.

- (73) Rusje⁴, July 9, 1732, K.
(74) Gurtruy⁴, Dec. 9, 1733, K.
(75) Annaatjen⁴, Aug. 31, 1735, K., m. Jacob Freer.
(76) Maria⁴, Sept 11, 1737, K., m. Daniel York.
(77) Zara⁴, Jan. 20, 1740, K., m. Jan Borrhans.
(78) Pieter⁴, Nov. 29, 1741, K., m. Annatien Ek Kert.
(79) Johannes⁴, Jan. 22, 1744, K.
(80) Abraham⁴, Apr. 27, 1746, K., m. Jenneken Louw.
(81) Isaak⁴, Jan. 31, 1748, K., m. Judith Van Aken.
(82) Jacob⁴, Aug 4, 1751, K.
(83) Benjamin⁴, May 13, 1753, K., m. Maria EkKer.

To be continued

At Funeral of Marius Schoonmaker

*AT THE FUNERAL
OF THE HISTORIAN OF KINGSTON
MARIUS SCHOONMAKER*

O loyal son of Kingston,
Thy pen lies quiet now ;
The palm-leaves rest above thy breast,—
God's peace is on thy brow.
And earlier generations
Seem gathering to-day
Where, sad and low, we cross the snow
To lay thy form away.

The "braves" of Indian story,
The sturdy pioneer,
The patriot ranks of glory
Again are mustered here ;
And through the voiceful silence
That veils our sorrows, tell
Above his bier, they hold him dear
Who loved them all so well.

So many, many milestones
Have lengthening shadows cast
Along his way, we link to-day
The present with the past.
While faith and hope like sunbeams
Burst through the mists of tears,
Behold a bow of promise glow
Across his fourscore years !

For old, historic Kingston
His memory will revere,
And send his name with growing fame
Through every coming year.
The sire will bid the children
Remember such as he
Who told how well men fought and fell
To win our liberty.

OLD^E ULSTER

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OLDE ULSTER IS INDEBTED to Chaplain Roswell Randall Hoes, U. S. N., for the quaint advertisement of the old brew house for sale, mentioned on page 17 of this number.



IT IS WITH PLEASURE that this magazine announces that the effort to secure funds for a suitable monument to Colonel Charles DeWitt, the Revolutionary patriot and statesman, has reached a point at which it can be definitely stated that the monument will be erected and will be unveiled on Memorial Day, May 30th, 1909. The arrangements will be published during the coming spring. It is to be hoped that the other leaders in the cause of freedom, the founders of "The Esopus," and the unmarked graves of those who built up this historic county will be suitably marked as well. Something has been done in the matter but it is far from reaching the success which should attend so patriotic a purpose.

FORD HUMMEL

Teacher of the Violin

A graduate of the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, studied with pupils of Dr. Joachim and Ysaye; now studying at the Metropolitan College of Music, New York City, with Herwegh von Ende, a pupil of Carl Halir.

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Mental and Nervous Diseases

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

¶ A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

¶ Dr. Gustave Anjou's Ulster County Probate Records from 1665; invaluable in tracing ancestry—in two volumes.

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OLD^E VLSTER

 VOL. V

FEBRUARY, 1909

 No. 2

The Settlement of Katskill (Leeds)



UTCH pioneers had a remarkable sagacity in seeking out and obtaining for settlement the fertile lowlands along streams with perpetual flow and undiminishing volume. They soon found the fat vales at Fishkill, the Esopus and along the Katskill. One of the earliest applications which were made to the West India Company was for the rich bottoms now known as "the Leeds Flats."

The brave and hardy seamen who discovered the Hudson river and explored its banks and traced its water-courses to their sources, found in the region in which we live a branch of the great Algonquin family of the Indians, particularly of the *Lenni-Lenape* division, which were often called "the five tribes of the Esopus." Their principal rendezvous was about the present City of Kingston. These five tribes were known as the

Olde Ulster

Katskill, Mamecoting, Waoranec, Warranawonkong and Wawarsink Indians. They continued in the region covered by the original county of Ulster until they joined the Minisinks and came under the influence of the Moravians. At last they drifted to the banks of the Susquehanna and were almost civilized by the Reverend Gideon Hawley (See *OLDE ULSTER*, Vol. III, pages 321-9). Here they were living at the opening of the Revolution and the story of their destruction is there told. Among them were the remnants of the Indians who had possessed the lands along the Katskill and the Katerskill creeks.

Very early in the exploration of the territory revealed to the world by Henry Hudson the red men of the Katskill became known, and the rich valley they possessed along the Katskill creek was coveted by the whites. As far back in the seventeenth century as 1641 the learned Adriaen van der Donck, Doctor of Civil and Common Law by the Diploma of Leyden University, who had come to New Netherland to be the sheriff of the Colony of Rensselaerswyck, saw the lands at Katskill and attempted to secure them, but failed. His was not the only failure. The bounds of the patents of the great Patroon van Rensselaer, were indefinite. Lands were described as reaching so many days journey into the primitive forests without any more specifically setting forth the boundaries, so that holders of the great patents claimed most everything their covetous eyes wanted. The van Rensselaers, seated at the head of tide-water on the Hudson, claimed the bottoms at Katskill and attempted to seize them and convey them. But the attempt was without success.

The Settlement of Katskill (Leeds)

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On the 22nd of August, 1646, Cornelis Antonissen van der Slyck made the first effort to obtain the coveted acres for himself and his companions and nearly succeeded. "William Kieft, Director-General in New Netherland for Their High: Might: the Lords States-General of the United Netherlands, His Highness the Prince of Orange and the Noble Lords-Directors of the Incorporated West-India Company," duly granted all of these fertile acres "for the purpose of establishing" a colony there with his companions," to the said van der Slyck. It was duly sealed and confirmed "by appending our seal impressed in red wax." The officials of the Patroon, van Rensselaer, protested. The protest was made through Barent van Slechtenhorst. The directors of the West India Company wrote to Petrus Stuyvesant, who had become Director-General, under date of 21st of March, 1651:

"*Brant van Slechtenhorst's* remonstrances receive no more consideration from us, than to notify us in regard to the taking possession of the *Katskill*, which had been conveyed to others long before he took possession of it and we have so far not been able to discover, by what right he or his principals lay claim to this property, for they have never asked the Company for it in proper form."

The claim was that on the 14th day of January, 1650, Jan Dircksen from Bremen had leased and rented from van Slechtenhorst and the Commissaries,

"the old maize land on the north side of Katskill, to wit the tract of land where the squaw, who is chief of Katskill, resides, for the term of six years on the following conditions: 'The lessee further engages to read on every Lord's or other

Olde Ulster

Holiday for his Christian neighbors the Holy Gospel or a sermon out of a homily, if it can be procured and to sing one or two psalms before and after the Christian prayers according to the Reformed Church.' ”

All these applications had been denied. On the 16th of February, 1650 the Directors had written to Stuyvesant that others had asked grants of lands at Katskill ; that van der Slyck had the best right there as Kieft had issued him a patent. They added :

“ We are wondering therefore, that this man, who has a good claim to it, has not objected before now and he must be maintained in it. We deem it however best, that possession should be given to neither.”

In the year 1644 the Patroon had sent two agents to Katskill to secure the Indian title to the lands. These men were the celebrated Anthony van Curler and Peter Wynkoop. There is a brook running through the Thornton farm which is called “Corlaer’s Kill” to this day and the descendants of Peter Wynkoop are still among the people of Greene and Ulster counties.

The directors placed themselves upon record that they would permit no further grants of extravagant parcels of land “but are willing to grant to everybody as much land as he shall need.”

It was claimed by van Rensselaer that his patent extended as far as Katskill, though there was a dispute. In the recently published “Van Rensselaer Bowier Manuscripts” may be found on pages 739 and 740 the reports from two of his farms at Katskill, bearing date August 20th, 1651, which show the number of animals found on said farms at that date. This shows

The Settlement of Katskill (Leeds)

that there were settlers at Katskill (Leeds) about a year before the first purchase of lands at the Esopus by Thomas Chambers on June 5th, 1652. The report of the animals is as follows :

“ Animals found on the farm of *pieter teunissen* at *katskil*, the 20th of August 1651

“ HORSES	YEARS
“ 1 old mare with star	
1 stallion called <i>lap</i> [Patch] about	12
1 mare called <i>de jonge wacker</i> [Young Lively]	4
1 filly	1½
1 filly of this year	

5

“ CATTLE	YEARS
1 cow, called <i>koe staert</i> [Cow's Tail]	12
1 cow, called <i>de groote</i> [Big One] about	12
1 heifer with her first calf	
1 heifer	2
3 calves	
3 calves of this year	

10”

“On the farm of *jan van breemen*, also at *Katskil*, the 20th of August

“ HORSES	YEARS
“ 1 mare called <i>block</i> [Clumsy]	
1 mare called <i>Corlaer</i>	6
1 mare called <i>euert pels</i>	4
1 mare called <i>snuijgen</i> [Little Snout]	5
2 colts, a stallion and a mare	

6

Olde Ulster

“CATTLE

- I cow with a star, with her second calf
- I heifer with her first calf
- I cow with her second calf
- 2 calves of this year

—
5”

It is evident that there must have been quite a number of farmers settled along the Katskill creek from an affidavit of a certain Jan Gillisen Kock which sets forth under date of “Fort Orange the 7th Novbr A. D. 1657:”

“Before me *Johannes Lamontagne*, Commissary of Fort Orange, the village of Beverwyck and dependencies appeared *Jan Gillisen Kock*, who declares, that while on board the yacht of *Evert Pels* on the last of October he had heard that *Jan van Bremen* had gone to the farmers at Katskill for fodder for the cattle on board of the yacht of the said *Evert Pels* and that he had said, that he could not obtain any fodder for the animals, six in number, because the kil was dry and that he had then taken two men, to-wit the farmer from his bouwery and *Gerrit Segersen*, to drive the cattle overland to Fort Orange; whereupon *Tryntie Juriansen* asked of the said *Jan van Bremen* whether no fodder could be brought there overland or in carts, to which *Jan van Bremen* had answered, ‘the Devil may carry it overland’ and he had said further to *Tryntie Juriansen*: ‘before we let the animals starve we better drive them overland to Fort Orange.’ The aforesaid *Tryntie Juriansen* then remarked: ‘Is there no danger for the cattle from the savages?’ and *Jan van Bremen* answered, ‘For one guilder I will run all the risk.’ They then landed the cattle from the yacht and the animals ran away and could not be found.”

The Settlement of Katskill (Leeds)

In the First and Second Esopus Indian wars which so disturbed the neighboring settlement at the Esopus, the Katskill tribe took no part except to assist in the release of the captive women and children. This was through the influence of the Iroquois, especially the Mohawks and the Senecas. With their kin, the Minisinks, they sent word to the Director :

“ All our savages, young as well as old men, have determined not to do any harm to the *Dutch*, not even as much to kill a chicken or take a piece of bread, because they desire nothing better than to live at peace with the *Dutch*, for they are afraid that the *Sinnekus* might kill them.”

During the summer of 1663, while Captain Martin Cregier was searching through all the wilderness of Ulster county for traces of these captives the Katskill Indians quietly pursued their usual life. Jeremias van Rensselaer writes on August 27 of that year that “ the savages of Katskill have aided in the harvest.”

The settlers along the Katskill had no trouble from the Indians as did those at the Esopus. This magazine has shown that the troubles at the latter place arose from the conduct of unscrupulous fur traders in plying the red men with liquor in order to get better bargains from them. There seems to have been none of this at Katskill. On the 17th of December, 1764, Jurian Theunissen, Herman van Gansevoort and Gerit Theunissen applied to the Schout and Commissaries at Albany for permission to purchase lands at Katskill from the Indians, adding that they have the refusal of the Indians, who were willing to sell. On July 19th, 1682,

“*Wannachquatin*, an old *Esopus* Indian, *Mamanauchqua* and her son *Cunpaewn*, *Usawaneen* (alias *Squinting Jacob*) and other *Esopus* Indians sell to William Loveridge, sent hatter, their wood land reaching from the mouth of the kill, where the house of William Loveridge now stands southwards along the North or Hudson’s River to beyond one half of the great bend where the trees are marked ‘W’ and from the river westwards to a fall up *Katerskill* called *Quatawichnaak* and then along the East side of the *Katerskill*, where it empties into the Catskill to the house of W^m. Loveridge and to the *North River*.”

The Fort Orange records show that on the 20th of April, 1665, five Indians, Sachamoes, Mawinata, also called Schermerhoorn, Keesie Wey, Papenua and Maweha appeared before the secretary and conveyed to Jan Cloet, Jan Hendricksen Bruyn and Jurian Teunissen the land called “Caniskek,” which is now Athens, Greene county. The celebrated treaty made with the Indians at Kingston by Governor Andros on the 27th of April, 1677, sets forth that the north bounds of the tract conveyed were upon the lands at Saugerties conveyed to “the old sawyer,” and these bounded on the north upon the lands of the Katskill Indians “reaching from the river to the mountains above.”

The terror of the French, with their Indian allies, kept all the settlements of the colony in constant fear, both where the English element prevailed and where the Dutch predominated. In a letter written by Stephen van Cortlandt to Governor Andros under the date of July 9th, 1689, he reported that a rumor of the approach of one thousand French and a greater num-

The Settlement of Katskill (Leeds)

ber of Indians had caused all the settlers at Katskill to flee to Albany. It was but a rumor. Yet the danger was not to be despised. In the month of the next February the blow fell upon Schenectady and the inhabitants were massacred by the French and Indians, and the town destroyed.



WHEREAS, IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY a negroe man Called Jack being convicted of Burning a barne and a Barrack with wheat in the said County [Ulster] was Condemed to be burnt, for the same but the Justices not being able to procure an Executioner to performe the sentence at the rate Limited in an Act Entituled an Act for the more Effectual Preventing and punishing the Conspiracy and Insurrection of Negroes and other slaves, for the better regulating them and for repealing the Acts herein Mentioned relating thereto were obliged not only to hire one at a much greater price but Likewise to pay the price so agreed for and the same being as yet not raised by the said County, BE it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the supervizors of the said County shall at their next meeting or at their first meeting thereafter raise and Levy together with the other necessary and Contingent annual Charge of the said County such sum of mony as has been Actually paid by the said Justices in and about the Execution of the Said Negroe, and order the same to be paid to the Justice or Justices who so Payd and advanced it as aforesaid.—(*Laws of New York, 1732.*)

Governor ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

George Clinton

THIRTEENTH PAPER



GOVERNOR CLINTON was becoming more and more an obstacle to the success of the royal cause. Sir Henry Clinton was a kinsman, both being descendants of the Earls of Lincoln. This did not prevent Sir Henry from attempting to secure possession of the person of his relative. Sir Henry could see that Governor George was the executive of the State in which most of the military operations of the war were and must be carried on and also that his tireless energy, his unflinching patriotism, his unbending integrity and executive capacity were the strength of the American cause. Could possession of his person be obtained and he be transported to England the patriots might suffer a death blow. His capture were worth trying. There is extant a document which bears no date and has no signature but is among the papers of Governor Clinton and reads thus :

“ Sam Fowler & George Merritt of New Burgh & Jacobus Lefferts of Kingston have ye Kings Protection George Hardon, James Kilty & one Bill of Dutchess County & one other Person to have Hundred Guineas each to take Governor

Governor George Clinton

Clinton & convey him to New York. Richard Smith (son of Claudius) James Kilty & Isaac Sickles or Sisco (mulatto) makes their stage above the Highlands at ye following places Viz Patrick McDonel one Galloway two Ramseys brothers by Law to Cladius Smith Old Matthews & his son Fletcher & one Coleman are concerned in give'g intelligence and guiding People thro the mountains to N York. Phillip Coke of Heleburgh 16 miles from the City of Albany conveys intelligence from the Northward to N York. Jos & M'OClark from Warweek (Orange County) convey intelligence every ten or twelve days to N York."

Thus there was the price of Two Thousand Dollars put upon the seizure of Governor Clinton and his delivery in New York City. There is preserved at Washington's Headquarters in Newburgh a letter from General Washington to Governor Clinton which says :

"An anxiety for your Excellency's safety induces me to transmit a report I lately rec'd from New York though it may not in reality have a sufficient foundation still caution on the subject may not be improper.

"I am informed that George Harden, James Kilty one Brice of Dutchess County and a fourth person whose name is not noted are promised a very considerable reward if they will seize your person and conduct you to New York.

"The places to which these fellow sresort (together with Richard Smith (son of Claudius Smith) and Isaac Sissio a Mulatto, who are both also traversing the country) are at Patrick McDonnalds above the High Lands, at Galloway's son in law to Austin Smith, at Fletcher Matthews's and his father's, at Coleman's unckle to Richard Smith and at the Rumneys one or both of whom are brothers by Law to Claudius Smith.

"Your Excellency will judge of the propriety of having

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those places wach't as also John Heffering at Murders Creek who it is said serves as a pilot to Convey people from McDonalds through the Mountains below Sovereigns [Sufferns] Tavern on their way to New York."

The rebuilding of the forts captured by the British in the Highlands October 6th, 1777, was a matter much occupying the mind of Governor Clinton during the winter of 1777-8. Once more he insisted that West Point was the key of the Highlands and urged its fortification. On the 18th of February, 1778, the Continental Congress formally committed to Clinton the whole matter. By resolution he was "authorized & requested to superintend the business of obstructing, fortifying & securing the passes of the North or Hudson's river." Clinton set about this commission with all the energy and thoroughness of his nature. He succeeded so well that, aside from Stony Point, not another post in the Highlands was taken by the enemy after the capture of Forts Montgomery and Clinton in October, 1777.

During this same winter there arose another matter which gave great concern to Clinton. The winter was very severe and the army needed supplies. OLDE ULSTER has told of the problem of provisioning the army of Washington at Valley Forge, and how it fell upon Clinton (OLDE ULSTER, Vol. III., pages 365-9). To keep the troops supplied required not only food and forage but teams to convey this to the armies. Ulster county farmers had to furnish them and they were constantly requisitioned. Under date of February 24th, 1778, Secretary John McKesson wrote to Clinton that there was so great an inclination on the

part of the people of Orange county to consider themselves "exempt from Publick Service" because they had furnished materials and teams in obstructing the river that he was in a quandary what to do. He adds "Ulster County has done all the Service of this Quarter During the winter, and not in a Capacity of doing much more at this Time." Governor Clinton replied:

"It is a heavy Tax on this State to be the Common Carriers of the Army which you know has been the Case with the People in your Quarter this year past, besides being obliged to furnish their proportion of Teams for the Northern Expedition & every other Service. What adds much to their distress is being obliged to go with their Loads through the State of New Jersey to Easton & often farther, & to accept of Certificates instead of Cash for pay."

Clinton insisted that teams transporting supplies to Washington's army at Valley Forge should go at least as far as Morristown, New Jersey. This matter of being compelled to supply food and forage, and to transport them to New Jersey and Pennsylvania is one of the burdens borne by our fathers with which the people of Ulster county to-day are not familiar. And when the loads were delivered the drivers were paid in certificates which would not be accepted as a legal tender for debts or in payment of purchases.

The spring of 1778 found the State of New York at the end of its resources. There was absolutely no ready money. The country had been drained of provisions, except flour, and in payment for the same had been compelled to accept certificates of indebtedness. There is a letter from Governor Clinton to Major General

Horatio Gates where he says that considerable flour could yet be obtained in New York State for money. But people did not want to accept certificates in payment. And no beef or pork could be obtained as the west side of the Hudson had been feeding the whole American army for months.

On the 5th of March, 1778, there was a meeting of the Board of War to consider the defences at West Point. These were once more committed to the "Directions of Governor Clinton with the assistance of General Putnam and the troops under his command." The Board placed itself on record as having "the greatest confidence in the Judgment of the gentlemen concerned in this Bussiness." Colonel Kosciuszko was directed to go to West Point "to be employed as shall be thought proper in his Capacity as Engineer."

In a letter to the Marquis de Lafayette, March 8th, 1778, Governor Clinton discussed the situation. It was deplorable. The Conway cabal were preparing an expedition for the invasion of Canada without consulting Washington. This was particularly to advance the fortunes of General Gates. There is a confidential correspondence between Governor Clinton and Alexander Hamilton over it. Both saw no prospect of success, and Clinton was far more anxious to make secure the frontier than to invade Canada, a province which had no desire to cast in its lot with the thirteen States. In the letter to Lafayette Clinton speaks thus of the tender loyalty to Great Britain which characterized every American at the beginning of the struggle :

"At first setting out the Hopes of Reconciliation injured us greatly ; it induced many to consider the War to be a mere

Governor George Clinton

Temporary Business & Since we have not been as Industrious as we might & ought to have been. This State has been the Scene of War almost from the beginning, & considering the many Disadvantages it labours under on that account, & for Internal Enemies much more could not have been reasonably expected from it."

The question of Vermont was one that was very troublesome. Among the domains of the Duke of York in America were claimed to be what is now comprised in the State of Vermont. The county of Albany claimed the southwestern corner of the State; the county of Charlotte what are now practically the counties of Clinton, Franklin, Warren, Essex and most of Washington in the State of New York and the whole of the western half of Vermont; while the eastern half of Vermont was divided into the county of Cumberland on the south and Gloucester on the north. The earliest settlers of that State were from Massachusetts and resisted these claims. The region was called by them "The New Hampshire Grants." For more than a generation the claim of New York was resisted and the Vermont settlers petitioned in 1776 to be allowed to enter the Union as a sovereign state. The conflicting claims of New York and New Hampshire were more than Congress could decide and the settlers were in constant strife. It was difficult for Governor Clinton to have his authority recognized, and the strife went on for years. On the 10th of March, 1778, the inhabitants of Cumberland county, setting forth that "difficulties and disputes were subsisting in part of the County of Albany, and the Counties of Charlotte, Cumberland and Gloucester" would comply with the proclamation of

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Governor Clinton while they declared their allegiance to New York. Still the disputes went on for years and it was not until 1791 that Vermont entered the Union as a State. Meanwhile the British made repeated attempts to tamper with their patriotism, which efforts the shrewd "Green Mountain Boys" used with Congress as a weapon to obtain their statehood.



LETTERS OF CHARLES DEWITT

KINGSTON, Jan^y 1, 1770.

CHARLES DEWITT, ESQ.

DEAR COUSIN :—

I have written a letter to the Governor requesting his honour to grant unto me a licence to act as an Attorney in the Courts of Common pleas and perhaps the Governor may be inclined to have some recommendation of me, I hope you will be kind enough to serve me in that particular and that in such a manner as you think agreeable with my capacity and ability, and in so doing you will oblige Sir

Your Most Obd^{nt} Serv^t,

JOHN DUMONT.

WITTS MOUNT, Dutchess Co., Feb. 26, 1777.

CHARLES DEWITT,

DEAR COUSIN :—

As my son is employed by Commissaries to purchase wheat and make as much flour as he possibly can for the Continental Army, and as he has already a great quantity of wheat in the mill, he will be in a great

Letters of Charles DeWitt

strait for flour barrels and cannot be supplied unless the Convention will be, for that reason, somewhat favorable to three toryfied persons, viz Dirck VanVliet, Lewis Hogg and Abel Peters, who last fall were sent to Exeter and returned sometime this winter on their own risk and remain at home, peacable and unmolested. I have advised my son to tell them to be peacable and go to work, they to tell everyone that they are at work for the Congress which they have done, I promised to procure a permit as soon as possible for them to remain at home, upon this they are hard at work to prepare stuff for flour barrels, he should have gone over for that purpose several days ago. I have learned that there are Delegates enough to make a House. Wheat comes in fast and we can scarcely leave home and probably the ice will be bad in the River in a few days. He desires the favour of you to make application to the Convention in order to obtain permission for the above named persons to remain at home for that purpose provided they behave peacable and in case you can obtain such permits that you will be pleased to send them over by the first opportunity to ease them of their fears; they are willing to be under a neutral oath, but that is to no purpose.

My love to you and your children.

I am in haste

Your affectionate Cousin

PETER DEWITT.

TO COL. CHARLES DEWITT.

NOTE.—Charles DeWitt was one of the prominent men of Ulster County in the political events which preceded and accompanied the War of the Revolution.

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NEWBURGH, N. Y., Jan. 28th, 1783.

COL. CHARLES DEWITT,

D^R SIR:—

His Excellency Gen^l Washington has applied to the contractors for a quantity of the best superfine flour. Mrs. Washington has a preference for the flour manufactured at Esopus. I must therefore entreat you to send to this place as soon as possible ten or twelve barrels of the best flour that can be manufactured in your part of the country. You will direct the teams to deliver the flour at Head Quarters and send a weight note that a receipt may be taken for the exact weight.

In behalf of the Contractors

I am Sir Your Obd^{nt} Serv^{vt}

ROYAL FLINT.

From 1768 to 1775 he was a member of the Colonial Assembly "and as a member of the last Legislative body which sat under Royal authority was one of the nine. (TenBroeck, VanCortland, DeWitt, Boerum, Seaman, Schuyler, Clinton, Woodhull and Philip Livingston,) resolute and patriotic men who voted to approve of the proceedings of the Continental Congress, then recently organized in Philadelphia.

He was a member of the Provincial Convention of April, 1775 and of the third and fourth Provincial Congresses, where he was associated with John Jay, William Duer and others on the Committee "for detecting and defeating conspiracies, etc."

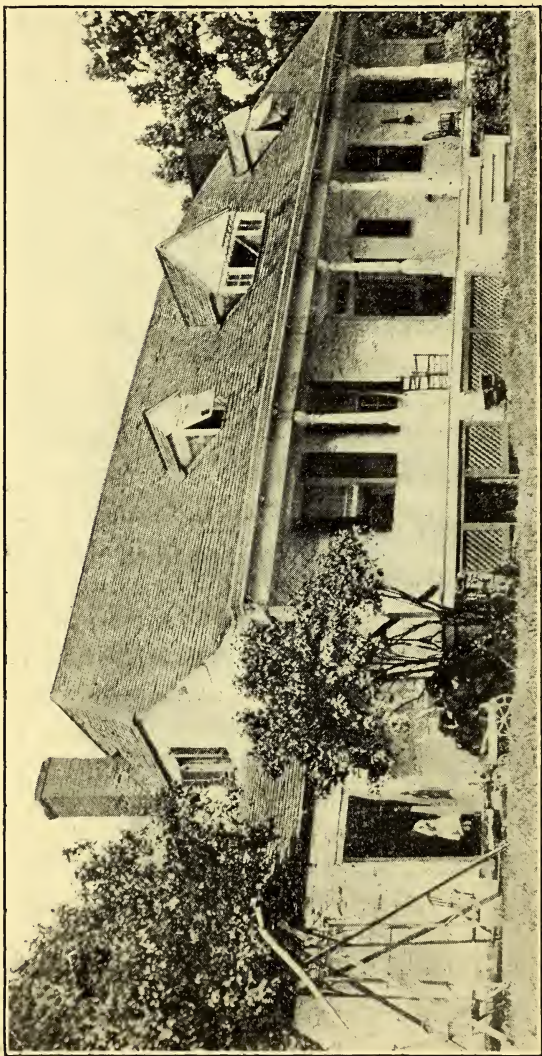
On December 21, 1775, he was commissioned Colonel of a Reg^{mt} of minute men. When this State Government was organized, Colonel DeWitt was made a member of the committee to draft a constitution and from 1781 to 1785 he sat in the State Assembly.

THE HARDENBERGH HOUSE AT ROSENDALE

We illustrate this number of the magazine with the Hardenbergh house at Rosendale. This is one of the oldest houses in the county and one of the most historic. It was the residence of the proprietor of the great domain of Jacob Rutsen to which was added the Hardenbergh estate. There was no landholder on the western side of the Hudson in colonial days who possessed such extended lands.

Colonel Jacob Rutsen first appears in the Esopus on record November 17th, 1678 at a baptism. He had obtained a patent for a tract of land August 26th, 1677 and another on October 8th of the same year. He became a resident about the same time. For many years he was a representative in the Colonial Assembly for Ulster county, beginning with 1692. He was colonel in the militia. He was for years a merchant in Kingston, but about the year 1700 he turned over his business to his son-in-law, Johannes Hardenbergh, and removed to his place in Rosendale. He had purchased this of the Indians in 1680 and it included nine hundred and sixty acres on both sides of the Rondont creek from Rock Lock to Koxing. That year he leased his Rosendale property to Dirck Keyser, in consideration of his building a stone house thereon. Dirck Keyser occupied it until his landlord came to reside in it himself. The stone house of Keyser was built into the present one as Rutsen enlarged the building for his residence. Colonel Rutsen died here in 1730 and his grave is just south of the house, and has never been marked except by cedar posts

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The Colonel Hardenbergh House at Rosendale

The Hardenbergh House at Rosendale

which have stood there undecayed for more than one hundred and seventy-five years. A monument should be erected to this old patriot, who led the people in their fight for popular rights more than two hundred years ago.

When Colonel Rutsen died he was possessed of an estate which comprehended Rosendale, Guilford, large tracts in Shawangunk, one twenty-third part of the great Hardenbergh Patent covering much of Ulster and most of Delaware and Sullivan counties, all of the Rondout valley from the Rochester line to the Sullivan county line, thirteen miles, except the four-hundred-acre patent of Cornelius Vernooy, besides numerous farms in Hurley, Marbletown and Kingston. There were also tracts on the other side of the Hudson in Dutchess county.

His daughter Catharine married Johannes Hardenbergh, to whom and his associates was given the great Hardenbergh Patent. Their son, known as Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh, was a colonel in the militia for twenty years and a member of the Colonial Legislature of the State of New York. Here the army of Governor George Clinton was halted and was eating in haste on October 16th, 1777, on the way to defend Kingston after a long march from New Windsor. Here they heard the cannon of Vaughan as he landed at Kingston Point and marched to destroy Kingston. From here the troops hastened to save the town and arrived too late. The eight miles could not be covered in time. Here Mrs. Washington, with Governor George and Mrs. Clinton, were entertained by Colonel Hardenbergh, then and during the Revolution, the com-

mander of the Fourth Regiment Ulster County Militia (See OLDE ULSTER, Vol. III., page 17). The Reverend Jacob Rutsen Hardenbergh, D. D., a son of Colonel Johannes, was the first president of Rutgers College, of New Jersey. This college was chartered in 1766.



*LINEAGE OF THE ABRAHAM HASBROUCK
FAMILY*

Continued from Vol. V., page 28

(XXXIII. c) DANIEL HASBROUCK⁴ (Elias³, Solomon², Abraham¹) was born July 28th, 1773; died of apoplexy May 13th, 1846; married PHOEBE GRIFFIN: born April 28th, 1778; died October 1st, 1826. They owned a tract of land in Woodstock, N. Y., which he cultivated. It was adjoining those of his father and brothers. Children:

(133) Elias⁵: B. Sept. 4, 1796.

(134) Peter D.⁵: B. Sept. 30. 1798; d. of apoplexy Dec. 5, 1883; m. Nov. 24, 1821 Charlotte Powell; b. Nov. 23, 1802; d. Jan. 2, 1846. He was a baker in Kingston, N. Y. He was also overseer of the poor in Kingston and was noted for his generosity, adding to the comfort of the poor from his private purse, beyond that which his means allowed. He was engaged in many business projects and was a man of considerable wealth. He settled in Ravenna, Ohio in 1844. His children were: (1) Luena⁶; b. June 29, 1824; d.

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

- Nov. 28, 1824. (2) Elliott⁶; born April 7, 1826; d. Feb. 10, 1898; m. Jan. 1, 1850, Angeline Bloomer. (3) Abraham V⁶; b. Sept. 30, 1833; m. March 1, 1857, Josephine Miller. (4) Annette⁶; b. March 29, 1835; m. May 11, 1857, Daniel M. Bloomer. (5) Clark T.⁶; b. Nov. 24, 1838; d. Oct. 10, 1907; m. Sept. 22, 1861, Libbie Packard. (6) Julia⁶; b. Sept. 4, 1841; d. May 4, 1845.
- (135) Sally⁵: B. Oct. 26, 1800; m. Dec. 30, 1820, Herman Reynolds, supervisor of the town of Woodstock, 1845-7; 1858-9.
- (136) Jonathan⁵: B. Aug. 1, 1802; m. Aug. 17, 1822, Elizabeth Griswold.
- (137) William⁵: B. Feb. 23, 1805; d. of apoplexy June 5, 1891; m. Dec. 19, 1827, Luena Powell: b. Feb. 27, 1807; d. Aug. 16, 1887. They settled in Cory, Pennsylvania, in 1837. He was a farmer. Their children were: (1) Charlotte⁶; b. Feb. 15, 1828; d. Jan. 21, 1893. (2) Lorenzo⁶; b. Nov. 17, 1830; d. Jan. 31, 1872. (3) Phoebe J.⁶; b. June 16, 1836; d. July 4, 1900. (4) William W.⁶; b. May 15, 1842. (5) Mary Jane⁶; b. June 25, 1846.
- (138) Griffen⁵: B. May 26, 1807; m. May 19, 1834, Julia Barber.
- (139) Phoebe⁵: B. May 26, 1807; m. Feb. 20, 1830, Henry C. Rundell.
- (140) Eliza Jane⁵: B. Jan. 16, 1810; m. June 19, 1828, M. L. Edson.
- (141) Rebecca⁵: B. Nov. 22, 1811; m. Sept. 12, 1829, Jeremiah Reynolds.
- (142) Rachel⁵: B. Nov. 1, 1813; m. May 24, 1834, James Douglas.

- (143) Robert⁵: B. March 9, 1816.
(144) Isaac⁵: B. Feb. 19, 1818; m. Oct. 20, 1840, Alma Bonesteel.
(145) Daniel⁵: B. Feb. 9, 1820.
(146) Caroline⁵: B. Feb. 25, 1823; m. — Crawswell.
(147) Catharine⁵: B. June 21, 1824.
(148) Emma⁵: B. Oct. 1, 1826; m. June 20, 1848, John B. Roe.

NOTE—Elias Hasbrouck³ (33) died of apoplexy in 1820. While hunting deer he was stationed alone in an advantageous place to watch for the game. Some time after he was found by his companions sitting with his back against a tree and his gun over his shoulder, dead. He was the first supervisor of the town of Woodstock, N. Y., upon its organization in 1787. In this office he was continued until 1792.

At the request of Miss Annie Lee Snyder the following notes, corrections and omissions are added to the articles on the lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck family: Catharine Rutsen mentioned in Vol. 1V., page 190 and page 221 was the daughter of Jacob Rutsen (22) spoken of in OLDE ULSTER in Vol. I., pages 365-6 and Maria Hansen, and grand-daughter of Rutger Jacobsen van Schoenderwaert (some of whose descendants assumed the name of Rutsen) and Tryntje (Catharine) Janse van Breestede. Rutger Jacobsen came from Holland with his brother and settled at Fort Orange. He was a man of substance and high repute. As oldest magistrate he laid the corner stone of the church in Albany in 1656. Many valuable pictures, silver, diamonds, jewelry, etc. were sold after his death in 1665.

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

His descendants assumed various surnames, viz : Rutsen, Van Woert and Rutgers. His son, Jacob Rutsen, married and located at Rosendale, Ulster County. Maria Hansen was the daughter of Hans Hansen Bergen ⁽²³⁾, a native of Norway, who emigrated from Holland in 1633 and settled in New Amsterdam. He married Sarah Rapalie, born at Fort Orange, June 9, 1625, the first white child born in New Netherland, daughter of Joris Jansen Rapalie and Catalyntje Trico, both Walloons and born in Flanders. They built the first house on Long Island.

On page 222 (21) Jacemytje Slecht should be Jacomyntje Slecht. In same connection Jan Eltinge was more probably the son of William Eltinge and Jannetje Le Sueur.

On page 286 the date of baptism of Abraham Hasbrouck should be Oct. 19, 1707 instead of Oct. 17.

On page 318 Grietje Vertsen should be Grietje Aertsen.

On page 376 Maria Hasbrouck was born May 22, and not May 23. Catharine was born May 17 and not Aug. 17, 1792. On page 377 Betsy Kein should be Betsy Kain. On same page Sarah Hasbrouck, wife of David Tuthill should be "born in 1788" and not in 1785. Here too, Rachel Samuels should be Rachel Sammons. Also Samuel Tuthill died July 14 and not July 4.

On page 378 the birth of Edgar T. Dudley should be Sept. 26 instead of April 26. Helen Dudley was born April 22, 1849 and not 1848.

On page 379 Jacob D. Ostrander was born Dec. 25 and not Dec. 28. Joseph H. Johnston was married Jan. 26 and not Jan. 20. Dr. Fenelon was born Feb. 9, 1818.

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On page 381 Sarah C. Slaughter should read Sarah C. Sleighter. George Hasbrouck was born Jan. 26, instead of Jan. 2, and married in 1822 instead of 1882. Abel Hasbrouck was born Dec. 18, 1803 and not Dec. 16.

On page 382 Augustus Hasbrouck was born in 1809 and not in 1899.

In Vol. V., of OLDE ULSTER Ruth Shaw should read "died Dec. 30, 1870" and not Jan. 31.

The following references explain the numbers in superior figures, enclosed in parentheses, in the preceding articles of the lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck family :

- (1) Anjou's Probate Records, Vol. I. pp. 88-91. Will of Jean Hasbrouck.
- (2) OLDE ULSTER, Vol. I., pp. 105-14. New Paltz Patent, Vol. II., pp. 129-234 The Huguenots. The French Blood in America by Lucian J. Fosdick.
- (3) See History of New Paltz, by Ralph LeFevre for lives and descendants of the "Duzine."
- (4) P. R. Vol. I., pp. 31, 32, 47. Will of Christian Deyo Hist. N. P. pp. 253-6.
- (5) Hist. N. P. pp. 368-95, 517-21, Abraham Hasbrouck.
- (6) Hist. N. P., pp. 317-47, Louis DuBois, Jr.
- (7) Hist. N. P. pp. 280-348, 510-14, and P. R. Vol. I., pp. 34, 35, 46, 47, 50, 51, 52, Louis DuBois.
- (8) OLDE ULSTER, Vol. III., pp. 81-2. P. R. Vol. I., pp. 30, 31, 48. Will Matthys Blanshan, Sr.
- (9) P. R. Vol. I., pp. 133-5. Will Nicholas Hoffman, P. R. Vol. II., pp. 130, 131. Will Zacharias H—.
- (10) Hist. N. P. pp. 322-47, Col. Louis DuBois.
- (11) Hist. N. P. pp. 332-5, Maj. Zachariah DuBois.

Lineage of the Abraham Hasbrouck Family

- (12) P. R. Vol. II., pp. 139-40. Will Col. Johannes Hardenbergh.
- (13) Hist. N. P. pp. 318-22. P. R. Vol. II., p. 142-3. Will Jonathan DuBois.
- (14) *Capt. Daniel Brodhead*. Hist. of Kingston, pp. 50-57.
- (15) P. R. Vol. I., pp. 41, 42, 66-68. Will, Wessel Ten Broeck.
- (16) P. R. Vol. II., p. 127, Conraedt Ten Eyck. Mathys Ten Eyck (Will).
- (17) Hist. N. P., pp. 375-94, Joseph Hasbrouck.
- (18) P. R. Vol. II., p. 114. Will Jocham H. Schoonmaker
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To be continued

On the Banks of the Hudson

ON THE BANKS OF THE HUDSON

Cool shades and dews are 'round my way,
And silence of the early day ;
'Mid the dark rocks that watch his bed,
Glitters the mighty Hudson spread,
Unrippled, save by drops that fall
From shrubs that fringe his mountain wall ;
And o'er the clear still water swells
The music of the Sabbath bells.

All, save this little neck of land
Circled with trees, on which I stand ;
All, save that line of hills which lie
Suspended in the mimic sky—
Seems a blue void, above, below,
Through which the white clouds come and go ;
And from the green world's farthest steep
I gaze into the airy deep.

Loveliest of lovely things are they,
On earth, that soonest pass away.
The rose that lives its little hour,
Is prized beyond the sculptured flower.
Even love, long tried and cherished long,
Becomes more tender and more strong,
At thought of that insatiate grave
From which its yearnings cannot save.

River ! In this still hour thou hast
Too much of heaven on earth to last ;
Nor long may thy still waters lie,
An image of the glorious sky.
Thy fate and mine are not repose,
And, ere another evening close,
Thou to the tides shall turn again,
And I to seek the crowd of men.

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT

OLDE VLSTER

AN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

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THE GREAT EVENT OF THIS YEAR will be the Hudson-Fulton celebration. It was along the shore of Ulster county that Henry Hudson sailed for almost fifty miles on his renowned voyage. Along these same shores sailed Fulton with the Clermont on his historic journey. It was an Ulster county man who was in command of the latter vessel on the occasion (See OLDE ULSTER, Vol. II., pages 141-5). The approaching celebration will culminate at Newburgh and Newburgh bay. The battleships will proceed no farther as the channel of the Hudson is not wide enough for them to come about. But Newburgh was part of Old Ulster. The county line was as far south as the mouth of Murderer's creek at Cornwall. The cities above the Highlands expect to participate in the great celebration. The extent to which they will cannot be told at present. The methods by which they will commemorate are not yet determined. The permanent memorials they will erect cannot be named to-day. The event will be a historic one in the life of the State of New York.

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OLDE VLSTER

 VOL. V

MARCH, 1909

 No. 3

Governor ❁❁❁
George Clinton

 FOURTEENTH PAPER



HILE the spring of 1778 saw some things in which there was a little improvement there were others on every hand that occasioned the deepest concern. The unrest among the Indian tribes was not the least of all.

On the 22nd of April Clinton wrote to Washington that the problem must be solved and he had not the means nor the troops for the solution. The necessity for defending the Hudson against any such expedition as that of Vaughan the preceding October must be kept in mind first of all. On the other hand Albany was becoming the great depot for army stores and these must be protected against raids from Canada and from Indian attack and, besides this, it was becoming important that the Indians must be subdued. It was

Olde Ulster

a necessity that their power, particularly that of the Iroquois, be crushed. Most of the troops stationed at Albany had been sent to reinforce the defense of the Highlands, leaving Albany not as secure as it should be. In his letter Clinton said :

“The Disposition of several of the Indian Tribes, if not known to be hostile, is at least very doubtful, and from our weak State there may be fixed against us. We have large quantities of Stores of every kind in Albany and its vicinity. The Enemy are not without some Troops in Canada. They are Masters of the Lakes, and should they, aided by the Indians, be disposed to make Incursions into this State, they might do us infinite Mischief before a force, sufficient to oppose them, could be collected.”

Whence was the money that would be necessary to come? Power had been given the governor to impress wheat as a bounty for the soldiers. The paper issues of the government were almost valueless and it was difficult to obtain anything upon this as a circulating medium. One of the chief services Governor Clinton rendered the State and the cause of the Americans was the raising of money by pledging the faith of the State of New York. It was because the people had such confidence in him that this was possible. Some of these notes are still in existence and are treasured as evidences of the serious situation, and of the unusual expedients adopted by those who had to provide the sinews of war at a time when the days of the Revolution were the darkest, and the demands were the most insistent. As a sample of the manner in which he did this we give the following :

Governor George Clinton

“State of New York, ss. Pursuant to an act of the Legislature authorizing the same The faith of the said State is hereby pledged for the Repayment of the Sum
£500 of five hundred Pounds Current Money of the said State in Specie with Interest at the Rate of Six per Cent per Annum to Mr. John Brush within one year after the Conclusion of the present War with Great Britain.

“Given at Pokeepsie this 20th day of

“September, 1782.

“GEO. CLINTON.

“Test

“THOS. WICKES.”

[Indorsed as follows]

“John Brush

£573: 12:0

Reced. March ye Third 1785 from Gerard Bancker Treasur, five Hundred Seventy three pounds twelve Shillings in full discharge of the principal and Interest of the Within note.

“JOHN BRUSH.”

Wherever money could be obtained to carry on the conflict for freedom these notes of Governor Clinton were given. These were aside from those personally given by him for the cause. The money thus secured went into the hands of the governor and was expended at his discretion. In fact this was the way in which the State government was administered from the first. The day after he was inaugurated as the first governor on July 30th, 1777, the Council of Safety authorized him “to draw not to exceed £3,000 to answer the present Exigencies of the State.” All through the long war this continued and his accounts furnish a history

of the war and its difficulties which reveals burdens which were carried by those responsible for its success or failure. When the story of Abraham Lincoln was told and re-told at the centennary of his birth the burdens that lay upon that brave and faithful heart were rehearsed. In accrediting him with all he endured and all he carried we should not forget the crushing loads of the same kind which our fathers, particularly Governor George Clinton, carried for seven long years. And with all the difficulties that the then national administration had in financing the Civil War they were proportionately lighter than those which the Fathers of the Republic had in financing the great conflict which gave us the government. The honors due Lincoln and his administration should not obscure those due Washington, Clinton and their associates in the years when we carried on a long war with the mightiest nation of the world and had neither the money nor the men in arms with which to do so.

What was to be done at the present juncture? The northern states appointed commissioners to meet in New Haven, Connecticut, on January 15th, 1778, to devise some effective measures. New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware responded. These commissioners thought it expedient to regulate the prices of labor and produce but the Massachusetts General Assembly found too much division of sentiment among its members concerning the expediency of these measures to adopt them. But it did advise one thing—aiding Congress in “giving Stability and Value to the Continental Bills.” The General Assembly de-

explored the enlargement of their volume which tended to depreciate their value. It suggested that the quantity be reduced to "give Stability to the Currency and to Reduce the prices of Articles both of Produce and Merchandize." But the General Assembly was endowed with the financial clearness of perception to see that "the obstruction of the Circulation of the money, and thereby reducing its Value would greatly affect the Common Cause," and the evils would be increased instead of removed. This has not been the only time when Massachusetts has stood for sound financing. Its record, with that of New York under Governor Horatio Seymour during the Civil War, has been for the faithful payment of all obligations. These two states stood shoulder to shoulder during the Revolution in this matter, while the advocates of some sort of repudiation were continually proposing all sorts of schemes for providing an indirect avoidance of the obligation of payment. Against all these things the face of Governor Clinton was set like a flint.

Among the other schemes proposed to secure the requisite means for carrying on the conflict was a great lottery under the authority of Congress. In this day the moral sense of the people has been developed so far as to see that any scheme that provides a means of getting something for nothing is deteriorating to the best interests of the people. This is aside from the right or wrong of the question of gambling in itself considered. But at the time of the Revolution the sentiment did not exist, or was not sufficiently developed to be public opinion. Even churches and schools

had lotteries in aid of them. So Congress authorized a lottery under its auspices. During this spring of 1778 two thousand, three hundred and thirty-five tickets were forwarded to Governor Clinton. The letter which accompanied them speaks of nine hundred previously sent in the same way. Clinton acknowledged their receipt and that he had delivered them in small parcels to parties to dispose of them. But when the larger number arrived he seems to have called a halt and retained them until he could have explanations and instructions from Congress itself. He wrote saying that they would not go out of his possession until he had more definite information concerning them. This was on the 29th of April, 1778. Two days thereafter he returned the tickets to "the Board of Treasury of the United States of America, York town." His business ideas and business sense were too true to finance the cause in which his whole heart was engaged upon such a scheme of raising money to advance its interests.

Meanwhile there was another matter which bore hard upon the people of the State of New York, from which most of the others states were exempt. The campaign against Burgoyne had called out the militia of New York in force. It was a campaign carried on during the Fall months. These are the months during which the farmers get their Winter grain sown. Thus little or no grain was growing, and as New York was then almost exclusively an agricultural state there was a prospect of famine before the valiant defenders of their country after the grain on hand was used. The situation was exceedingly gloomy in the Spring of 1778.

The Labadists and ** * * The Esopus*



HEN James Buchanan entered upon his administration as President of the United States he commissioned Henry Crude Murphy, formerly mayor of Brooklyn, New York, and one of the most scholarly of Americans, Minister to the Netherlands. It was his good fortune to find in the possession of a bookseller in Amsterdam the journal of two Labadists who had visited New York in 1679-80 and, incidentally, "the Esopus." These men were Jasper Dankers and Peter Sluyter. The Labadists were a sect of religious mystics which sprang up in Holland and obtained a considerable following there. All that relates to the region within the scope of this magazine has been transcribed for publication in this connection. These extracts follow without further comment. The Esopus is called "Hysopus" in the "Journal."

FROM—

"JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE TO NEW YORK AND A TOUR
IN SEVERAL OF THE AMERICAN COLONIES IN 1679-
80," BY JASPER DANKERS AND PETER SLUYTER,
OF WIEWERD IN FRIESLAND.

Translated from the original manuscript in Dutch

Olde Ulster

for the Long Island Historical Society, and edited by Henry C. Murphy.

Published: Brooklyn, 1867.

1680—(At New York)—

March 20. “* * * A yacht arrived down the river from the *Hysopus*, from which they learned the navigation was open, though boats going up would have to tug through the ice. It brought news of the death of the minister, Domine *Gaesbeck*, a Cocceian, which had caused great sorrow. They had determined to call another minister from Holland, or Tessemaker from the south. They had built a new church in the *Hysopus*, of which the glass had been made and painted in the city, by the father of our mate, *Evert Duiken*, whose other son, Gerrit, did most of the work.* This *Gerrit Duiken* had to take the glass to the *Hysopus*—and having heard we had a mind to go there, he requested our company, which we would not refuse him when the time came. He promised to teach me how to draw.

Monday, March 31st. We determined to make a journey to Albany the first opportunity, but this could not be done without the special permission of the governor. Although a regulation exists that no one

* Evert Duykinck, who came early to New Netherland, and was in the employment of the West India Company, at the fort Good Hope, on the Connecticut, at the time of the troubles with the English there in 1640, was a glazier by trade. By the phrase, *making the glass*, we apprehend glazing is all that is meant by our journalist. His son, Gerrit, was an adherent of Leisler, and a member of his council. O’Callaghan’s *Calendar of Dutch Manuscripts*, 44, 526.

The Labadists and the Esopus

shall go up there unless he has been three years in the country, that means for the purpose of carrying on trade; for a young man who came over with us from Holland, proceeded at once to Albany, and continues to reside there. We went accordingly to request permission of the governor. After we had waited two or three hours, his excellency came in and received us kindly. We made our request, which he neither refused nor granted, but said he would take it into consideration. Meanwhile we inquired after vessels, of which there were plenty going up this time of year.

April 2d, Wednesday. We went again to the lord governor for permission, who received us after he had dined. He inquired for what purpose we wished to go above; to which we answered, we had come here to see the country, its nature and fertility; and that we had heard there were fine lands above, such as *Schoonechten*, *Rentselaerwyck*, and the *Hysopus*. "Those are all small places," he said, "and are all taken possession of; but I am ashamed I did not think of this." He then requested us to come some morning and dine with him, when he would talk with us. We thanked him and took our leave, reflecting whether it would be advisable to trouble his excellency any more about the matter, as it was not of such great importance to us and he, perhaps, considered it of more moment than we did. We then felt inclined to leave the country the very first opportunity, as we had nothing more to do here, and it was the very best time of the year to make a voyage. * * *

April 13th, Saturday. We called upon the governor, and requested permission to leave. They had

decided to go to Boston, having heard nothing of their application to go to Albany.) He spoke to us kindly, and asked us to come the next day after preaching, thus preventing our request.

14th, Sunday. About five o'clock in the afternoon, we went to the lord governor, who was still engaged at our arrival, *in the Common Prayer*; but as soon as it was finished, he came and spoke to us, even before we had spoken to him. * * * (Permission to go to Albany was granted.) “* * * Reflecting upon this matter, we thought whether it would not be more respectful to make the voyage to Albany, than to leave, since we had several times requested permission to do so, and he had now granted it. Should we not go, it would, perhaps, not be well received by him, the more so as there would not be any vessel going to Boston for some weeks. Nevertheless, it was not bad that we had shown his excellency it was not so important to us that we could not let it pass.

Arrangements for the trip to Albany were made the following day, the passage being “one beaver, that is, twenty-five guilders in zeewant, for each of us, and find ourselves.” The boat sailed from New York on Friday, April 19th, at 3 P. M.

Saturday, April 20th. * * * In the evening we sailed before the Hysopus, where some of the passengers desired to be put ashore, but it blew too hard and we had too much headway. It did not seem to be very important. In consequence of the river above the Hysopus being difficult to navigate, and beset with shoals and passages, and of the weather being rainy with no moon, we could not proceed with-

out continual danger of running aground, and so came to anchor.

Arrived at Albany Monday morning, April 22d, and spent some days in visiting Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaerwyck, and vicinity. Referring to *Schoonech, tendell*, the "Journal" says: "The wheat which comes from this place, the Hysopus and some other places is a little blue."

April 30th, left Albany and "tacked over" to *Kinderhoeck*, and remained there loading grain until Wednesday evening, May 1st, when set sail for *Claver rack*, where more grain was taken aboard the same evening. While at Claverack, we rode along a high ridge of blue rock on the right hand, the top of which was grown over. This stone is suitable for burning lime, as the people of the Hysopus, from the same kind burn the best.

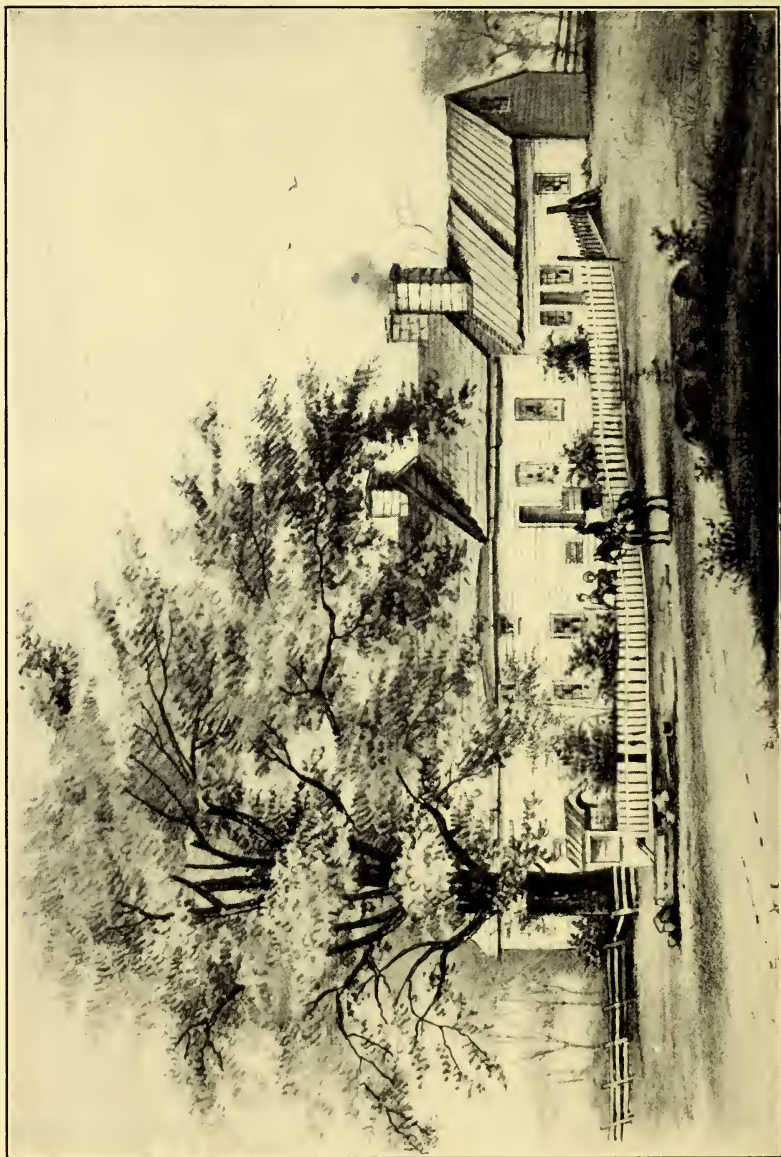
May 3d, Friday, set sail from *Claver rack*. We sailed from there about nine o'clock, but after going eight or twelve miles got aground in consequence of our heavy loading, where we were compelled to remain until four o'clock in the afternoon, waiting for high water. But what was unfortunate, we missed a fine, fair wind, which sprung up about eleven o'clock. Meanwhile, the passengers went ashore. I walked a small distance into the country, and came to a fall of water, the basin of which was full of fish, two of which I caught with my hands. They were young shad. I went immediately after the other passengers to catch more, but when they came, they made such an agitation of the water that the fish all shot to the bottom, and remained there under the rocks. We therefore,

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could obtain no more ; but if we had had a small *schep-net* (casting net), we could have caught them in great numbers, or if I had remained there quiet alone.
* * * The water having risen and the wind being favorable, we went on board, and as soon as we were afloat, got under sail. We proceeded rapidly ahead, and at sundown came to anchor before the *Hysopus*, where we landed some passengers who lived there.

4th, Saturday. We went ashore early, and further inland to the village. We found Gerrit, the glass-maker there, with his sister. He it was who desired to come up here in company with us, and he was now happy to see us. He was engaged in putting the glass in their new church, but left his work to go with us through the country, where he was better acquainted than we were. We found here exceedingly large flats, which are more than three hours ride in length, very level, with a black soil which yields grain abundantly. They lie like those at *Schoon ecte* and *Claver rack*, between the hills and along the creek, which sometimes overflows all the land, and drowns and washes out much of the wheat. The place is square, set off with palisades, through which there are several gates ; it consists of about fifty houses within the stockade. They were engaged in a severe war with the Indians during the administration of Heer Stuyvesant, which is, therefore, still called the *Hysopus* war, partly because it was occasioned on account of the people of *Hysopus*, and because they have had to bear there the largest burden of it. In returning to the village, we observed a very large, clear fountain bubbling up from under a rock. When we arrived

there, we went to the house of the person who was the head of the village where some people had assembled, who having no minister, and hearing my comrade was a theologian, requested him to preach for them the next day. But our skipper having finished what he had to do, we left there. Here and in Albany, they brew the heaviest beer we have tasted in all New Netherland, and from wheat alone, because it is so abundant. The glass-maker informed us that Willem, the son of our old people, was going to follow the sea, and had left for Barbadoes; that *Evert Duyckert*, our late mate on our voyage out, who had gone as captain of a ketch to Barbadoes and Jamaica, had arrived; that it was his ship we had seen coming in, when we were leaving the city, and that, perhaps, he would go with her to Holland. This place is about three-quarters of an hour inland. At the mouth of the creek on the shore of the river, there are some houses and a redoubt, together with a general storehouse, where the farmers bring in their grain, in order that it may be conveniently shipped when the boats come up here, and wherein their goods are discharged from the boats, as otherwise there would be too much delay in going back and forth. The woodland around the *Hysopus* is not of much value, and is nothing but sand and rock. We had hardly reached the river, when a man came running up to us as hard as he could, requesting to speak to us. We inquired of him what he desired, when he complained of being sorely afflicted with an internal disease, and said he had heard we well understood medicine, and knew what to prescribe for him. We told him we were no doctors, and had



Birthplace of George Clinton, Little Britain

The Birthplace of George Clinton

only brought a few medicines with us for our own use, and most of them we had given away. My comrade told him what he thought of his disease, and that we could not help him; whereupon, this poor wretched man went sorrowfully back again, for he had spent much to be cured. We told him, however, we would send him a brackish powder which had done good in several cases, and which, if it pleased God to bless it, would perhaps help him. We went on board the boat, and immediately got under sail, with a favorable but light wind, and by evening arrived at the entrance of the Highlands.

(For the above article this magazine is indebted to Edward L. Merritt, of Kingston.—THE EDITOR.)



THE BIRTHPLACE OF GEORGE CLINTON

At Little Britain, in the town of New Windsor, in what is now Orange county, New York, but what was then part of Ulster county, George Clinton, the first Governor of the State of New York, was born on July 26th, 1739. He held this office for twenty-one years and was Vice-President of the United States for eight years, dying during the last year of his second term. It was in this vicinity that the army of Washington was encamped at the close of the Revolution, and Little Britain can claim as its most historic association that it was at the public building on the camp ground that Washington firmly and decidedly, and somewhat indignantly, refused the crown offered him by certain

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officers in his army. It was in the Falls House in Liberty Square that the monarchical conspiracy was hatched. About ten miles from the City of Newburgh, and some two to three miles west of Little Britain, is the old Clinton farm. Here the immigrant, Charles Clinton, afterwards County Judge of Ulster county, settled in 1730. Here yet stood his old house as late as 1870. We are indebted for the illustration giving a view of it to the courtesy of William C. Hart, Secretary of the Wallkill Valley Farmers Association.

*LETTERS OF CHARLES DEWITT*

NEW YORK, Feb. 8, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRET:—

After a most tedious ride we arrived here on the 30th ult I think, being the thirteenth day after I left home, I hope all things at home are agreeable to my wishes, I trust your exertions will not be wanting to prevent the losses which I may sustain during my absence, in business so far as it is in your power, I hope you will act as if my business were your own etc. I must depend upon you until I return home, when that will be it is out of my power to guess. I am pressed to take the first tour to Congress, the Delegates of which for one of this State I am appointed, notwithstanding my declaration to those who spoke to me on the subject of my disinclination to accept the appointment, it was persisted in. My design was not to go if possible but at present Genl McDougal, Judge Paine and myself are only here. Genl McDougal says he cannot pos-

Letters of Charles DeWitt

sibly go, Judge Paine has consented to go immediately, and I am urged to go with him, there being now no representation in Congress makes it necessary that two delegates should go without loss of time. I have considered the matter, and think that if I must go it may be more convenient now than in the future, as the time of the first two that go may expire nearly as soon as our attendance in the Legislature. This I presume is Judge Paine's reason, who says it is as convenient for him now as he supposes it ever will be, and that he has no occasion to go home first and therefore is ready to go at once, he is certainly a Philosopher to be so little affected with anything that happens to him. The matter however is not yet determined, I have hitherto put it off by expecting Mr. Lansing back soon, and I suppose Mr. Walter Livingston will also be in town soon whom I wish to send with Mr. Paine, it will soon be determined now.

It is very cold here. I write you in haste and am cold. I hope by this time there is a letter on the way from some of you that I may hear from home, for which I long very much.

May angels protect you my dear children

Your Most Affect Father

CHARLES DEWITT.

P. S.—Capt Rutgers sends a song book for Anna as a present.

NEW YORK, FEB. 20, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRET:—

I wrote you a few days ago informing you that I set out soon for Congress, I did not expect that it

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would be more agreeable for you to hear it than it is for me to take the jaunt, however I hope it will not tend to your disadvantage, for whose sake in particular I have mustered up fortitude to undergo a kind of banishment from my connections for a time, besides this it will reduce you to the necessity of confining yourself (during my absence more particularly) to business. It will also give you some idea of such a situation in future if I should have it in my power to introduce you in some way more agreeable to your taste; for the accomplishment of which I must be in a position where opportunities offer, this must satisfy you for my absence, possibly, I may fail at last in my intentions, then however I have done my duty.

I would not have you think that my conduct has ever bordered on a solicitation for the Delegation, so far from it, that I have told every gentlemen who spoke to me before my appointment, positively, that I could not well go.

Providence has led me through a variety of changing scenes and difficulties, I wish to be led by the same unerring guide now, which must satisfy every mind and enable a person to consider every difficulty that may attend his steps in this life to be the result of infinite wisdom, and consequently, right. I wish to acquiesce in all things.

I am Your Most Affect Father

CHARLES DEWITT.

NEW YORK, FEB. 24, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRET;—

Last Saturday a Resolution of the Honorable Sen-

Letters of Charles DeWitt

ate designated the Hon^l Ephram Paine and myself to proceed to Congress without delay, this is what I expected when the appointment was made. We shall I suppose on Monday or Tuesday set out from Poulas Hook in a Stage Coach for Philadelphia and from thence proceed to Annapolis, Md, where Congress at present is in session. The important charge wherewith I am entrusted affords me many serious moments of reflection, sensible of my inability to discharge a trust of so great consequence adds, to my concern, I hope however the uprightness of my conduct will always plead in excuse for any errors I may make in judgement. I do not think myself at liberty to refuse to attend as I was about unanimously chosen by the Assembly. Mr. Paine is a little bit odd in his attire, I believe, he has promised to appear there with decency, he was advised to get a wig which he is adverse to and says he would like a rat peeping out of a haystack.

I am to have the best introductory letters from the first people here, one in particular from one of the first characters in this City to the Dutch Minister or Ambassador from the United States of Holland, this may give me an opportunity to speak Dutch as they say there is not a tone there but English. Whenever I write free and without reserve it is not necessary that anybody but the family should know the whole contents of my letter, even though no secrets are contained therein.

Your Most Affect^d Father

CHARLES DEWITT.

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NEW YORK, March 10, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRET:—

I leave tomorrow the 11th for Annapolis and do not expect my time there will exceed the time I would spend here in the Legislature, I was informed last night in the Coffee House that Congress would adjourn about the beginning of May next when I shall be in a position to return to my dear family. I have not much time to write, this may serve to let you know that I leave this place in good health and expect to reach Annapolis in a few days by stages. I take with me a German Servant to attend me:

My love to all

Your Affect^d Father

CHARLES DEWITT.

PHILADELPHIA, March 16, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRET:—

I now write you from a place the most magnificent that ever I saw and perhaps it may be ranked among the finest Cities in the World, the houses are elegant the streets spacious and notwithstanding four horses were necessary and even six before we reached this city, to drag us through the mud, we walk here without the least difficulty with clean shoes on pavements as clean as a house floor. I suspect my situation at Annapolis will not be so agreeable, however I am again informed here that there is a probability of returning soon from that place northward.

I have this day dined with the Minister of France, the Chevalier (for so he is called) as well as his Secretary treated me with great politeness and civility.

Letters of Charles DeWitt

Tomorrow I am to wait on the Minister of the United Netherlands whom I saw this day in the street and was introduced to him by my old friend Gouverneur Morris, he appears to be as plain a Dutchman as I am, indeed I believe I rather exceeded him in dress, however you must know I am rather better dressed on this occasion than usual.

As soon as an opportunity occurs I shall set out from this place for Baltimore, I brut with me several letters of introduction from New York Gentlemen to Gentlemen in this place, in consequence of which I have a great many invitations and am treated with great respect.

I have many letters to write I wish therefore that this may be considered a family letter intended for all my children.

I am my dear Son

Your Affect Father

CHARLES DEWITT.

(From the "Ulster Sentinel," March, 1829)

"KINGSTON, N. Y., March 11, 1829.

"The readers of the Ulster Sentinel, at least in this County, the Editor hopes will pardon him for recording an act of honour, or, more properly speaking, a tribute of respect to the memory (amongst others), of his revered grand-father, Charles DeWitt, a patriot of the Revolution, from the pen of James Kent, President of the New York Historical Society, and late Chancellor of the State, in a discourse delivered by him before the Society on the 6th day of December last."

"CHARLES GERRET DEWITT."

"In alluding to the organization of the celebrated Council of

THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 30

(XII.) CORNELIS VAN AKEN³, j. m. (Peter², Marinus¹): Born in Kingston. Hester Rilje (Relyea) second., b. in Kingston, and residing in Bonte Koey, in New Paltz. Banns registered April 6 and April 20 1735—Kingston. Children:

(84) David⁴: Bp. Minissink, May 3, 1737, K., m. Magdalena Schoonmaker.

(85) Levy⁴: Bp. Oct: 26, 1740, K.

(86) Jesyntje⁴: Bp. Jan. 13, 1745, Walpeck.

Safety after the adoption of the old Constitution in the year 1777. Chancellor Kent remarks as follows:

“ ‘When the Constitution was promulgated, and the Convention was about to dissolve, they created a Council of Safety, and by their resolution of the 8th of May, 1777, they invested that Council with all the powers requisite for the safety and preservation of the State, until a Governor and Legislature should be chosen, and in a condition to act under the provisions of the Constitution. The Council thus clothed for a season with absolute power, consisted of only fifteen men; but they were not sunshine patriots, their souls were formed of nobler materials. They had every claim to public confidence, and they did not abuse it.

“ ‘Their names in the order in which they stand in the Resolution of the Convention were: John Morrin Scott, Robert R. Livingston, Christopher Tappen, Abraham Yates, Jr., Gouverneur Morris, Zephaniah Platt, John Jay, Charles DeWitt, Robert Harpur, Jacob Cuyler, Thomas Tredwell, Pierre VanCortland, Matthew Cantine, John Sloss Hobart and Jonathan D. Tompkins.’ ”

“The trust reposed in these eminent Whigs, had indeed been well deserved by most of them in various public employments. They had been thoroughly weighed in the balance, and not found wanting. Of this fact the archives of the State and of the United States bear ample testimony.”

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- (87) Hester⁴: Bp. Nov. 7, 1746, Walpeck.
(88) Jannetje⁴: Bp. Aug. 21, 1748, Walpeck. Witnesses at baptisms, Gideon VanAken, Eliphas Van Aken, Sophy VanAken and her husband Jacobus Westfael.

(XIV.) SOPHIA VAN AKEN,³ j.d. (Peter², Marinus¹): Born and residing under the jurisdiction of K., m. JACOBUS WEST VAAL, j. m.; born and residing in Minissink. Banns registered 16th Apr., and May 7, 1737, Kingston. Children.

- (89) Christina West Vaal⁴: Bp. Dec. 10, 1738, K.
(90) Petrus West Vaal⁴: Bp. June 15, 1740, K.
(91) Rusch West Vaal⁴: Bp. Feb. 13, 1742, Poughkeepsie.

(XV.) GIDEON VANAKEN³, j. m. (Peter², Marinus¹); m. MARIA PLOEG, j. d., both parties born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston. Banns registered 23rd Nov. and Dec. 13, 1740, in Kingston. Children :

- (92) Catharina⁴: Bp. Sept. 27, 1741, K., m. Abraham VanVliet.
(93) Maria⁴: Bp. Apr. 24, 1748, K., m. Conrad Wiest.
(94) Petrus⁴: Bp. Apr. 24, 1744, K., m. Grietje Beeman.
(95) Johannes⁴: Bp. Oct. 14, 1744, K., m. Maria Masten.
(96) Abraham⁴: Bp. Sept. 2. 1750, K., m. Mary Lowe.
(97) Benjamin⁴: Bp. July 1, 1753, K., m. Lydia Van Aken.
(98) Giddon⁴: Bp. Oct. 12, 1755, K., m. Elizabeth

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Masten. The witnesses at baptisms of these children were Petrus VanAken and his wife Maria Terpenning, Marinus VanAken and wife Margaret Dijo.

(L.XIII.) MARIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) married HENRICUS TERPENNING. Children :

- (99) Daniel Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. June 3, 1759.
- (100) Margaret Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 7, 1760.
- (101) Levi Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. July 11, 1762.
- (102) Josyntje Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Aug. 12, 1764.
- (103) Maria Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. March 16, 1769.
- (104) Rachel Terpenning⁵: Bap. Rhinebeck Flats,
May 13, 1770.
- (105) Eliza Terpenning⁵: Bap. New Paltz, Feb. 13,
1773; died.
- (106) Elizabeth Terpenning⁵: Bap. New Hurley, Sept.
10, 1775.
- (107) Moses Terpenning⁵: Bap. New Hurley, Apr. 20,
1777.
- (108) David Terpenning⁵: Bap. New Hurley, Sept. 7,
1781.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were her sisters Elisa, Josyntje and Sophia Van Aken, Eliphas Van Aken, Rachel Van Aken.

(LXV.) JESYNTJEN or RESYNTJE VAN AKEN⁴ j. d. (Marinus³, Pieter², Marinus¹) born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston; married JOHANNIS SMIDT, j. m., born and residing under the jurisdiction of Hurley Nov. 29, 1765. Children :

- (109) Margaretta Schmidt⁵: Bap. New Paltz, June 15,
1766.

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- (110) Elizabeth Schmidt⁵; Bap. New Paltz, Aug. 23, 1767.
(111) Eliphas Schmidt⁵; Bap. Rhinebeck Flats, Nov. 23, 1770.
(112) Eva Schmidt⁵: Bap. New Paltz, Nov. 21, 1773.
(113) Maria Schmidt⁵: Bap. New Paltz, Sept. 8, 1776.
(114) Judic Schmidt⁵: B. Aug. 29; bap. Oct. 13, 1782, New Paltz.

The witnesses were Judic Van Aken and husband Isaac Van Aken; Eliphas Van Aken and wife, Lea Winfield.

(LXVI.) ELIPHAS VAN AKEN⁴, JR., j. m. (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston married at Kingston Oct. 26, 1771, LEA WINFIELD⁴ j. d. (John³, John², Richard¹) born in Shawangunk and residing under the jurisdiction of Hurley. Eliphas was bap. May 14, 1749, and died July 21, 1830. Lea was born Jan. 28, 1752, and died Apr. 28, 1835. He was a soldier of the Revolution in First Ulster County Regt. Militia under Col. Johannis Snyder. Eliphas Van Aken and Leah, his wife, were received as members on confession in the church in Klyn Esopus in 1797. Children:

- (115) Marinus⁵: B. June; bap. Aug. 22, 1774, K.; m. Wynche Van Ostrant.
(116) John E.⁵: B. Jan. 11; bap. Feb. 10, 1777, K.; m. Rachel Van Vliet.
(117) Elisabeth⁵: B. May 4; bap. June 19, 1780, K.; m. Ephraim Van Aken.
(118) William⁵: B. July 5; bap. Aug. 3, 1788, K.; died.
(119) Jacobus⁵: B. March 23; bap. May 16, 1790, K.;

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m. (1st) Nellie Van Ostrant. (2nd) Margaret Terpenning.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Johanna Van Aken, Benjamin Van Aken, Jr., and wife, Lidia Van Aken, Henricus Terpenning and wife Margartie Van Aken.

Eliphas Van Aken and Leah Winfield, his wife, united on confession in Klyn Esopus church in 1797.

(LXVII.) JUDIC VAN AKEN⁴ (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) married (1st) MOSES FREER. Child :

(120) David Freer⁵: Bap. —, 1769, at New Paltz.

JUDIC VAN AKEN, widow of Moses Freer, married (2nd) ISAAC VAN AKEN⁴ j. m. (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) both parties born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston at Kingston Apr. 12, 1772. Children :

(121) Jacob Van Aken⁵; Bap. K. July 9, 1775.

(122) Margretta Van Aken⁵: Bap. K. Jan. 18, 1781.

(123) Johannes Van Aken⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 14, 1781.

(124) Isaac Van Aken⁵; Bap. K. Dec. 26, 1783.

(125) Samuel Van Aken⁵: Bap. K. July 20, 1788.

(126) Daniel Van Aken⁵: Bap. K. May 13, 1792.

The witnesses at the baptisms were Benjamin Van Aken and wife, Lidea Van Aken, Annatje Van Aken.

(LXIX.) SOPHIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) married WILHELM TERPENNING. Children :

(127) Abraham Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. March 25, 1775.

(128) Margretta Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 20, 1776.

(129) Maria Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 18, 1778.

(130) Josia Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Apr. 16, 1780.

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(131) Alida Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Apr. 12, 1784.

(132) Sophia Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Jan. 22, 1797.

The witnesses at the baptism of Abraham were Abraham Terpenning and Margretta Van Aken.

(LXX.) LYDIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) married BENJAMIN VAN AKEN⁴ (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹). Children:

(133) Cornelius Van Aken⁵: Bap. K. May 19, 1776.

(134) Benjamin Van Aken⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 10, 1786.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Gideon Van Aken, Johanna Van Aken, Eliphas Van Aken and wife, Lea Winfield.

(LXXI.) JOHANNA VAN AKEN⁴, j. d. (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) born and residing in Kingston, married (1st) PETRUS WIEST, j. m., born in Dutchess county and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston on Jan. 25, 1779. Children:

(135) Margriet Wiest⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 8, 1780.

(136) Johannes Wiest⁵: Bap. K. Jan. 27, 1782.

(137) Marinus Wiest⁵: Bap. K. March 7, 1784.

JOHANNA VAN AKEN, widow of Petrus Wiest, married (2nd) JACOB EKERT, j. m. both parties born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston on Dec. 13, 1787. Children:

(138) Maria Ekert⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 14, 1788.

(139) Isaac Ekert⁵: Bap. K. June 6, 1790.

Johanna, wife of Jacob Ekert, united on confession with Klyn Esopus church, in 1795.

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(LXXII.) MARGRITA VANAKEN⁴, j. d. (Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) married HENRIKUS TERPENNING, j. m., both parties born and residing under jurisdiction of Kingston, on Sept. 4, 1778, at Kingston. Children :

(140) Sylvester Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Apr. 4, 1779.

(141) Tjarck Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. June 12, 1785.

(142) George Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Nov. 8, 1789.

(143) Henrikus Terpenning⁵: Bap. K. Nov. 4, 1791.

Witnesses at baptisms of these children were Eli phas VanAken and wife, Lea Winfield.

(LXXV.) ANNAATJEN VANAKEN⁴, j. d. (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston, married Sept. 20, 1754, at Kingston, JACOB FREER, j. m., born and residing in Wagendale. Children :

(144) Jan Freer⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 19, 1755.

(145) Jacob Freer⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 22, 1758; died.

(146) Peter Freer⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 12, 1760.

(147) Gerrit Freer⁵: Bap. K. Jan. 28, 1770.

(148) Jacob Freer⁵: Bap. K. June 16, 1777.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Jan VanAken and Margriet deGraaf, his wife and Maria VanAken and husband, Daniel York.

(LXXVI.) MARIA VAN AKEN⁴, j. d. (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston, married at Kingston Nov. 8, 1760, DANIEL YORK, j. m., born "in the Pals" (New Paltz) and residing under the jurisdiction of Hurley. Children :

(149) Margaret York⁵: Bap. Aug. 30, 1761.

(150) Moses York⁵: Bap. Sept. 23, 1764.

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- (151) Maria York⁵ : Bap. July 8, 1772.
(152) Annatje York⁵: Bap. Sept. 15, 1774.
(153) Rachel York⁵: B. Aug. 11 ; bap. Sept. 30, 1778.
(154) Elizabeth York⁵ Bap. Aug. 3, 1781.

All these children were baptized in New Paltz.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Jan Van Aken and Margareta De Graaf, his wife, and Jacob Freer and Annaatje Van Aken, his wife.

(LXXVII.) SARAH VAN AKEN⁴ (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) married JAN BOORHANS. Children:

- (155) Margretta Boorhans⁵: Bap. March 23, 1775.
(156) Isaac Burrhans⁵; Bap. Apr. 1, 1776.
(157) Catharine Burhans⁵: Bap. Jan. 1, 1777.
(158) Maria Burhans⁵: Bap. Oct. 10, 1779.
(159) Abraham Burhans⁵: Bap. Aug. 5, 1781.
(160) Jacob Burhans⁵: Bap. Oct. 23, 1785.

All these children were baptized in Kingston.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Abraham Van Aken and Jenneken Louw, his wife, Isaac Van Aken and Judith Van Aken, his wife, Johannes Van Aken, Rusje Van Aken, Benjamin Van Aken and Maria Ekkert, his wife.

(LXXVIII.) PETER VAN AKEN⁴, j. m. (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹), born under the jurisdiction of Kingston, married in Kingston Sept. 28, 1765, ANNATJE EKKERT, j. d., born in Staatsburg. Peter was a soldier in the Revolution and served in First Regiment Ulster County Militia under Col. Johannis Snyder. Children:

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- (161) Abraham Van Aken⁵: Bap. Jan. 15, 1772: died.
(162) Jonas Van Aken⁵: Bap. March 23, 1775; married Rachel York.
(163) Abraham⁵: Bap. March 23, 1775; married Catherine Terpenning.

All of these children were baptized in Kingston. The witnesses at their baptisms were Jan Van Aken, Sarah Van Aken, Benjamin Van Aken and Maria Ekkert, his wife.

(LXXX.) ABRAHAM VAN AKEN⁴ (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹), who was a lieutenant in First Regiment Ulster County Militia under Col. Johannis Snyder, during the Revolution, married JANNEKEN LOUW. Children:

- (164) Jan⁵: Bap. K. Nov. 20, 1775.
(165) Benjamin⁵: Bap. Marbletown Nov. 8, 1773.
(166) Abraham⁵: Bap. K. Apr. 6, 1777.
(167) Matthew⁵: Bap. K. Aug. 13, 1780; m. Jenny Smith.
(168) Margaret⁵: Bap. K. July 2, 1786.
(169) Anna⁵: Bap. K. July 2, 1786; m. Jacob De Graff.
(170) Maria⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 7, 1788.

The witnesses at the baptism of these children were Jan Van Aken, Sarah Van Aken, Abraham Van Aken. Maria Louw, Jan Van Aken, Margrietje Louw.

Jenneke Louw was received on confession as a member of Klyn Esopus Church in 1795.

To be continued

THE RHINE

(This magazine has published every month since its first issue some verses that in some way relate to Old Ulster, its mountains, or the river which belongs to it in common with the other counties on the banks of the Hudson. This month we break our rule in a measure. The following verses are written of the Rhine. The right they have here is that from the banks of that historic river came the earliest settlers of this region. The Netherlanders, the Huguenots and the Palatines were Rhinelanders by birth. From the historic river of Europe they came to dwell on the banks of what was to be the historic river of America. The lines on the Rhine are just as applicable to our lordly and beautiful Hudson. The Rhine surpasses the Hudson in the thousands of years of legend and story woven into every cliff and slope. The Hudson exceeds in the sublimity of its Highlands. Around both are the spells of the masters of deathless literature.—THE EDITOR.)

The river nobly foams and flows,
The charm of this enchanted ground,
And all its thousand turns disclose
Some fresher beauty varying round.
The haughtiest breast with pride might bound
Through life to dwell delighted here;
Nor could on earth a spot be found
To nature and to men so dear,
Could thy dear eyes, in following mine,
Still sweeten more these banks of Rhine.

OLDE VLSTER

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DURING THESE DAYS when the services, character and martyrdom of Abraham Lincoln are brought home to the hearts of the American people so closely it is with great satisfaction that a periodical like OLDE ULSTER, devoted to the history of this historic county, can point to a monograph by the Honorable David M. DeWitt, of Kingston, narrating the story of that martyrdom in a literary style so pleasing to the reader. He tells of the inception of the murderous plan in the half-crazed brain of Booth, of the assassination, the flight, the death of Lincoln, the wild ideas of a great conspiracy entertained by the high officials of the administration, the death of Booth and the capture of his associates, the trial by military commission and the sentence and its execution. He analyses the evidence, shows the innocence of Mrs. Surratt, the unconstitutionality of the commission, and all the passions and hates of the period with the eminent skill of the lawyer that he is. The volume is "The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and its Expiation." It is brought out by Macmillan.

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OLDE VLSTER

VOL. V

APRIL, 1909

No. 4

*Henry Hudson and * * * Ulster County*



ANTICIPATING the celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the discovery and exploration of the Hudson river, which will occur next September, OLDE ULSTER reproduces the precise and detailed account of the famous voyage as it is given by Robert Juet, the mate of the Half Moon, the *vlie-boat* or yacht in which the voyage was undertaken. It was of but about eighty tons burden and its crew consisted of but sixteen men. But the little vessel was very strongly and compactly built, as was characteristic of the thorough Netherlanders, and able to weather the conditions of the Arctic ocean, to which it was dispatched to discover a Northeast passage to India. It sailed from Amsterdam on Saturday, April 4th, 1609, passed North Cape and entered the Arctic ocean. But that ocean was impassable, and the

baffled commander turned to the southwest. He reached the entrance to Chesapeake Bay and came about to proceed northward along the coast. He discovered Delaware Bay and found it full of sand bars. On September 3rd he came to New York Bay. The journal says: "At three of the after-noone, we came to three great rivers." These were what are now known as the Raritan, the East River and the Hudson. The story we herewith publish is taken from

"THE THIRD VOYAGE OF MASTER HENRY HUDSON, TOWARD NOVA ZEMBLA, AND AT HIS RETURNE, HIS PASSING FROM FARRE ISLANDS TO NEWFOUND LAND, AND ALONG TO FORTIE-FOURE DEGREES AND TEN MINUTES, AND THENCE TO CAPE COD, AND SO ON TO THIRTIE-THREE DEGREES AND ALONG THE COAST TO THE NORTHWARD, TO FORTIE-TWO DEGREES AND A HALFE, AND UP THE RIVER NEERE TO FORTIE-THREE DEGREES." Written by Robert Juet. Thus this extract begins with the approach up the New Jersey coast.

The *first of September* [1609] faire weather, the wind variable betweene east and south; we steered away north north west. At noone we found our height to bee 39 degrees, 3 minutes. Wee had soundings thirtie, twentie-seven, twentie-foure and twentie-two fathomes, as wee went to the northward. At sixe of the clocke wee had one and twentie fathoms. And all the third watch, till twelve of the clocke at mid-night, we had sounding one and twentie, two and twentie, eighteene, two and twentie, eighteene and two and twentie fathoms, and went sixe leagues neere hand north north-west.

The *second*, in the morning, close weather, the wind at south in the morning, from twelve untill two of the clocke we steered north north-west, and had sounding one and twentie fathoms, and in running one glasse we had but sixteene fathoms, then seventeene, and so shoalder and shoalder untill it came to twelve fathoms. We saw a great fire, but could not see the land ; then we came to ten fathoms, whereupon we brought our tackes aboard, and stood to the eastward east south-east, foure glasses. Then the sunne arose, and wee steered away north againe, and saw the land from the west by north to the north-west by north, all like broken islands, and our soundings were eleven and ten fathoms. Then we looft in for the shoare, and faire by the shoare we had seven fathoms. The course along the land we found to be north-east by north. From the land which we had first sight of, untill we came to a great lake of water, as wee could judge it to be, being drowned land, which made it to rise like islands, which was in length ten leagues. The mouth of that land hath many shoalds, and the sea breaketh on them as it is cast out of the mouth of it. And from that lake or bay the land lyeth north by east, and wee had a great streame out of the bay ; and from thence our sounding was ten fathoms two leagues from the land. At five of the clocke we anchored, being little winde, and rode in eight fathoms water ; the night was faire. This night I found the land to hall the compasse 8 degrees. For to the northward off us we saw high hills. For the day before we found not above 2 degrees of variation. This is a very good land to fall with, and a pleasant land to see.

The *third*, the morning mystie, untill ten of the clocke ; then it cleered, and the wind came to the south south-east, so wee weighed and stood to the northward. The land is very pleasant and high, and bold to fall withall. At three of the clocke in the afternoon, wee came to three great rivers. So we stood along to the northmost, thinking to have gone into it, but we found it to have a very shoald barre before it, for we had but ten foot of water. Then we cast about to the southward, and found two fathoms, three fathoms, and three and a quarter, till we came to the souther side of them ; then we had five and sixe fathoms, and anchored. So wee sent in our boate to sound, and they found no lesse water then foure, five, sixe and seven fathoms, and returned in an hour and a halfe. So wee weighed and went in, and rode in five fathoms, oze ground, and saw many salmons, and mullets, and rayes, very great. The height is 40 degrees, 30 minutes.

The *fourth*, in the morning, as soone as the day was light, wee saw that it was good riding farther up. So we sent our boate to sound, and found that it was a very good harbour, and foure and five fathomes, two cables length from the shoare. Then we weighed and went in with our ship. Then our boate went on land with our net to fish, and caught ten great mullets, of a foote and a halfe long a peece, and a raye as great as foure men could hale into the ship. So wee trimmed our boate and rode still all day. At night the wind blew hard at the north-west, and our anchor came home, and wee drove on shoare, but tooke no hurt, thanked bee God, for the ground is soft sand and oze.

Henry Hudson and Ulster County

This day the people of the countrey came aboard of us, seeming very glad of our comming, and brought green tabacco, and gave us of it for knives and beads. They goe in deere skins loose, well dressed. They have yellow copper. They desire cloathes, and are very civill. They have great store of maize, or Indian wheate, whereof they make good bread. The countrey is fell of great and tall oake.

The *fifth*, in the morning, as soone as the day was light, the wind ceased and the flood came. So we heaved off our ship againe into five fathoms water, and sent our boate to sound the bay, and we found that there was three fathoms hard by the souther shoare. Our men went on land there, and saw great store of men, women and children, who gave them tabacco at their comming on land. So they went up into the woods, and saw great store of very goodly oakes and some currants. For one of them came aboard and brought some dried, and gave me some, which were sweet and good. This day many of the people came aboard, some in mantles of feathers, and some in skinnes of divers sorts of good furies. Some women also came to us with hempe. They had red copper tabacco pipes, and other things of copper they did weare about their neckes. At night they went on land againe, so wee rode very quiet, but durst not trust them.

The *sixth*, in the morning, was faire weather, and our master sent John Colman, with foure other men in our boate, over to the north-side to sound the other river, being foure leagues from us. They found by the way shoald water, two fathoms; but at the north

Olde Ulster

of the river eighteen, and twentie fathoms, and very good riding for ships; and a narrow river to the westward, betweene two ilands. The lands, they told us, were as pleasant with grasse and flowers and goodly trees as ever they had seene, and very sweet smells came from them. So they went in two leagues and saw an open sea, and returned; and as they came backe they were set upon by two canoes, the one having twelve, the other fourteen men. The night came on, and it began to rayne, so that their match went out; and they had one man slaine in the fight, which was an Englishman, named John Colman, with an arrow shot into his throat, and two more hurt. It grew so darke that they could not find the ship that night, but labored to and fro on their oars. They had so great a streame that their grappnell would not hold them.

The *seventh*, was faire, and by ten of the clocke they returned aboard the ship, and brought our dead man with them, whom we carried on land and buried, and named the point after his name, Colemans Point. Then we hoysed in our boate, and raised her side with waste boords for defence of our men. So we rode still all night, having good regard to our watch.

The *eighth*, was very faire weather, wee rode still very quietly. The people came aboard us, and brought tabacco and Indian wheat to exchange for knives and beades, and offered us no violence. So we fitting up our boate did marke them, to see if they would make any shew of the death of our man, which they did not.

To be continued

Governor ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

George Clinton

FIFTEENTH PAPER



LOOMY as was the situation of affairs during the Spring of 1778 in many respects some important things were accomplished. The Highlands of the Hudson were rendered so impregnable that the British never seriously attempted to secure them aside from the attempt by the treason of Benedict Arnold more than two years after this. In a letter of Governor George Clinton to Governor Trumbull of Connecticut, written on the first of May of that year, he says that the new chain had been drawn across the Hudson the day before and that it exceeded the old one in point of strength. The works of defense at West Point were proceeding but were yet far from completion. He urged the reinforcement promised from Massachusetts and Connecticut to the garrisons of the Highlands.

What occasioned the greater anxiety to Clinton though was the frontier. From its length came every week tidings which filled the patriots with alarm. The banks of the Susquehanna and the Delaware were full of emissaries of Brant and of Walter Butler inciting the Indians who would remain friendly, or at least

neutral, to arms. On this same day when the governor thus wrote to Governor Trumbull he also wrote to Colonel John Cantine directing him to keep out scouting parties all along the Ulster county frontier. Besides this he bade him keep "the whole of your Regiment in Constant Readiness to march at a Moment's Warning." He also provided for the extreme northern frontier covering the present State of Vermont and directed Colonel John Williams to order out as much of his regiment for the defense of Charlotte county as was needed.

The urgent necessity for filling up the ranks of the army caused the authorities to resort to a draft. This was completed about the 1st of May, 1778. There were earnest protests from the people of Albany county, who had had their crops destroyed during the Burgoyne campaign of the preceding year, against a compulsory service now when their families were suffering. Besides they pleaded the dangers from incursions of the savages, and this danger was real. It was always impending.

About this time the royal governor Tryon attempted to seduce the patriots from their allegiance to the cause of liberty by disseminating literature appealing to their former loyalty to the British Crown. These appeals were skillfully drawn and were conveyed across the lines by flags of truce. Many of the bundles of this literature passed into New York and Connecticut and were distributed. Governor Clinton set about collecting them and, having secured many, locked them securely up. The attempt thus to violate the Rules of War by which flags of truce were perverted injured the British cause.

The draft was a success. Troops were secured for the Continentals, as the regulars were called. Baron Steuben of Prussia, had offered his services to the American cause and under his discipline and the drilling given by him to the raw soldiers they soon acquired a thoroughness and efficiency hitherto lacking. Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt wrote to Governor Clinton "Our army is in high Spirits and Improve very fast in our new form of Dicipline taught by Baron Steuben."

During all this time the greatest concern was for the border. Governor Clinton had commissioned James Duane to visit the Iroquois in the interests of neutrality. He went to Oneida and interviewed their chieftains. The great confederacy was not a unit in its determination. The Oneidas had been favorable to the Americans from the first through the efforts of the Reverend Samuel Kirkland. To their number were added many of the Tuscaroras. Duane succeeded in detaching many of the Senecas and some of the Cayugas. But the greater portion followed Joseph Brant into an alliance with the British. As the months went by it became more and more evident that the power of the great Iroquois confederacy, "the people of the Long House," as they delighted to call themselves, must be, once for all, broken completely if the settlers along the frontier were to live in safety. It was at this time that the great movement known as "Sullivan's Expedition" was planned and prepared for. It was to break up finally the famous Indian confederacy.

This month of May, 1778, had not passed when the Tories and the Indians had commenced the

bloody work outlined in their alliance. On Saturday, May 30th, 1778, three to four hundred of these allies fell upon the village of Cobleskill in Schoharie county and destroyed it. The frontier was in consternation. Alarms spread from Wawarsing and Minisink on the south to the northern bounds on Lake Champlain. The people along the Mohawk flew to arms. Appeal after appeal was sent to Governor Clinton for aid and protection. Albany was alarmed and begged help that the military stores there be made more secure. Governor Clinton replied that it was useless to ask for Continental troops. The reliance must be upon the militia. In fact, the militia of the State of New York were the only troops then under the command of the governor. He then detached one-fourth of the regiments of Colonels Snyder and Cantine, Ulster county militia, and sent them to Schoharie.

On Saturday, June 18th, 1778, the settlements near Otsego Lake, Springfield, Andrewtown and others, were attacked by the Indians and Tories and destroyed. About the same time German Flats on the Mohawk was attacked. But little more than one month passed and then Wyoming fell before the torch and tomahawk of the relentless savages. On the 24th of September Clinton wrote to Washington that he feared that "it will End in the Total Loss of the many valuable Settlements on the Mohowk River." The enemy had once more descended upon German Flats and carried off 235 horses, 229 horned cattle, 269 sheep; burned 63 houses, 57 barns, three grist mills and a saw mill and killed three of the inhabitants.

The situation became more and more acute. On

Governor George Clinton

the 15th of October, 1778, Governor Clinton wrote to Washington that a comprehensive effort must be made to break the power of the Indians. He said:

“Many of the Militia of Ulster & Orange Counties are desirous of Joining in Expedition ag’t the Enemy at that Post [Anaquagha], & if they could obtain the Assistance of one Continental Regt., only, with a Proper officer to take the Command, I am perswaded the Measures would be attended with Success & the most salutary Consequences.”

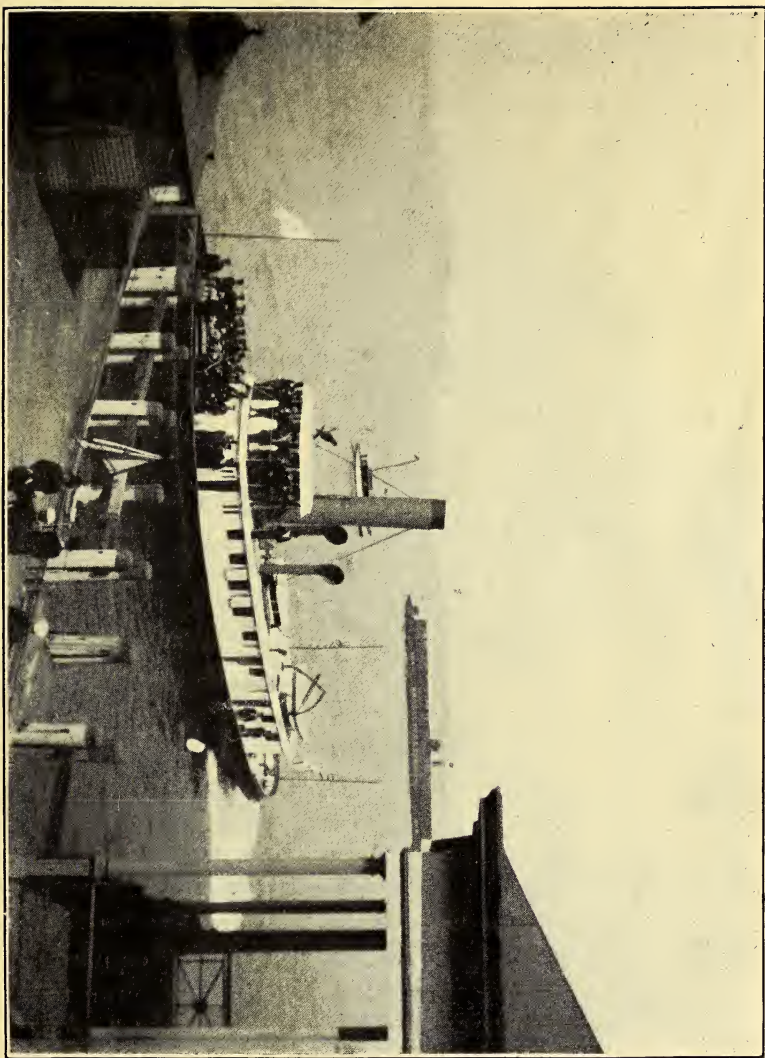
This letter decided the necessity for punishment of the Indians and initiated the expedition of General Sullivan the next year. Washington immediately began his plans and Clinton began to assemble the troops, making Rochester in Ulster county the base of operations. Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt's regiment was ordered from Peekskill to Rochester and Clinton wrote to Colonel Cantine that he had reason to expect that the whole brigade of his brother, General James Clinton, would follow. On the 8th of this month of October, 1778, Colonel William Butler of the Schoharie Rangers attacked and destroyed the two Indian towns of Unadilla and Anaquagha on the Susquehanna, with all their adaptations of civilized life and with all their evidences of prosperity, because Brant had made them his base from which to descend upon the settlements in Ulster and Orange counties. The decision was reached none too soon. On November 12th the savages and Tories descended upon Cherry Valley and, taking the fort by storm, destroyed the charming village. Governor Clinton wrote that it was “the seventh valuable settlement in New York

State to be destroyed by the Indians this season." At Cherry Valley thirty-one had been killed; thirty-three made prisoners and carried off, while thirty-eight had been made prisoners and permitted to return home.

The history of the United States has been written by New England historians. The point of view is from Boston. Had the expedition of Sullivan been undertaken to overthrow a confederacy as strong as the great Iroquois compact, situated in the central portion of New England, and had it achieved as signal success as did that of Sullivan in crushing the power of what has been for generations the mighty aboriginal domination of this continent, American history would have resounded with the achievement. As it was, although its commander was a New Englander from the neighboring State of New Hampshire, the narrative of the great event of the summer of 1779 is but briefly stated, and in some histories altogether omitted. Neither the expedition nor the "People of the Long House" particularly concerned New England, aside from whatever connection or influence either might have had in some way with the cause of American independence.



PURSuing OUR PROMISE to secure for preservation all the photographs of scenes connected with the removal from Washington to Kingston of Governor George Clinton in May, 1908, we have obtained a photograph of the arrival of the revenue cutter *Manhattan* at the Battery pier, New York, giving it herewith.



The Manhattan at the Battery

Olde Ulster

LETTERS OF CHARLES DEWITT

ANNAPOLIS, March 27, 1784.

MY DEAR MINISTER.

Though I have nothing material yet I should accuse myself of ingratitude, if I did not thank you for the very polite attention you were pleased to pay me while in Philadelphia. I feel myself under great obligations to you, and though it may not be in my power ever to make such acknowledgements as I wish, yet every service within the limits of my capacity whilst in this or any other place is devoted to you, and it will give me very singular pleasure to have the honour of your commands.

Whenever anything occurs worth your notice here, be assured that I shall write you.

I am with the

Highest esteem

Your most Obedt Servt

CHARLES DEWITT.

HON. MR. BERKEL.

[Minister of the United Netherlands.]

A Letter to Governor Clinton

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 9, 1784.

SIR:—

We inform your Excellency, that when we arrived here, Congress had made no arrangements for garrisoning the Frontier Posts; with a view therefore to make such arrangements as favorable as might be for our State, we urged the resolution herewith inclosed. The motion was referred to the Committee which was appointed to report the necessary arrangements, &c.

Letters of Charles DeWitt

The Committee reported among other things that the Troops now at West Point be employed for the purpose of Garrisoning the Frontier Posts. Whether the House will agree to it is uncertain.

We are very sensible that it would be exceedingly disagreeable to our State to have the Posts garrisoned by Troops chiefly Massachusetts men. We conceive that as matters are now situated in Congress it would be improper to move for the judgment of Congress as to what number of Troops are necessary for our State to keep up to garrison our Posts, but we expect to be better able to determine what to do with the matter when the House have decided on the Committee of Arrangements.

We have as yet made no motion in Congress respecting Vermont, but have reason to believe from appearances that it is the determination of the Delegates in general not to do anything about that matter, expecting that in time we shall be obliged to consent that the New Hampshire Grants become a separate State.

It appears to us that the Delegates in general have not an overhigh opinion of the validity of our western claim and we are persuaded that should the Massachusetts people get footing in that Country, our State in such a case is to expect but little aid from Congress.

Upon the whole Sir it is our opinion that the utmost vigilance ought to be exercised to prevent any encroachment on our territory as we are to expect no protection otherwise than from our own arm.

Your Excellencie's Obed^t Sery^t

CHARLES DEWITT.

EPHRAIM PANE.

His Excellency

Governor CLINTON.

Olde Ulster

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 10, 1784.

MY DEAR CHANCELLOR.

I have waited ever since I left New York to find proper material for a letter to you.

You must reasonably expect that you would be one of the first among my friends to receive a letter from me. Yet that is not the case. I have filled several sheets of paper already to other friends and this is the first to you.

You must be sensible Sir that this is not because you are farther from my heart, but my head was so barren that I was ashamed to send a letter, and such is the case yet, there is nothing worthy your notice that I can communicate. I am exceedingly diffident in Congress, there appears to be many wise men in the body tho some do not appear to have the greater abilities that I ever saw.

We sit in a most magnificent room, where an almost constant sound of the word Honorable attacks my ear. When I listen to debates and look at the faces it is difficult for me to tell the meaning of the word.

As soon as I have something worthy of your notice I shall take the earliest opportunity to write you.

My respectful compliments to yourself and Lady.

Your Affect^d Hum^{bl} Serv^t

CHARLES DEWITT.

To Chancellor LIVINGSTON.

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 13, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRET.

I never felt more happy at any place than I do this

Letters of Charles DeWitt

day here, by the receipt of a pkg of letters from my dear family, which Mr. Eltinge has been so good as to convey to me in so direct a manner that they have been but fourteen days coming from your remote Northern clime [Kingston] which is abt 340 miles distant from this place. [Note, to-day it could be done in 14 hours.]

I have read them over and over, and kissed every one of them instead of the dear lips that have drop't the affectionate language contained in them.

As I have not a single doubt remaining with me of your exertions as a young man of business, I shall not say anything on that subject, leaving it entirely to you and your uncle with the advice of my other children to do as you please ; and therefore this letter will be only calculated to give you a little information which may gratify your curiosity. Sometimes I write a long letter to one, sometimes to another of my children for I consider the letters I write as addressed to all, and tho I love you I would not have you flatter yourself that I love you best, because this may be the longest letter that goes from me at this time.

I sent a packet of letters from Philadelphia when on my way to this place, which I trust you have by this time received. I wrote a history to my dear Anna*, which I suppose will afford you some amusement.

* Anna married Derck Wynkoop. *Extract from the Ulster Sentinel, Aug. 9, 1826.* "At New Paltz, on Wednesday morning in the 79th year of her age Mrs. Anna Wynkoop, relict of the late Derck Wynkoop dec'd.

"In the death of this venerable lady, the family have sustained a bereavement, which none but those acquainted with her amiable

Olde Ulster

I am now going to give you an account of this place :

Annapolis is a small city beautifully situated on the great Chesepeake Bay which affords a most grand prospect and is a striking evidence of the greatness of its Maker, there are many ordinary buildings and some very elegant ones ; The State House in which Congress sits is the most superb, it is thought, in any of the United States. A place of little business and it is thought will never much increase.

Baltimore is the flourishing town and very handsomely situated, Cousin Thomas DeWitt now keeps a Coffee House there, he and his little fat wife both look exceeding well, they treated me with great kindness and were extremely glad to see me.

I am now going on another subject :

When I was in New York one day, being invited by Col. Lean to dine I was there introduced to a Mr. VanHogendorp, a young gentleman from Holland, but old in understanding, he is about your age. I saw no more of him 'till I came to Philadelphia where he visited me more than once at my lodgings, and we dined together at the Dutch Minister's who is related to him.

He seems to be attached to me and I confess I love

character can justly appreciate. She was emphatically the mother of a large household—the kind friend and protector of all, their nurse in sickness—their comfort in affliction—and their counsellor in every emergency. The poor never knocked at her door in vain ; she clothed them when naked, fed them when hungry, and sent them away with her blessing—she is gone ! to that heavenly rest, prepared for the righteous in the world of spirits.”

It was after this lady, my dear sister, Anna Wynkoop DeWitt (born in New Paltz Sept. 5, 1819, died Jan. 9, 1898) was named. SUTHERLAND DEWITT.

Letters of Charles DeWitt

the youth to a very great degree ; as well as my beloved Dutch Minister who treated me with more politeness than I could ever expect from such an exalted character.

Mr. Hogandorp and I came in the same stage from Philadelphia to this place, and in our travels he never seemed to be better satisfied than in my company, by which I at last considered him almost as a child of my own. He has now gone to visit Gen^l Washington who lives about 50 miles from this place, when he returns his intention is to take a tour up the North River.

I have at his request given him introductory letters for Esopus, Albany and Schenectady. He has only one to my family which is to your Br Jemmy Hasbrouck who must necessarily see him first at Kingston as he proposes in his return to visit you. I am satisfied you will be pleased with him. It is now 11 o'clock at night.

Mr. Hogendorp tells me it will be about May when he goes up the River. He is of one of the first families in Holland and is greatly respected in this place and Philadelphia. He showed me his letter to Gen Washington from Mr. Franklin which recommended him highly.

Your Affect Father,

CHARLES DEWITT.

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 16, 1784.

Dr SIR

I have the honor to be acquainted with the bearer hereof Mr. Van Hogendorf a young gentleman from Holland whose letters have introduced him to first characters in several States. He has just returned

Olde Ulster

from Gen^l Washington's to whom he was recommended by Mr. Franklyn. His design when he leaves this place is to take a tour of the North River to view our beloved northern clime, he is greatly inclined to have the fullest and clearest information of every part of the United States of America. You will find him very sensible and possessed of a general knowledge of things. I hope you will not accuse me of flattery; that I have told him I consider you a gentleman of as much information as any that I am acquainted with.

I am dear Sir

Your Affect^d Friend

CHARLES DEWITT.

To

Gen^l SCHUYLER. *

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 18, 1784.

MY DEAR SIR

I have the pleasure of receiving a line from you of the first inst^d and am very happy to learn that you enjoy the inestimable blessing of health, and notwithstanding my removal so far Southward in a climate new to many of us, and being rather shy of intermitting fevers, which we were told were frequent here, I enjoy good health. The situation of this place has not the appearance of unhealthyness, it stands on good dry rising ground and near the Chesepeake Bay, but on the East shore which is about 10 miles across

* Similar letters to this were written to Chancellor John Lansing, Colonel Andries DeWitt, Jr., and Reverend Barant Vrooman.

we are told the land lies very low which subjects the inhabitants to intermittent fevers.

We talk of adjourning Congress on the 26th of next month and appoint a Committee of States, if so we shall not stay here until very hot weather commences. I believe this winter has been severe throughout every part of the World where there is winter if we can give credit to the accounts we see in the public prints. I saw several places on the road, even in Maryland not a great distance from this place on my way here heaps of snow three or four feet deep, they inform me it has been in Maryland about 3 feet deep on a level. It is not in my power to communicate anything worth your notice, when I can, shall do myself the pleasure to write you again.

My love to dear Margaret and accept the same from

Your Affect Father

CHARLES DEWITT.

P. S.—Kindly present my compliments to all my Shawangunk friends.

To MR. JOHN BRUYN.

NOTE.—Mr. Bruyn was the husband of Charles DeWitt's daughter Margrietje, born July 2, 1758, died at Shawangunk Sept. 26, 1827. The following is an extract from the *Ulster Sentinel* :

Extract from the Ulster Sentinel, Kingston, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1827.

DIED

“At Shawangunk, on Wednesday evening, the 26th inst in the 69th year of her age, Mrs. Margrietje Bruyn, relict of the late Johannes Bruyn, Esq., deceased.

“This venerable matron, distinguished for piety, good

Olde Ulster

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 27, 1784.

MY DEAR SIR

I have it in my power now to inform you that Congress has passed a resolution to adjourn on the 3rd day of June next to Trenton, N. J., and to appoint a Committee of the States to sit in the recess thereof. This I hope will bring me back to my beloved State of New York.

Enclosed you have an extract from a letter of Mr. Franklyn by which you will find that our old friend Mr. Jay is by this time on his way to America, in consequence of which Congress did on Friday last appoint him Secretary of Foreign Affairs and in his room Mr. Jefferson as Minister, these appointments I believe will please you.

I should not have consented to dismiss my beloved friend Mr. Jay from the office of Minister if this letter of Mr. Franklyn's had not arrived, notwithstanding the positive declarations he had made in some of his letters that he would return to America.

sense and benevolence, was the survivor of three affectionate daughters of Col. Charles DeWitt, an ardent patriot of the Revolution, long since numbered with the dead.

"In the midst of children and relatives who sincerely esteemed her, she calmly yealded to the divine mandate which summoned her from this sublunary scene of care and anxiety to 'a house not made with hands eternal in the Heavens.' The remains were brought into the Church at Bruynswick, and the Rev. Mr. Wilson delivered an eloquent and appropriate address on the occasion."

Charles DeWitt's second daughter, Maria, born Sept. 28, 1760, married T. E. Pawling, who died suddenly in 1814.

Letters of Charles DeWitt

Extract of a letter from Mr. Franklyn dated Paris, France, March 9, 1784 :

“Mr. Jay has lately returned from England. Mr. Laurens is still there, but proposes departing for America next month as does also Mr. Jay, with his family. Mr. Adams is in Holland, where he has been detained by business and bad weather. These absences have occasioned some delays in our business but not of much importance.”

Your Affect Friend

CHARLES DEWITT.

HON. ROBT. R. LIVINGSTON, ESQ..

ANNAPOLIS, May 18, 1784.

DR. SIR :

It is well for you that you are not here, for there is no pleasure in being in Congress.

Cabelling seems to have arrived at great perfection, as I have always been averse to the study of this science you may easily judge that I stand but a poor chance among a set of experienced hands.

In short Sir I do not intend to accuse a body so august and so wise, yet I have not been able to oppose thoughts that have arisen in my mind that they are as corrupt as the British Parliament appears to be.

This however I hope is not the case, but if my hopes are ill founded and it really should be the case, what will become of us, nothing but the interposition of Divine Providence can avert the impending evils.

I am with much esteem

Your Affect Friend

CHARLES DEWITT.

Hon^b WALTER LIVINGSTON.

LINEAGE OF THE DECKER FAMILY

Continued from Vol. III., page 30

(XLI.) JOHN DAVIS DECKER⁷ (Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) was born 9 March, 1814, and was the son of Levi Decker and Ann Davis. He was married by the Rev. J. H. Bevier to MARIA GOODGION 2 February, 1837. Children:

- (94) Alfred⁸: Born 21 March, 1838; died — Aug., 1903, in Cambridge, Nebraska.
- (95) Robert Goodgion⁸: Born 28 Nov., 1839; killed in the Civil War in 1862.
- (96) Anna Margaret⁸: Born 29 April, 1842; died 7 July, 1852.
- (97) Wilkin Hornbeck⁸: Born 7 Oct., 1844; married (1st) Sarah J. Canfield; (2nd) Libbie Evan.
- (98) Sarah Frances⁸: Born 21 June, 1847; married Daniel Deyo.
- (99) David McElhone⁸: Born 22 Jan., 1850; married. Residence Bruynswick, N. Y.
- (100) Mary Elizabeth⁸: Born 5 December, 1852; unmarried. Residence Bruynswick, N. Y.
- (101) John Thomas⁸: 26 July, 1855.
- (102) Ann Maria⁸: Born 31 July, 1859.

(XCIV.) ALFRED DECKER⁸ (John Davis⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) married (1st) to SARAH FRANCES ESTELL by the Rev. William Hamilton of the Reformed Church of New Prospect, town of Shawangunk, N. Y. Married (2nd) MRS. JANE HUNTER 30 July, 1879. Residence, Cambridge, Nebraska. Have no record of his family.

Lineage of the Decker Family

(XLIII.) HARVEY DECKER⁷: (Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) was born 3 April, 1819, and died 25 Feb., 1890. He was the son of Levi Decker and Ann Davis and married (1st) 8 Sept., 1841, MARIETTA MCEWEN: Born 5 April, 1820, and died in Delafield, Wisconsin, 8 August, 1853. Children:

(103) Clarence W.⁸: Born 21 Sept., 1843; killed in the battle of Pleasant Hill on Red River, Louisiana, May — 1864.

(104) Wheeler⁸: Born 24 June, 1845; died 14 Dec., 1883, at Sioux City, Iowa.

(105) John T.⁸: Born 11 Sept., 1847; died 28 July, 1848.

(106) Mariana⁸: Born 22 Sept., 1850; resides in Bruynswick, Ulster Co., N. Y.

(107) Emily⁸: Born 7 June, 1853; died 29 Aug., 1853.

HARVEY DECKER married (2nd) ELIZABETH GOODGION 13 Oct., 1859. She was born 26 June, 1824; died. Children:

(108) Robert A.⁸: Born 1 April, 1861; died 2 Feb., 1888.

(109) Johnson⁸: Born 5 July, 1862; married 25 Oct., 1893, Albertina Rosencrans. They have one child, Helen.

(110) Marvena⁸: Born 29 April, 1864; married Robert L. Decker (125).

(111) Willet⁸: Born 18 June, 1866; died 4 March, 1894.

(CIV.) WHEELER DECKER⁸: (Harvey⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) was

Olde Ulster

born 24 June, 1845, and died at Sioux City, Iowa, 14 Dec., 1883. He married 19 Oct., 1874, at Sioux City, LAURA L. SHIPLEY. Children :

(112) Eugene Herbert⁹: Born 12 Aug., 1875. Residence Hueneme, California.

(113) Willard Clark⁹: Born 29 August, 1880. Residence in Oregon.

(CX.) MARVENA DECKER⁸ (Harvey⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) was born 29 April, 1864, and married at Rutsenville, N. Y., ROBERT L. DECKER (125) 2 Sept., 1890. Children :

(114) Harvey Wilkin⁹: Born 8 July, 1891; died 23 Oct., 1894.

(115) One son⁹ born later.

(XLIV.) THOMAS DECKER⁷ (Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴. Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) was born 17 Jan., 1822, and died 4 June, 1898. He was married by the Rev. S. W. Ford at West De Pere, Wisconsin, 10 March, 1852, to CHARLOTTE BRIGHTON, born in England 22 Nov., 1827. Children :

(116) Thomas⁸: Born 10 May, 1853. Residence, West De Pere, Wisconsin.

(117) Sarah⁸: Born 22 Sept., 1854. Residence, West De Pere, Wisconsin.

(118) John⁸: Born 10 May, 1857; died 2 Sept., 1893. No heirs.

(119) Levi⁸: Born 8 May, 1859; died 1 July, 1875.

(120) Samuel⁸: Born in 1864. Residence, West De Pere, Wisconsin.

(121) Annie⁸: Born 5 Aug., 1866; died 29 July, 1869,

Lineage of the Decker Family

(CXVI.) THOMAS DECKER⁸ (Thomas⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) was born 10 May, 1853, and resides in West De Pere, Wisconsin. He married AGNES RAMSAY 21 March, 1883, and died 15 June, 1893. Children :

(122) Edna Jean⁹: Born 16 March, 1884, and died 4 March, 1885.

(123) Ramsay Prescott⁹: Born 29 July, 1886.

(124) Margaret Sarah⁹: Born 4 April, 1893.

(XCVII.) WILKIN HORNBECK DECKER⁸ (John Davis⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹): Born 7 Oct., 1844; married by the Rev. — Walker, of Wallkill Valley, 27 Jan., 1869, to (1st) SARAH J. CANFIELD. Children :

(125) Robert Lewis⁹: Born 1 Aug., 1869; married Marvena Decker (110).

(126) Marietta⁹: Born 21 Oct., 1871; married Liverius Crookston.

WILKIN HORNBECK DECKER married (2nd) by the Rev. W. D. Fiero to LIBBIE EVANS 5 Dec., 1878. Child :

(127) Florence Ethel⁹: Born — — ; married Chester Quick, May —, 1906.

(CXXVI.) MARIETTA DECKER⁹ (Wilkin Hornbeck⁸, John Davis⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) married LIVERIUS CROOKSTON, 1 Oct., 1900, in Shawangunk. Child :

(128) Viola¹⁰: Born 1 Feb., 1902.

NOTES.—Sarah Frances (98), daughter of John

Olde Ulster

Davis Decker (41) and Maria Goodgion was married by the Rev. Cyril Spaulding of Shawangunk to Daniel Deyo, and had four daughters, one of whom is dead.

John Thomas (101), son of John Davis Decker (41) and Maria Goodgion was married by the Rev. W. D. Fiero to Martha Ann Peck, and resides in Middletown, New York.

Ann Maria (102), daughter of John Davis Decker (41) and Maria Goodgion was married by the Rev. Herman Hageman to George Whelpley. Residence, Belleville, New Jersey.

(XXXVIII.) ELSIE ANN DECKER⁷ (Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹), daughter of Levi Decker and Ann Davis, was born 25 July, 1807, and married LUTHER HORNBECK. Children:

(129) Susan Ann⁸: Born 10 April, 1832; married Robert Rhinehart 10 Aug., 1876. Resides in Dwaarskill, N. Y.

(130) Frances⁸: Born 23 May, 1836; died 9 Feb., 1837.

(131) Sarah⁸: Born 14 July, 1838; died 7 Feb., 1875.

(132) Harriet⁸: Born 25 Aug., 1845; died 14 March, 1900.

(133) Levi⁸: Born 17 Feb., 1848; died 24 Feb., 1864.

(XL.) FRANCES DECKER⁷ (Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹), second daughter of Levi Decker and Ann Davis, was born 30 March, 1811, and died 22 Feb., 1871. She married EDMUND BRUYN 27 Jan., 1835. Children:

(134) John Oscar⁸: Born —.

(135) Levi⁸: Born 30 Oct., 1835; married (1st) Mary Jane Smith 30 Oct., 1862, who died 24 Feb.,

Lineage of the Decker Family

1871. He married (2nd) Ann E. Snyder, 9 Dec., 1872.

(136) Wilson⁸: Born 15 Dec., 1837.

(CXXXV.) LEVI BRUYN⁸ (Frances⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹), the son of Edmund Bruyn and Frances Decker, was born 30 October, 1835. He married (2nd) ANN E. SNYDER 9 December, 1872. Children:

(137) Irwin Snyder⁹: Born 12 Jan., 1874; died 24 Oct., 1877.

(138) William Edmund⁹: Born 30 June, 1878, at Rosendale, N. Y. Married 17 October, 1906, Evelyn Myer in Brooklyn, N. Y., and resides there.

(CXXXVI.) WILSON BRUYN⁸ (Frances⁷, Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹) son of Edmund Bruyn and Frances Decker, was born 15 December, 1837, and married HENRIETTA STINE of West Virginia — December, 1865. She died 31 March, 1903. Child:

(139) Francis Stine⁹: Born 2 January, 1881. Resides in New York City.

(XLV.) SARAH DECKER⁷ (Levi⁶, Petrus⁵, Gerrit⁴, Jacob Gerritse³, Gerrit², Jan¹), daughter of Levi Decker and Ann Davis, was born 3 August, 1824, and died 11 October, 1901. She married DAVID MCELHONE 31 December, 1844. No children.

In the publication of the line of the Decker family there is to be found the line of Cornelius Decker, mar-

Olde Ulster

ried in 1695 to Elsie TenBroeck, daughter of Wessel TenBroeck. He seems to have been a son of John Broersen Decker, but of this there is no proof. The recurrence of the same Christian names in his and the other Decker families shows that he is of the same family. His marriage record says he was born in Kingston. In the following installment of the Decker line he will be given as of this family.

To be continued



A BALLAD OF A DREADFUL DAY

“Grandpa, why this hour of musing in the calm October sun,
As ye gaze above the doorway at the flintlock on the gun ?

“Tell me why so charred and blackened is the beam on
which 'tis hung
With the powder-horn and cartouche-case beside the musket
slung ?”

Then across the years long vanished seemed to break a line
of fire,
And a voice across the century told the tale of dreadful ire.

“In the days when Vaughan, the Vandal, forced the High-
land forts below ;
And his vessels up the Hudson found a favoring breeze to
blow ;

“While the weary patriot army, hastening down the Wall-
kill's shore,
Though the fifty miles were heavy and their shoe-less feet
were sore :

A Ballad of a Dreadful Day

“ While less than eight score aged defenders met with
Snyder on The Strand ;

Threw up earthworks at the Point, with but six field-pieces
mann’d,

“ And awaited the six thousand of the foemen and their fleet,
To be overwhelmed immediately and sound a swift retreat.

“ We knew the village doomed, that the torch would be
applied ;

Knew the pitiless invaders had the laws of war defied—

“ So we waited, listened for the sounds arising from the
Rondout’s banks

Till we heard the measured cadence from the scarlet
troopers’ ranks.

“ And all afternoon the flambeaux were applied throughout
the town ;

While household goods and treasures burdened roads to
Hurley down.

“ All afternoon the fury of the conflagration spread,
With the tongues of fire more crimson than the uniforms of red.

“ ‘Till the welcome troops of Clinton o’er the *Kijkuit*
showed at e’en,

And the red-coat rushed to cover of his fleet as soon as seen.

“ And all night a vigil at the blackened, slackened walls of
stone

Till the morning shone on silence, desolating and alone.

“ When the village restoration built my house once more
anew

There I hung the arms I carried all those dreadful moments
through.”

OLD^E ULSTER

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AS THE COMING MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES will comprise the erection and unveiling of a monument in Hurley, at his grave, to Colonel Colonel Charles DeWitt, the Revolutionary patriot and statesman, it seems most fitting to call attention once more to the grave in Rosendale of Colonel Jacob Rutson, the patriot leader of Ulster county two hundred and more years ago. His grave is not marked, his memory is covered with dust. This is an era in which the lessons of patriotism are taught to be young. There should be sufficient pride in Ulster county to mark his grave. One of the results of the celebration held last May in the City of Kingston was assured would be the erection of a monument at the grave of Thomas Chambers, "Lord of the Manor of Fox Hall." Must he await the five hundredth anniversary of the town he founded to receive his recognition? He lies in an unmarked grave in Montrepose Cemetery. Local pride should mark that grave. Is it necessary that we call up the matter again and again?

FORD HUMMEL

Teacher of the Violin

A graduate of the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, studied with pupils of Dr. Joachhim and Ysaye; now studying at the Metropolitan College of Music, New York City, with Herwegh von Ende, a pupil of Carl Halir.

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

¶ A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

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Souvenir Spoons, commemorating 250th anniversary of the founding of Kingston. Specially prepared by the Gorham Company.

OLD^E VLSTER

 VOL. V

MAY, 1909

No. 5

Henry Hudson and *✻ ✻ ✻ Ulster County*

Continued from Vol. V., page 102.

The *ninth*, faire weather. In the morning, two great canoes came aboard full of men; the one with their bowes and arrowes, and the other in shew of buying of knives to betray us; but we perceived their intent. Wee tooke two of them to have kept them, and put red coates on them, and would not suffer the other to come neere us. So they went on land, and two other came aboard in a canoe; we tooke the one and let the other goe; but hee which wee had taken, got up and leapt over-board. Then we weighed and went off into the channell of the river, and anchored there all night.

The *tenth*, faire weather, we rode still till twelve of the clocke. Then we weighed and went over, and found it shoald all the middle of the river, for we could finde but two fathoms and a halfe and three fathomes

Olde Ulster

for the space of a league; then wee came to three fathomes and four fathomes, and so to seven fathomes, and anchored, and rode all night in soft ozie ground. The banke is sande.

The *eleventh*, was faire and very hot weather. At one of the clocke in the afternoon wee weighed and went into the river, the wind at south south-west, little winde. Our soundings were seven, sixe, five, sixe, seven, eight, nine, ten, twelve, thirteene and fourteene fathomes. Then it shoalded againe, and came to five fathomes. Then wee anchored, and saw that it was a very good harbour for all windes, and rode all night. The people of the country came aboard of us, making shew of love, and gave us tabacco, and Indian wheat, and departed for that night; but we durst not trust them.

The *twelfth*, very faire and hot. In the afternoone, at two of the clocke, wee weighed, the winde being variable betweene the north and the north-west. So we turned into the river two leagues and anchored. This morning, at our first rode in the river, there came eight and twentie canoes full of men, women and children to betray us; but we saw their intent, and suffered none of them to come aboard of us. At twelve of the clocke they departed. They brought with them oysters and beanes, whereof wee bought some. They have great tabacco pipes of yellow copper, and pots of earth to dress their meate in. It floweth south-east by south within.

The *thirteenth*, faire weather, the wind northerly. At seven of the clocke in the morning, as the floud came we weighed, and turned foure miles into the

river. The tide being done wee anchored. Then there came foure canoes aboard; but we suffered none of them to come into our ship. They brought great store of very good oysters aboard, which we bought for trifles. In the night I set the variation of the compasse, and found it to be 13 degrees. In the afternoone we weighed, and turned in with the flood, two leagues and a halfe further, and anchored all night; and had five fathoms soft ozie ground; and had an high point of land, which shewed out to us, bearing north by east five leagues off us.

The *fourteenth*, in the morning, being very faire weather, the wind south-east, we sayled up the river twelve leagues, and had five fathoms, and five fathoms and a quarter lesse; and came to a streight betweene two points, and had eight, nine and ten fathoms; and it trended north-east by north, one league, and we had twelve, thirteene and fourteene fathomes. The river is a mile broad; there is very high land on both sides. Then we went up north-west, a league and a halfe deepe water. Then north-east by north, five miles; then north-west by north, two leagues, and anchored. The land grew very high and mountainous. The river is full of fish.

The *fifteenth*, in the morning, was misty until the sunne arose; then it cleered. So wee weighed with the wind at south, and ran up into the river twentie leagues, passing by high mountaines. Wee had a very good depth, at sixe, seven, eight, nine, ten, twelve, and thirteene fathomes, and great store of salmons in the river. This morning our two savages got out of a port and swam away. After we were under

sayle, they called to us in scorne. At night we came to other mountaines, which lie from the rivers side. There wee found very loving people, and very old men ; where wee were well used. Our boat went to fish, and caught great store of very good fish.

The *sixteenth*, faire and very hot weather. In the morning our boat went againe to fishing, but could catch but few, by reason their canoes had been there all night. This morning the people came aboard, and brought us eares of Indian corne, and pompions, and tabacco ; which wee bought for trifles. Wee rode still all day, and filled fresh water ; at night wee weighed and went two leagues higher, and had shoald water ; so wee anchored till day.

The *seventeenth*, faire sun-shining weather, and very hot. In the morning, as soone as the sun was up, we set sayle, and ran up sixe leagues higher, and found shoalds in the middle of the channell, and small ilands, but seven fathoms water on both sides. Toward night we borrowed so neere the shoare, that we grounded ; so we layed out our small anchor, and heaved off againe. The we borrowed on the banke in the channell, and came aground againe ; while the floud ran we heaved off againe, and anchored all night.

The *eighteenth*, in the morning, was faire weather, and we rode still. In the after-noone our masters mate went on land with an old savage, a governor of the countrey ; who carried him to his house, and made him good cheere.

The *nineteenth*, was faire and hot weather ; at the floud, being neere eleven of the clocke, we weighed, and ran higher up two leagues above the shoalds, and

had no lesse water than five fathoms; we anchored, and rode in eight fathomes. The people of the countrie came flocking aboard and brought us grapes and pompions, which wee bought for trifles. And many brought us bevers skinnnes and otters skinnnes, which wee bought for beades, knives, and hatchets. So we rode there all night.

The *twentieth*, in the morning, was faire weather. Our masters mate with foure men went up with our boat to sound the river, and found two leagues above us but two fathomes water, and the channell very narrow; and above that place, seven or eight fathomes. Toward night they returned; and we rode still all night.

The *one and twentieth* was faire weather, and the wind all southerly; we determined yet once more to go farther up into the river, to trie what depth and breadth it did beare; but much people resorted aboard, so wee went not this day. Our carpenter went on land and made a fore yard. And our master and his mate determined to trie some of the chiefe men of the countrey, whether they had any treacherie in them. So they took them down into the cabin, and gave them so much wine and *aqua vitæ* that they were all merrie; and one of them had his wife with him, which sate so modestly, as any of our countrey women would doe in a strange place. In the ende one of them was drunke, which had been aboard of our ship all the time that we had beene there; and that was strange to them, for they could not tell how to take it. The canoes and folke went all on shoare, but some of them came againe, and brought stropes

of beades, some had sixe, seven, eight, nine, ten; and gave him. So he slept all night quietly.

The *two and twentieth* was faire weather: in the morning our master's mate and foure more of the companie went up with our boat to sound the river higher up. The people of the countrey came not aboard till noone; but when they came, and saw the savages well, they were glad. So at three of the clocke in the after-noone they came aboard, and brought tabacco, and more beades, and gave them to our master and made an oration and shewed him all the countrey round about. Then they sent one of their companie on land, who presently returned, and brought a great platter full of venison dressed by themselves; and they caused him to eate with them; then they made him reverence and departed, all save the old man that lay aboard. This night, at ten of the clocke, our boat returned in a showre of rain from sounding of the river, and found it to bee at an end for shipping to goe in. For they had been up eight or nine leagues, and found but seven feet of water, and unconstant soundings.

The *three and twentieth* faire weather. At twelve of the clocke wee weighed, and went downe two leagues to a shoald that had two channels, one on the one side, and another on the other, and had little wind, whereby the tyde layed us upon it. So there wee sate on ground the space of an hour till the floud came. Then we had a little gale of wind at the west. So wee got our ship into deepe water, and rode all night very well.

The *foure and twentieth* was faire weather; the wind at the north-west, wee weighed and went downe the river seven or eight leagues; and at halfe ebbe wee

came on ground on a banke of oze in the middle of the river, and sate there till the floud. Then we went on land, and gathered good store of chest-nuts. At ten of the clocke wee came off into deepe water, and anchored.

The *five and twentieth* was faire weather, and the wind at south a stiffe gale. We rode still, and went on land to walke on the west side of the river, and found good ground for corne and other garden herbs, with great store of goodly oakes, and walnut trees, and chest-nut trees, ewe trees, and trees of sweet wood in great abundance, and great store of slate for houses, and other good stones.

To be continued



IN RESPONSE TO A NUMBER OF INQUIRIES regarding old Dutch cookery we would say that the Dutch called vegetable soup, and dried green corn of which it was largely made, *Aargroenten* (often spoken of as *aargreetjes*), *aar* meaning corn and *groente* greens and pot-herbs. There was a favorite cookery called *boerlengen*, made of sweet apples, flour and meal boiled many hours with sweetening into a pudding; this was then baked and, when cold, cut into slices and fried. The name means farmer's pudding and *lengen* refers to the long time of cooking. At the fall "butchering" on the farms the souse-tub was carefully prepared for the preservation of pig's feet, hockies and the like. Among the things there pickled was *rolletjen* (little rolls). They were composed of strips of beef, alternately fat and lean, sewed into tripe, and boiled before putting into the *pekelsaus* (pickle souse).

Governor ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

George Clinton

SIXTEENTH PAPER



GOVERNOR CLINTON did not slacken his efforts to solve the problem of compelling the Iroquois Confederacy to remain neutral. The Oneidas were practically in alliance with the Americans, many of the Tuscaroras were very friendly to the patriots, and the efforts of Clinton through James Duane and Colonel Cornelius VanDyck to detach the Onondagas and the Cayugas from the Senecas and Mohawks under the lead of Walter Butler, the Johnsons and, above all, of Brant, were unremitting. Early in this year 1779 Colonel VanDyck once more visited Fort Schuyler (Stanwix) and had an interview from which he expected great results. But all that was gained was that certain of the Onondagas remained neutral. The tribe was too much entangled with the schemes by which Brant had brought them into a virtual alliance with the British. So the preparations for the expedition of General Sullivan went on.

There was one matter which gave Governor Clinton great concern during all these years. It was the matter of flour. The New England states had always been purchasers of grain and flour and it was largely from

the fields of New York that their supply came. The fertile valleys which radiated from "the Esopus," and the valley of the Mohawk were the great sources for the wheat needed. The patriot army looked to New York for the feeding of the troops, and after the surrender of Burgoyne the prisoners captured at Saratoga were to be fed from this State too. Already during the preceding year (1776) it had become necessary to have the sale of grain and flour regulated by the Provincial Congress of New York and on the 13th of May, 1777, it fixed the prices as follows: Wheat, seven shillings; rye, five shillings; oats, three shillings and six pence; Indian corn, five shillings; buckwheat, three shillings. The Council of Safety, on the 11th of November, 1777, laid an embargo upon the exportation of flour, grain and meal from the State of New York which strictly forbade all persons from directly or indirectly taking them out of the State, unless a special license was first obtained either from the Council of Safety or from the Legislature. On the 14th of March, 1778, the Legislature took up the matter and passed an act making such exportation illegal and giving the governor, with the advice and consent of two members of the Legislature, discretion and power to issue a license, under proper limitations, restrictions and regulations. The penalty for violating was three times the value of the flour or grain and the costs. This act was repealed in 1780, to take effect October 15th of that year. It was re-enacted on March 10th, 1781 and finally repealed June 27th of the last named year.

The people of the State of New York who sym-

pathized with the cause of liberty were patriots. They were not willing to assist in any way in the support of the enemies of their country. Yet the temptation, when for the sale of their grain and flour they were compelled to accept the almost worthless "Continental scrip," was to accept payment in gold when offered. And it was offered. There was quite a large trade in flour and grain, to be taken to the east side of the Hudson, carted into Connecticut, thence to Long Island Sound and shipped so that it fell into the hands of British vessels scouring that body of water. Many barrels of flour were thus bought for gold, which were destined to feed the British army in New York City. It might awaken suspicion that a farmer was offered gold for the flour that he had been compelled to accept pay for in paper. He often pocketed the coin, let his flour go, kept his own counsel and said nothing. He was not expected to know that his flour was destined to feed his country's enemies in New York. General Alexander McDougall thus reported the methods to Governor Clinton :

"There is a compleat System formed, by the Enemy to get Flour from this State. The numerous agents, who have hard money in plenty, who have never had any great quantity of any, evince this. The Channel is via Stanford and Norwork, &c. where Cargoes are shipped, as Supplies for New London, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. Then they get into the Sound, some are taken by Collusion, others are sent from two last mentioned to New York."

On January 21st, 1779, the Massachusetts Council addressed a letter to Governor Clinton asking leave to purchase three thousand barrels of flour for Boston.

Governor George Clinton

On the 27th of the same month the Massachusetts War Office addressed Governor Clinton a similar request for one hundred barrels of flour for the use of that State.

On the 17th of the same month complaint was made that some flour which had been bought for the fleet of our allies, the French, had been detained under the direction of Governor Clinton. Private Secretary Lush denied it. The governor instructed Secretary Lush to inform the agent of the French that no such instructions had been given. Jacob Cuyler, the Deputy Commissary General, was not under the control of the governor. If there had been any friction between Cuyler and the French fleet the French should apply to the Legislature for redress. It was a matter not under the control of the governor. Two days thereafter Governor Clinton wrote to General Putnam that the abuse of the privilege of purchasing flour in this State had led to the enactment of the Embargo Law. Much flour had gone into the possession of enemies of the cause of the patriots. The governor was determined that this should cease. He had decided that hereafter no permits should be issued for "the Exportation of Flour out of the State under the Embargo Law but to such Persons as were recommended by the Commissary Genl. or his principal Deputy or agent." He added that it was almost impossible to supply the troops with flour. It had become necessary to oppose "a Trade which if countenanced must end in Ruin." The result was seen very soon. General McDougall wrote to Clinton "it is unquestionable the Enemy is hard pressed for Bread. The Cork Fleet can bring but

little Supply of that Article." He added that he had found that in Westchester county alone there was enough flour on hand both for the inhabitants and for the army. But it could not be procured under the ordinary course of law. Its exportation must be stopped at all hazards.

Early in February Commissary Colt reported to Clinton that farmers refused to sell their wheat at the price that had been fixed. They asked their pay in dollars of "hard money."

Next it was Rhode Island that asked New York for food. Governor William Greene of the former State wrote to Governor Clinton asking that the embargo on flour be lifted and his people be fed. They were compelled to look to the corn and wheat fields of the State of New York for an adequate supply of the food its people needed. Governor Clinton replied that he had laid the letter of Governor Greene before the Legislature. He added that he felt sure that if that body did not lift the embargo so far as Rhode Island was concerned it would be only because its prevention of the export of flour was necessary to furnish the troops with the bread they needed. This letter of Governor Clinton was written on February 4th, 1779. The same day the governor wrote a number of letters to suitable persons asking their assistance in supplying the troops with bread and laying up in magazines of a suitable supply for the ensuing campaign. One of the plans to secure this was to deposit with the millers, who could give proper security, a suitable sum of money with which to purchase for public use all the wheat and flour possible.

On the 8th of February the Legislature of Massachusetts requested permission to obtain three thousand barrels of flour from the State of New York. Then the Legislature of the State of New York took up the matter in earnest. A resolution was passed setting forth that the invasion of Burgoyne in 1777 had laid waste the valley of the upper Hudson from Ticonderoga to Albany and prevented the farmers from gathering their harvest not only, but from seeding their fields for a crop for the next year; that the loss during the Fall of the same year of the forts of the Highlands had opened the central Hudson region to the enemy; that these two invasions had necessitated the calling out of the militia. Thus the farmers had been unable to cultivate their lands, to gather the crops or to produce the flour and grain needed; that not only had the farmers been compelled to serve in the ranks, when needed on the farms, but they had been constantly called upon to assist with their cattle to transport army stores and provisions for the troops and that the troops and prisoners in this State and other eastern States as well had "hitherto been almost entirely supplied with, and still expect, their Flour from this State;" that the army had been very wasteful in its consumption of provisions, using up more than one thousand bushels of wheat per day while encamped at White Plains, and at other posts in like proportion. The resolution went on to say that the people of New York wished their brethren of the eastern States to know that "the Feelings of the Legislature for the Distresses of their Brethren in the Eastern States can only be equalled by their Wishes to relieve them," and that when the army

had secured a sufficient supply permission will be freely granted that the surplus be sent to their fellow citizens of other States and the Legislature will then "deem themselves extremely happy, that an opportunity will then be afforded of contributing to their relief."

A report of the bread and flour on hand at the various storehouses for the army in the State of New York on March 1st, 1779, showed that there were but ninety-two and three-fourths barrels of bread and one hundred and thirty-five barrels of flour. This was aside from West Point where there were about four hundred barrels of flour stored.

This condition of things had the natural effect of sending the price of wheat and flour to an almost prohibitory height. It would have done so had not the Legislature taken the matter in hand. A letter from Governor Clinton to Major Stephen Lush gives the prices in Continental currency :

"The Common Price of Wheat in Connecticut, Jersey & in every other States to the Southward [is] at least 20 Dollars pr. Bushel & Flour in Proportion ; at Boston Flour sells at £40 lawful pr. Ct."

It is one of the things to the credit of Governor Clinton that he succeeded in controlling the situation and preventing a famine. His officials kept the army supplied ; the French fleet was provisioned ; he was able to feed the people of the New England states ; the prisoners of war in the hands of the Americans were fed, the Tories confined in the jails and elsewhere shared in the food that could be secured. With the harvesting of the crop of 1779 the supply was increased to such an extent that the restrictions upon the price were removed.

JACOB JANSEN STOLL AND JACOB HAP

The most important man in the infant settlement at the Esopus after Thomas Chambers was Jacob Jansen Stoll. It was at his house, probably situated near that of Chambers, and thus near the present Manor avenue, that the religious meetings until 1660, conferences with the Indians and public meetings were held. The question has been frequently asked "What became of Stoll?" OLDE ULSTER is in receipt from the State Archivist at Albany, A. J. F. van Laer, of the translation of a letter from Jeremias van Rensselaer of Rensselaerwyck to his brother in the Netherlands, Jan Baptist van Rensselaer, dated June 6, 1660. This letter establishes the fact that Stoll and Hap were the same person and perished in the massacre in the Fall of 1659, during the First Esopus War. The translation is:

"I should have sent you a copy of the propositions on both sides [Mohawks and the Dutch] and also [an account] of the Esopus war, which began in a very irregular way, the fault being mainly on the side of the Dutch, who shot and killed an Indian first; the next day the Indian took 13 Dutchmen prisoners, who had their guns in their hands but offered no resistance; among them were *Clabbort* and *jacob hap*; *Clabbort* escaped, but *hap* and 8 or 9 others were horribly put to death by burning, scorching, hacking and cutting; one of them was our neighbor *Abraham Pietersz Vosburgh*, who had been working at the Esopus, but inasmuch as Mr. *van Haemel** is ill, as stated above, I shall send the particulars with my next letter."

* *Van Hamel* was secretary of the colony of Rensselaerwyck from Oct., 1655, till his death on July 2, 1660.

The letter is in error in the manner in which the trouble began. Some Albany traders supplied the Indians with brandy, and while drunk on May 1st, 1658, the Indians fired at a yacht in the Rondout creek and killed a man named Moer. The killing of an Indian by the Dutch occurred in September, 1659, when the Indians, who had husked the corn of Thomas Chambers, were having a drunken frolic and making a great noise. Some of the Dutch fired at them and killed a brave. The sequel is told in the above letter. It also establishes the fact that these prisoners were compelled to run the gauntlet and were burned at the stake. It was the only such occurrence that ever took place in Ulster County.



“AN HONEST OLD DUTCHMAN of undoubted veracity, who lived in the County of Ulster, and who applied to George Clinton, the then titular Governor of New York, for permission to pay a visit to his friends and relatives upon Long Island (the place of his nativity) has frequently, publicly and openly declared to his friends and acquaintances that in a conversation between him and Clinton upon the application aforesaid, after he had given the required permission, Clinton expressed himself thus: ‘When you will get within the British lines you will hear us greatly abused, ill spoken of, our opposition to tyranny called rebellion, and we rebels and traitors.’ After a pause he added: ‘Well, if I am a rebel Billy Smith made me one. I have been advised by him, have followed his counsel in whatever I have done, and if I

am a rebel, I am a rebel of his own making.”—(*From Jones’ “History of New York,” Vol. I, page 148.*) The man referred to as “Billy Smith” was Chief Justice William Smith, of New York, under the royal government before the Revolution. Governor George Clinton studied law in his office.—EDITOR.



“EGBERT DUMOND, ESQ., had been sheriff of Ulster County by commission under the Governor [Tryon] but had, upon his return to England, been displaced by Lieut. Governor Colden in favor of one of his grandsons. A restoration to the shrievalty Dumond was now aiming at. It was uncertain at this time how matters would terminate.

“Upon the Declaration of Independence this fellow became a great supporter of the measures of Congress. Upon the formation of a Constitution for New York by the rebel powers, Dumond was reappointed Sheriff of Ulster, soon became an active partisan of theirs, persecuted the Loyalists with unrelenting fury, and was the first Sheriff in the State who, under the laws of the usurpation, hanged three young men who had been condemned by a mock court for treason, for having espoused the cause of Great Britain.”—(*From Jones’ “History of New York,” Vol. I, page 148.*) It might be added that the above extract is from a rabidly Tory history of the troubles between the patriots and the British Crown which resulted in our independence after the long struggle of seven years.—EDITOR.

LETTERS OF CHARLES DE WITT

ANNAPOLIS, May 21, 1784.

MY DEAR SON GERRIT:

I feel exceeding happy this day on receiving letters from all my dear children, especially when I learn from them that you all enjoy the great blessing of health, and when I am happy to inform you that I have ever since I left you enjoyed good health, even in this Southern climate. Can you think that I lie down without the least disturbance of mind and sleep sweetly every night like a little child, when you are acquainted with the many anxieties in which I generally am involved, I am astonished at it myself at times. But I have endeavored to divest myself of all those cares that I may be the better enabled to devote my whole time to the public whose servant I am at present, and I wish to be faithful however incompetent for the important purposes for which I was sent here.

I am happy to learn that you are so well reconciled to business. I hope this trial will have such an effect on you as to make you in love with industry and business. I have an higher opinion of industry and business now than ever before, occasioned by my stay in this place, this school of idleness and dissipation.

Never did my eyes behold a set of people so totally devoted to pleasure, dress and extravagance of almost every kind as the Marylanders. The best part of this week they have spent in horseracing it is their annual week for that purpose, and also at plays which have been I believe acted every evening of this week, and I am told there is one this evening that may last till one

o'clock in the morning which will bring them to Sunday. I have myself attended a Tragedy with some Gentlemen of Congress.

On Wednesday last I took a walk after adjournment of Congress to the Common where they have their races, I saw one heat and then left the plain where there were some hundreds of idle spectators, 'round about and in Booths where liquors of all kinds were sold, fooling away precious time. I then bent my walk toward the banks of the great Cheseapeake Bay (you must know before you arrive there that great work of Omnipotence opens to your view) when approaching thither a train of serious and solemn thoughts crowded into my mind, which is always the case when I view the great Bay, the contemplation thereof affords me such pleasures as all the horse-racing are incapable of, and I left affected that such numbers were killing time by wholesale, but as soon as I return from my lonely walk into this little City this school of idleness, the frailties of human nature are apt to vail these pleasing reflections. I must however say that the people are exceeding kind, and their morals in other respects are not worse if so bad as our Northern folks.

In this little town is a play house pretty elegantly finished on the inside, and also a Ball house, both these buildings are of brick, but I find no Church, they have however a Minister who officiates at present in the State House which is elegant.

My letter is long enough, I suppose I shall set out from this place in about a fortnight, some visits and business in Philadelphia will detain me there I suppose

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for a week, and in New York it may be that I shall be obliged to stay a fortnight, if I am not mistaken, this will bring me home near July, I trust all to my children, and above all I have committed all my cares and concerns to Him whose goodness has conducted me through the darkest scenes of my life.

This I believe will be all the letters I shall write, and I suppose the last from this place before I leave it.

I am my dear Son

Your ever affect and most loving father,

CHARLES DEWITT.

ANNAPOLIS, June 4, 1784.

DEAR SIR:

On the appointment for Commissioner for the Treasury Board, a proposition was made to me by the Eastern Delegates to put you in nomination, to which I very readily acceded, being sensible that this was the only way to succeed in the appointment of a New Yorker.

Yesterday the ballots were taken, and yourself, Mr. Ellsworth of Connecticut and Mr. Temple of Maryland were chosen. I hope it will be agreeable for you to serve in the Department, it is not expected that this board will proceed to any business until the Superintendent of finance has settled his accounts and made a formal resignation of his office which it is thought will take place this fall, I have no time to give you all the particulars, the salary of each Commissioner is \$2500 pr annum.

I shall bring with me every material thereto, which will soon be as Congress last night adjourned to meet

at Trenton, N. J. on the 30th October next, and tho' I am appointed one of the Committee of the States yet I believe the Committee will adjourn for some time, which will give me an opportunity of drinking in the sweet Northern air before many days at home.

I am

Dr Sir

Your Most Obed^{nt} Serv^t

CHARLES DEWITT.

To

MR. WILLIAM DENNING,
New York.

ANNAPOLIS, June 4, 1784.

SIR :

I take this opportunity to acquaint your Excellency that Congress adjourned last night.

I am appointed one of the Commissioners of the States. I hope the Legislature have taken every precaution respecting the W. Territory, I believe Sir a plan is formed and perhaps wrought into system to take that country from us. Massachusetts Delegates have put in a petition yesterday from the Legislature of that State setting forth that New York is possessed of part of their land and requested a Court agreeably to the Confederation for a decision &c. I shall bring with me a copy thereof, but my fears are not so great from this quarter than a quarter, which I do not know how to name. I shall postpone it till a future day. The whole world seems to look on that W. Country with a wishful eye and I fear they will go farther to obtain it than is consistent with the peace of the Union, I hope, however, that New York will

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collect all its wisdom and take such a decided and spirited step as may counteract every unlawful attempt on the State. I do not even trust Congress, I may be suspicious, but I believe it will be well to be on guard.

I am

Sir

Your Excellency's

To

Most Ob^{dnt} Ser^{nt}

His Excellency

CHARLES DEWITT,

GOVERNOR CLINTON.

ALBANY, N. Y., June 17, 1784.

DR SIR:

I find you are appointed Committee during the recess of Congress therefore trouble you with the following commission. There are lying with me in the loan office 800,000 punched dollars of the old emission, a return of which I made on the — Nov., 1782, and 50,000 do which I received from the Treasurer the 21st Apr., 1783.

I intended to have sent the money to Philadelphia, the place ordered, but could not get an opportunity, unless I hired a wagon, which I judged an expense that might be avoided, by waiting until the communication by water should be open: and even then I consider myself not justified unless I had an order for the purpose as it was liable to some risk.

On mentioning the matter last year to Mr. Le Hommedeaux he advised me to keep it with me; that Congress had passed a resolution purporting that the money should be delivered to persons to be appointed in the different states to destroy it. I have endeavor-

Letters of Charles DeWitt

ed to procure the resolution, but have not as yet succeeded.

I wish you would procure and send me this resolution, and if you can conveniently all the journals of Congress; I have been informed that as loan officer I am entitled to a set, but should not that be the case, as I can borrow them to the year 1781 inclusive, please to purchase and send me the journals from the beginning of 1782 to the late adjournment and you shall be repaid with thanks by

Sir Your Most Obedt Servt

WM. YATES, JR.

THE HON^{BL} CHARLES DEWITT.

CLERMONT, June 26, 1784.

D^R SIR:

You should not have been thus lone, my dear Sir, without hearing from me had I not daily expected to see you at your own home in consequence of the adjournment of Congress, but as I now find you bound to your station by being selected one of the great Committee of the States I resume the pen as the only means left me for conversing with you. I am not surprised at the little progress you make in the Vermont business, it is too perplexing to be seriously entered upon by Congress who dislike trouble as much as any other mortals in much inferior stations, I see your colleague begins to think as I have long done on the subject, I am confident that the time will come when it will be the general sentiment tho' perhaps we shall not consent "to let the people go" till we are afflicted with

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some of the *plagues* that will necessarily arise from detaining them.

To what cause am I to attribute the late change in the direction of our finances? has Mr. Morris resigned or has the party in Congress which opposed him been too powerful for his friends? I am very apprehensive that the public will loose considerably by the change tho' his successors are worthy men. But I have never yet seen system or a continued order prevail in business that was conducted by more than one man.

Rhode Island has I find at last agreed to the import, *from the time that this regulation takes place we may date the existence of our confederation, a common purse may serve as a centre of union* this may introduce regularity and harmony in our planetary system and while it is kept full the new States will roll in their several spheres without jostling each other. Everything here is in a state of rest, the blessings of peace begins to be visable in the improvement of the country and the general increase of industry, tho' we have an extreme drought at present yet our crops of wheat and grass are not unpromising. May we all enjoy these blessings and under a wise and mild administration forget the trials we have undergone. Adieu, my dear Sir, believe that you are included in this wish and in every other other that the sincerest friendship can dictate.

Your Sincerely,

R. R. LIVINGSTON.

HON^{BL} CHARLES DEWITT,

Trenton,

N. J.

Letters of Charles DeWitt

NEW YORK, Aust 10, 1784.

D^R SIR:

I take the liberty to introduce to your acquaintance and civilities the bearer hereof Mr. John Lansing, a delegate from New York.

Heaven having blessed him with every qualification to render him not only useful to the community, but endearing as a companion.—

From that goodness which is inherent in you there is not the least doubt with me, but you will greatly respect him, his face like every honest man's is open and without guile you therefore cannot avoid loving him

I am

my dear Sir

Your affect. friend,

CHARLES DEWITT.

To MR. READ, in Congress.

DR. MCHENRY, Annapolis, Md.

MR. SPRAIGHT, “ “

GEN^l HAND, in Congress.

LIVINGSTON MANOR, June 25, 1784.

DEAR SIR:

I am much obliged to you for your favor of last month and most cordially wish your conjectures may prove groundless, the disposer of all events will in mercy protect us and avert the curse.

While a Committee of the States transacts the business of the Nation there will be more done with less intrigue, which will prove an ease to you who are not adapted for deceit. I have agreed with Mr. Lansing that he shall relieve you on the 1st of August or the

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member who shall then be there and I will surely take his place on the 1st September.

Please to inform me whatever the Committee have any intention of adjourning to some place nearer this before the 1st Sept. as it would prove a great relief to me if they should.

Your affect friend & Humb^l Serv^t

WALTER LIVINGSTON.

HON. CHARLES DEWITT.

GREENKILL, N. Y., Aug. 18, 1784

MY DEAR SIR:

I am much obliged to you for attention in honoring me with your favor from Annapolis to this retired corner, where I arrived in perfect health and found my family in an agreeable situation.

I was particularly happy in finding a dear little babe of my daughter Anna which made its appearance in this troublesome world after I left home, and is almost six months old, it smiled and appeared to be pleased with my return and I suppose would have told me so had it been capable of speech. Your invitation for me to come to Annapolis is very flattering. From the honor and good living we had there I am almost induced to come, but the distance is great and the enjoyment of that happiness which retirement furnishes pleases me so well that I hope you will excuse me.

Mr. Livingston will be the member and I hope and dare say you will be happy in his company.

Dear S^r Your most affect friend,

CHARLES DEWITT.

HON. ED^{WD} HAND, Annapolis, Md.

THE CLINTON PROCESSION IN WASHINGTON

This magazine has had great difficulty in securing any photograph of the procession conveying the casket enclosing the body of Governor George Clinton from Christ Church Cemetery in Washington to the railroad station on its way to Kingston, New York, May 27th, 1908. That escort was miles in length and under the auspices of the federal government. We have obtained a drawing of it passing the Capitol.



LINEAGE OF THE DECKER FAMILY

Continued from Vol. V., page 126

(I do not know the father of Cornelius Decker with which the following begins, but his marriage record in Kingston Church Records states that he was born in Kingston. Therefore I have marked him of the second generation. From the constant recurrence of the name John I infer that his father's name was John, presumably John Brouerson Decker. MRS. G. B. MUNGER.)

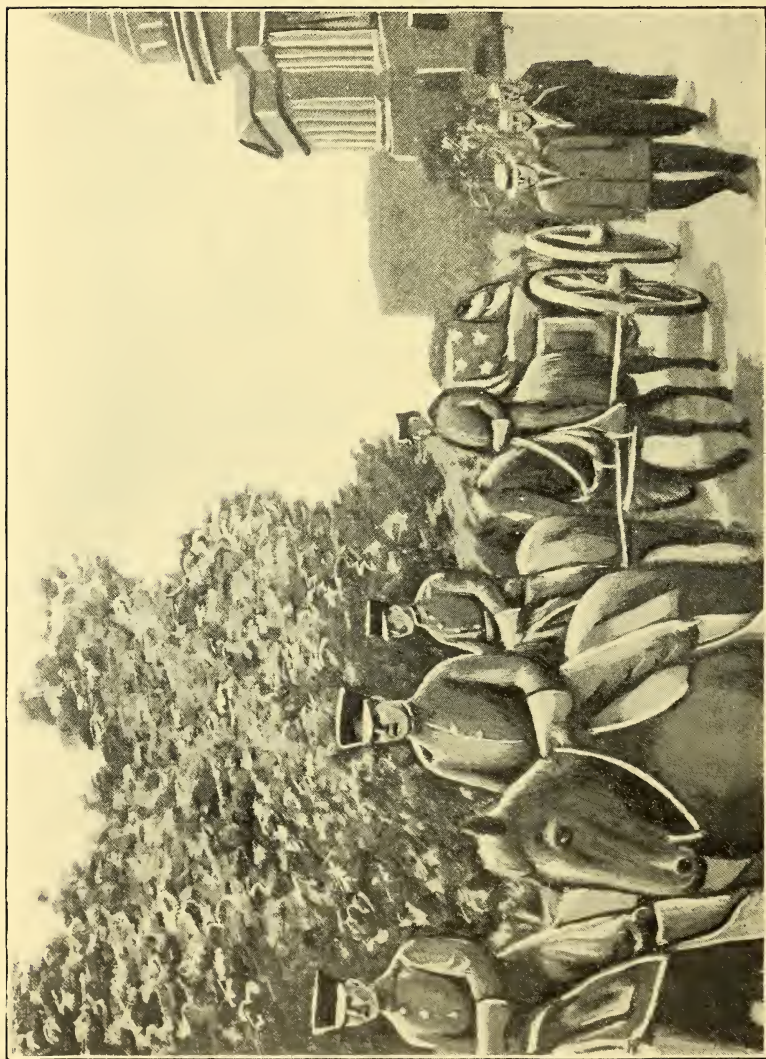
(II.a) CORNELIUS DECKER² married 22 Dec., 1695, ELSIE TEN BROECK, daughter of Wessel Ten Broeck and Marya Ten Eyck. Children:

(140) Johannes³: Bap. 16 May, 1696.

(141) Maria³: Bap. 1 May, 1698.

(142) Heyltje³: Bap. 14 Jan., 1700.

(143) Wessel³: Bap. 25 Jan., 1702.



The Clinton Casket Passing the Capitol

Lineage of the Decker Family

(CXL.) JOHANNES DECKER³ (Cornelius²) married (1st) 29 Dec., 1720, CATRINA WYNKOOP, baptized 17 Dec., 1699, daughter of Evert Wynkoop and Geertje Elmendorp. Catrina died 2 Jan., 1724. Child:

(144) Geertjen⁴: Bap. 15 Oct., 1721.

JOHANNES DECKER married (2nd) MARYTJE JANSEN 17 May, 1726. Children:

(NOTE:—The following entries are from an old Dutch Bible now in possession of Mrs. Ellen Jane Decker Bruyn, Bruynswick, Ulster county, N. Y.)

“1724, January 2d. My wife, Catrina Wynkoop is at rest in the Lord, and buried the 4th among her friends and beside her mother.

“1725, June 9. My mother sleeps in the Lord, and buried the 11th June in the churchyard, beside her husband, Cornelius Decker, and my forefathers.

“1726, 1, Johannes Decker, married Marytje Jansen the 17th May.

(145) “1727, March 26th, is my daughter Elsie⁴ born, Saturday night. Her godfather and godmother Matthewis Jansen & Marya Decker.

(146) “1729, February 28th, is my daughter Rachel⁴ born. Her godfather and godmother Benjamin Smedes, Jr. and Rachel Smedes.

(147) “Jany 6th, is my son Cornelis⁴ born. His godfather and godmother, Cornelis Jansen, Heyltje Decker.

(148) “1733, Dec. 14th, is my son Matthewis⁴ born. His godfather and godmother Johannes Jansen and Annaye Jansen.

Olde Ulster

- (149) "1737, January 9th, is my daughter Marya⁴ born. Her godfather and godmother Isaac Tack and Magdalene Tack.
- (150) "1739, February the 17th, is my daughter Catharyna⁴ born. Her godfather and godmother Johannes Delameter and Margaret Jansen.
- (151) "1741, April 16th, is my son Johannes⁴ born. Her godfather and godmother, Johannes Ten-Broeck and Rachel Ten Broeck. 1742, January the 23d Johannes Decker is deceased in the Lord, Saturday afternoon."

(CXLVII.) "1762, July 1st, was I, CORNELIUS DECKER⁴ [Johannes³, Cornelius²] married (1st) to ELIZABETH VAN WAGENEN.

- (152) "1764, January 16th, is my eldest daughter Sarah⁵ born. Joannes Decker and Annache Van Wagenen her godfather and godmother.

"1764, March 12th, is my wife deceased in the Lord, on Monday, about nine or ten o'clock before midday. 1739, November 1st, Elizabeth Van Wagenen, daughter of Symen Van Wagenen and Sarah Du Bois."

CORNELIUS DECKER married (2nd) ELIZABETH DECKER⁵ (born Nov. 11, 1740, daughter of Gerrit Decker⁴ and Catherine Schutt (OLDE ULSTER, Vol. II, page 247.) The Bible record continues:

- (153) "1767, June 2d, is my eldest son born, named Johannes⁵. His godfather and godmother Benjamin Smedes, Jr., and Elsie his wife.

A Storm in the Catskills

(154) "1770, July 13th, is my second son born, named Cornelius⁵.

(155) "1774, February 2d, is my second daughter born, named Catharina⁵.

(156) "1778, October the 8th, is my third daughter born, Elizabeth⁵.

(157) "1780, November the 23rd, is my fourth daughter born, named Maria⁵.

"1795, August 11th, is my third daughter, Elizabeth, deceased. 1796, September 23rd, is my son Cornelius deceased. 1740, November 11th, is my second wife Elizabeth born; died 1813, June 10th, aged 72 years, 7 months. 1812, August 4th, died my father Cornelius Decker."

To be continued



A STORM IN THE CATSKILLS

I sigh not for a stormless clime,
Where drowsy quiet ever dwells,
Where crystal brooks with endless chime
Flow winding through perennial dells.

For storms bring beauty in their train :
The hills below the howling blast,
The woods all weeping in the rain,
How glorious when the storm is past !

So storms of ill, when pass'd away,
Leave in the soul serene delight ;
The gloom of the tempestuous day
But makes the following calm more bright.

THOMAS COLE

OLD^E VLSTER

AN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

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THE BILL FOR THE PRESERVATION of the Highlands of the Hudson as a permanent memorial of the discovery by Hudson does not make the progress it should in the Legislature. The Highlands should be kept in their beauty and sublimity forever.



THAT MONUMENT AT THE GRAVE OF THOMAS CHAMBERS in Montrepose Cemetery should be erected. The Executive Committee that had charge of the celebration of 1908 should not consider its duties discharged until it is unveiled.



MEMORIAL DAY FALLS ON SUNDAY THIS YEAR. On Monday afternoon, May 31st, the exercises at the unveiling of the monument to Colonel Charles DeWitt, the Revolutionary leader, will be held in Old Hurley where he lies buried in an unmarked grave.

FORD HUMMEL

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Mental and Nervous Diseases

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

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Souvenir Spoons, commemorating 250th anniversary of the founding of Kingston. Specially prepared by the Gorham Company.

OLD^E VLSTER

 VOL. V

JUNE, 1909

No. 6

Henry Hudson and ** * * Ulster County*

Continued from Vol. V., page 135

The *sixe and twentieth* was faire weather, and the wind at south a stiffe gale ; wee rode still. In the morning our carpenter went on land, with our masters mate and foure more of our companie, to cut wood. This morning, two canoes came up the river from the place where we first found loving people, and in one of them was the old man that had lyen aboard of us at the other place. He brought another old man with him, which brought more stropes of beades and gave them to our master, and shewed him all the countrey there about as though it were at his command. So he made the two old men dine with him, and the old mans wife ; for they brought two old women, and two young maidens of sixteene or seventeene yeares with them, who behaved themselves very modestly. Our master gave one of the old men a knife, and they gave him

Olde Ulster

and us tabacco. And at one of the clocke they departed downe the river, making signes that wee should come downe to them ; for wee were within two leagues of the place where they dwelt.

The *seven and twentieth*, in the morning, was faire weather, but much wind at the north ; we weighed and set our fore top-sayle, and our ship would not flat, but ran on the ozie bank at half ebbe. Wee layed out anchor to heave her off, but could not. So wee sate from halfe ebbe to halfe floud ; then wee set our fore-sayle and mayne top-sail, and got downe sixe leagues. The old man came aboard, and would have had us anchor, and goe on land to eate with him : but the wind being faire, we would not yeeld to his request ; so he left us, being very sorrowfull for our departure. At five of the clocke in the afternoone, the wind came to the south south-west. So we made a boord or two, and anchored in fourteen fathomes water. Then our boat went on shoare to fish right against the ship. Our masters mate and boatswaine, and three more of the companie, went on land to fish, but could not finde a good place. They tooke four or five and twentie mullets, breames, bases, and barbils ; and returned in an houre. We rode still all night.

The *eight and twentieth*, being faire weather, as soon as the day was light, wee weighed at halfe ebbe, and turned downe two leagues belowe water ; for the streame doth runne the last quarter ebbe ; then we anchored till high water. At three of the clocke in the after-noone we weighed, and turned downe three leagues, untill it was darke ; then wee anchored.

The *nine and twentieth* was drie close weather ; the

wind at south, and south and by west: we weighed early in the morning, and turned downe three leagues by a lowe water, and anchored at the lower end of the long reach; for it is sixe leagues long. Then there came certaine Indians in a canoe to us, but would not come aboard. After dinner there came the canoe with other men, whereoff three came aboard us. At three of the clocke in the after-noone wee weighed, as soone as the ebbe came, and turned downe to the edge of the mountaines, and anchored; because the high land hath many points, and a narrow channel, and hath manie eddie winds. So we rode quietly all night in seven fathoms water.

The *thirtieth* was faire weather, and the wind at south-east, a stiffe gale betweene the mountaynes. We rode still the afternoone. The people of the countrey came aboard us and brought some small skinnnes with them, which we bought for knives and trifles. This is a very pleasant place to build a towne on. The road is very neere, and very good for all windes, save an east north-east wind. The mountaynes look as if some metall or minerall were in them. For the trees that grow on them were all blasted, and some of them barren, with few or no trees on them. The people brought a stone aboard like an emery (a stone used by glasiers to cut glasse), it would cut iron or steele; yet being bruised small, and water put to it, it made a color like blacke lead glistering; it is also good for painters colours. At three of the clocke they departed, and we rode still all night.

The *first of October*, faire weather, the wind variable betweene the west and the north. In the morning we

weighed at seven of the clocke with the ebbe, and got downe below the mountaynes, which was seven leagues. Then it fell calme and the floud was come, and wee anchored at twelve of the clocke. The people of the mountaynes came aboard us, wondering at our ship and weapons. We bought some small skinnes of them for trifles. This afternoone, one canoe kept hanging under our sterne with one man in it, which we could not keepe from thence, who got up by our rudder to the cabin window, and stole out my pillow, and two shirts, and two bandeleeres. Our masters mate shot at him, and strooke him on the brest, and killed him. Whereupon all the rest fled away, some in their canoes, and so leapt out of them into the water. We manned our boat, and got our things againe. Then one of them that swamme got hold of our boat, thinking to overthrow it. But our cooke tooke a sword, and cut off one of his hands, and he was drowned. By this time the ebbe was come, and we weighed and got downe two leagues; by that time it was darke. So we anchored in foure fathomes water, and rode still.

The *second*, faire weather. At break of day we weighed, the winde being at north-west, and got downe seven leagues; then the floud was come strong, so we anchored. Then came one of the savages that swamme away from us at our going up the river with many other, thinking to betray us. But wee perceived their intent, and suffered none of them to enter our ship. Whereupon two canoes full of men, with their bowes and arrows shot at us after our sterne; in recompence whereof we discharged sixe muskets, and killed two or three of them. Then above an hundred of them came

to a point of land to shoot at us. There I shot a falcon at them, and killed two of them; whereupon the rest fled into the woods. Yet they manned off another canoe with nine or ten men, which came to meet us. So I shot at it also a falcon, and shot it through, and killed one of them. Then our men with their muskets killed three or foure more of them. So they went their way; within a while after wee got downe two leagues beyond that place, and anchored in the bay, cleere from all danger of them on the other side of the river, where we saw a very good piece of ground; and hard by it there was a cliffe, that looked of a colour of a white greene, as though it were either copper or silver myne; and I thinke it to be one of them, by the trees that grow upon it. For they be all burned, and the other places are greene as grasse; it is on that side of the river that is called Manna-hata. There we saw no people to trouble us; and rode quietly all night, but had much wind and raine.

The *third*, was very stormie; the wind at east north-east. In the morning, in a gust of wind and raine, our anchor came home, and we drove on ground, but it was ozie. Then as we were about to heave out an anchor, the wind came to the north north-west, and drove us off againe. Then we shot an anchor, and let it fall in foure fathomes water, and weighed the other. Wee had much winde and raine, with thicke weather; so we rode still all night.

The *fourth*, was faire weather, and the wind at north north-west; wee weighed and came out of the river, into which we had runne so farre. Within a while after, *we came out also of the great mouth of the*

Olde Ulster

great river, that runneth up to the north-west, borrowing upon the norther side of the same, thinking to have deepe water ; for we had sounded a great way with our boat at our first going in, and found seven, sixe and five fathomes. So we came out that way, but we were deceived, for we had but eight foot and a halfe water ; and so three, five, three, and two fathomes and a halfe. And then three, foure, five, sixe, seven, eight, nine and ten fathomes. And by twelve of the clocke we were cleere of all the inlet. Then we took in our boat, and set our mayne-sayle, and sprit-sayle, and our top-sayles, and steered away east south-east, and south-east by east off into the mayne sea ; and the land on the souther side of the bay or inlet did beare at noone west and by south foure leagues from us.

The *fifth* was faire weather, and the wind variable betweene the north and the east. Wee held on our course south-east by east. At noone I observed and found our height to bee 39 degrees, 30 minutes. Our compasse varied sixe degrees to the west.

We continued our course toward England without seeing any land by the way, all the rest of this moneth of *October* ; and on the *seventh day of November, stilo novo*, being Saturday, by the grace of God we safely arrived in the range of Dartmouth, Devonshire, in the yeere 1609.

Thus is concluded the log of the Half Moon, as kept by Robert Juet, the mate of the vessel. Its quaint phraseology, quainter spelling and picturesque accounts of the celebrated voyage paint a splendid picture of the famous river, its shores and waters and of the savage, yet friendly, people who dwelt upon its banks.

Governor ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

George Clinton

SEVENTEENTH PAPER



HE days of the "Minute Men" were over. No longer did the patriots respond to the call TO ARMS! The war had settled into a contest in which the victors would be those who could tire out their opponents.

It has long been placed to his credit as a military commander that General Washington early recognized that Great Britain could not continue for many years a war of conquest of her rebellious colonies three thousand miles away from home and from her base of supplies. If the Americans could but continue to prolong the struggle they must win in the end.

But the ardor with which the patriots sprang into the fight had been dissipated long ago. It was difficult to obtain soldiers, except to call out the militia for the defense of homes when there was an actual invasion. And when they were thus called, and when they responded, they were impatient of restraint, impatient of drill, impatient of inactive service. It had been found necessary to recruit an army of regular soldiers and drill them. Fortunately in Baron Steuben the right drill-master and disciplinarian was found. But the material from which to make soldiers was lacking.

The usual resort was had to a draft. It had had to come to this. General James Clinton reported to his brother, the governor, under date of May 7th, 1779, from Albany :

“I am sorry to inform you that the Drafts from Genl. Ten Broeck’s Brigade come in so very slow, that I fear they will not arrive before we march, which probably will be attended with some Inconveniences. They are mustered as fast as they are received, but they are chiefly without arms, and very ill provided with Cloathes.

“I would beg the favour of you to request Col. Dubois to make hast up ; he is much wanted ; his Character, and his regiment, suffer by his absence, and no Letter from me is sufficient to bring him.”

While the particular occasion for the draft to which General Clinton refers was the Sullivan expedition this letter lets in light upon the difficulties of maintaining and keeping in the field of a standing and well equipped regular army. What was thus raised, drilled and maintained rendered the most efficient service to the cause. It won the conflict.

This was the concern which filled the mind of Governor Clinton all this long summer of 1779. In these papers we have frequently spoken of the anxiety which burdened the governor regarding the western frontier. The great Iroquois confederacy, excepting the Oneidas and parts of other tribes, was ranged on the side of the British. Under the unrelenting Brant and the fiendish Butler not a settler on the frontier was safe in person, family or possessions. Raid after raid had laid waste the frontiers in Tryon, Ulster and Schoharie counties. The savages of this confederacy were

the most determined, bravest, most skillful, energetic and invincible of the continent. They had conquered nearly all their enemies and were masters of most of North America. Their confederacy had been organized some three hundred years. The native tribes acknowledged its supremacy. Alongside of the hosts they could put into the field were now ranged the British armies. It seemed a task almost impossible to break the confederacy and crush these tribes of warriors, hitherto unconquered and unconquerable. And yet Governor Clinton felt that it must be done. With General Washington the matter had been the subject of much thought, a long correspondence and anxious hours. It had been decided to attempt it. Major General John Sullivan of New Hampshire had been selected as the instrument. It needed a man cool, intrepid, indefatigable, experienced in Indian warfare, resourceful in the wilderness and of infinite patience. All these qualities Sullivan had. With him was sent General James Clinton, the brother of the governor, the father of DeWitt Clinton. Meanwhile the troops had been gathered and employed on the frontiers of Ulster county at Wawarsing, and they proceeded thence to the valley of the Susquehanna and rendezvoused at Wyoming. Ascending the river they met the forces of James Clinton descending the same river from Otsego lake. The two divisions met at the mouth of the Susquehanna at Tioga Point. All that need be said here was that the expedition was remarkably successful and the power of the renowned Iroquois Confederacy, which had dominated the North American continent from the Atlantic to the Mississippi and beyond, was broken forever.

No sooner was the expedition of Sullivan arranged and provided for than the interminable question of the currency came up as if nothing had ever been settled. The old rule that nothing is ever settled until it is settled right received another exemplification in this case. We had tried, despite the protests of men like Governor Clinton, to issue bills of credit and compel the people to receive them in payment of necessary supplies for the army. These papers have shown the result. It had become of transcendent importance to reverse our policy and make no further mistakes. So it was decided to lay a tax. It was heavy. In Dutchess county alone it amounted to upwards of £150,000. Yet it was not sufficient. In a letter to James Duane Governor Clinton says :

“ A majority of the People with whom I have conversed on this Subject & especially the most Sensible, are for repeating the Tax until the Credit of our Paper Currency is restored.”

It came hard. But when was war anything else but hard? We were fighting for liberty for ourselves and our children. The cost was proportionate to its value and it had to be paid. We enjoy the blessings of their sacrifices and their blood. It is to his honor that panaceas for universal ills found no favor with Governor Clinton. He recognized the great cost that had to be paid for the blessing and he accepted the conditions for us and for our children to the end of time. We must have liberty and independence at the cost of blood and poverty and he was willing to pay the price.

But the period of the Revolution had its advocates of all kinds of schemes for paying the cost of the war without actually paying them. It is the same in every age. Not only in our day have men urged irredeemable currency, debased coinage, fiat money and the thousand and one plans for getting something out of nothing. The days of the Revolution were full of kindred proposals. And their advocates waged a bitter opposition to all who opposed their schemes. The great financier of the Revolution was Robert Morris. Attacks upon him, his honesty, his capacity, his management, his plans and his patriotism abounded. The root of the trouble was that men like Washington, Morris, Clinton and their associates were supporting a policy of sound finance and had no patience with the plans and schemes of those who devised all sorts of devices for paying expenses without actually raising the money by taxation and paying them. Morris was pursued with a malice and malignancy that is inconceivable to us at this late day.

Under date of June 2nd, 1779, James Duane wrote from Philadelphia to Governor Clinton :

“ I shall long impatiently to hear how the new Tax of 45 millions is relished in our state. It is a great Effort but nothing less could prevent the total Loss of our publick credit? Does the address tend to produce a Confidence that the money will be ultimately secure? I take that to be the cardinal point.”

On the 23rd of the same month Clinton replied to Duane in a letter marked “ Privy,” in which he said :

“ I am, therefore, entirely ignorant what Effect the

address of Congress has had on their Minds with Respect to the Paper Currency. I can only say that it continues to depreciate, which I conclude it wo'd not if the address had produced a Conviction that it will be ultimately secured. As I mentioned in my last, I still believe that there is a Majority of the more sensible Part of the Community advocates for deep & repeated Taxation, considering it as the most effectual Measure for prevent'g a total Loss of public credit."

The demand for money was more and more insistent. On the 28th of June General Nathaniel Greene wrote to Governor Clinton as follows:

"Sir, Col. Hay is in immediate want of 100,000 dollars. If your Excellency could favor him (with propriety) with the loan of this sum for a couple of Weeks, it would benefit the public service, and greatly oblige the Department."

Clinton replied that he had no authority to draw from the treasury of the State of New York any sum. He adds:

"If my Credit or private property (tho at present I have by me but an inconsiderable sum when compared to your Wants) can be of any use for the public Service you may freely command them."

It was not the first time nor the last that Governor Clinton was willing to lay upon the altar of his country all he was and all he possessed. He was leading in a fight he was determined to win for the people of his country and he was in it to the end.

The exigency required that it be met. Governor Clinton called the Legislature to assemble in Kingston. He addressed it upon the sufferings of the people of

Governor George Clinton

Westchester county, the dangers upon the frontiers, the revolt in "the North-eastern counties" (now Vermont) and, above all, upon the state of the finances. The Senate "answered" his "speech." Upon the subject of the finances it said :

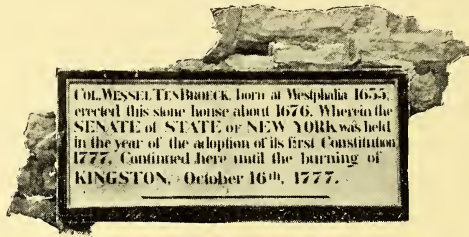
"We are fully sensible, Sir, of the Claim that the present State of our Currency has to our most serious Consideration. We see, on the one Hand, the Calamities attendant on the Failure of Public Credit ; on the other, the extreme Delicacy of the Subject, and the Difficulty of remedying a general Evil, by such partial Measures as a single State can apply : Yet, as the Importance of the Object is generally acknowledged, we have much Consolation in believing, that any well-grounded Plan for the Appreciation of the Currency, which the collective Wisdom of America may think it proper to adopt ; or which the peculiar Situation of this State will permit it to enter into, will be ardently seconded by the Virtue of our Constituents. This Subject, together with the several Matters submitted, by your Excellency, to our Consideration, and those which, during the Course of the Sessions, you shall be pleased to lay before us, shall be examined and proceeded on with all the attention and Dispatch, which is due to the Importance of the Objects, and to your Excellency's Recommendation."

This "answer" was sent on September 1st, 1779. Two days after Governor Clinton replied. His note was brief, but he felt that it was due because of

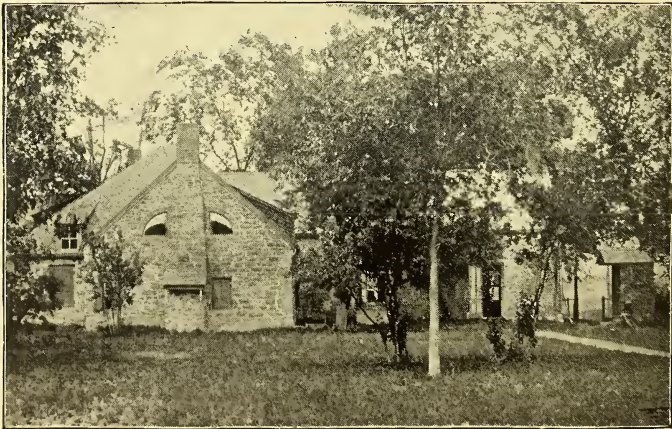
"The polite manner in which you express your Sense of the Importance of the Matters, I have particularly recommended to your Attention, demands my Acknowledgments."

Nor was the Assembly without a sense of its duty. It addressed to the governor an "answer" as follows :

Olde Ulster



The Tablet upon the Senate House



The Senate House from Fair Street

The Old Senate House

“The present State of our Currency is an important Object of our Deliberations, and requires our utmost Endeavours in devising Means to effect its Appreciation ; and from the Anxiety of our Constituents to restore the public Credit, we flatter ourselves with their cheerful Assistance to render these Endeavours successful.”

The extent to which the depreciation of the currency descended is shown in a letter which was written by Chancellor Robert R. Livingston to Governor Clinton on November 30th, 1779. He wrote :

“I need give you no other proof of it than by telling you that I this day paid £537 this money for a plain suit of cloaths, £21 for plain buttons to a servant's coat & putting them on, & 26 dollars for sawing a cord of wood.”

He suggested that the State sell its western lands and apply the moneys to the payment of debts and the appreciation of our paper currency, provided Niagara be secured to us and the navigation of Lake Ontario



THE OLD SENATE HOUSE

Our illustration for the month is the “Old Senate House” in Kingston. It is the property of the State of New York and under the control of the State Trustees of Public Buildings. When acquired by the State the authorities added the abomination of a very prominent porch. It is the main feature in the views usually seen of the building. Our illustration shows the house from the rear, the side seen from Fair street.

The first Legislature of the State was called by Gov-

ernor Clinton to meet in Kingston upon August 1st, 1777. The disturbed state of the country caused the governor to prorogue its meeting until August 20th, and again until September 1st. The organization was finally effected on September 9th and they adjourned until the 10th. On the latter day they met the governor in the "Court Room" where he addressed them. As the Court House was required for the session of the court the Senate met in this building now known as "The Senate House," while the Assembly met at Bogardus Inn, now occupied by the residence of Myron Teller, corner of Maiden Lane and Fair street. Meanwhile the administration of affairs, the governor being in command of the troops in the field, was in the hands of the Council of Safety which held its sessions in the Elmendorf Inn, corner of Maiden Lane and Fair street, diagonally across from Bogardus Inn. This house is still standing and is the residence of Mrs. Charles W. Deyo.

The first constitution of the State of New York was drafted by a committee of thirteen, of which John Jay was chairman. The remaining members were John Sloss Hobart, William Smith, William Duer, Gouverneur Morris, Robert R. Livingston, John Broome, John Morin Scott, Abraham Yates, Jr., Henry Wisner, Samuel Townsend, Charles DeWitt, Robert Yates. The first draft of the instrument was largely the work of its chairman, John Jay, and it has always been held that it was drawn in the Senate House, in which he was said to have had rooms. The probability is that the actual adoption of the instrument was at the court house, from the front of which it was promulgated April 22nd, 1777.

Sheriff ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

Egbert DuMont

Contributed by H. Josephine DuMont



GBERT DU MONT was the son of John DuMont and Rachel Schoonmaker, who were married October 18th, 1729 in Kingston. Rachel Schoonmaker was the daughter of Egbert Hendrickus Schoonmaker and Annetje Berry, and was baptized August 18th, 1704. John DuMont, or Johannes, as registered in the records of the old Dutch church, was the son of Walran de Mon and Catrina TerBosch, who was born in New York in 1688. Walran was the son of Walraven de Mont and his wife, Margriet Hendricx Arnesten, a native of Holland. They were married January 18th, 1664, by Domine Gideon Schaets of Albany. Walran de Mont, who first came to this country was a native of Comminges, France. He sailed from Amsterdam, Holland, in the spring of 1657. He belonged to the Dutch West India Company, and brought over a company of soldiers for Governor Stuyvesant. Settling in Esopus (now Kingston) he became one of the influential and reliable inhabitants of the town, was a member of the Military Council in the Second Esopus War; served as schepen or magistrate of Kingston from May,

1669, to May, 1671. (The Magistrate's record book is still in existence and contains the original signature of Wallerand DuMont). He was a deacon in the Dutch church in 1673, and died between June 25th, 1713 (date of will), and September 13th, 1713 (when will was proved). Walraven, as the name is written in the French, was the son of Lord de Mont, who fell in the war of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. The records were destroyed during this upheaval in France. This may account for the missing of the link. It is probable that it could be found were a search made in Comminges, France. In Hauterive's *Annuaire de la Noblesse de France*, published 1869, pages 158-9-60 to 67 is found a historical sketch of the family from whom, no doubt the first de Mont who came to this country sprang. The family is one of the oldest in the Empire of Armagnac, and county or district of Comminges. The line of descent seems to come through the de Mont de Benque—my reason for this thought is the names of the male line in France and America are identically the same—Antonie, Jean, Pierre, Henri, etc. Henri de Mont de Benque was *frère cadet, Capitaine Commandant au 100 de cuirassiers*. This was a house of soldiers and such was the father of Walraven as several years ago an aged cousin of my father's, Mariama TenBroeck Smith of Flatbush, N. Y., gave me the history as I had before heard it from both aunts and uncles, that Lord DuMont was commander of a company of soldiers. I have given these thoughts hoping someone may have some knowledge which will authenticate the idea. There is little question in my mind that this is not so, having spent years in research

Sheriff Egbert DuMont

but have not been able to couple this with travel. I will now return to the subject of this sketch.

Egbert DuMont, who was born in Kingston, was baptized September 17th, 1732. He married Margarietje Elmendorph, March 9th, 1760. There were no children of this union. Egbert seems to have inherited much of the brain power and influence of his forefathers. He held many important offices in his native town. The first business venture was as a ship-captain. He afterwards became lieutenant, captain and colonel; a member of both Provincial and State Congresses, to which he was elected May 29th, 1775, and a deputy in the Provincial Congress held May 22nd, 1775. He was previously appointed sheriff of Ulster county under George the Third, from 1771 to 1773 and was again appointed to fill this office 1775 to 1781, and for the third term from 1788 to 1789.

Egbert DuMont was much relied on in public affairs by the executive authority during the Revolution. His profession was that of a lawyer and with his elder brother Johannes had an office in Kingston. My uncle Stephen DuMont's widow, for a number of years had in her possession an old dictionary, bound in parchment. It was published in English and Dutch by Jacob ter Beek, 1735, in Amsterdam, Holland, to which was added grammars for both languages. The book was formerly the property of Egbert and Johannes DuMont and with many other interesting papers was in a fine state of preservation. It was exhibited at the Sanitary Commission held in New York during the War of the Rebellion, for the benefit of the soldiers of the North. Stephen DuMont was a grand-nephew

of Egbert and grand-son of Johannes DuMont. The honor of declaring George Clinton Governor of New York State was also Egbert DuMont's. The bells of the old Dutch church and the court house called the inhabitants to the front of the latter building and Egbert Dumont, mounted on a temporary elevation, read the following proclamation :

"Whereas, His Excellency, George Clinton, Esq., has been duly elected Governor of the State of New York, and hath this day qualified himself for the execution of his office by taking in the Council the oath required by the constitution of the State :

"To enable him to exercise his said office this Council doth therefore hereby, in the name and by the authority of the good people of the State, proclaim and declare the said George Clinton, Esq., Governor, General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of this State to whom the good people of this State are to pay all due obedience, according to the laws and constitution thereof.

"By order of the Council of Safety,

"PIERRE VANCORTLANDT, President."

Then in a loud voice he added, "GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE!"

To the end Egbert DuMont served his country and closed his brilliant career as unostentatiously and faithfully as he had begun it in his native town, and was buried beside his wife in the old Dutch church burying-ground. The stone, time and weather beaten, still marks his resting place.

NOTE.—The name de Mont, as properly written means, "of the mountain ;" de meaning, "of," du, "of the," Mont, "hill or high land."

Lineage of the Decker Family

LINEAGE OF THE DECKER FAMILY

Continued from Vol. V., page 159

(CLIII.) JOHANNES C. DECKER⁵ (Cornelius⁴, Johannes³, Cornelius²) was born 2 June, 1767 and married SARAH DEPUY, born in 1767. Children:

- (158) Cornelius⁶: Born 30 March, 1789; married Gertrude Bruyn. Their children were Johannis, Zachariah, Asa, Sarah, Elizabeth, Cornelius, Eli, Cornelia Ann, Rachel, Nathaniel.
- (159) Annatia⁶: Born 2 Sept., 1790; married Elijah Alliger. Their children were Isaac, John Benjamin, Elizabeth Decker, Cornelius Decker.
- (160) Elizabeth⁶: Born 11 Nov., 1792; married Benjamin Alliger. No children.
- (161) Maria⁶: Born 26 Dec., 1794; married Levi Hasbrouck. Their children were Johannis Decker, Joseph L., Sarah Ann, Augustus.
- (162) Catharine⁶: Born 3 Nov., 1797; married Cornelius Smedes. Their children were George, Josiah, Matthew Jansen, Johannis Decker.
- (163) John DePuy⁶: Born 14 Sept., 1799; married Nancy Hoey.
- (164) Sarah H.⁶: Born 20 Sept., 1801; married Willett Linderman. Their children were Sarah Maria, Rachel.
- (165) Rachel⁶: Born 3 Aug., 1803; married Richard Jackson. Their children were Rachel Ann, John Richard.
- (166) Moses I.⁶: Born 19 Aug., 1805; married Elsie Ann Jansen. Their children were John August, Catharine Jansen, Adoniram Judson.

Olde Ulster

- (167) Margaret⁶: Born 1 Dec., 1807; married John D. DeYoe. Their children were Abraham Nathaniel, Johannes Augustus, Leah Catharine, Sarah Ann, Daniel.
- (168) Elsie⁶: Born 6 April, 1810; married Matthew Jansen. Their child Egbert died in infancy.
- (169) Josiah⁶: Born 6 May, 1813; married Mary Elma Decker. Their children were Garrett, Newton Johannes, Anna Frances, Mary Boyd, Josiah.

(CLXIII.) JOHN DEPUY DECKER⁶ (Johannes C.⁵, Cornelius⁴, Johannes³, Cornelius²) was born 14 September, 1799; married NANCY HOEY 3 March, 1827, by Rev. Abraham D. Wilson of the Shawangunk Reformed Church. She was born 10 August, 1798. Children:

- (170) Sarah DePuy⁷: Born —, 1828; married John Lang 13 June, 1867.
- (171) Mary⁷: Born 29 Jan., 1829.
- (172) Robert Hoey⁷: Born 14 July, 1831; married Mary Jane Van Keuren 15 Dec., 1859.
- (173) Ann Catharine⁷: Born 20 May, 1833.
- (174) Julia Elizabeth⁷: Born 5 May, 1835.
- (175) John J.⁷: Born 6 Nov., 1836; married Mary Belle Crane 7 July, 1880.
- (176) Ellen Jane⁷: Born 25 Jan., 1839; married Edmund Bruyn 23 June, 1875.
- (177) Elijah Alliger⁷: Born 3 Feb., 1841; married Cornelia Spaulding 16 May, 1878.

(CLXXI.) MARY DECKER⁷ (John DePuy⁶, Johannes C.⁵, Cornelius⁴, Johannes³, Cornelius²) was born 29 January, 1829 and married CLARK DECKER 5 November, 1850. Children:

The VanAaken and Allied Families

- (178) Howard⁸: Born 6 Jan., 1854; married Lucia Dwight Spaulding.
(179) Mariana⁸: Born 28 April, 1857.
(180) Boyd⁸: Born 18 July, 1859.
(181) Charles⁸: Born 30 Oct., 1862; died 27 Feb., 1865.
(182) Agnes Hoey⁸: Born 14 June, 1865; married Andrew R. Armstrong.

(CLXXIX.) MARIANA DECKER⁸ (Mary⁷, John DePuy⁶, Johannes C.⁵, Cornelius⁴, Johannes³, Cornelius²) was born 28 April, 1857; married JOHN L. MCKINNEY of Pine Bush, New York. Children:

- (183) Howard Decker⁹: Born 29 May, 1889.
(184) Marion⁹: Born 24 November, 1892.

(CLXXX.) BOYD DECKER⁸ (Mary⁷, John DePuy⁶, Johannes C.⁵, Cornelius⁴, Johannes³, Cornelius²), was born 18 July, 1859 and married FANNIE FULLER RAYMOND 12 July, 1888. Children:

- (185) Raymond Boyd⁹: Born 8 Sept., 1889.
(186) Kenneth Clark⁹: Born 28 Sept., 1891.
(187) Ralph Kempton⁹: Born 11 Aug., 1897.
(188) Lawrence DePuy⁹: Born 5 April, 1903.

To be continued



THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 94

(LXXXIII.) BENJAMIN VAN AKEN⁴ (Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston May 13 1753 and married June 24, 1775, MARIA EK KER, "both parties

Olde Ulster

born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." He served in the First Regt. Ulster County Militia during the Revolution. Children:

- (171) Seletje⁵: Bap. K. Apr. 1, 1776; married Johannes Niese.
- (172) Peter⁵: Bap. K. Nov. 16, 1777; married Maria Hoofman.
- (173) Isaac⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 25, 1780; married Margaret Krum.
- (174) Maria⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 14, 1783; married Cornelis D. Krum.
- (175) David⁵: Bap. K. Jan. 18, 1789.
- (176) Jacob⁵: Bap. K. Feb. 2, 1794; married Wynche Winfield.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Peter Van Aken and wife, Annatje Eckert, Isaac Van Aken and wife, Judith Van Aken, Jacob Van Aken, Joesintje Van Aken, Jacob Ecker, Maria Van Aken, David Van Wagonen, Seletje Van Aken. In 1795 Benjamin Van Aken and wife, Maria, were received on confession into the Esopus church, and were dismissed later to another church.

(The following family cannot be placed in this lineage where it unquestionably belongs.

MARIA VAN AKEN, j. d. married GERRET FREER, j. m. Oct. 8, 1785; "both born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." Children:

Margaret Freer: Bap. K. Sept. 3, 1786.

Jannetje Freer: Bap. K. July 4, 1790.

Rachel Freer: Bap. K. Aug. 30, 1795.

Witnesses at these baptisms were Peter Van Aken

The VanAaken and Allied Families

and wife, Annatje Ecker, Benjamin Van Aken and wife Maria Ekert, Jonas Van Aken, Rachel York).

(The following seems to be of the family of Cornelis Van Aken XII. Thus it is inserted).

(LXXXVIII. a.) RUSSIE VAN AKEN⁴ j. d. (Cornelis³, Peter², Marinus¹) "born in Upper Smithfield and DANIEL KORTRECHT, j. m. born under Mormel (Marbletown), both living in Upper Smithfield" were married March 1, 1751 (Banns published Feb. 16) at Walpeck. Children:

- (177) Hester Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Walpeck Oct. 14, 1753.
- (178) Jannetje Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Walpeck Feb. 2, 1755.
- (179) Moses Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Walpeck June 17, 1757.
- (180) Levi Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Walpeck June 21, 1759.
- (181) Gideon Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Minisink Mar. 20, 1761.
- (182) David Kortrecht⁵ Bap. Minisink Feb. 6, 1763.
- (183) Joseph Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Walpeck July 4, 1765.
- (184) Daniel Kortrecht⁵: Bap. Walpeck May 30, 1772.
- (185) Daniel Kortrecht⁵: Born Nov. 5, 1773, bap. Minisink March 16, 1774.

The witnesses at these baptisms were Cornelis Van Aken and Hester Relye, his wife; David Van Aken and Madlena Schoonmaker.

(LXXXIV.) DAVID VAN AKEN⁴ (Cornelis², Peter², Marinus¹), bap. in Minisink May 3, 1737, married MAGDALENA SCHOONMAKER, both living in Walpeck. Children:

- (186) David⁵: Bap. Walpeck Jan 13 or 16 1763.
- (187) Helena⁵: Bap. Walpeck Sept. 28, 1766.

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(188) Cornelius⁵: Bap. Walpeck Aug. 31, 1775.

(189) Hester⁵: Bap. Walpeck Aug 30, 1792.

(LXXXVIII.) JENNEKE VAN AKEN⁴ (Cornelius³, Peter², Marinus¹): Bap. in Walpeck Aug. 21, 1748, married MOSES SCHOONMAKER. Children.

(190) David Schoonmaker⁵: Bap. Walpeck May 24, 1766.

(191) Cornelius Schoonmaker⁵: Bap. Walpeck July 7, 1771.

(XCII.) CATHARINA VAN AKEN⁴ (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹): Bap. in Kingston Sept. 27, 1741 married ABRAHAM VAN VLIET. Children :

(192) Maria Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Red Hook (Rhinebeck) July 12, 1767.

(193) Sarah Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Kingston March 16, 1769.

(194) Catharine Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Rhinebeck Flats Dec. 9, 1770.

(195) Wilhemus Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Kingston Feb. 28, 1773.

(196) Alida Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Kingston March 23, 1775.

(197) Debora Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Kingston July 13, 1777.

(198) Abraham Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Kingston May 16, 1779.

(199) Rachel Van Vliet⁵: Bap. Kingston Feb. 10, 1782.

The witnesses to these baptisms were Gideon Van Aken and Elizabeth Masten, his wife, Gideon Van Aken and Maria Ploeg, his wife.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

Catrina Van Aken, wife of Abraham Van Vliet, was received on confession as a member of the Church of Klyn Esopus during the year 1797.

(XCIII.) MARIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹) j. d. "born near Hussies Hill, under the jurisdiction of Kingston," and bap. in Kingston April 24, 1748, married in Kingston November 8. 1763, CONRAAD WIEST, j. m. "born in Dutchess county, both residing in Kingston." Children.

(200) Johannes Wiest⁵: Bap. Kingston Aug. 26, 1764.

(201) Maria Wiest⁵: Bap. Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Aug. 10, 1766.

(202) Catrina Wiest⁵: Bap. Rhinebeck Flats Oct. 2, 1768.

(203) Gideon Wiest⁵: Bap. Rhinebeck Flats Sept. 30, 1770.

(204) Stephanus Wiest⁵: Bap. Kingston Nov. 4, 1772.

(205) Abraham Wiest⁵: Bap. Kingston Nov. 22, 1774.

The witnesses at these baptisms were Gideon Van Aken and Maria Ploeg, his wife; Abraham Van Aken and Catharina Van Aken, Abraham Van Vliet and Catharina Van Aken, his wife.

(XCIV.) PIETER VAN AKEN JR.⁴)Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹) j. m.: Baptized in Kingston April 24, 1744, married GRIETJE BEEMAN, j. d. November 2, 1764, "both born under the jurisdiction of Kingston." He was a soldier in First Ulster Regiment. Children:

(206) Gideon⁵: Bap. Kingston Feb. 9, 1766.

(207) Maria⁵: Bap. Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Feb 24, 1770.

Old e Ulster

(208) Henricus⁵: Bap. Kingston April 1, 1776.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Gideon Van Aken and Maria Ploeg, his wife Abraham Van Aken and Maria Terpenning.

(XCV.) JOHANNES VAN AKEN⁴ (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹): Baptized in Kingston October 14, 1744, married MARIA MASTFN. Children:

(209) Maria⁵: Bap. Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Oct. 28, 1770.

(210) Elizabeth⁵: Bap. Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Oct. 9, 1774.

Witnesses to baptisms of these children were Gideon Van Aken and Maria Ploeg, his wife Gideon Van Aken and Elizabeth Masten, his wife.

Maria, wife of Johannes Van Aken, is mentioned in the will of her father, Aart Masten, Aug. 29, 1783, proved Oct. 11, 1785, as of Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess county, New York.

To be continued



LETTERS OF CHARLES DE WITT

ANNAPOLIS, Apr. 21, 1784.

MY DEAR MR. ELTINGE:

I feel myself much indebted to you for your kind attention in forwarding the letters from my dear family. I had the pleasure to learn that they were all well, which gives me much satisfaction after the many anxieties which have revolved in my mind since I left

Letters of Charles DeWitt

New York. I wish it were in my power to entertain you with some interesting narrative, it would give me more pleasure than to say that I do not think it more honorable to be a member of Congress than of the Assembly of my native State of New York to which I am so much attached that I have not yet seen any part of this Southern Country for which I would be willing to give it in exchange.

The land about us seems to be as poor as York Island. The Northern air seems to be more salutary for a Northern constitution and I hope in due time to resume participation in that sweet air in which I first drew breath.

I am

Dear Sir

Yours most affectly

CHARLES DEWITT.

P. S.—The land generally along the road is poor, and here it is not much better and yet they are a set of grand and fashionable people. This day Gen^l Washington arrived here on his way to Philadelphia.

GREENKILL, N. Y., Nov. 15, 1786.

GENTLEMEN:

Since an appointment is soon to be made of a person to the office of Secretary of State and my family concerns being in such a situation that I could devote my services to that office, should I be judged a suitable person, I beg leave to offer myself as a candidate.

If a respect is to be had to any circumstances beyond personal qualifications I wish it may be noticed

that the greatest part of my time since the year 1776 has been sacrificed to the service of the public in business which at the same time has diverted my attention from my private affairs, no emoluments did accrue to compensate me for the trouble and losses to which I was thereby subjected. This observation I thought necessary in order to have it recollected that consideration of this kind will plead as strongly in my favor as of any of my competitors who may urge the propriety of their applications from such circumstances.—I flatter myself that no doubt will be entertained whether my appointment will give the general satisfaction to the good people of the State, which it will be a duty to consult as their confidence in my ability and integrity has on former occasions been manifested in a variety of instances.

From the personal acquaintance which his Excellency and the Honorable Members of the Council individually have of my character and situation in life, I esteeme it needless to adduce any other reasons to give weight to my request, conceiving those sufficient to enable them to determine whether I am possessed of the merit and qualifications they wish to find in the person whom they would honor with the office.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obd^{nt} serv^t

CHARLES DEWITT.

To his Excellency the Governor

and

The Honorable Council of appointment.

The Hudson River

THE HUDSON RIVER

Queen of all lovely rivers, lustrous queen,
Of flowing waters in our sweet new lands.
Rippling through sunlight to the ocean sands,
With a smiling valley and between
Romantic shores of silvery summer green ;
Memorial of wild days and savage bands,
Singing the patient deeds of patriot hands,
Crooning of golden glorious years foreseen.

Thy song is wholly of the heart, the lyre
Of liberty is strung amid thy shades ;
Behold the city of the world's desire
Roaring within thy once primeval glades,
And westward in the twilight's crimson fire,
The rocky ramparts of the Palisades !

*

*

*

Who has not read the legends of the Rhine ?
Who has not told the sweet and ancient tales
That cluster round its flowering banks and vales ?
The Thames has poet-laureates who entwine
Its glories with their song ; in sparkling wine
Men toast the Danube and the moon that pales
Its fabled waters ; and no telling stales
The story of the Seine, incarnadine.

Yet more revered, more beautiful than these,
More tender in traditions, richer far
In gentle kinship with the strong and brave,
Art thou whose mighty currents never cease
To chant the hopes of happy hearts that are
Born of a mother who has freed the slave.

—*Selected*

OLD^E VLSTER

AN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

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THE STATE OF NEW YORK will be the participant in a number of celebrations during this year 1909. In July will occur the three hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Lake Champlain by the French explorer whose name it bears. In September the Hudson river will witness the three hundredth annual return of the day on which the celebrated explorer, Henry Hudson, sailed up the stream in September, 1609. United with it in one celebration is the one hundredth anniversary of the successful attempt of Robert Fulton to propel a boat by the power of steam, which revolutionized navigation and initiated the reign of the steam engine. This trip up the Hudson was taken August 17th, 1807. In September next will be celebrated in this city the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the old Reformed Church, universally known as the First Dutch Church. It was for nearly three-fourths of that period the only church in what is now the City of Kingston.

FORD HUMMEL

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Mental and Nervous Diseases

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

Dr. Gustave Anjou's Ulster County Probate Records from 1665; invaluable in tracing ancestry—in two volumes.

We also have a large line of Souvenir Postal Cards showing local scenes, including the Revolutionary Buildings. Souvenir Spoons, commemorating 250th anniversary of the founding of Kingston. Specially prepared by the Gorham Company.

OLDE^E VLSTER

 VOL. V

JULY, 1909

 No. 7

In Memoriam ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ *Colonel Charles DeWitt*



THE Committee on Plan and Scope of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Kingston which arranged the programme last year (May 30th and 31st and June 1st, 1908), contemplated more than the observing of those three days. As a permanent memorial it intended to mark the unmarked graves of those patriots who lie where their resting places cannot be recognized. One of these was the grave of Colonel Charles DeWitt in Old Hurley. It has been the province of the editor of this magazine, who was the secretary of that committee, to carry the plan to a satisfactory conclusion.

OLDE ULSTER, in Vol. I., pages 307-8, called attention to the neglect of his grave. A lady of the City of Washington, District of Columbia, who is a subscriber to the magazine, immediately offered to be the

Olde Ulster

first to contribute to the memorial. The matter lay dormant until the time of the celebration. The multitude of matters then pressing prevented it from becoming a part of that event. The DeWitt family determined to erect a monument themselves and the matter was carried out. On Monday, May 31st, 1909, observed as Memorial Day, the monument was unveiled.

The Reverend Henry J. Vyverberg, pastor of the Reformed Church of Hurley, invoked the guidance and blessing of the God of our sires, after which the public school of Old Hurley, under the direction of Principal McDermott, sang patriotic hymns and songs and recited patriotic selections. After a brief statement by the secretary of the above-mentioned Committee of Plan and Scope the monument was unveiled by six great-great-great-granddaughters of Colonel DeWitt. Then the address of the day was delivered by the secretary in these words :

The English language contains nothing nobler than Tennyson's *In Memoriam*. It has carved the name of Arthur Hallam in the heart of humanity. It is the distinguishing feature of civilization to preserve memories of those who have done things for the race. It is the inspiration of those who are moved to do and suffer that they will be remembered in what they have done. And civilized nations have selected granite and bronze, most imperishable of substances, for monuments to coming ages. These monuments become incorporated with their imperishable memories until

“The silent pillar, lone and gray
Claims kindred with their sacred clay.”

In Memoriam Colonel Charles DeWitt

To-day we erect a granite reminder of Colonel Charles DeWitt. Too long he has waited for the recognition of what he was and what he did. The long neglect has this pleasing feature, that thus it is given us the privilege to bring the tribute and build the monument. I speak in the name of the family for it has been done by those, and by those alone who are of the DeWitt family. Although not of DeWitt blood, I have been asked by them to say a word or two in eulogy, as it has fallen to me, secretary of the committee in charge of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Kingston, which was held just a year ago, to assist in the erection. But the money has been contributed by the family and the monument unveiled by the great-great-grand children of the one whom we now honor.

Of all the families of the pioneers who settled Ulster county, none has borne quite so prominent a part in the history of the nation as the descendants of Tjerck Claessen DeWitt. No family has sent so many of its members to the halls of Congress, the Legislature of the State of New York, into public life, into the professions of medicine and law, into the gospel ministry as his descendants. They have sat in the Senate of the United States, have filled gubernatorial and professorial chairs, have surveyed more miles of trackless wilderness and threaded more leagues of primeval forest than any other. To none are the lovers of liberty and independence more indebted than to him whom we honor to-day. We erect this stone in remembrance of Colonel Charles DeWitt of Greenkill. His recently published letters reveal how he longed to

be remembered in what he had done. It is a worthy longing. Reverently be it said, even the Founder of our Religion instituted the chiefest sacramental feast of His Church and, doing it, said, "This do in remembrance of Me."

Charles DeWitt was born in Hurley in 1727. In 1751, at the age of twenty-four, he was appointed the manager of the great Livingston Manor to succeed his cousin, Colonel Petrus DeWitt. This brought him into close relations with the celebrated Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, and was the foundation of an intimate and life long friendship between the two patriots and public servants. There is in existence a letter from Philip Livingston, a brother of the Chancellor, written in 1752, while Philip was a student in Harvard College, which shows DeWitt's intimacy with that member of the same family, forever to be known as one of the signers of the great Declaration of Independence. That intimacy with the Livingstons is further revealed in the letters he received from the Chancellor Livingston of the future during the progress of the French and Indian War in which the details of the conflict between the British and colonies on the one hand, and the French and the Indians on the other, are set forth.

In 1765 his wife died. Her loss was a severe blow to him and he wrote as a dear friend to Chancellor Livingston, "her favorite expression to me was, 'I love you as my own soul.' Oh, that my life might end!" This stone at our side to-day was reared as a tribute to her character and memory by her bereaved husband. But it was not yet for Charles DeWitt to

In Memoriam Colonel Charles DeWitt

die. There was a great and important work for him to do. The yoke of the British had become intolerable, the colonies must be freed, liberty and independence secured. It was to be his to labor efficiently for this, to lay the foundations of a free state and to assist in drawing the first constitution of a free "government of the people, by the people and for the people." The hour for him to begin his labors had struck. He was sent to the Provincial Congress as the associate of George Clinton. He remained there with him for almost ten years.

Charles DeWitt indulged in no illusions. From the day when the British ministry decided to tax the colonies and his old friend, the patriot leader of Connecticut, Jeremiah Day, wrote him of the intention of enacting the notorious Stamp Act, DeWitt knew that it was to be a life and death struggle of endurance. This preceded his entrance upon his legislative career.

George Grenville proposed in the British Parliament in 1764 that all the legal documents that might be drawn in the American colonies require a stamp. They were specified, and their number was thirteen. All over the colonies arose a storm of protest. James Otis declared, in words borrowed from the great eighty years' conflict of the Dutch with Spain, "Taxation without representation is tyranny." A general congress assembled in New York in October, 1765, and sent out documents boldly asserting the rights of the people. November 1st was observed as a day of fasting and mourning. Colors were at half mast and funeral processions paraded the streets. Even in

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England protests were showered upon the British ministry, and on March 18th, 1766 the act was repealed. But this was but the beginning of the tyrannic measures. The succeeding years were big with events ominous to lovers of liberty. It became necessary that the colonial assemblies meet the crisis by the wisest of measures. It became all important that mistakes be not made. The people must select their most capable and best men for public service. Ulster county selected Charles DeWitt and George Clinton. They took their seats on October 27th, 1768, and were continued as members of the Assembly until February 1st, 1776. These eight years were pregnant with the greatest of events to the American people and were met with consummate wisdom. Not the least factor was the cool and discriminating judgment of Charles DeWitt. Men like John Jay, Gouverneur Morris, Robert R. Livingston, Philip Schuyler and their compeers learned to lean on his judgment and follow his counsel as the years went by.

Before this period of legislative service had passed, it became necessary that measures of defense be provided. The colonies had no army nor munitions of war. The people must bear arms for the preservation of their homes, their families and the liberty they prized. There was no militia, there was no organized soldiery. The emergency provided for itself and all over the country sprang up bodies of defending soldiery who were called "Minute Men." No name was ever more appropriate. Men drilled everywhere. Pastors took a sword and trained their flocks. Fathers ranged their sons (and even their daughters) in ranks

In Memoriam Colonel Charles DeWitt

and drilled them. The call "TO ARMS" was echoed and re-echoed all over the thirteen colonies.

The year 1775 had not closed before the patriots of Ulster were mustered. George Clinton looked after the organization in the southern part of the county and Charles DeWitt organized the northern part. When the Minute Men became a body he was chosen its colonel. But his service was not to be a military one. His cool and discriminating judgment was needed elsewhere.

The immortal Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4th, 1776. The Provincial Convention of the State of New York was in session. Of this body Charles DeWitt was a member. When the news of the Declaration of Independence was received, the convention immediately ratified it and the State of New York came into being. If this fact was to be established it was necessary that a constitution of the state be drafted. A committee of thirteen was directed to take in hand the matter. Of this committee Charles DeWitt became a member. I hold in my hands a copy of that first constitution of New York in the pamphlet form in which it was used among the members of the convention. It is a remarkable document. And one of the proudest things about it is the tolerance of religion provided in its articles. It could be no otherwise. Charles DeWitt had drawn not only his love of liberty, but tolerance, from his ancestors among the dykes of the Netherlands, who fought for eighty long years for religious freedom and then bestowed it unreservedly upon all.

Let me read this article from that copy of the first

Constitution of the State of New York. We dedicate a monument of imperishable granite. But these words are his true monument. And as the "fitly-spoken word" is more enduring than bronze, these words will forever be the abiding monument to Colonel Charles DeWitt:

"ARTICLE XXXVIII. AND WHEREAS we are required by the benevolent principles of rational liberty, not only to expel civil tyranny, but also to guard against that spiritual oppression and intolerance, wherewith the bigotry and ambition of weak and wicked priests and princes, have scourged mankind: This Convention doth further, in the name and by the authority of the good people of this State, ORDAIN, DETERMINE and DECLARE, that the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever hereafter be allowed within this State to all mankind. Provided that the liberty of conscience hereby granted, shall not be so construed, as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of this State."

Never before, in the history of the race, were such words embodied in fundamental law.

Before this service in the constitutional convention Charles DeWitt had made his will. It was executed July 7th, 1776. This was three days after the great Declaration was signed and two days before the State of New York ratified the Declaration. In this connection it is notable to observe the importance of pending events in the mind of Charles DeWitt. The days were momentous with the birth of liberty. The opening sentences of that will need no comment:

"Considering the uncertainty of life, especially in these

In Memoriam Colonel Charles DeWitt

times of trouble, and as I am in a few days to go down to New York, where I may fall a victim to British Tyrants, who are arrived in order to invade that Metropolis, it may be uncertain whether ever I return to make and publish this my last Will and Testament, etc."

We have no time to recount the whole public service of Charles DeWitt. Until after the close of the war he was constantly at the call and in the service of the people. He was a member of the Continental Congress and, in all probability, would have been made the Secretary of State of New York had not his unfortunate death intervened.

He resided within this town of Hurley as it was then constituted. The Greenkill mills were his. His flour was had in high esteem wherever it was known. The army at Valley Forge, during that terrible and doleful winter of its sufferings with bloody feet in the ice and snow, had reason to bless these mills which were engaged in grinding the supplies. The quality of the output of flour is shown in a letter from Colonel Royal Flint, Assistant Commissary General of the Continental Army, to Charles DeWitt asking him to send twelve barrels of the best flour he can manufacture to Washington's Headquarters, Newburgh, for Mrs. Washington, as its quality was so excellent that she much preferred it to any other. The honesty and thoroughness of the man were shown in all he undertook.

One of the incidents in the career of Colonel DeWitt which aroused great interest at the time was his arrest for neglect of military service. When Colonel DeWitt was in command of the Minute Men,

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at the opening of the war, the military spirit was enthusiastic. But as events succeeded and the long contest developed into a question of endurance the fervor dissipated. It dampened enthusiasm to lie in leaky tents awaiting an enemy who never came. And the tiresome drills were not to the liking of the militia. Besides the good yeomen felt that they were needed with their families and to plant, gather and secure their crops. So the service became more and more distasteful. Call after call was made for troops and troops did not appear. A lesson was needed. The commander of the First Regiment of Ulster County Militia was Colonel Johannis Snyder, who had the fault, if fault it were, of being more than determined and too little influenced by what might be politic. He ordered his adjutant to summon those liable for military duty and compel their attendance. He suggested that the arrest of one or two in high position might give the impression that he meant business. Among those arrested were Colonel DeWitt and his negro slave, "Pete." Colonel DeWitt claimed his prerogative as a Member of Assembly to be secure both from arrest and from military service. The legislature took up the matter and declared Colonel Snyder had exceeded his authority and was in contempt because he had infringed upon the rights of a member. It was rather amusing as Colonel Snyder was a Member of Assembly himself. The matter came before Governor Clinton who supported Colonel Snyder. The tempest died as soon as it arose. It resulted in filling up, for the time, the regiments. This was all that Colonel Snyder expected, in all probability.

In Memoriam Colonel Charles DeWitt

This estimate of Colonel Charles DeWitt and the reasons why he is entitled to our regard and veneration one hundred and twenty-five years after his death would be incomplete without a notice of the source from which his public spirit and determination to serve his people and their cause were drawn. Colonel DeWitt was a man who feared his God and feared no one besides. All through his letters, all through every paper to which he signed his name, this appears. The monument has as the last sentence of its inscription a line or two from one of his letters which sufficiently sets this forth. It portrays him: "Providence has led me through a variety of changing scenes. I wish to be still led by the same unerring Guide."

There were present hundreds of the people of Kingston and Hurley. Many of the descendants of the Revolutionary patriot and leader whom all were gathered to honor were of the audience, as were numbers of the members of patriotic societies of the county, as the Daughters of the American Revolution, members of Wiltwyck and Saugerties Chapters. At the urgent request of many interested in the memorial William C. DeWitt of Brooklyn, a great-grandson of Colonel DeWitt, consented to voice the patriotic feeling of the family in erecting the monument. His address was extemporaneous. At considerable length, in eloquent periods and well chosen terms he set forth what had made his distinguished ancestor and caused him to give himself to his country and the cause of liberty. Then taking the remark that Colonel DeWitt "feared his God and feared nothing beside" he

enlarged upon the feature of his closeness to the abiding presence of his Saviour. In rapid sketch he pictured the influence of the Son of Man bringing into the world the idea of the Brotherhood of Man and his equality before the law. He showed how the thought had transformed the ancient world into the present and what it had made susceptible minds, such as that of his ancestor, able to accomplish for humanity.

The care of the monument was then committed to the Daughters of the American Revolution and accepted by Mrs. Gilbert D. B. Hasbrouck, regent of Wiltwyck Chapter. The benediction by the Reverend Mr. Vyverberg closed the exercises.

In connection with the addresses we present an illustration of the monument and one of the stone Colonel DeWitt erected to the memory of his wife, who died in 1765. The memorial is inscribed :

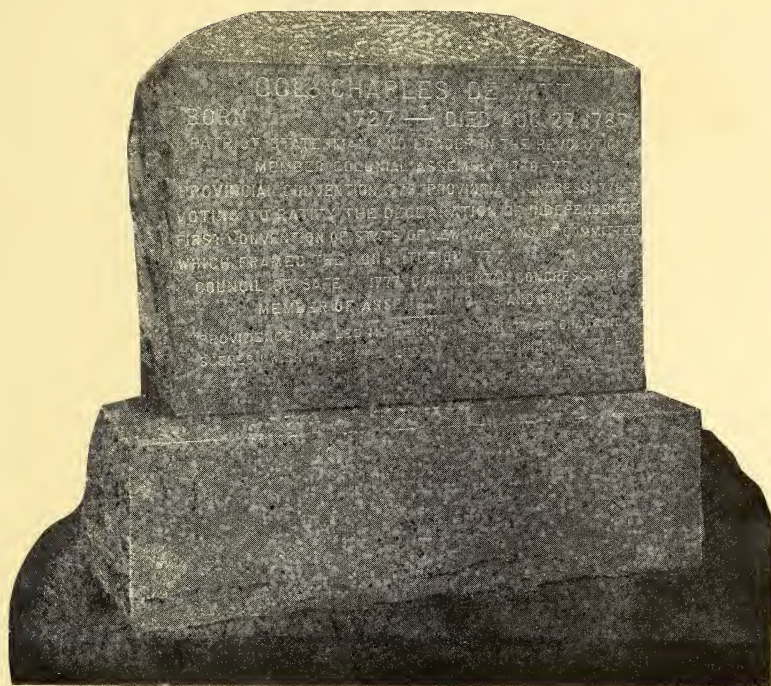
COL. CHARLES DE WITT

BORN 1727, DIED AUG. 27, 1787
PATRIOT, STATESMAN AND LEADER IN THE REVOLUTION, MEMBER COLONIAL ASSEMBLY 1768-75, PROVINCIAL CONVENTION 1775, PROVINCIAL CONGRESS 1776-7, VOTING TO RATIFY THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, FIRST CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND OF COMMITTEE WHICH FRAMED THE CONSTITUTION 1777, CONTINENTAL CONGRESS 1784, MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 1781-5 AND 1787.

"Providence has led me through a variety of changing scenes, I wish to be still led by the same Unerring Guide."

CHARLES DEWITT.

The Monument to Colonel DeWitt



The Monument to Colonel DeWitt



The Stone at the Grave of Blandina De Witt

Governor ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

George Clinton

EIGHTEENTH PAPER



PROBLEM after problem arose. As soon as one was solved and out of the way another appeared even more pressing. There is nothing like a civil war, a war between men and women under the same government, that calls for as many sleepless nights and troublous days. Fraternal conflicts are the bitterest of earth. And such was the War of the Revolution. When the people took up arms it was to resist tyrannic measures by the British Ministry. There was from New Hampshire to Georgia hardly a leader who had a thought of independence. The patriots desired nothing more than that the Ministry be brought to reason and a sense that it had usurped rights that had been fought for for centuries and were now imperilled. As the conflict went on, and the Ministry seemed more and more insensible to reason the desire for independence grew. But the leaders had made haste to impress the world that they were only fighting for their rights as British freemen at first.

On every hand were men who felt that it was treason and disgrace to even consider such a separation from the mother country. These men constantly

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reminded their patriot neighbors that those neighbors had scouted any idea of independence from Great Britain. Now they were urging it and taking up arms to secure it. From the point of view of the loyalists the patriots had been guilty of disloyalty not only, but of hypocrisy and falsehood. The supporters of the British Crown could not understand the march of events. What had been considered treason in 1775 was patriotism in 1776. As conditions changed and matured so rapidly the minds of many men changed and men who had taken up arms for King George III. had become patriots. In charging the ancestors of many worthy Americans of to-day with being "Tories" one is guilty of an ignorance of history. All Americans would have remained Tories had the British Ministry been wiser and more regardful of the rights of the people.

As this movement over to the cause of the patriots was going on it became a serious problem to those in authority among the Americans what to do with those who had so recently been of the enemy. The force of circumstances and the march and development of ideas had gradually won their way among the more intelligent and open-minded among their countrymen and they had become patriots now. Besides, it was hard to withstand public sentiment among one's neighbors and the cause advanced. But to what extent were these new converts from those adhering to King George to be trusted?

There was another question. What was to be done with those to whom military service was a thing not to be tolerated and who had gone over into the

Governor George Clinton

lines of the enemy to avoid such service? They were tired of absence from home and friends and were willing for such service were they permitted to return. Were they to be trusted? And if they were permitted to return and remain quietly at their homes and not be molested if inoffensive, would their patriot neighbors who were bearing the burden and heat of the conflict not consider them a privileged class, enjoying the liberty others enjoyed while contributing nothing towards securing it? These problems were momentous and difficult and the solution not to be obtained in a moment. Something had to be offered to those who were desired to desert the cause of the British and yet not too much was to be paid. It became necessary to decide cases upon their individual merits. As there were multitudes of cases it took a great share of the time and consideration of those in authority, particularly Governor Clinton.

As the years went by the tide of those who thus joined the patriot ranks increased. Less and less did those who were denominated "Tories" annoy the patriots, except where men who were only loyalists for reasons of plunder and revenge stirred up strife and massacre. Neighbors began to live at peace. In his address to the Legislature the governor mentioned the internal peace prevailing. The Senate responded by saying:

"We participate in your Excellency's pleasure, on the Suppression of Robberies and other atrocious Offences, by the regular and assiduous Administration of Justice; in which we find additional Reasons for admiring that happy Constitution, under which we enjoy domestic Peace amidst

the Horrors of War ; notwithstanding the Patronage that Robbers and Assassins have so frequently received from degenerate Britons."

The year 1780 opened very sadly for the patriots. It has long been known in American history as the coldest year on record. Long Island Sound was frozen over, New York Bay was covered with such a coat of ice that teams with loads crossed to Staten Island and the whole country lay in a covering of snow that was from three to four feet deep. The situation was very distressing. As has been stated before in these papers the army, the French men-of-war, the British prisoners in the hands of the Americans and the people of the New England states were all looking to the State of New York for their food supply. The depth of snow on the ground, the frozen soil and the resulting stoppage of grinding by the mills brought about a food famine. The Legislature was to have met in Albany on January 4th, but the roads were so drifted that no one could get through. Governor Clinton was at Poughkeepsie and attempted to set out for Albany. He found the roads impassable. In his perplexity he wrote to William Floyd, one of the representatives of this State in the Continental Congress, urging that "some spirited Exertions be made in the Southern States to Feed the Army at this Critical Period." He adds :

"I am happy to learn that Congress are determined to move from Philadelphia. The Exorbitant Prices given in Philadelphia for the Necessaries of Life will, in the End, totally destroy the Credit of our Money.

Governor George Clinton

To Chancellor Livingston Governor Clinton wrote under date of January 7th, 1780:

“I have not felt equal Distress at the Situation of our Affairs at any Period since the Commencement of the War. Notwithstanding the great Exertions made by this State it is with the utmost Difficulty we Feed the Troops stationed at & in the Vicinity of the Posts in the Highlands. They have been frequently Days together without Bread & now subsist on a precarious Supply daily brought into them & I am informed the army at Morris Town are in the same disagreeable Situation. Our public Magazines are intirely exhausted and owing to an extraordinary Drought it is with difficulty that the Commissaries can have the Wheat that has been collected from the Farmers in Consequence of our Laws manufactured, & which with the greatest Oeconomy will not be more than sufficient to subsist the Troops till the first of March; and by the Exorbitant Prices which is exacted for the Necessaries of Life in the Neighboring States, our Money is so reduced, that I fear it will not purchase a further Supply. Indeed, if the last Crops have been equally bad in the Neighbouring States as in this, I apprehend a Real Scarcity, to prevent which I submit it to you whether the Commissaries ought not to be directed to purchase a Proportion of Rye & Indian Corn & grind it up with the Wheat for the Troops.”

The conditions about New York made by the heavy frosts occasioned great alarm among the British. General Pattison wrote to Sir Henry Clinton that the Hudson at New York was frozen over so thoroughly that the heaviest cannon could be transported over the ice to Paulus Hook (Jersey City) and that provisions were brought over from Staten Island in sleighs, while cavalry rode across the bay on the ice to the

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same island. He added that "this City was laid open on many sides to an Attack from an enterprising Enemy."

At the suggestion of Washington Congress appealed to the country. It said:

"The army must soon disband unless supplied with provisions. That cannot be obtained at the present conjuncture of affairs without the aid of the several States now called upon."

This agitation resulted in an act of Congress calling upon the several States for quotas of supplies. New Hampshire was asked for 11,200 hundred weight of beef and 35,643 gallons of rum; Massachusetts for 56,000 hundred weight of beef, 12,126 bushels of salt and 195,628 gallons of rum; Rhode Island for 2,240 hundred weight of beef, 2,000 bushels of salt, 18,621 gallons of rum and 400 tons of hay; Connecticut for 78,400 hundred weight of beef, 1,011 bushels of salt, 68,558 gallons of rum and 500 tons of hay; New York for 11,200 hundred weight of beef, 13,969 barrels of flour, 500 tons of hay and 30,000 bushels of corn; New Jersey for 18,000 hundred weight of beef, 10,000 barrels of flour, 3,758 bushels of salt, 3,500 tons of hay and 30,000 bushels of corn; Pennsylvania for 40,000 barrels of flour, 14,189 bushels of salt, 24,423 gallons of rum, 1,700 tons of hay and 200,000 bushels of corn; Delaware for 3,055 barrels of flour, 500 tons of hay and 18,662 bushels of corn; Maryland for 40,000 hundred weight of beef, 20,000 barrels of flour, 200 tons of hay or corn blade, 56,152 bushels of corn and 1,000 hogsheads tobacco; Virginia for 47,000 hundred weight of

beef, 1,278 barrels of flour, 10,700 bushels of salt, 400 tons of hay or corn blade, 200,000 bushels of corn, 6,000 hogsheads of tobacco and 100,000 gallons of rum; North Carolina for 49,875 hundred weight of beef, 15,000 barrels of flour, 4,500 bushels of salt, 800 tons of hay or corn blade and 80,000 bushels of corn; South Carolina for 16,000 hundred weight of beef, 52,000 hundred weight of rice, 5,000 bushels of salt, 120,000 gallons of rum, 800 tons of hay or corn blade and 80,000 bushels of corn. There is no record of what Georgia was requested to furnish. It will be noticed that none of the New England States were asked for any kind of grain. New York was not asked for rum nor salt. The states were permitted to substitute pork for beef if the same value was given. If any State supplied more than its quota it should be paid for the surplus in specie with interest at six per cent. If any State was delinquent its deficiency was charged in specie with like interest.



LETTERS OF CHARLES DE WITT

CLAVERACK, March 25, 1751.

CHARLES DEWITT:

SIR.—Your favour of yesterday by Cuff, I have received and note the contents, I note that your Coz. Petrus has left y^e Manor and that you succeed him of which I wish you much joy with & hope the Lord will be pleased to enable you to do justice to all men and Discharge your trust so that you may be

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blameless in the end both from Master & Men. I shall go to Albany to fetch my wife home God willing tomorrow and shall be in want of about 12£ in cash. I should be exceeding glad you would favour me with that sum, and please to send it by Mr. Decker.

You will infinitely oblige
Sr. Your Humble Servt,
JAMES ELLIOTT,

Harvard College in Cambridge.
April 12, 1752.

CHARLES DEWITT:

DR SIR: Your most esteemed favour of 1st of March Came to hand, Wherein finding that you Enjoy your health which great blessing, I also Enjoy, I would Performe your Requests but I expect to be with you in a month time or at commencement because the Small pox increase daily & that there is above a thousand enoccalated at Boston & are all Like to do well. The Colledges will break up as soon as it comes in Cambridge. There is not one of the Undergraduates that has had it, but I. Please to give my service to Mr. Gunn & tell him that I have wrote three letters & have received none of him since my absence to my sorrow. I would now write to him but am in a hurry. Nothing more at present but give my love to my Mother, Brothers and Sisters and my service to Miss Betty, Mother, Anna & Dirck the family please to accept the same from

Your Most Humble Servt,
PHILIP LIVINGSTON.

Letters of Charles DeWitt

P. S.—Mr. John Wendell is to be married as soon as his spouse gets well of y^e small pox she has it very favorable.

Here I present you the names of my Classmates which are :

Cheering,	Stockbridge,	Bailey,
Appleton,	Sewall,	Wheeler,
Brown,	Dalton,	Farrer,
Livingston,	Sparhawk,	Locke,
Wentworth,	Whitemor,	Morrill,
Bowman,	Addams,	Marshal,
Gardner,	Dana,	Hemingway,
Eliot,	Tisdale,	Kidder,
	Goodhue.	

Manor Livingston,

June 15, 1752.

MR. CHARLES BINGHAM.

DR SIR: It is now about five years since I saw you last, tho' I cannot through my long absence be forgetful of the former care and tender affection you always had for me. I cannot but meditate and contemplate on the many agreeable hours I spent in school under your inspection and can never make you sufficient retaliation for the great regard you always had for me the only and most valuable acknowledgement consists in a grateful heart, and were I capable of expressing myself I would with all the gratitude imaginable say that first I should be thankful to Providence who sent you to be my instructor and secondly I am ever obliged to my dear father for the care he always had to put me to school, and thirdly

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and lastly for the great care you always have taken, to teach me to read, write and cypher so that I can now master of all those fine qualifications which you had, which have so far insinuated me into Mr. Livingston's favor that I now am his storekeeper and have the care of all his business upon me.

The cause and original from whence I have obtained this happy life after thanking the Supreme being the King of Kings and Lord of Lords I must ascribe to you alone. Oh, how wonderfully am I by your means advanced in so short a time, it is not long ago since I was playing with you as a child with his parent and I should think it a happy turn of Providence if I could see you once more, and if not I hope you will be so good as to favor me with an answer on receipt hereof. Direct to my Cousin Andries DeWitt at Wawarsink which will be agreeable to me.—I was informed last Summer that you had got you a companion (I mean a wife) I hope Providence has favor'd you with a good one, one that rules her house well and with whom you can spend your days in comfort and hereafter be received in eternal felicity where I hope to see you if it should please God to call us to himself before we see one another again and be assured that this wish is as sincere for you dear Master as it is for him who begs leave to conclude with that

I really am

Dr Sir

Your most

Obd^{nt} serv^t

CHARLES DEWITT.

THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 188

(XCVI.) ABRAHAM G. VAN AKEN, j. m.⁴, (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus⁴) was baptized in Kingston, N. Y., September 2, 1750 and married MARIA LOUW, j. d. "both parties born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston," October 13, 1778. According to the list of those granted Land Bounty Rights he served as a lieutenant in First Ulster County Militia under Colonel Johannis Snyder during the Revolution. Children:

- (211) Ephraim⁵: Bap. K. July 4, 1779; married Elisabeth Van Aken.
- (212) Abraham⁵: Bap. K. May 5, 1780; married Rachel Wiest.
- (213) Maria⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 24, 1784; married Jeremiah Terpenning.
- (214) Lena⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 5, 1788.
- (215) Jacobus⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 30, 1792; married Sarah Eckert.

(XCVII.) BENJAMIN VAN AKEN⁴ (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹): Baptized in Kingston July 1, 1753, married LYDIA VAN AKEN⁴ (70) (Marinus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized November 13, 1757. He was a soldier of the Revolution in the First Ulster County Militia. Children:

- (216) Cornelius⁵: Bap. K. May 19, 1776.
- (217) Benjamin⁵: Bap. K. Sept. 10, 1786.

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The witnesses at these baptisms were Gideon Van Aken, Johanna Van Aken, Eliphaz Van Aken and Lea Winfield, his wife.

(XCVIII.) KILLIAN (GIDEON) VAN AKEN⁴, j. m. (Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹) "born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston," was baptized in Kingston Oct. 12, 1755 and married in Kingston June 22, 1777, ELIZABETH MASTEN, daughter of Aart Masten, "born in Dutchess county [Nine Partners] and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." Killian (Gideon) was a soldier of the Revolution and served in First Ulster Regiment, under Colonel Johannis Snyder. Children:

- (218) Gideon⁵: Bap. K. Jan. 17, 1779.
- (219) Elisabeth⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 28, 1781.
- (220) Maria⁵: Born in Walpeck Sept. 18, 1784.
- (221) Geertje⁵: Bap. K. Apr. 15, 1787.
- (222) Joseph⁵: Bap. K. Dec. 13, 1789.
- (223) Annatje⁵: Bap. K. July 8, 1792.
- (224) Jeremiah⁵: Bap. K. Oct. 25, 1795.
- (225) Daniel⁵: Bap. K. June 23, 1798.

The witnesses to these baptisms were Abraham Van Vliet and Catharine Van Aken, his wife.

Elizabeth Masten is mentioned in the will of her father, Aart Masten, executed Aug. 29, 1783, proved Oct. 11, 1785, as of Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess county, New York.

(XVI.) PETRUS VAN AKEN³ j. m. (Pieter², Marinus¹): Baptized in Kingston November 27, 1720, "born and residing under the jurisdiction of Kings-

The VanAaken and Allied Families

ton," married in the church in Kingston May 2, 1742, MARIA TERPENNING, j. d., "born and residing in the Pals [New Paltz]." The banns were registered April 11, 1742. Children:

- (226) Jeremiah⁴ Bap. K. July 24, 1743 ; married Cat-
tynje Sleght.
- (227) Margriet⁴: Bap. K. Oct. 14, 1744 ; married Solo-
mon Van Benneschoten.
- (228) Brechje⁴: Bap. K. Feb. 2, 1745 ; married Tunis
Terpenning.
- (229) Sophia⁴: Bap. K. Jan. 31, 1748 ; married Petrus
Westphal.
- (230) Maria⁴: Bap. K. Jan. 7, 1750. Died.
- (231) Rachel⁴: Born at Rhinebeck Flats July 22,
1751 ; married Anthony Turk.
- (232) Petrus⁴: Born at Rhinebeck Flats June 19 and
bap. July 8, 1753.
- (233) Maria⁴: Born at Rhinebeck Flats June 19 and
bap. July 8, 1753. Died. Twin of the pre-
ceding.
- (234) Henricq⁴: Born Feb. 28, 1754 at Rhinebeck
Flats ; married Maria Terpenning.
- (235) Levi⁴: Born Nov. 30, and bap. Dec. 6, 1756 at
Rhinebeck Flats ; married Elizabeth Ter-
penning.
- (236) Maria⁴: Born Feb. 27 and bap. March 4, 1759 at
Rhinebeck Flats.

The witnesses at these baptisms were Gideon Van Aken and Maria Floeg, his wife, Jan VanAken and Margaret DeGraff, his wife, Marinus VanAken and Margaret Deyo, his wife, Jeremiah VanAken, Grietje VanAken.

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(XVIII.) ELIPHAS VAN AKEN³, j. m. (Petrus², Marinus¹) "born in Esopus," baptized in Kingston November 21, 1725, married ELENOR FORBES, j. d. "born in Ireland, and both living in Upper Smith Field," February 18, 1751, according to the Walpeck church records.

(XXIV.) PIETERNELLETJEN VAN AKEN³, (Cornelis², Marinus¹): Bap. Kingston April 17, 1715, married JOHANNES COOL. Children :

(237) Cornelis Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink May 4, 1737.

(238) Catharina Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Oct. 31, 1739.

(239) Abraham Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Oct. 9, 1741.

Died in infancy.

(240) Abraham Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Oct. 18, 1743.

Died in infancy.

(241) Sara Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink July 27, 1746.

(242) Abraham Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink June 21, 1747.

(243) Johannes Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Sept. 27, 1749.

(244) William Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 5, 1752.

Died in infancy.

(245) Maria Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 25, 1753.

(246) William Cool⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 11, 1756.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Josias Cool, Lena VanAken, Abraham VanAken, Elizabeth VanAken, Jacobus VanAken, Maria Cool, William Cool, Lisabeth Cool, Sarah VanAken.

(NOTE.—Upon the Kingston church records is the entry of the marriage on October 21, 1758, of Anneke Van Aaken, j. d., and Henricus Terpenning, j. m. "both residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." There is nothing to show to what branch of the VanAken family she belongs).

The VanAaken and Allied Families

(XXV.) LEA (LENA) VAN AKEN³, j. d. (Cornelis², Marinus¹), "born at Rochester" and baptized in Kingston September 22, 1717, married ABRAHAM MIDDAGH, j. m., "born in Minissink and both dwelling there." Children :

(247) Samuel Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 24, 1741.
Died in infancy.

(248) Daniel Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink Dec. 23, 1744.

(249) Solomon Middagh⁴: Bap. Minnisink May 10, 1746.

(250) Samuel Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink June 21, 1747.

(251) Dorethea Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 26, 1749.

(252) Moses Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 7, 1754.

(253) Emanuel Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink June 25, 1757.

(254) Sovereign Middagh⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 19, 1759.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Cornelis VanAken and Sarah Westbrook, his wife ; Johanna VanAken and her husband, Benjamin Westfael ; Sarah VanAken and her husband, William Clinton ; Abraham VanAken, Jr. and Cathrina Rosenkranz ; Matthew Terwilliger ; Jennecke VanAken.

(XXVI.) ABRAHAM VAN AKEN, JR.³, j. m. (Cornelis², Marinus¹) married (1st) MARGARET WESTFAEL, j. d. "He was born in Nepenack, New York and lives in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. She was born in Minissink and lives there." Child :

(255) Catharina⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 2, 1747.

Olde Ulster

ABRAHAM VAN AKEN, JR.³, widower of MARGARET WESTFAEL, married (2nd) CATHARINA ROSENKRANZ, j. d. "She was born at Rochester and lives at Thushaecht." Their banns were published Oct. 30th and they were married at Minissink December 1st, 1748. Children :

- (256) Maria⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 9, 1749; married Samuel Westbroek.
- (257) Lydia⁴: Bap. Minissink Oct. 22, 1752.
- (258) Sara⁴: Bap. Minissink June 25, 1757.
- (259) Cornelis⁴: Bap. Minissink April 20, 1760; married Hester Depuy.
- (260) Abraham⁴: Born Minissink April 11, 1772.

Cornelis VanAken and Sarah Westbrook were witnesses at the baptism of Maria.

(XXVII.) ANNAATJEN VAN AKEN³, (Cornelius², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston March 10, 1723, married BENJAMIN WESTFAEL. Children :

- (261) Maria Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 7, 1742, Died in infancy.
- (262) Cornelis VanAken Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink, Oct. 18, 1743. Died in infancy.
- (263) Sarah Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 4, 1745.
- (264) Jury (George) Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink March 29, 1746.
- (265) Marya Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink June 21, 1747.
- (266) Margaret Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink June 29, 1749.
- (267) Jacobus Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 24, 1751.

From the Tower on Belle Ayr Mountain

(268) Cornelis VanAken Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink
Oct. 7, 1753.

(269) Lisabeth Westfael⁴: Bap. Minissink April 14,
1756.

(270) Daniel Westfael⁴; Bap. Minissink July 5, 1763.

The witnesses at these baptisms were Cornelis VanAken and Sarah Westbrook, his wife; Hanna VanAken, Jenneke VanAken: Abraham Van Aken and Margaret Westfael, his wife; Jacobus Van Aken and Sara.

Annatje Van Aken, wife of Benjamin Westfael, was received as a member into the Minissink church on confession of her faith during the year 1745.

(XXVIII.) ELIZABETH VAN AKEN³, j. d. (Cornelis², Marinus¹) married at Minissink December 2, 1748, DANIEL KUYKENDAL, j. m. "She was born at Wawarsing and lives at Thushacht. He was born at Machackemech, lives there." Their banns were published Nov. 6, 1748. Children:

To be continued



FROM THE TOWER ON BELLE AYR MOUNTAIN

What Mighty Sower spread these billowy peaks,

Profusely scattered o'er this mountain plain?

Or did a Mighty Voice speak "Peace, be still!"

And change to adamant the heaving, the primeval main?

Down all the sweep of ages here, the billowed blue,

Cloud-capped, sun-kissed, an ocean vast of stone,

Tideless, unheaving, petrified, in silence stands

Without a breaker, or a breaker's moan.

OLD^E VLSTER

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THIS MAGAZINE, in the number for August, 1908, called attention to the necessity for marking the historic houses and places with substantial markers. It is gratifying that this is about to be carried out. Kingston is now, and has been for recent years, the Mecca of summer excursionists. Our streets and public places are full of visitors during the months of July, August and September. Even the month of October sees little diminution of the crowd of sightseeing people. They should be encouraged to come and learn of this old town. It should be correct information that they gather. There is too much fictitious and manufactured historic matter afloat. There are those who seem delighted when such can be told to those who ask about things they see. Those who love this old colonial town should see to it that what visitors take away is a correct knowledge of its actual history and what its prominent men and women actually did in their day for their town and country. A little intelligent effort will accomplish much along this line.



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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the De Vinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

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OLDE^E VLSTER

 VOL. V

AUGUST, 1909

No. 8

The Ambitions ✻ ✻ of Kingston



FROM the earliest days of the settlement of the valley of the Hudson "the Esopus" ranked among the important towns in America. The rich bottom lands of the Esopus, Rondout and Wallkill creeks attracted the most influential of the families of the colony. Even Petrus Stuyvesant became the owner of large tracts as soon as he entered upon the administration of the Dutch West India Company in New Netherland.

This resulted in obtaining for the people of Ulster county a great influence in affairs. Down through all the colonial history men of the Esopus were important factors in building up the future State of New York. And when the Revolutionary struggle was fought to a finish men of Ulster were mightily engaged in the conflict. The country once more at peace the influence of these men was immediately felt in other directions. This number of OLDE ULSTER, page 242, contains a

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letter from Chauncey Graham which was the cause of the establishment of the once famous Kingston Academy. Few know how magnificent were the plans of the fathers who founded that academy and established higher education in Ulster county.

When Americans determined to be free they began to think and began to build along continental lines. Much has been said of the "spread-eagleism" of the people of this western world. It may be that there has been too much of the spirit of boasting to be agreeable to those of other lands and other tongues. But there is a tonic in American blood that strengthens lofty purposes. And this spirit has subdued the continent to civilization and developed a race of confident, self-reliant freemen.

Ulster county had leaders capable of leading. George Clinton, Charles DeWitt, Johannis Snyder, Abraham Hasbrouck, Levi Pawling, Christopher Tappan, Cornelius and Dirck Wynkoop, Cornelius C. Schoonmaker, to say nothing of others, were men who thought along great lines.

When the approach of the British troops in 1776 to New York City compelled the Legislature to flee and Harlem, White Plains and Fishkill proved unsatisfactory as the capital of the new State, the men of Ulster brought it to Kingston. Here it would have remained permanently had not British vandalism destroyed the town. After the rebuilding had begun the Legislature returned three times only to find the reconstructed accommodations insufficient. It was this that led to the final determination that Albany be the capital of this majestic commonwealth.

The Ambitions of Kingston

Kingston possessed a unique body of men. OLDE ULSTER, Vol. I., pages 145-150, tells of its organization and authority. Its corporate name was "The Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of Kingston" and it was usually spoken of as "The Trustees of Kingston Commons." These men administered the affairs of a great tract of land comprising the present towns of Saugerties, Ulster, Kingston and most of the present town of Esopus. Its corporate existence permanently dissolved December 13th, 1816, after a continuous life of one hundred and thirty years. Its powers were large and varied and it planned great things for the advantage of the community whose affairs it was administering.

As early as 1769 these men were engaged in the attempt to secure for Kingston a school of high grade. This resulted in the foundation of Kingston Academy in 1774. This academy developed into the best and most influential of its kind within the State of New York within one generation.

But this body of energetic and far-sighted men was not satisfied. Under date of August 3rd, 1779, amid the throes of the Revolution, when money was at its lowest depreciation, and the funds to carry on the great struggle for independence could hardly be obtained this wise, patriotic and far-seeing body of men, the Trustees of Kingston Commons, recorded the following preamble and passed the succeeding resolution :

"Whereas, Several deliberations and conversations have heretofore been had, respecting the obtaining a charter to erect and establish a University or College in this town.

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“*Resolved*, That the Trustees will do everything in their power to encourage and promote so laudable an undertaking.”

A committee to consult with Governor Clinton and Chancellor Robert R. Livingston was appointed at once. This committee consisted of Judge Dirck Wynkoop, Christopher Tappen, Joseph Gasherie and John Addison. This committee was instructed to prepare a petition to the Legislature of the State, praying for leave to bring in a bill for such establishment of a university.

The reception on the part of the State Assembly was favorable. That body gave the desired consent. But the times were exceedingly unpropitious. Ruin seemed before every financial enterprise in the land. The attempt had to be abandoned. In this connection it is interesting to notice the record in the minutes of the Board of Trustees in the matter:

“*January 11th, 1780.*—The Trustees. having at the last session of the Legislature of this State, proffered a petition to that body, for leave to bring in a bill to erect or establish a College or University in this town, and the Assembly of this State having given leave to bring in a bill for that purpose, by their resolve dated October 20, 1779:

“Ordered that Derick Wynkoop and Christopher Tappen repair to Albany, in order to consult the Hon Robert Yates and Mr Egbert Benson and such other gentlemen as they shall think proper to draft and complete a bill for that purpose, and that the Trustees will reimburse them the expense etc for the completion thereof.”

So the matter lay dormant for years. But the trustees were not men to give up such a project with-

The Ambitions of Kingston

out another effort. Meanwhile the Kingston Academy flourished. Twenty-five years of prosperity were enjoyed by the institution and the learned professions and public positions began to be full of men who had been taught at Kingston Academy. Once more the project of the Trustees of Kingston Commons was taken up. On January 31st, 1804, this action was taken by the board of trustees of the academy :

“ The Trustees taking into consideration the present flourishing situation of the Academy, and the great encouragement afforded them, as well by private subscriptions as by a generous donation from the Trustees of the Corporation of Kingston, of real property, as a fund towards the establishment of a College within this town, thereupon,

“ *Resolved*, that Mr. President, Mr. Conrad E. Elmen-dorf and Mr. Bancker, be a Committee to prepare two memorials to the Honorable the Regents of the University, and the Honorable the Legislature of the State, in their present session, soliciting the sanction of the former in founding a College within the town of Kingston ; and also the aid of the latter towards building and endowing the said College.

“ *Resolved*, That Mr. President, Mr. Conrad E. Elmen-dorf and Mr. Dezens be a Committee to proceed to the City of Albany and present the said memorials and use their best endeavors towards obtaining the objects contemplated.”

The Regents of the University of the State of New York felt compelled to deny the petition. They had appointed a committee to whom the petition had been referred. The action of that committee was as follows :

“ The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Trustees and inhabitants of Kingston, in the County of Ulster, praying for the establishment of a College in that Village, respectfully report,

Olde Ulster

“That your Committee have maturely reflected on the prayer of the petitioners and are highly pleased with the literary zeal which they manifest by their liberal subscriptions and laudable exertions to procure the establishment of a College in their village. But while the Committee pay the petitioners this tribute of commendation it is their duty to estimate and decide impartially upon the merits of their application. That in making such estimate and decision the Committee cannot lose sight of the important trust committed to the Regents of the University, which imposes on them to have a due regard to the general interests of literature throughout this State. That the Committee have seen with concern the difficulties which the present collegiate institutions within this State have encountered and continue to struggle with, from whence they cannot but anticipate that the multiplication of such institutions would be inexpedient at the present day, inasmuch as it would increase those difficulties by dividing the means necessary for their support. That the Committee also perceive from the subscriptions of the petitioners that they involve a condition that the Regents have it not in their power to fulfil, to wit, the assurance of legislative aid to facilitate the accomplishment of the desirable and praiseworthy views of the petitioners. That with such assurance the Committee regard the subscriptions as altogether conditional and therefore not forming a proper and secure basis on which to predicate the important and expensive establishment of a College. That independent of the objection above stated the Committee also beg leave to remark, that a large proportion of the subscriptions on which the application is founded consists of Ulster and Delaware Turnpike stock, the value of which is unascertained and extremely precarious. Your Committee, are therefore, of opinion that it would be improper to grant the prayer of the petitioners.”

It was a wise decision. At this time the country was in a condition of financial stringency. No institu-

The Ambitions of Kingston

tions felt this more than colleges. Many such were closed to await better times. The Trustees of the Kingston Commons thereupon turned over to Kingston Academy the real estate which they had intended to convey to the proposed college. This consisted of more than eight hundred acres of land. Part of this was the triangular parcel of land now bounded by Albany and Clinton avenues and Maiden Lane, the site of Kingston Academy to-day. Thus that site has been in possession of the institution upwards of one hundred years.

The War of the Revolution was brought to an end by the permanent Treaty of Peace negotiated between Great Britain and the United States. This was signed September 3rd, 1783. While negotiations were pending a preliminary treaty had been signed on November 30th, 1782, which had suspended hostilities. A feeling of relief spread over all the colonies now recognized as States by the world. The first thought seemed to be that the nation just recognized by the other powers of the world should have a capital city. The same broad-minded Trustees of the Corporation of Kingston met on January 29th, 1783 and prepared to bring this about. They

“*Resolved*, That a petition be draughted to lay before the inhabitants of this town, in order that the Trustees may know the sense of their constituents, whether it will be agreeable to them that the Hon. the Congress of the United States shall come and reside within the town.”

Committees were then appointed “to collect the minds of the inhabitants thereon.” In less than a

Olde Ulster

week they had ascertained this. On February 7th, 1783 these trustees memorialized the Legislature "praying that their estate be erected into a separate district for the Hon. the Congress of the United States." March 7th, 1783 the Trustees

Resolved unanimously, That the President or Speaker sign and seal with the corporation seal, a certain instrument in writing granting to the Congress of the United States one mile square of land within the limits of this town in case they shall think proper to come and reside here."

In Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Kingston had always a firm and influential friend. March 13th, 1783 he wrote the trustees a letter encouraging their effort and holding out prospects of success. The Senate of the State of New York took up the matter on March 14th, endorsed the proposal and asked concurrence of the Assembly. This was given immediately. The resolutions set forth that the bounds of the township of Kingston under control of the Trustees are very extensive and that a suitable quantity of land could be secured to Congress as "a place of residence adequate to their dignity, with all the reasonable privileges which are in their power to grant." Another resolution conferred jurisdiction over such territory to the United States in case Congress made Kingston the seat of government of the United States.

Governor Clinton sent all the papers to Congress with his endorsement urging Congress "to consider the zealous and uniform efforts of the Inhabitants of Kingston in the cause of liberty, and the calamities which they have suffered from the vengeance of Britain, avowedly for their distinguished patriotism."

The Ambitions of Kingston

The papers, with others submitted by the Legislature of the State of Maryland relative to a like cession of the city of Annapolis to Congress for a like purpose, were referred to a committee.

On the 22nd of the following September Alexander Hamilton and William Floyd, delegates from New York to Congress, wrote to the trustees at Kingston that they had not been sufficiently liberal in the grant of land and suggested that a tract two miles square be offered. The trustees directed that this be done at once. But Congress adjourned before action was taken.

Years passed. The question of a national capital was not decided. Nor were the questions of the claims of the original thirteen states to western lands. Nor that of the assumption by the federal government of the debt the several states had incurred in the prosecution of the long war. At last all these claims were compromised. The southern states opposed the assumption of the debts. When the compromise was effected the southern states withdrew their opposition, the northern states consented that the seat of government be upon the banks of the Potomac, all the difficulties that then disturbed the minds of men in the widely separated sections of our vast dominion were composed and the Union entered upon its glorious career. What a different history might have been that of this country had the southern states not opposed the assumption by the federal government of the war debts of the Revolution! Would the history of our country have been different had Kingston become the capital of the United States?

Governor ❁❁❁❁

George Clinton

NINETEENTH PAPER



GRATEFULLY to the Constitution of the State of New York the term of Clinton as governor was about to expire. The term had been made one of three years and a new election was necessary. In the office of the Secretary of State of New York are no records of the election of 1780. In the unsettled condition of the counties of the State there were many precincts from which no returns were ever made, if elections were held. The vote not cast for the re-election of George Clinton to the executive chair was a scattering one and the whole vote at the election was very light. All that is known is that George Clinton had a majority of 3,264 of all the votes cast, or returned by election officials.

This result was very pleasing to the patriot leaders. The governor received a letter from General Lewis Morris, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, which voices the feeling of those who saw most clearly the need of a man of wisdom, energy and decision of character at the helm of affairs. Morris wrote:

“Before I conclude this letter I beg your Excellency will receive my warmest congratulations on your being reap-

Governor George Clinton

pointed to the Government. The well grounded Esteem I have always entertained for your private and public Character, induces me to wish, most sincerely, that you may preside over the State during Life. And should I be honoured with a Seat in the Legislature, when Peace is established, I shall take pleasure in contributing to render your administration agreeable to your Constituents, and Pleasing to yourself."

The year 1780 opened very darkly. Perils compassed the patriots on every side. The pay of the soldiers was months in arrears, they were always without sufficient clothing and the requirements for comfort in camp; usually without two days' provisions on hand and often with less than the supplies for the passing day; the currency they were compelled to accept when they were paid was worthless; their families suffered for the necessities of life and discontent reigned everywhere. And as the spring advanced there were but fifteen thousand men in the service who were enlisted for the war and not more than twelve thousand of these were in the ranks. Of the militia in the service the terms of service of about twelve thousand expired within a few months and it was uncertain how many of these would re-enlist.

One bright spot remained. It was possible to float loans in the Netherlands, and France and Spain were disposed to actively assist the cause. Ever since Saratoga witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne France had been preparing to ally herself with the cause of America. From the French alliance much was to be expected. But tardiness and incompetency on the part of the commander of the French fleet during this

Olde Ulster

year of 1780 cost the loss of the Southern states. Nevertheless, this alliance was to bring the war to a successful conclusion.

The great event of the year was the attempted betrayal of West Point by Benedict Arnold into the hands of the British. We can just allude to this in passing as it concerned Governor Clinton and his official relations in no other way than as a patriot. It was not a State affair but a national, and the matter was in the hands of Washington and his army alone. Arnold had timed the consummation of his plans that they might be carried out during the absence of Washington at Hartford, Connecticut, where he went to meet Rochambeau. At this meeting Washington and Rochambeau arranged the alliance of the American forces with those of France. In one short year the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown brought the long war to a close.

After the campaign of 1777 Governor Clinton's civil duties prevented him from taking the field in person, except during the month of June, 1780 when Sir John Johnson raided the Mohawk valley with a force of British and Indians, coming from Canada by the way of Lakes Champlain and George. General Ten Broeck was ill and Governor Clinton determined to take the field in person. Ordering out the militia he attempted to head off the return of Johnson by the way of Fort Edward and Crown Point. Although there had been, and was, a bitter dispute with the people of Vermont over the rights and claims of New York to the territory of the present State of Vermont, its people responded to the call of Clinton for help

and two hundred and forty men came to the assistance of Clinton. But Johnson made good his escape up Lake Champlain six hours before Clinton reached Crown Point.

In passing, we would give the following letter from Washington to Clinton. It not only sets forth the extreme needs of the patriot army but it shows how much the Commander-in-Chief relied on the State of New York and conveys in the most delicate and courteous way the estimate in which he held George Clinton. One can imagine the busy days and nights at the mills, particularly that of Charles DeWitt at Greenkill. The letter is:

“Headquarters Orange Town, Octob’r 1st, 1780.

“Dear Sir, The inclosed will show your Excellency the distress we are like to experience in a few days for the want of flour. You are so fully impressed with the pernicious tendency of so frequent repetition of want that I am sure, I need only inform you of our prospects, to engage your utmost exertions to give us the necessary supply. The exigency demands immediate measures to forward to West-point all the flour ready at the different mills. It has been mentioned to me that a deficiency of barrells would retard the supplies from your State; I have given directions to have those at West-point repaired and delivered to the order of your agent. Your Excellency knows the reliance I place on the State of New York—delicacy will not permit me to say how much we must depend on you at this juncture. I have the honour to be, With the greatest Esteem and regard,
Dear Sir,

“Your most Obed’t Serv’t

“GO. WASHINGTON.

“His Excellency Gov’r CLINTON.”

The reference of Washington in the first paragraph of the letter was a notification from the Commissary-General that the supply of flour for the army was practically exhausted. The troops were out of bread for two days before the supply reached them. Governor Clinton went at the expediting of the necessary supplies with all his wonted energy. He sent his agents scouring the country and personally rode day and night. His exposures brought upon him once more an attack of his old enemy, rheumatism, and he was hardly able to stir. The autopsy of his remains in May, 1908, on the occasion of their removal from Washington to Kingston, showed the evidences of the sufferings he endured which were brought on by his constant exposure of himself during the long war to all kinds of weather. Disturbed over his want of success on the present occasion he wrote to General Schuyler:

“The cattle when received are scarcely worth killing. The Mills for want of Water unable to grind the Wheat. I have this Moment received a very pressing Letter from Genl. Heath, who commands in the Highlands, on the Subject of his Wants, by which I am informed that his sole Dependance for Bread is on this State. It is not in my Power to relieve him.”

This was really the last winter which called for such anxiety and demanded such sacrifices. Before another came Cornwallis had surrendered. Peace was not yet declared but the British ministry saw the futility of the effort to subdue the colonists, fight France and provoke a European war.

LETTERS OF CHARLES DE WITT

NEW YORK, June 29th, 1785.

DEAR SIR:

I am now almost settled in my old mansion as formerly, but at the same time absent from a number of old acquaintances. I am happy to welcome my old friends at my house as usual, I mean those that were of your and my own sentiments in the late contest.

Am sorry to give my friends any trouble, but with confidence in your friendship I beg leave to ask one favour of you; I unhappily since I came to the City had the misfortune to lose both my carriage horses, Mr. Stephen Bayard informed me that Mr. Wynkoop (brother to the Judge) had a pair of young bay horses with blazes in their foreheads, that they were well broke and tame—that the owner asked £65 for the pair. I am now to ask the favour of you to be so good as to take a view of them and if you think they will suit me to purchase them for me as cheap as you can and send them down to me when the money shall be paid on receipt of them, should be glad if the owner would bring them down himself and receive his money. If you know of any other pair preferable to them that are tame and well broke please advise me, they must be geldings.

I am with the greatest respect and esteeme

Your sincere friend and

most obd^{nt} serv^t

JOHN VAN CORTLANDT.

CHARLES DEWITT, ESQ.,

Greenkill, N. Y.

Olde Ulster

New York, Nov. 30th 1765

CHARLES DEWITT, Esq.

DEAR SIR:

Your favour of the 13 inst came duly to hand by which I perceive it has pleased Almighty God to take out this valley of tears your dear wife a sensible loss to her family though gain to her.* As our days are numbered we must submit with resignation to the dispensations of Almighty God and say the Lord hath given the Lord hath taken away and blessed be his name.—The headstone you wrote for will be finished next week and I shall send it up by the first sloop.

I continue to be Sir Your Most Hum^{bl} Serv^t
ELIAS DESBROSSES.

HURLEY Dec. 5, 1765.

ROBT. LIVINGSTON, at the Manor.

DEAR Sir:

I have just now read an old letter of yours dated New York May 25, 1753 wherein you have a sentence taken from the great Apostle's Epistle, the words are "having a desire to depart and be with you which is far better" meaning at the Manor.

But I must say that I have a desire to depart and be with Christ which is far better for me poor prisoner of this dark and lonesome world, as my life, my soul, my dear Blandina is taken from me and I trust is with Christ which is far better. I remain as yet with five little companions in affliction, it is the will of God and therefore I must humbly submit to his wise dispensa-

* Mrs. DeWitt died Nov. 4, 1765.

tion, but the stroke gives me such intense pain that my trembling heart is ready to break, and I often beg the Almighty after having washed, justified and sanctified by the blood of Jesus to haste the tardy steps of his kind messenger death, for what is my life, this feeble life, what are Kingdoms, nay what are worlds to me here without my dear one, my dear Blandina whose body now withers in the grave, that sweet hiding place of God! Oh! that I laid in her dear cold arms then should I be at rest, my dear children I can contentedly leave in the gracious protection of the great father of the fatherless. She breathed out her soul on the 4th of November last, she was on the mending and I thought was almost well when suddenly that power which nothing can withstand smote her dear body and soon, soon wore out her little strength and she expired and

Oh! sorrowful thought, is gone, Oh! never to return
Dear to my bleeding heart but dear in vain
Not all my tears recall the soul again
Why has my heart this fond engagement known
Or why has Heaven dissolved the tie so soon.

She was too good for such a creature as I am, is all the reason I give why I am so soon deprived of her dear lovely company. She loved me much, her favorite expression was "I love you as my own soul." Oh! that life much dearer than my own, I cannot think on it without confusion and Oh! that my life might end.

Affectionately

CHARLES.

Olde Ulster

NEW YORK, Feb. 3. 1769.

CHARLES DEWITT, Esq.

Sir:

I have not been informed what day of the month is to be the day of election with you, this may perhaps find you re-elected for Ulster, if so I shall be glad as it will afford me if God spares our lives, the satisfaction of your company, which I should in all probability otherwise be deprived of. I can observe no alteration in Mr. Clinton in regard to his illness since I wrote you last, if he mends it is very slowly, although he is better than when you left him. I do not know of anything worthy of information save that good old Mr. Miller has lost his election, another member being returned for that County.—I conclude with only further saying God bless you and your little flock with all the needful my wife joins in best wishes for you.

I am your Hum^{bl} Ser^{vt},

CORNELIUS C. WYNKOOP.

FISHKILL, N. Y.. Apr. 19, 1769.

CHARLES DEWITT, Esq., DR SIR:

I received your favour of the 28th ult., advising that you had received a letter from Mr. Justice Livingston acquainting you of my design of opening an Academy in Albany or Kingston, provided I met with suitable encouragement in either of those places.

I am much obliged to you Sir for the early opportunity you take to lay my design before some of your trustee's and yet sorry to find that the present circumstances of the Corporation forbid their forwarding an Institution so much for the public good and so neces-

sary at this time in these parts of a Province by no means famous for education.

In hopes of the honor of your further advice I remain

Good Sir

in utmost haste, Your most obliged Hum^{bl} Serv^t.

CHAUNCEY GRAHAM.

Charles DeWitt died the following Summer, August 27, 1787. He was elected with George Clinton in 1768 to represent the County of Ulster in the *Colonial Assembly*, which met in the City of New York in February, 1769, and from that time until his death with scarce any remission, he was constantly engaged in the service of his country in the State and National Councils. He was bred a merchant by Robert Livingston, Esq., of Livingston Manor, Dutchess county, and though not liberally educated, nature had gifted him with a fund of good sense and a sound discriminating judgment, which, improved by diligent study of the best authors and the great book of nature, enabled him in every emergency to execute with facility the various important and highly responsible trusts, that from time to time were confided to him.

As the friend of liberty and equal rights, and the decided enemy to tyranny of every description, he took a very active and zealous part in the war of the Revolution, enjoying the confidence and esteem of General Schuyler, General Floyd, Chancellors Livingston and Lansing, Gouverneur Morris, the two Clintons, John Jay, Lewis Morris, Walter Livingston and other distinguished patriots of that period in the State and Nation.

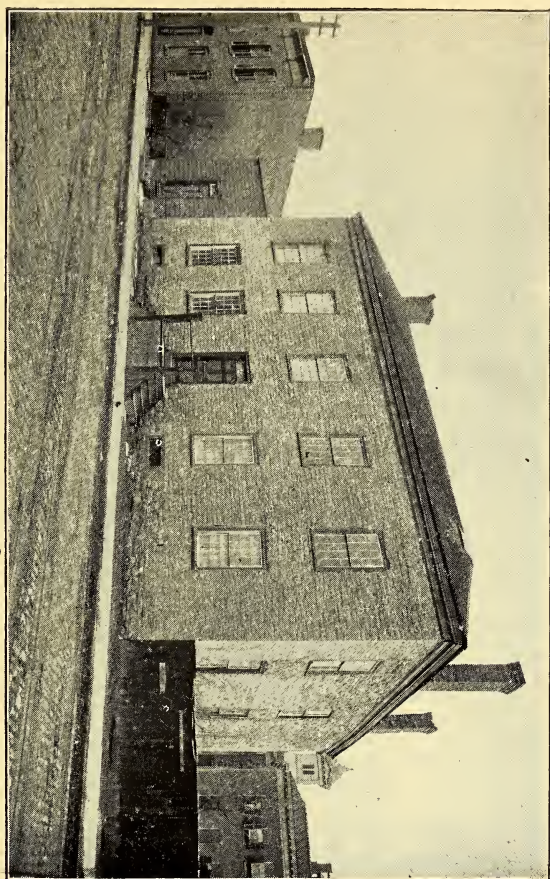
THE DE WAAL HOUSE

This month we present a view of the De Waal house on North Front street, Kingston. William De Waal, a native of the Netherlands, purchased this property from William Eltinge in 1789. The house contained the largest assembly room in the town and was the favorite resort for balls and assemblies for fifty years. Commencement balls of Kingston Academy were always held here. De Waal introduced the feature of a spring floor which made it the most popular ballroom along the Hudson. Schoonmaker's History of Kingston says of De Waal:

“ He was one of the few men who could get into political dispute with his guests and let out volley after volley of oaths upon them, and still retain their custom and goodwill. His wife was an excellent, kind-hearted woman, who tried to control him; sometimes she would succeed in silencing him, but frequently her efforts would meet with as little success as they did with the Quaker who was their guest one night. De Waal and the Quaker got into a political dispute. De Waal waxed warm, and began to let off volley after volley of oaths, etc., when Mrs. De Waal interposed, saying, mildly, ‘Waaltje! Waaltje!’ ‘Yes, yes!’ he replied in Dutch, ‘I know what you mean, but the talk of this d—d *donder*’s *kind* is too much for me to stand. ’”

Kingston was swept by a great fire in 1804 and the house of De Waal destroyed. It was immediately rebuilt. De Waal died in 1820, a highly respected man. His widow survived him for many years, living in this house.

The DeWaal House



The DeWaal House

Olde Ulster



*Your most humble Serv.^t
Ch. M. W.*

A QUAIN T DOCUMENT

One of the earliest of the churches to be organized in Ulster county was the Reformed Church of Rochester (Accord). The deed for the site was given in 1714 and is a quaint and curious document. It reads :

“TO ALL CHRISTIAN PEOPLE to whome this p’sent writing shall or may Come Jurian Quick of Rochester in the County of Vlster & Johanis Quick of the same place send greeting :

“NOW KNOW YEE that the said Jurian Quick & Johannis Quick ffor Divers good causes them thereunto moveing but more and Especially that to the Glory of God there may a meeting house be made ffor the Congregation of the Town of Rochester to meet in to Cellebrate the worshipping of Almighty God in ffor the use of the said Congregation Have given granted Released Conveyed Assured & Confirmed and by these p’sents do give grant Release Convey Assure & Confirme unto Mr Teunis Oosterhout Elder of the said Dutch Reformed Congregation of Rochester & to mr Jacob De Witt Deacon of said Congregation and to their Successors ffor Ever all that Certaine Lott of ground Scituate and being in the Town of Rochester neare a Certain ffountain on the north west side of the Highway where this Congregation Have built a meeting house now standing being in breadth in the ffront and Reare sixteen Yards & in Length on both sides Eighteen Yards

“TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Lott of ground Meeting house with all and Singular the p’misses and apurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appurtaining unto the us the said Teunis Oosterhout and Jacob De Witt as Elder & deacon of the said Dutch Reformed Congregation of Rochester & to their Successors ffor Ever ffor the use of

Olde Ulster

the Said Congregation to Cellebrate the worship of God in, and to the only proper use benefitt and behoofe of them the said Teunis Oosterhout & Jacob De Witt and their Successors for Ever ffor the use aforesaid. In witnesse whereof the said Jurian Quick & Johannis Quick have hereunto putt their hands and Seales in Rochester this thirtyeth day of October Annoque Dom 1714

mark of

“JURIAN X QUICK (S)

mark of

“JOHANNIS X QUICK

“Sealed and delivered in presence of us

JACOBUS WYNKOOP)

DL BRODHEAD)

W. NOTTINGHAM)

“In presence of me

LODEWYK HOORNBEECK

Justice of peace”



THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 223

- (271) Petrus Kuykendal⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 20, 1750.
- (272) Samuel Kuykendal⁴: Bap. Minissink June 24, 1752.
- (273) Maria Kuykendal⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 3, 1754.
- (274) Catryntie Kuykendal⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 27, 1759.
- (275) Elisabeth Kuykendal⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 8, 1764. Died in infancy.
- (276) Elisabeth Kuykendal⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 22, 1766.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

The witnesses at the above baptisms were Cornelis VanAken and Sarah Westbrook, his wife; Abraham Van Aken and Catharina Rosencranz, his second wife; Johannes Van Aken; Maria VanAken.

(XXIX.) JOHANNES VAN AKEN³ (Cornelis², Marinus¹) j. m., "born in Nepanock, lives at Upper Smith Field," was baptized in Rochester January 28th, 1728 and married January 18th, 1754 MARIA VAN GARDEN, j. d. "born at Shippekonk and lives under Minissink." Children :

(277) Johannes⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 12, 1758.

(278) Usultje⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 20, 1760. Married Jacobus Decker.

(279) Wilhelmus⁴: Bap. Minissink Sept. 20, 1761.

(280) Jacobus⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 18, 1767. Married Catrina Westbroeck.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Jacobus Van Aken and Elizabeth Van Aken.

(XXX.) JACOBUS VAN AKEN, JR.³ (Cornelis², Marinus¹) "born at Tyschog" and baptized at Minissink June 18th, 1734 married LIZABETH BENNESHOTEN, "both living at Tyschog." Children :

(281) Levi⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 19, 1759. Married Marya De Wett.

(282) Gertje⁴: Bap. Minissink June 14, 1761. Married Lodenwyck Vandermark,

(283) Johannes⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 17, 1765. Died in infancy.

(284) Johannes⁴: Born Oct. 31 and baptized in Minissink Dec. 13, 1766.

Olde Ulster

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Cornelis Van Aken and Sarah Westbroeck, his wife, Johannis Van Aken, Maria Van Aken.

(XXXI.) SARAH VAN AKEN³ (Cornelis², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink May 3, 1737 married WILLIAM WYLEM. Child:

(285) Elizabeth Wylem⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 20, 1760,

The witnesses to the above baptism were Cornelis Van Aken and Sarah Westbroeck, his wife.

(XXXIII.) JENNEKE VAN AKEN³ (Cornelis², Marinus¹) baptized in Minissink, May 3, 1743, married JACOBUS QUICK. Children:

(286) Cornelis Quick⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 24, 1750.

(287) Jacobus Quick⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 28, 1753.

(288) Thomas Quick⁴: Bap. Minissink June 25, 1757.

(289) Lisabeth Quick⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 19, 1759.

(290) Greetje Quick⁴: Bap. Minissink June 12, 1763.

(291) Lienah Quick⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 8, 1772.

(292) Sarah⁴: Born Feb. 9, 1773 and bap. in Minissink.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Jacobus Van Aken, Sarah Westbroeck, Abraham Middagh and Lena Van Aken, his wife.

The Minissink church records contain the baptisms of the children of Sarah Van Aken and her husband, James Clark. There is nothing by which her connection with the Van Aken family can be established. The children thus baptized were Elizabeth Clark on July 6, 1760; Jacobus Clark, born Sept. 8, 1766 and Catrina Clark Feb. 19, 1767. The witnesses to these baptisms were Daniel Van Aken and Lea Kettel, his

The VanAaken and Allied Families

wife ; Abraham Van Aken and Catharine Rosenkranz, his wife. The Minissink records also contain the baptism of Cornelis Van Aken, son of Jeremiah Van Aken and Ragel Westbrook. This occurred Nov. 25, 1775.

(XLIII.) CATRINA VAN AKEN³ (Abraham², Marinus¹) j. d. was baptized in Rochester August 27, 1727 as "living at Machachemach." She married in Minissink May 21, 1747 DIRK ROSENKRANZ, j. m., "living in Bucks county, Pennsylvania." Children :

(293) Jannetje Rosenkranz⁴: Bap. Minissink May 15, 1748.

(294) Herman Rosenkranz⁴: Bap. Minissink Apr. 15, 1750.

(295) Arriantje Rosenkranz⁴: Bap. Minissink March 11, 1753.

(296) Lydia Rosenkranz⁴: Bap. Minissink April 11, 1755.

The witnesses at these baptisms were Jacobus Van Aken and Jannetje De Witt, his wife ; Daniel Van Aken and Lea Kettel, his wife.

(XLV.) DANIEL VAN AKEN³ (Abraham², Marinus¹) j. m. "born at Machackemack and living there" was baptized in Rochester February 2, 1735 and married December 13, 1753 LEA KETTEL, j. d. "born at Warsink and dwelling in Minissink." Children :

(297) Lydia⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 17, 1754. Married Jacob Cole.

(298) Catharine⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb 13, 1758. Married Daniel Myers.

(299) Elias (Elijah)⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 21, 1759. Married Catherine Cole.

Olde Ulster

- (300) Nathaniel⁴: Bap. Minissink Dec. 17, 1763.
(301) Absalom⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 17 1765. Married Magdalena——.
(302) Jannetje⁴: Born Oct 31, bap. Minissink Dec. 13, 1766.
(303) Rachel⁴: Born Oct. 31, bap. Minissink Dec. 13, 1766. Twin of preceding. Married Boudewyne Brink.
(304) Joshua⁴: Bap. Minissink Dec. 5, 1771. Married Elizabeth Hornbeck.
(305) Lea⁴: Bap. Minissink Dec. 25, 1776. Married Jacob Hornbeck.
(306) Jeremiah⁴: Born Jan 25, 1778 and bap. in Minissink. Married Mary Westfall.
(307) Marjory⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 18, 1782.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Abraham Van Aken and Jannetje DeWitt, his wife; James Clark and Sarah Van Aken, his wife; Daniel Middagh, Catharina Van Aken.

In the History of Sussex county, New Jersey it is said on pages 402-4 Daniel Van Aken and Lea, his wife, had fifteen children, all of whom married and had families living near the place of their birth. Among these were Jeremiah, a school teacher of Minissink, Daniel, Nathaniel, farmers of Wantage, Elijah, Absalom, Isaiah, Jeremiah (2nd) Lea and Rachel. It is said that Elijah was wounded by the Indians, Jeremiah, his brother, killed by them and that their mother escaped by concealing herself in a ditch. A Daniel Van Aken married in Minissink November 18, 1792 Sarah Van Vliet. He may have been a son of the above Daniel.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

(XLIX.) SARAH VANAKEN³ (Abraham², Marinus¹) was baptized in Minissink April 23, 1744 and married WILLIAM MCCLEAN. Child:

(308) Catrina McCLEAN⁴: Bap. Minissink May 28, 1766.

(LI.) BLANDINA VAN AKEN³ (Abraham², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston July 5, 1747 and married BRYAN HOMMEL. Children:

(309) John Hommel⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 27, 1759.

(310) Daniel Hommel⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 28, 1763.

(311) Abraham Hommel⁴: Bap. Minissink April 14, 1765.

The witnesses at the above baptisms were Abraham Van Aken, Jannetje DeWitt.

(LIII.) ZARA VAN AKEN³ (Isaac², Marinus¹) j. d. was baptized in Kingston and married JACOBUS VAN SICKLE, j. m. "She was born at Rochester and lives at Shippekonk and he was born at Readingtown and lives there." Child:

(312) Johannes Casparus Van Sickle⁴: Bap. Minissink Sept. 23, 1750.

(LV.) JACOB VAN AKEN³ (Isaac², Marinus¹) j. m. was bap. in Kingston February 4, 1733 and married at Minissink April 10, 1752 MARGRIET VAN GARDEN. "He was born at Rochester and she was born at Shippekonk and lives there. Children:

(313) Abraham⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 14, 1753.

(314) Lisabeth⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 3, 1754. Died in infancy.

Olde Ulster

- (315) Jacobus⁴: Bap. Walpack Feb. 2, 1755. Died in infancy.
- (316) Femmentje⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 13, 1756.
- (317) Benjamin⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 13, 1756. Twin of preceding. Married Margaret Cheeney.
- (318) Casparus⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 27, 1759. Married Annatje (Johanna) Vander Mark.
- (319) Hermanus⁴: Bap. Walpack Sept. 22, 1762. Married Hannah Wood.
- (320) Rachel⁴: Bap. Walpack Aug. 30, 1772.
- (321) Jacob⁴: Bap. Walpack May 22, 1774.
- (322) Elssie⁴: Bap. Walpack Dec 8, 1776.
- (323) Elizabeth⁴: Bap. Walpack June 8, 1777.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Isaac Van Aken and Rachel DeWitt, his wife; Daniel Kuykendall and Lisabeth Van Aken, his wife; Cornelis Van Aken and Sarah Westbroeck, his wife; Cobus Van Sickle and Sarah Van Aken, his wife.

- (LVI.) ISAAK VAN AKEN³ (Isaac², Marinus¹) j. m. was baptized in Kingston June 13, 1736 and married at Minnissink November 22, 1754 MARGARET HORNBECK, j. d. "He was born at Wawarsing and she at Machackemack: both live at Shippekonk." Children:
- (324) Joseph⁴: Bap. Minissink Feb. 12, 1758. Married Elsie Vredenbergh.
- (325) Jacobus⁴: Bap. Minissink April 8, 1764.
- (326) Seletie⁴: Bap. Minissink Oct. 17, 1773. Died in infancy.
- (327) Seleta⁴: Bap. Minissink Nov. 25, 1776.
- (328) Geertie⁴: Bap. Minissink Jan. 24, 1778.

To be continued

THE HUDSON

'Twas a vision of childhood that came with its dawn,
Ere the curtain that covered life's day-star was drawn ;
The nurse told the tale when the shadows grew long,
And the mother's soft lullaby breathed it in song.

"There flows a fair stream by the hills of the west,"—
She sang to her boy as he lay on her breast;
"Along its smooth margin thy fathers have played ;
Beside its deep waters their ashes are laid."

I wandered afar from the land of my birth,
I saw the old rivers, renowned upon earth,
But fancy still painted that wide-flowing stream
With the many-hued pencil of infancy's dream.

I saw the green banks of the castle-crowned Rhine,
Where the grapes drink the moonlight and change it to wine;
I stood by the Avon, whose waves as they glide
Still whisper his glory who sleeps at their side,

But my heart would still yearn for the sound of the waves
That sing as they flow by my forefathers' graves ;
If manhood yet honors my cheek with a tear,
I care not who sees it,—no blush for it here.

Farewell to the deep-bosomed stream of the West!
I fling this loose blossom to float on its breast;
Nor let the dear love of its children grow cold,
Till the channel is dry where its waters have rolled.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

OLD^E VLSTER

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THE HISTORICAL SERMON at the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the coming of Domine Blom to be the first pastor of the old First Dutch Church of Kingston in 1659 will be preached in September by Chaplain Roswell Randall Hoes, U. S. N., who is the son of the Reverend John C. F. Hoes, D. D., who was the pastor of that church from 1846 to 1867. Chaplain Hoes has been all of his life an indefatigable and thorough student of historical matters, particularly of those things which concerned the coming of the first settlers to the Esopus, and is especially informed in the history of this church and its early ministry. His researches in England and the Netherlands have been painstaking and minute. His accuracy and carefulness will secure for what his address presents a careful consideration and a general acceptance. It is expected that he will be able to clear up many things in the early history that have never been satisfactorily settled. Chaplain Hoes has given many years to this and his address and his history will be welcomed.

FORD HUMMEL

Teacher of the Violin

A graduate of the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, studied with pupils of Dr. Joachhim and Ysaye; now studying at the Metropolitan College of Music, New York City, with Herwegh von Ende, a pupil of Carl Halir.

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Mental and Nervous Diseases

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

¶ A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

¶ Dr. Gustave Anjou's Ulster County Probate Records from 1665; invaluable in tracing ancestry—in two volumes.

We also have a large line of Souvenir Postal Cards showing local scenes, including the Revolutionary Buildings

Souvenir Spoons, commemorating 250th anniversary of the founding of Kingston. Specially prepared by the Gorham Company.

OLD^E VLSTER

VOL. V

SEPTEMBER, 1909

No. 9

A Crafty ❁ ❁ ❁

Esopus Indian



WOULD that there was a means of knowing more about the aboriginal inhabitants of the Esopus than the present inhabitants do. Would that there was a way by which one could learn of their individuality and their characteristics. The old records are so barren of the things that would distinguish the savages. Who would not delight in reading the story of old Kaelcop? Who has not been intensely interested in the pathetic account of the killing of the venerable Preymaeker, the friend of the whites, who was given "a whack with his own hatchet as it was such a great distance and we could not take him along?"

Among the Indians found at the Esopus there was one whose extremely long life, savage cunning, faithfulness to promises on the one hand and a miserable greed on the other greatly interests a student of the early history of this region. It is the story of Ankerop.

The converging of the Esopus, Wallkill and Rondout streams with their Indian trails to this point brought the Esopus into prominence very early in colonial history. It was for the same reason that led to the importance of Albany. The hunting of fur-bearing animals and the barter of their skins with the white traders had proceeded for almost a generation when one day in June, 1652, two Esopus Indians appeared before the Commissary and Vice-Director of the West India Company at Fort Orange, Joannis Dyckman, in the name of eight other Indian chieftains of the Esopus to convey the lowlands of the Esopus to Thomas Chambers. These Indians were Kawachhikan and Sowappekat. But the former was ever known in the story of this region as Ankerop. For more than seventy years he appears in its history and occurrences and must have rounded out a century of life. It is more than probable that when he appeared in Albany as a representative of his tribe in 1652 that he was at least thirty years of age. We have the records of his being summoned to define the bounds of the New Paltz Patent November 19th, 1722, more than seventy years after conveying the Kingston lowlands in the name of the Esopus chieftains to Thomas Chambers.

The first volume of this magazine, pages 77-83, tells the story of the recovery of the deed by which they conveyed these lowlands to Chambers after that deed had been lost for a hundred years. The *fac-similes* re-produce the old document and the Indian signatures. But they reveal more. They show the greed and craft of Ankerop. These chiefs parted with the land in

A Crafty Esopus Indian

1652 and in the conveyance state that they were fully compensated. But from that time, for the next seventeen years, this savage claimed that this was false and that the consideration had not been paid. In 1669 a commission was sent to the Esopus by the governor to adjust a number of differences and it summoned Ankerop before it. He admitted to the commission that he had been deceiving it and that his claim that he had not been paid by Chambers in 1652 was false. This statement was endorsed by the clerk of the commission upon the back of the deed to Chambers of 1652.

This claim of Ankerop is inexplicable. It is not in accord with what we know of this savage chief. In all the long story of the troubles in the Esopus we do not find the name of Ankerop connected with them. Having conveyed the title to the whites he recognized their right to it. An examination of all the Indian treaties during the next generation does not reveal his signature to any except in the instances here narrated.

In other words Ankerop was not a negotiator in the treaty "under the blue sky," which settled the First Esopus War. He was not in that of May 15th, 1664 at Fort Amsterdam which ended the Second Esopus War. Neither were any of the other nine chieftains whom he represented at Fort Orange in 1652. They seemed to consider the matter closed so far as they were concerned.

This is borne out by the remarkable fact that while neither Ankerop nor any other of the ten who participated in the deed of 1652 signed the Stuyvesant treaty of 1664 a number of them did sign the subse-

quent yearly ratifications which the treaty provided should be exchanged to certify the mutual satisfaction over its terms. Ankerop and the others seemed to consider that their original agreement put them in the wrong when they took up arms against the whites. They did not treat for peace after the war. But they so approved of the settlement of the difficulties that they could exchange the annual satisfactions over continued peace.

Nor was Ankerop a signer of the New Paltz Indian deed of 1677. What were the interests of an Indian as an individual in land is not as apparent as it might be. But whatever they were it does not seem that Ankerop had any in the tract conveyed to the New Paltz patentees.

The lands he had conveyed in 1652 lay north of the present City of Kingston. But he did claim rights farther north than the lands of Fox Hall Manor. In April, 1677, Governor Andros met the Esopus Indians on the Kingston Academy Green to treat for the lands lying north of Chambers and as far as the lands of the Katskill tribe. Ankerop had never signed away his title to these lands and he appeared before Andros and signed this treaty.

Whatever might have constituted individual ownership of lands among the Indians Ankerop was a large landholder of widely scattered lands. *OLDE ULSTER*, Vol. III., pages 72-8, contains the account of the Indian council house at Wawarsing. In the lease there given it is stated that it is "a certain part or parcel which is called *Anckerops land*."

Volume V. of this magazine on pages 51-4 speaks

A Crafty Esopus Indian

of the Hardenbergh place in Rosendale and its lease by Colonel Jacob Rutsen to Dirck Keyser in consideration of his erection thereon of a house. In this connection the lease is of interest. It reads:

“ Appeared before me W^m Montagne, Secretary at Kingston, Jacob Rutgersen who declares having leased to Dirck Keyser his lands situated on the Ronduyt Kill viz : His just share granted him by patent for the time of six consecutive years, which shall commence in the latter part of September, 1680, and terminate in 1686 when the crops shall have been removed from the field. During the said time Dirck shall use said land without paying rent, but in the seventh year Dirck Keyser shall sow all the arable land for the fourth sheaf, to be delivered at Horley. At the expiration of the lease Dirck Keyser is to surrender the land, surrounded by an efficient fence, up to the tide dam (*tyt leening*) where the dwellings of the savages have stood.

“ The lessee is to build and deliver with the farm a house as large as the house occupied by Gerrit Aertsen and a barn twenty-five feet large, tight and serviceable. Whatever buildings the lessee makes there shall be for the benefit of the lessor, and he, therefore, must leave the same. The lessor is to furnish the lessee with fifty one-inch boards at his expense, but the lessee is to deliver the same at the bank or at Major's saw mill.

“ The lessee shall, during the lease, permit Ankerop to plant four schepels of maize, and shall plow for him two days in the year, but as soon as Ankerop is dead Dirck Keyser shall be exempt from the same. In testimony of the truth we have subscribed to the present with our own hand this June 17th, 1680.

“ Cornelis Hoogenboom
as witness.

“ JACOB RUTGERSZ
“ This is the X mark of
DIRCK KYSER

“ To which testifies W^m. MONTAGNE, Secretary.”

Four schepels of corn is about three bushels. It seems that Ankerop reserved quite a portion of the land he must have conveyed to Colonel Rutsen for his own cultivation. Two days plowing in a year was alone in those days quite a rental. Keyser provided that the death of the Indian should release him from the contract. But *OLDE ULSTER*, Vol. II., pages 48-9, tells of the assistance given by Ankerop in 1722 to the trustees of the New Paltz Patent in locating its bounds. So he was still living forty years after Keyser made this contract.

In all the long story of the disagreements and quarrels, with bloodshed, between the savages and the whites there is nothing to show that Ankerop had any part in them. As did old Preymaeker he kept the peace after signing away his interest in the land at the Esopus, except where he had reserved rights to plant upon the land conveyed.

There is nothing to show how long he lived. He was old enough in 1652 to be commissioned by his fellow sachems to proceed to Albany to convey the lowlands in their name. When he was asked to go over the New Paltz Patent seventy years afterwards to point out the landmarks by which those bounds could be established he must have been more than one hundred years of age. It involved mountain climbing; it necessitated wading swamps and tangled thickets and it constrained him to walk many weary miles. That he was able and willing speaks clearly that his physical powers must have been equal, and his friendship for the whites sufficient, to lead him to undertake a long and weary tramp. One wonders how much longer he

The Delaware & Hudson Canal

lived and at what age he died. As of the great leader of the Israelites who led his people through the wilderness "his eye had not dimmed nor his natural force abated." One can imagine his contempt for the *kale-backers* (bare backed young savages) who were clamoring for continued war with their white neighbors.



THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL reached from the Hudson river at Rondout to Honesdale, Pennsylvania. Its construction commenced July 13, 1825 and was completed in October, 1828. The tonnage of the first boats on the canal was twenty-five tons and of the second forty tons. By 1874 boats were of a capacity of one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and forty-eight tons. The first coal was shipped from the mines in Pennsylvania in 1829 and amounted to 7,000 tons. In the year 1872 the canal carried 2,930,333 tons of coal to tide water. The railroad from Honesdale to the mines was commenced in 1827 and completed in 1829. The first locomotive that ran upon a railroad on this continent was imported from England by the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company and shipped from Liverpool, England, April 8, 1829 with the packet ship John Jay, which arrived in New York May 17, 1829; was sent up the Hudson to Rondout, which it reached on the 4th of July, and was transported by canal to Honesdale, arriving there July 23, 1829 and on August 8th made its trial trip. The locomotive was made in Stonebridge, England and named "The Stonebridge Lion." The boiler was still in active use in Carbondale, Pennsylvania a few years ago.

THE TREATY MADE "UNDER THE BLUE SKY"

ARTICLES OF PEACE, MADE AT THE REQUEST OF THE BELOW-NAMED CHIEFS OF THE SAVAGES BETWEEN THE HON. PETRUS STUYVESANT, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF NEW NETHERLAND AND THE SACHEMS OR CHIEFS OF THE ESOPUS.

Names of the chiefs, who asked for peace in the name of the *Esopus* savages and in whose presence the peace was concluded :

Of the *Maquas*
Adoghinoakque
Wohesaquade
Oghnecott

Of the *Mohicans*
Eskuyas, alias
Aepje, *Ampumet*

Catskil :
Keseway
Machaknemeno

Minquas :
Onderishochque
Kakongerits-
schage

Wappings :
Isschachga
Wisachganice

Of *Hackinesacky* :
Oratamy
Carstangh

Of *Staten Island* :
Warrhan

I.

All hostilities on either side shall cease and all acts and injuries shall be forgotten and forgiven by either side.

2.

The *Esopus* savages promise to convey, as indemnification, to the aforesaid Director-General all the territory of the *Esopus* and to remove to a distance from there, without ever returning to plant.

3.

They promise further to pay to the said Director-General in return for the ransom, taken for the captured Christians, 500 schepels of Indian corn, one-half during the next fall, when the corn is ripe, the other half or its value during the fall next following.

The Treaty Made "Under the Blue Sky"

The following are
the names of the
Esopus Sachems,
with whom the
treaty was made :

Kælcop
Seewackemamo
Neskahewan
Paniyruways

4.

The *Esopus* savages promise to keep this treaty inviolable, not to kill horses, cattle, hogs nor even a chicken or if it should happen to be done, then the chiefs undertake to pay for it and in case of refusal one of them shall be kept in prison or under arrest until the loss has been paid or made good, while on the other side the Director-General promises that the *Dutch* neither shall be permitted to do any harm to them.

5.

If the *Dutch* shall kill a savage or the savages a Dutchman, war shall not be immediately commenced again for that reason, but a complaint shall be made and the mur-

NOTE.—One of the historical events of this region was the treaty made "under the blue sky of heaven," which settled the First *Esopus* Indian War. The Indian chieftains met Stuyvesant upon the present Academy Green in Kingston, July 15th, 1660. A friend of this magazine requests us to publish it. First of all it was signed by the Maquas or Iroquois, the masters of the continent. To them the *Esopus*, as well as the other tribes, paid tribute. Another noteworthy signature is that of Van Curler, who was so esteemed by the Indians that they always called the governor of New York "Father Corlaer."—EDITOR.

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derers shall be delivered to be punished, as they deserve.

6.

The *Esopus* savages shall not come armed to the *Dutch* plantation houses and habitations, but without arms they may go, come and trade as before.

7.

Whereas the last war was caused by drunken people, no savage shall be allowed to drink brandy or strong liquor in or near the *Dutch* plantations, houses or settlements, but he must go with it to his land or to some distant place in the woods.

8.

Included in this peace shall be all, not only the aforementioned tribes of savages, but also all others, who are in friendship with the Director-General, among others especially the chief of *Long-Island*, *Tapousagh* and all his savages; if any act of hostility should be committed against these, the Director-General would consider it his duty to assist them.

The Treaty Made "Under the Blue Sky"

9.

The aforesaid chiefs, as mediators and advocates of the *Esopus* tribe, remain bondsmen and engage themselves, to have this treaty kept inviolate and in case the *Esopus* Indians should break the peace, now concluded, they undertake altogether to assist the *Dutch* to subdue the *Esopus* savages.

10.

On the foregoing conditions the Director-General offered first to the aforesaid mediators and they accept each a piece of cloth and to the chiefs of the *Esopus* savages 3 of their captives and each a piece of cloth.

Thus done and concluded at the settlement on the *Esopus*, under the blue sky, in presence of the Hon. *Marten Cregier*, Burgomaster of the City of *Amsterdam* in *New Netherland*, *Oloff Stevenson Cortland*, ex-Burgomaster, *Arent van Curler*, deputy of the Colony of *Renselaerswyck* and many people of the *Esopus*, both Christians and Indians, the 15th July 1660.

P. STUYVESANT	MARTEN CREGIER
OLOFF STEVENSON	A. VAN CURLER

Endorsements on the foregoing :
5th of August.

After the report of the Hon^{ble} Director-General *Petrus Stuyvesant*, concerning the occurrences at (the

Esopus), had been heard and read in Council, the same was duly thanked, on the day as above.

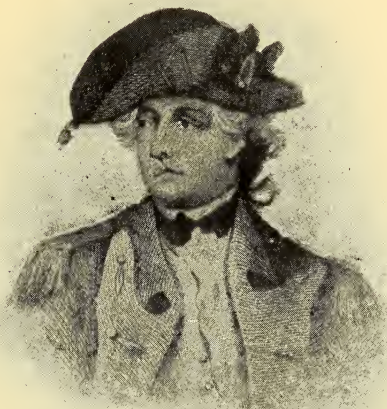
The peace at the *Esopus* having been concluded, the Director-General and his party left for *Fort Orange* and what has passed there, worth writing down, has been recorded hereafter. This *pro memoria*.



THE MAN WHO BURNED KINGSTON

The commander of the British forces, who barbarously set fire to the beautiful village of Kingston, then the capital of the new State of New York, on the 16th of October, 1777, was Major General John Vaughan. In Great Britain he was the Honorable John Vaughan, the second son of Wilmot, third Viscount Lisburne. He was born in 1728 and entered the army in 1746 as a cornet in the Tenth Dragoons and in 1756 was a captain in the Seventh Regiment of Foot. While a lieutenant colonel he commanded a division of grenadiers at the capture of Martinique, and distinguished himself. On the 11th of May, 1775 he succeeded to the colonelcy of the Forty-sixth Regiment, then ordered on service to America, and reached a full major general's commission August 29, 1777. He was wounded in the thigh shortly after the British landed on Long Island in 1776, and for a time disabled from active service. When Forts Clinton and Montgomery were attacked on October 6th, 1777, he commanded the right column and had a horse killed under him. For his valor on the occasion Sir Henry Clinton named Fort Montgomery "Fort Vaughan." He was in

The Man Who Burned Kingston



Major General John Vaughan

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command of the expedition then sent up the Hudson and Kingston was set on fire at his direct orders. It was a piece of utter arbitrariness and it has stigmatized his name forever. Afterwards he was commander-in-chief of the British forces in the Leeward Islands. He was appointed governor of Fort William in Scotland and, later, of Berwick and Holy Island. He represented Berwick in four successive parliaments, and he became a lieutenant general in 1782. In 1793 the government conferred upon him the Order of the Bath. He died suddenly on the island of Martinique, in the West Indies, June 30th, 1795. He never married.

*LETTERS OF CHARLES DE WITT*

GREEN KILL, Jan'y 11th, 1781.

SIR: As Supervisor of the Town of Hurley, I am by law directed to Transmit a copy of the assessment made on Persons whose Son or Sons are gone off to the Enemy, of whom I conceive there are none in this Town which the law reaches, for altho the People of Woodsstouk, Great & Little Shandekan, are by an act of the Legislature annexed to the Town of Hurley, I do not find that they ever were under the command of the Captain of Hurley, or ever were considered as being within his Beat. I confess it is a Pity that such notorious offenders as some of them are, should escape Taxing, and yet it is fortunate for Capt. Lafever that they are not in his Beat, as very great uneasiness and discontent hath Prevailed among the People of Hurley

since that extraordinary addition to Hurley, which every Person that has the least knowledge of the Situation of the three Towns can easily see, would have better Suited the two adjacent Towns.

If some Folks in Kingston had not appeared so officious with their assistance to me, to Tax these men, I should perhaps not have entertained so strong a suspicion that their Design was only to forge another Rivet, to fix them fast to Hurley; and least any misrepresentations should take place, I thought it my Duty to acquaint you, Sir, that in my opinion I could not call upon these People as lying within the Captain's Beat, which the Law expressly mentions. I have enclosed his return. I suppose the Field officers must know that the Capt. of Hurley never made any returns of these men to them in raising Troops, &c. and yet endeavours have been used to show that it was my Business to Tax them. I am, Sir,

Your most Humb. ser.

CH. D. WITT.

His Excellency GEORGE CLINTON, Esquire.

The return of Captain LeFevre is as follows:

“According to your Desire to make a return of all Persons sende out within the beat of my compinion, whose Son or Sons shall have gone of to the enemy, I return by this, Dirck Kyser & Jacob Slouter, who have each a son gone of to the enemy; but there sons having moveth from them some years the went of to the enemy at the first place he moveth under Marbletown, and the both, that is to say Abraham Kyser & Johannis Slouter, did each of them took a wife under Marbletown and did live there for some years

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before the went of with Jacobus Rosa to join the enemy ; and the abovesaid Dirck Kyser & Jacob Slouter are so poor that the excesssors of the Destrect have them not on the tax list, for the have nothing, and I am fully of oppinion that the said Dirck Kyser and Jacob Slouter was not noing at the time or before that, there sons was to go of and join the enemy ; as for Woodstock and Shandaka I shall make no return of, for the do not belong in my distrect or beat.

“ Sir, I am your frind and Humble Servant

“ SIMON LEFEVER, Capt.

“ Novem. the 24th, 1780.

“ To MR. CHARLES DEWITT, Supervisor.”

BEDFORD, Aug. 18th, 1823.

SIR.:

I have received your letter of the 4th inst., informing me that you are a grandson of the late Col. Charles DeWitt and contemplate preparing a memoir of his life and requesting me to communicate to you such documents and anecdotes illustrative of his public services during the Revolution, as I may possess. This mark of attention to the memory of your worthy ancestor is commendable, and I wish it was in my power to facilitate the work you have in view.

As the Revolution proceeded, my acquaintance with the Colonel became more and more intimate. But it frequently happened that he was serving our country in *this* State while I was serving it in another ; and consequently not under each others observation. I allude to my being in Congress in 1774-1775 and part of 1776. The journals and papers of the State Convention Exhibit various acts and proceedings in which the Colⁿ Cooperated ; but as I have not seen

them since 1777 those and other particulars relative to his public service cannot now, after a lapse of between forty and fifty years, be distinctly recollected.

After the establishment of our State Constitution in April 1777, and my appointment to a Judicial office, we met less frequently; and our intercourse was the next year further interrupted by my being sent to Congress; and remaining with them at Philadelphia until the autumn of 1779; when I was sent to Europe, from whence I did not return until after the Revolution was concluded by the peace of 1783.

I well remember, when the Convention was at Kingston, that I received frequent invitations from the Colⁿ, who then lived at Green Kill—that I always met with a cordial reception and that under his hospitable roof we passed many agreeable hours together. I also well remember an occurrence which as it does honor to his heart, I will mention.

Reports came to Kingston that the enemy were making incursions into Jersey, and were marching in a direction that led toward the place where Mrs. Jay *then* was with her fathers family.

I thereupon concluded to fetch her from thence without delay. Having occasion for an additional horse, and not being able to hire one in the Village, I requested the Colⁿ to assist me in procuring one in the neighborhood. He immediately supplied me with a good one that was working on his plough. On my return I was desirous to make him ample compensation. He declined it, saying that the pleasure of serving me on such an occasion, was a sufficient compensation. This made an impression upon me which time has not impaired.

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My opinion of the Colⁿ has undergone no variations. I have uniformly believed him to be a worthy gentleman—of good understanding—of a good disposition, and of determined Patriotism. I was a sincere friend to him and am persuaded that he was a sincere friend to me.

With best wishes for your welfare I am

Sir

Your Ob^{nt} Serv^t,

JOHN JAY.

To

CHARLES G. DEWITT, Esq.



FOREIGN TRADE OF THE ESOPUS

During the generation following the settlement of this region the Esopus raised great quantities of grain and it developed quite an extensive West India trade. Among the records in the minutes of the court at Wildwyck, as translated by Versteeg, is the following lease of a sloop for that trade. It has been remarked that the reproduced Half Moon, which was recently brought to this country from the Netherlands upon one of the great ocean steamers, was a craft upon which no modern sailor would put to sea. What is to be thought of the craft manned by "five sailors and a boy . . . sailing with the help of Almighty God to Curaçao?" The fear of seizure by Holland ships arose from the fact that New Netherland was then under English control and Holland opposed English trade with its West India possessions. The date of

execution of this lease is lacking, but from its place in the court records it was between the 23rd and 30th of March, 1670.—EDITOR.

“APPEARED BEFORE ME, W. LA MONTAGNE, Secretary for the Hon. Court at Kingston, in America, and the after-named witnesses, Dirck Jansen Van Deventer, owner of his sloop named the *N. Yorck*, and Balthazar Stuyvesant, who declare having agreed in the following manner: The aforesaid Dirck Jansen declares having leased his sloop named *De Eendracht*, and to employ on the same five sailors and a boy, for the purpose of sailing, with the help of Almighty God to Curaçao. For which Balthazar Stuyvesant is to pay for every month for the use of the said yacht and the aforesaid sailors the amount of hundred and thirty pieces of eight in good silver money. But the aforesaid Dirck Jansen will have to risk all the damages of the sea, and also pirates, privateers or whatever else there should be.

“And the aforesaid Stuyvesant shall furnish at N. Yorck sufficient security for the yacht of said Dirck Jansen that it will be secured against the Holland ships after it shall have, with the will of Almighty God, arrived at Curaçao.

“Parties promising to comply with the foregoing under obligations, as per law, in the presence of me, W. Montagne and of Skipper Jan Poppen.”—(*From the Court Records*).



THERE HAS BEEN A QUESTION why certain lands in Ulster county were named *Steene Rapie* (Stone Arabia). This name was also given to a place in the Mohawk valley which is so known to-day. The name originated in the fact that the land was covered with smooth cobblestones when first cultivated and these were named “stone turnip,” in Dutch *steene rapie*.

CLINTON PROCESSION IN WASHINGTON

It is most fitting to place on permanent record, in these pages, as a contribution to the history of the removal of George Clinton's remains from Washington to Kingston, last year, the following papers from a very large mass of official communications in the files of Chaplain Roswell Randall Hoes, U. S. N. relating to that interesting function. We may, perhaps, hereafter publish other papers from the same source relating to the same subject. Mr. McFarland was and is the senior Commissioner of the District of Columbia an office corresponding to Mayor in other cities.

“ EXECUTIVE OFFICE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON.

“ JUNE 22, 1908.

“ DEAR CHAPLAIN HOES :

“ I inclose herewith the copy of the minute adopted by the Commissioners at the time of the removal of the remains of Vice-President Clinton to Kingston.

“ Let me congratulate you upon all the success of the transfer. The ceremonies here were certainly impressive. I am very glad you gave us a part in them.

“ With kindest regards.

“ (Signed), HENRY B. F. MACFARLAND.

“ REVEREND R. R. HOES,
Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.

“ EXECUTIVE OFFICE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON.

“ MAY 27, 1908.

“ In accordance with the general sentiment of patriotic

Clinton Procession in Washington

interest in the ceremonies attending the removal from the Congressional Cemetery to the Union Station, en route to Kingston, former capital of New York, of the remains of George Clinton, who was successively a Major General in the Revolutionary War, Governor of the State of New York, and Vice President of the United States, the transfer to-day was the occasion of a memorable public demonstration whose principal feature was an escort under Major General J. Franklin Bell, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, as Chief Marshal.

“This escort consisted of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia; Officers of the Washington Board of Trade and the Washington Chamber of Commerce; the troops of the Regular Army and the Marines who were then stationed at Washington and vicinity; the High School Cadets; and representative bodies of the following patriotic societies in the District of Columbia, whose participation was in response to an invitation from the Commissioners:—

“Army & Navy Union of U. S. A.; Department of Potomac, Grand Army Republic; Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States Commandery of the District of Columbia; National Society of the Children of the American Revolution; Union Veterans Union; Patriotic Order, Sons of America; Sons of Veterans, U. S. A.; Society of the War 1812; Society of Colonial Wars; Sons of the American Revolution; Sons of the Revolution; United Spanish War Veterans; Union Veteran Legion; Washington National Monument Society; Women’s Relief Corps, Department of Potomac; District of Columbia Society of Colonial Dames; Regular Army and Navy Union of the Grand Army Republic; George Washington Memorial Association; U. S. Grant Circle No. 1, Ladies of the Grand Army Republic; Society of the Cincinnati; Francis Scott Key Memorial Association; Thomas Jefferson Memorial Association; Columbia Historical Society; Society of the Signers of Declaration of Independence.”

“ TO THE PUBLIC.

“ The Subscriber has at a very considerable expence erected a forge in Marbletown, about 14 miles from Kingston, where the best of Bar Iron is now making and ready for sale, at the lowest rate for cash, or any kind of country produce.

“ He will endeavour to have a constant supply for all who will please to favour him with their custom. Has also intends to draw iron for Grist and Saw Mills, and other kinds usually drawn or made at forges agreeably to mold; and in order to accommodate his friends in general, he will after a little while, keep a supply at the store house of Peter Van Gaasbeek, Esq. in Kingston, where it will be vended by him upon the same principles as at the forge.

“ The subscriber trusts, that as this first undertaking of the kind in the Northern parts of this county of Ulster, the inhabitants will not withhold their custom; he is too well convinced of their patriotism to harbour a doubt that they will discourage an infant, and at the same time so useful a manufactory.

“ ALSO, at private sale, a SAW-MILL, on the east branch of the Delaware, nearly opposite Daniel Wilson's, for which a good title will be given.

“ ALSO, a few pair good MILL-STONES.

“ LEMUEL WINCKEL.

“ Marbletown, Oct. 29, 1794.”

(For the above advertisement, taken from the *Rising Sun* of 18 September, 1795, published in Kingston, New York, this magazine is indebted to Chaplain Roswell Randall Hoes, U. S. N.).

THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 254

(LVIII.) JOSEPH VAN AKEN³ (Isaac², Marinus¹) was baptized in Minissink May 29, 1739 and married ELISABET WESTFAEL. Children.

(329) Abraham⁴: Born Jan. 18, 1768 and baptized in Minissink.

(330) Aploney⁴: Bap. Minissink Sept. 27. 1775.

(331) Sarah⁴: Bap. Minissink Aug. 16, 1782.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Abraham Van Aken; Maria Van Aken; Jacobus Van Sickle and Sarah Van Aken, his wife.

(CCXXVI.) JEREMIAH VAN AKEN⁴, j. m. (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston July 24, 1743, married in Red Hook (Rhinebeck) February 20, 1764 CATTYNTJE SLEGHT, j. d. Children:

(332) Rachel⁵: Bap. at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Nov. 11, 1764; married Barent Van Wagenon.

(333) Petrus⁵: Bap. at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Oct. 5, 1766; married Sarah Kip.

(334) Maria⁵: Bap. at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) June 19, 1768.

(335) Annatjen⁵: Bap. at Rhinebeck Flats Aug. 31, 1772.

(336) Hendrikus⁵: Born May 28, 1775 at Red Hook (Rhinebeck); married Catharina Schriver.

(337) Levi⁵: Born at Rhinebeck Flats Aug. 26, 1780; bap. September.

Olde Ulster

(338) Mathew⁵: Born Oct. 23 and bap. Nov. 30, 1783
at Rhinebeck Flats.

(339) Sarah⁵: Born Apr. 17, 1788 at Rhinebeck Flats.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Petrus Van Aken ; Rachel Johnson ; Petrus Westphael and Sophia Van Aken, his wife ; Solomon Benneschoten and Grietje Van Aken, his wife ; Lewis Van Aken ; Annatjen Sleght ; Levi Van Aken and Elizabeth Terpenning, his wife ; Hendrikus Van Aken and Maria Terpenning, his wife.

(CCXXVII.) MARGARETHA VAN AKEN⁴ (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston October 14, 1744, married SOLOMON VAN BENNESCHOTEN. Children :

(340) Maria Van Benneschoten⁵: Bap. in Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Aug. 18, 1771.

(341) Tomes Van Benneschoten⁵: Bap. at Rhinebeck Flats June 20, 1773.

(342) Elsie Van Benneschoten⁵: Born at Rhinebeck Flats Sept. 4, 1777.

(343) Gritie Van Benneschoten⁵: Born at Rhinebeck Flats Sept. 11, 1779.

(344) Albert Van Benneschoten⁵: Born at Rhinebeck Flats Nov. 15 and bap. Dec. 30, 1781.

(345) Petrus Van Benneschoten⁵: Born at Rhinebeck Flats Nov. 28, 1783.

(346) Sarah Van Benneschoten⁵ Bap. at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Feb. 26, 1786.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Hendrick Van Aken ; Rachel Van Aken ; Petrus Van Aken ; Rachel Johnson.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

(CCXXVIII.) BREGJE (BRIDGET) VAN AKEN⁴ (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston February 2, 1745, married at Rhinebeck Flats October 2, 1768 TEUNIS TERPENNING. Children:

(347) ———: Bap. Rhinebeck Flats Aug. 20, 1769.

(348) Petrus Terpenning⁵: Born Oct. 3 and bap. New Hurley Oct. 17, 1779.

(349) Sophia Terpenning⁵: Born Oct. 3 and bap. New Hurley Oct. 17, 1779. Twin of preceding.

(350) Rachel Terpenning⁵: Born June 6, 1784 and bap. in New Hurley.

The witnesses to the baptisms of these children were Solomon Benneschoten and Greetje Van Aken, his wife, Peter Westvale or Westphael, and Sophia Van Aken, his wife; Dirk Terpenning; Rachel Terpenning.

(CCXXIX.) SOPHIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston January 31, 1748, married at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) December 2, 1765 PETRUS WESTPHAL. Children:

(351) Jacobus Westphal⁵: Bap. in Red Hook (Rhinebeck) July 13, 1766.

(352) Petrus Westphal⁵: Bap. in Red Hook (Rhinebeck) March 6, 1768.

(353) Jeremiah Westphal: Bap. at Rhinebeck Flats Dec 5, 1769. Died in infancy.

(354) Jeremiah Westphal⁵: Bap. at Rhinebeck Flats Feb. 3, 1770.

(355) Sufiah Westphal: Bap. at Rhinebeck Flats Dec. 12, 1774.

Olde Ulster

- (356) Solomon Westphal⁵: Born Jan. 9 and bap. Rhinebeck Flats Jan. 12, 1777.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Teunis Terpenning and Brechje Van Aken, his wife; Levi Van Aken and Elizabeth Terpenning, his wife; Solomon Benneschoten and Margaret Van Aken, his wife; Jeremiah Van Aken and Cattlyntje Sleght, his wife.

(CCXXXI) RACHEL VAN AKEN⁴, j. d. (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), born at Rhinebeck Flats July 22, 1751 ("born and residing in Rhinebeck") married November 20, 1771 ANTHONY TURK, j. m., "born and residing in Kingston." Children:

- (357) Abraham Turk⁵: Bap. in Marbletown July 26, 1772.
(358) Catlentie Turk⁵: Born Dec. 1, 1779 and bap. at Rhinebeck Flats Jan. 1, 1780.
(359) Jonathan Turk⁵: Born July 2 and bap. Rhinebeck Flats July 22, 1781.
(360) Petrus Turk⁵: Born Oct. 30 and bap. Rhinebeck Flats Nov. 10, 1776.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Jeremiah Van Aken and Cattlyntje Sleght, his wife; Abraham Turk; Catharine Sleght.

(CCXXXIV.) HENDRIKUS VAN AKEN⁴, j. m. (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), born at Rhinebeck Flats February 28, 1754 ("born and residing in Rhinebeck"); married at Kingston February 19, 1774, MARIA TERPENNING, j. d., "born in Wallkill and residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." Child:

The VanAaken and Allied Families

(361) David⁵: Bap. at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) Apr. 16, 1775.

Witnesses at the baptism Petrus Westphal and Sophia Van Aken, his wife.

(CCXXXV.) LEVI VAN AKEN⁴ (Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), born November 30 and baptized December 6, 1756 at Rhinebeck Flats; married in Kingston May 14, 1775, ELISABETH TERPENNING. No children on the record.

(CCLVI.) MARIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Abraham³, Cornelis², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink April 9, 1749, married SAMUEL WESTBROEK. Child:

(362) Benjamin Westbrouck⁵: Bap. Minissink June 1, 1777.

The witnesses at this baptism were Cornelis Van Aken and Sara Westbrouck, his wife.

(CCLIX.) CORNELIS VAN AKEN⁴ (Abraham³, Cornelis², Marinus¹) bap. at Minissink April 20, 1770; married HESTER DE PUY. Child:

(363) Helena⁵: Born at Minissink Jan. 22, 1785.

(CCLXXVIII.) USULTJE VAN AKEN⁴ (Johannes³, Cornelis², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink April 20, 1760, married May 16, 1776 at Minissink JACOBUS DECKER. Children:

(364) Helmus Decker⁵: Bap. Minissink Oct. 29, 1780.

(365) Sarah Decker⁵: Bap. Minissink Aug. 18, 1782.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were John Van Aken, Jr. and Elisabeth—.

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(NOTE.—Jacobus Van Aken⁴ (Johannis³, Cornelis², Marinus¹) (280) married Catrina Westbrouk at Minissink February 19, 1789).

(CCLXXXI.) LEVI VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacobus, Jr.³, Cornelis², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink August 19, 1759 married MARYA DE WITT. Children :

(366) Elisabeth⁵: Bap. Minissink Apr. 17, 1781.

(367) Hannah⁵: Born Minnissink Jan. 28, 1786; married Jacob Westbrook.

The witness at the baptisms of these children were Jacobus Van Aken and Elisabeth Benneschoten, his wife.

(CCLXXXII.) GEERTIE VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacobus, Jr.³, Cornelis², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink June 14, 1761 married LODENWYCK VANDEMARK. Child :

(368) Elisabeth Vandemark⁵: Born at Minissink July 25, 1784.

The witnesses to the baptism were Jacobus Van Aken and Lisabeth Benneschoten, his wife.

(CCXCVII.) LYDIA VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹) baptized at Minissink February 17, 1754; married JACOB COLE. Child :

(369) Jacob Cole⁵: Bap. at Minissink June 22, 1783.

(CCXCVIII.) CATHRINA VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹) baptized at Minissink Feb. 13, 1758; married DANIEL MYERS. Children :

(370) Daniel Van Aken Myers⁵: Bap. at Minissink Aug. 18, 1782.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

- (371) Jacob Myers⁵: Born at Minissink March 26 and bap. Sept. 26, 1784.

The witnesses at the baptisms of these children were Daniel Van Aken and Lea Kettel, his wife.

(CCXCIX.) ELIJAH VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹) baptized in Minissink November 21, 1759, died August 27, 1837; married in Minissink May 27, 1784 CATHERINE COLE. She was born March 8, 1767 and died September 8, 1849. In 1785 they removed to Dolsontown, Orange county, New York and in 1793 to Wantage, Sussex county, New Jersey, where he bought two hundred acres of land to which he added, later, seventy acres in Frankfort township upon which were saw and grist mills. During his life he was a farmer. Children:

- (372) Daniel⁵: Born July 2, 1787.
(373) Elijah⁵: Born Jan. 16, 1789.
(374) Jesse⁵: Born May 23, 1791.
(375) William⁵: Born Feb. 26, 1794.
(376) Maria⁵: Born Feb. 26, 1795; married John Dunning of Beemerville.
(377) Rachel⁵: Born Dec. 23, 1797; married John Dutcher of Papokating.
(378) Abraham Cole⁵: Born Dec. 3, 1800; married Martha Reese.
(379) Elinor⁵: Born Jan. 10, 1803; married J. V. Carmer of Frankfort. She died in March 1877.

(CCCI.) ABSALOM VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹) baptized at Minissink November 17, 1765; married MAGDALENA——. Child:

- (380) Margaret⁵: Born July 22, 1784 at Minissink.

Olde Ulster

The witnesses at the baptism were Isaac Van Aken and Margaret Hornbeck, his wife.

(CCCII.) JANNETJE VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹), born October 31, 1766 at Minissink, married EVERT HORNBECK, JR. Children :

(381) Grietie Hornbeck⁵: Born Apr. 12 and bap. at Minissink June 22, 1794.

(382) Daniel Hornbeck⁵: Born May 3, 1798 at Minissink.

To be continued



HENRY HUDSON'S QUEST

(1609)

Out from the harbor of Amsterdam

The Half Moon turned her prow to sea ;

The coast of Norway dropped behind,

Yet northward still kept she

Through the drifting fog and the driving snow,

Where never before man dared to go :

“ O Pilot, shall we find the strait that leads to the Eastern
sea ? ”

“ A waste of ice before us lies—we must turn back,” said he.

Westward they steered their tiny bark,

Westward through weary weeks they sped,

Till the cold gray strand of a stranger-land

Loomed through the mist ahead.

League after league they hugged the coast,

And their Captain never left his post :

“ O Pilot, see you yet the strait that leads to the Eastern
sea ? ”

Henry Hudson's Quest

“I see but the rocks and the barren shore ; no strait is there,” quoth he.

They sailed to the North—they sailed to the South—

And at last they rounded an arm of sand

Which held the sea from a harbor's mouth—

The loveliest in the land ;

They kept their course across the bay,

And the shore before them fell away :

“O Pilot, see you not the strait that leads to the Eastern sea ? ”

“Hold the rudder true ! Praise Christ Jesu ! the strait is here,” said he.

Onward they glide with wind and tide,

Past marshes gray and crags sun-kist ;

They skirt the sills of green-clad hills,

And meadows white with mist—

But alas ! the hope and the brave, brave dream !

For rock and shallow bar the stream :

“O Pilot, can this be the strait that leads to the Eastern sea ? ”

“Nay, Captain, nay ; 'tis not this way ; turn back we must,” said he.

Full sad was Hudson's heart as he turned

The Half Moon's prow to the South once more ;

He saw no beauty in crag or hill,

No beauty in curving shore ;

For they shut him away from that fabled main

He sought his whole life long in vain :

“O Pilot, say, can there be a strait that leads to the Eastern sea ? ”

“God's crypt is sealed ! 'Twill stand revealed in His own good time,” quoth he.

BURTON EGBERT STEVENSON

OLD^E VLSTER

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IN CONNECTION WITH THE CELEBRATION of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the First Reformed Dutch Church of Kingston there should be published a history of the church. Students of the history of this region know how intimately the old church was intertwined with all the affairs political, civil and religious. There are not many who know the richness of the records. Besides this, in the Netherlands and in England, public documents are full of matters relating to the old church. We spoke last month of the search among those records by Chaplain Roswell Randall Hoes, U. S. N., and the discoveries and collections he has made. It is the hope of those who are interested in the old church, and others who are concerned that exact knowledge of past events be secured, that Chaplain Hoes publish the results of his painstaking searches in the form of a full and connected history. That it would be accurate goes without saying. We understand that such a work is forthcoming.

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

¶ A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

¶ Dr. Gustave Anjou's Ulster County Probate Records from 1665; invaluable in tracing ancestry—in two volumes.

We also have a large line of Souvenir Postal Cards showing local scenes, including the Revolutionary Buildings.

Souvenir Spoons, commemorating 250th anniversary of the founding of Kingston. Specially prepared by the Gorham Company.

OLD^E VLSTER

 VOL. V

OCTOBER, 1909

NO. 10

Old Ulster and Its Hinterland



WHEN it was determined to divide the province of New York into counties the stretch of the western shore of the Hudson from the Highlands to the bounds of Albany was called Ulster county. Its lines were very indefinite. It was to extend on the river "from the Murderers Creeke neare the high Lands to the Sawyers Creeke." It was not said how far back those bounds extended, but in the same act the north bounds of Orange were to be the south line of Ulster and "Westward into the woods as farr as Delaware river." In other words the county of Ulster was from the mountains of the Highlands to the Catskills where the latter are closest to the Hudson, and back to the Delaware, enclosing the Catskills.

Troubles with the savages led to military campaigns. Such expeditions always resulted in colonization. Cregier's two expeditions in the summer of 1663

Olde Ulster

led to the discovery, first of the fat bottoms of the Rondout about Wawarsing, second of the fertile square miles of the Wallkill. The appropriation of the former proceeded until the Delaware Water Gap was reached. The possession of the upper valley of the Esopus came later. But the troubles with the Indians during the French and Indian War in the decade succeeding 1750 led to the settlement of the Delaware along the eastern branch, and hardy and resolute spirits pushed over into the valley of the Susquehanna. Sullivan's famous expedition of 1779 showed his soldiers the beautiful farm lands of Western New York and Ulster county officers and soldiers seized the first opportunity of availing themselves of them. Many western counties filled with Ulster families, particularly Cayuga and Tompkins. Ithaca and Auburn, particularly, were founded by Ulster county people.

Settled upon these fertile acres of virgin lands it was no trouble to raise great crops of grain. The difficulties arose when it was to be marketed. Some was floated in the spring down the Delaware and Susquehanna with the floods. In the regions upon Lake Ontario farm products sought a market by way of the St. Lawrence. But all these routes were unsatisfactory and expensive. The result to the producer was very small.

No sooner were the granaries of the farmers cultivating the new fields known to be overflowing than the merchants and business men along the Hudson began to devise means to reach them. Railroads had not been thought of. Canals had been dreamed of. They had not been dug. There were no people in the

Old Ulster and its Hinterland

long stretches between the settlements on the Hudson and those in the interior to build public roads and highways. There was but one solution to the problem. Men with means must build private roads and charge for the service rendered. Thus the interior was pierced by turnpikes and, later, by plank roads.

The western boundary of the village of Kingston was the Esopus creek. It is subject to terrible freshets and its lowlands were frequently covered by floods. From the first settlement it was difficult to build bridges which could not be carried away by the raging stream. A fording place at the foot of what was always known as "Frog Alley" was the spot for crossing, unless a similar place and method were used at the mouth of the Sawkill, four miles north. Here the "Old King's Road" from New York to Albany crossed.

The old Dutch court records are full of proposals and appropriations for a bridge. Many were built and carried away by the waters. In January, 1790, a public meeting was held and money raised by subscription, to which the Trustees of Kingston Commons at various times added £175. The next year the Legislature authorized the Commissioners of Highways of the town of Kingston to lay out a road across the lowlands with as many swinging gates as they deemed necessary. The next step was the incorporation of the Ulster and Delaware Turnpike Company. This was to run from Kingston up the valley of the Esopus to Delaware county and reach the Delaware river at Paghkatakan (Arkville); thence to Middletown, Delhi and Walton; push on to Jericho in Chenango county

Olde Ulster

and have a length of one hundred and four miles. It was a statesmanlike scheme. But the many attempts to build it and make it pay cost of operation were failures. Here is not the place to give reasons why. The subject is discussed in full in Schoonmaker's History of Kingston.

Some years later Judge Lucas Elmendorf, who was Ulster's Representative in Congress for three terms, organized a turnpike company to build a road "to run from the public street in the village of Kingston, immediately north of the dwelling house of Rachel Beekman, and to terminate on the Delaware river at Cohecton. to the south of Ebenezer Taylor's," and its construction was begun at once. Elmendorf expended about \$40,000 of his own money. It was a total loss as the road was never finished. It is known to this day as "The Lucas Turnpike." This magazine (Vol. III., pages 33-41) has told the story of "The Old Mine Road."

There was a road laid out and much of it constructed to tap this region which ante-dated the attempts from Kingston many years. It was from Old Catskill (Leeds) and started from the Strand upon the Catskill creek, now the village of Catskill. As early as 1768 such a road existed from the Hudson to the Susquehanna. "The Journal of Smith and Wells" tells of a tour by them in 1769. They proceeded up the Hudson from New York to Albany by sloop. While in Catskill in May of that year they learned that Colonel Staats Long Morris and the Duchess of Gordon, his wife, had gone by the Catskill route "to Cherry Valley and the Susquehanna with two wagons."

When Smith reached Cherry Valley he inquired about it. He was told

“There is a route from Kaatskill across to this line, namely : from Kaatskill to Akery [Acra], 8 miles; to Batavia, 12 ; to Red Kill, 8; from Red Kill to a lake at the head of the Mohawks, or main branch of the river Delaware, 12, and to Otego about 16; in all 56 miles.”

On the west bank of the Susquehanna at its confluence with the Unadilla lies the flourishing village of Unadilla. During the last quarter of the eighteenth century the ferry across the Susquehanna at this spot was known as Wattles' Ferry. The ferry was named after Nathaniel Wattles, who had come by the way of Catskill and the road to the Susquehanna immediately at the close of the Revolutionary War. Reaching that river opposite Unadilla he settled there and became the greatest factor in the development of the region. He opened roads in every direction, built a hotel and inaugurated improvements on every side. In 1797 he was elected Member of Assembly but died as he reached Albany.

This road to Wattles' Ferry had been of the most primitive description. It led through a trackless wilderness and its marks were blazed trees and Indian trails. The pioneers who succeeded each other assisted in deepening these markings. Brush was cut away, holes filled up, rocks removed. It was not until 1787, the year when the Constitution of the United States was formed, that the first wagon, direct from Catskill, reached the Susquehanna at Wattles' Ferry. Then settlers from New England, particu-

larly from Connecticut, poured into the valley of the Susquehanna and through it into the Chemung and on to the Genesee. For more than forty years it was the highway from the Hudson into the interior of the State of New York. Before the summer of 1788 had passed the road was fit for vehicles and within two years more the State of New York took charge of it. Then it was determined to extend it to the head of Cayuga Lake at Ithaca. The road to the Susquehanna from Catskill was made, at first, twenty-five feet wide and the journey and return required fifteen days to complete with oxen and a load. In 1792 a regular weekly mail connected the two points.

In 1802 it was completed and was called "The Catskill and Susquehanna Turnpike." It soon became famous. It was called in 1813 in Spofford's *Gazetteer* "The Appian Way Turnpike," and two stages were kept upon the road, with fares at five cents a mile. Stages leaving Catskill on Wednesday morning reached Unadilla on Friday evening, and leaving Unadilla Sunday evening reached Catskill Tuesday morning. Ten toll gates were established and were authorized to charge eight cents for twenty hogs or sheep; twenty cents for twenty horses or cattle; five cents for a horse and rider; twelve and one-half cents for a horse and chaise; twenty-five cents for a coach or chariot; twelve and one-half cents for a stage or wagon. From its opening until 1830 the turnpike enjoyed great prosperity. In 1805 the stage business of the Catskill & Susquehanna Turnpike was made a monopoly to David Bostwick, Stephen Benton, Lemuel Hotchkiss and Terence Donnelly.

Old Ulster and its Hinterland

With the road in operation to the Susquehanna the horizon of its promoters enlarged. It was proposed to extend it to Cayuga Lake and in one sense it was completed so far. Grain therefrom reached tide-water at Catskill very frequently. Dr. Timothy Dwight, President of Yale College, who traversed the turnpike two years after it was built, speaks of it in this fashion :

“It is a branch of the Greenwood turnpike from Hartford to Albany, commencing from Canaan in Connecticut and passing to Wattles’s Ferry on the Susquehanna. Thence it is proposed to extend it to the county of Trumbull on the southern shore of Lake Erie.”

He also remarks :

“A new turnpike road is begun from the ferry and intended to join the Great Western road either at Cayuga bridge or Canandaigua.”

It is worthy of remark that to this day State street in Ithaca is locally known as “The Catskill Turnpike.”

The Great Western Turnpike was the one from Albany to Buffalo and was constructed about four years after that from the Susquehanna to the Hudson at Catskill.

It is not the present purpose to narrate the successive enterprises proposed or carried out to open communication and provide for trade with the hinterland of Old Ulster. In the days of turnpikes to the western region eight radiated from Albany ; and five others stretched from Kingston, Catskill and New-

burgh to the Susquehanna and to the Delaware rivers.

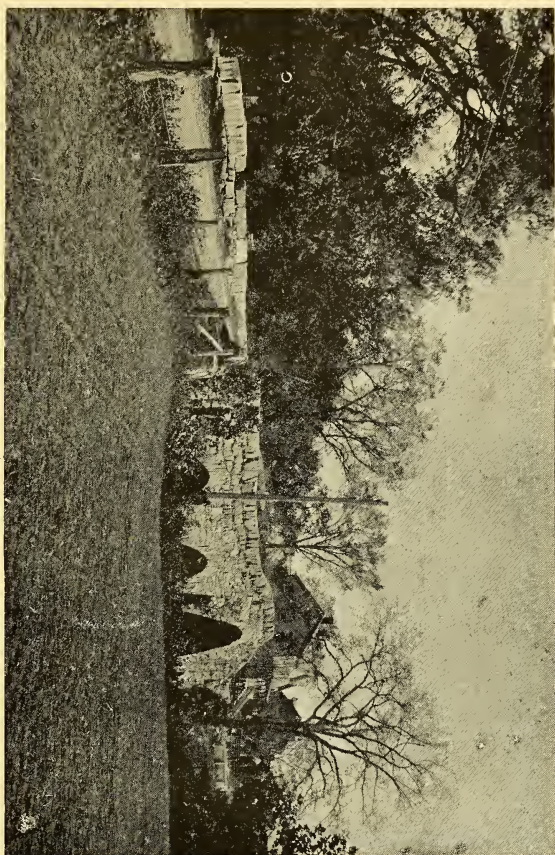
They reached their height of prosperity by 1835. They all received their first injury in the opening of the Erie canal in 1825. Then came the days of railroad building. As these modern means of access and communication were built travel and commerce sought them. One after the other struck Catskill blows. Albany, Kingston and Newburgh profited by the loss of Catskill, though the last place was energetic in attempting railroads to its western "sphere of influence." Commerce sought the easiest path to the west. In so doing it fell back upon what the Indians had learned, and took the old Indian trail up the Mohawk and through "the Long House."

Saugerties made no effort to reach the distant interior by turnpikes. In fact what is now the village of Saugerties came into being from the development of the water power of the Esopus creek, which enters the Hudson through the village. Here the creek falls to tidewater and is harnessed to many industries.

From Saugerties a turnpike was built to Woodstock village, a distance of ten miles. This turnpike is now a State road. Another turnpike was constructed from Malden in this town, to the Katerskill clove at Palenville, a distance somewhat less than ten miles. Within a few years it has been abandoned as a toll road.

Our illustration this month is the arched bridge of stone at Leeds over the Catskill creek where the old turnpike crosses. This ancient piece of masonry will stand forever as a monument of the old highway, "The Catskill and Susquehanna Turnpike," and the ambitions of its founders and promoters.

The Old Arch Bridge at Leeds



The Old Arch Bridge at Leeds

The Dutch Church

In Kingston ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁



URING the three days of Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, September 12-14, 1909, the First Reformed Dutch Church of Kingston, familiarly known as "The First Dutch Church," celebrated its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary. Many visitors and strangers were present from other churches in the denomination, from churches of other branches of the Church of Christ, with representatives from abroad, particularly from the Classis of Amsterdam in Holland and from the University of Leyden.

As there was no attempt to tell the story of the church at the anniversary exercises it seems appropriate that OLDE ULSTER give a brief account of the pastors in succession.

No sooner had a permanent settlement been begun than religious services were instituted. Aside from the records of land conveyances the earliest reference to the Esopus is found in a letter from Domine Megapolensis to the Classis of Amsterdam dated August 5th, 1657 in which he speaks of a place "half way between the Mannhattans and Rensselaer called by the Dutch Esopus or Sypous, and by the Indians Atharhacton." He calls it "an exceedingly fine country," and says that the Dutch families there "hold Sunday

The Dutch Church in Kingston

meetings and then one or the other of them reads from the Postilla."

These religious services were kept up. Soon after this Andries van der Sluys was appointed *voorleser*, or precentor. The killing of a Dutchman by a drunken Indian led to a visit of Petrus Stuyvesant and to his gathering the scattered settlers into a village which was fortified. He laid out this village on May 31st, 1658. In his report Stuyvesant mentions two things relating to religious services. The one is that van der Sluys was *voorleser* at the time of his visit, the other that he attended religious services on Ascension Day at the house of Jacob Jansen Stoll "where on Sundays and other usual feasts the scriptures are read."

Thus we have the authority of Megapolensis and Stuyvesant to establish the fact that there were regular religious services in Kingston in 1657 and 1658. This shows that the settlers must have instituted them as early as their return to their homes in 1655.

But the settlers were not content with these informal services. They were greatly desirous to have a settled minister. On the 11th of August, 1659 Stuyvesant wrote to Sergeant Laurensen, then at the Esopus, that Hermanus Bloem, a candidate for the ministry, had visited America to see for himself the religious conditions. That he had persuaded him to make a trip with him to the Esopus. An attack of fever had prevented, so Stuyvesant now sent him with Domine Megapolensis as his representative. He advised them if they were satisfied with his gifts that "they lay hold of this chance." The people were pleased with Bloem and he returned to the Netherlands to be ordained to the

ministry. He had preached two sermons at the Esopus on the 17th of August. This should have been the day celebrated.

Bloem returned the next year and preached his first sermon as pastor on the 12th of September, 1660. On the following Christmas Day he administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to seventeen members of the new church. During his pastorate the massacre of 1663 occurred of which he wrote a graphic account in which he painted a most vivid picture. He remained here until 1667, when he returned to the Netherlands.

Domine Laurentius Van Gaasbeek was the second pastor, from 1678 to 1680, when he died. He found 80 members at Kingston, 30 at Hurley and 20 at Marbletown. In one year he increased the membership to 180. A new and substantial church of stone had been erected before his coming on the corner of Wall and Main streets in the present churchyard. He was succeeded in a year by his brother-in-law, Domine Johannes Weeksteen. In six years he died, March 17th, 1687. During his pastorate the French Huguenot church was organized in New Paltz. Soon after the death of Weeksteen Laurentius Vanden Bosch was called. He remained but two years. His conduct was so immoral that the church rid itself of him as soon as possible.

For six years the church was vacant. Domine Dellius of Albany faithfully served it whenever possible and finally secured for it Domine John Petrus Nucella. He had a successful ministry of nine years. He then resigned and went to London to become the

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minister at the Dutch Chapel Royal of St. James, founded by William III., upon his accession to the English throne. He was a bitter opponent of Jacob Leisler and upon the execution of that patriot for treason succeeded in placing upon the church records a resolution forbidding the baptism of any child by the name of Jacob because of the scandal thus attached to that name. At the close of his pastorate occurred the attempt of Lord Cornbury to compel the Kingston church to conform to the Church of England and settle as pastor a Reverend Mr. Hepburn, a clergyman of that church.

Domine Nucella resigned his charge on March 7th, 1704. Edward, Lord Cornbury, the governor of the Province, saw an opportunity, as he supposed, to make the people of Kingston conform to the Church of England. So the Reverend Mr. Hepburn was sent to take charge of the vacant church. How he was received appears from the letter the colonial secretary addressed to the people of Esopus :

“ NEW YORK, August ye 30, 1704.

“ GENTLEMEN.—Mr. Haburne [Hepburn], who is a minister of ye Established Church of England, and sent by his Excell. to administer ye Gospel to you in this Vacancy, ought I think, att least to be provided for as well as a Des-senting Minister to ye church, who is only tolerated to exercise ye unestablished religion he professes, but it seems you have not been of that opinion, or if you have, you have not paid that obedience to his Excellency's Commands and that regard to this gentleman's character as was due, and this appears plainly by ye mean accommodations you provided before. I am therefore by his Excell. Command to

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lett you know that you are immediately without delays in misconstruing any part of this to provide a good and convenient house in your town of Kingstown, with necessaries thereto belonging (suitable to the character of Mr. Hepburn) for him and if there be no other house to be gotten, you are immediately to put him in possession of ye house late of Boudy Windewitt, which was some time ago escheated for her Majie, and make a speedy returne of what you shall have done herein.

“I am, gentlemen,

“Yr very humble servant,

“GEORGE CLARKE.”

But the Esopus would have none of the royal governor's providing. At a meeting of the clergy of the Province convened at New York October 5th, 1704 the report of the state of the Church contains this regarding the matter:

“ULSTER COUNTY, COMMONLY CALLED ESOPUS.

“In this county the greater number of people are Dutch, who, about twelve years since, sent to the Classis of Amsterdam for a minister. Mr. Newcella, being lately called home, left them destitute of any person to officiate among them, which his Excellency was pleased to take into consideration, and has appointed the Rev. Mr. Hepburn to preach and read Divine Service to them, whereby the English, who had never a minister among them, have the benefit of public worship, and are in good hopes of bringing the Dutch to a conformity. The Rev. Mr. Hepburn has at present small encouragement from the people, but chiefly under God depends on the kindness and bounty of his Excellency, the Governor of this Province.

“WM. VESEY.”

Upon what the English people residing in Kings-

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ton among the Dutch based those good hopes the writer does not say. Certainly the last sentences of Mr. Vesey's letter do not consist.

Soon after the departure of Nucella the church asked the Classis of Amsterdam to send them a pastor. In compliance with the request the classis ordained a licentiate, Henricus Beys, on the 4th of May, 1705, and sent him to the Esopus. He reached New York on January 1, 1706. Lord Cornbury threw in his way various obstacles and he did not reach Kingston until March. The congregation were greatly pleased with him at first. They addressed a letter to the Classis of Amsterdam in which they said "they thought him almost an angel sent of God." They soon altered that opinion. He neglected his duties, indulged in long and repeated absences and began coquetting with Lord Cornbury and the Church of England. He left Kingston and took orders in the Episcopalian ministry. His pastorate terminated in 1708 and the church was distracted and in disorder. But a brighter day was about to dawn.

In 1710 Petrus Vas became the pastor. With him the church rose to a high position. He was a man of scholarly attainments, a profound and eloquent preacher, a grand pastor, genial and social. For twenty-two years the church increased in membership until its care was more than he was able to attend to. Domine George Wilhelmus Mancius was called as his colleague. Together they labored and Mancius organized churches up and down the valleys of the Hudson, Wallkill and Rondout. Vas labored for forty-six years and died at the age of ninety-six. Mancius lived six years longer

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and left the church one of the strongest in the denomination.

Dr. Hermanus Meyer succeeded him. The great Cœtus and Conferentie controversy arose. He wished to be neutral but circumstances compelled him to take sides. He was of the Cœtus party and his pastorate was a long conflict, as his church had a large Conferentie element. This finally took from him the church and he preached in private houses. In 1772 he resigned. He was a man of great gifts, and high honors in the denomination were his. In 1775 Domine George J. L. Doll became the pastor. During the Revolution he faithfully labored and his ardent patriotism and dauntless courage were a tower of strength to the patriot cause. Here he served for thirty-three years. His church was burned by the British in 1777 at the burning of the town. It was immediately rebuilt.

He resigned in 1808 and the Rev. John Gosman was called. His was the first English pastorate. His eloquent and polished sermons are remembered to this day. His pastorate brought the church to a high level and he had a most successful ministry of twenty-seven years. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Lillie, "the most accomplished scholar that had graduated from the University of Edinburgh for half a century." Here he remained for five years and was succeeded by the Rev. John Hardenbergh VanWagenen. A short three years closed his pastorate by his death from typhoid fever and the church was once more without a pastor. In 1845 it called the Rev. John Cantine Farrel Hoes who served it until 1867. During his pas-

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torate the present cathedral-like church was built. Its corner stone was laid in 1851 and it was dedicated in 1852. After the close of the pastorate of Dr. Hoes in 1867 the Rev. David N. Vanderveer became the pastor and remained nine years. His eloquence and genial qualities are treasured memories to this day. He resigned in 1876 and was succeeded the same year by the present pastor, the Rev. Dr. John Garnsey Van Slyke, whose ministry of thirty-three years is drawing to a close.

For more than one-fourth of a thousand years the old church has been one of the most influential factors in the history of the county, the region and the State. Its patriotism during the Revolution called forth letters from Washington, Governor George Clinton and others of the Fathers of the Republic. That of Washington is preserved in its archives. The remains of Clinton rest in its churchyard. Around him lie a host of those who served with him in those perilous years of the birth of our country. Beside them rest the bodies of those who fought the battles for liberty in the generations which preceded. In plain sight at one side is the old court house where the State of New York came into being and Clinton was first inaugurated governor. Here the first constitution of the State was framed and promulgated. Here the first courts were organized and the first legislature called into being. The spot is historical, the ground is sacred. Right here, within this churchyard and at the court house at its side, has civil and religious liberty been established for years almost without number. May the church continue until it completes its millennium !

IN THE BRUYNHWYCK CHURCHYARD

To those who are of a kindred spirit with Sir Walter Scott's "Old Mortality" there is no more congenial spot for sauntering than the churchyard of the old Shawangunk church at Bruynswyck. For almost a century and three-quarters it has been the place of worship for this region, far from the line of travel and commerce. Its site is beautiful, the region historic. Near at hand was "New Fort," the site of the Indian fortress captured by Captain Martin Cregier, in command of the troops of the Dutch West India Company sent to rescue the captive women and children taken in the massacre at Wildwyck (Esopus) June 7th, 1663. Here he rescued them September 7th of that year, destroyed the fort, seized a "sloop load" of Indian goods, broke the power of the Esopus Indians and gave over to the torch acres of Indian corn and a store of the maize of the former year.

As one wanders among the graves in the rear of the quaint old edifice one almost stumbles upon an antique stone in the grass. It is not a foot in height and bears the following letters:

"Ano 1752, M E
D E I
I S O L
E P"

Passing on one comes to this:

"Alexander Clinton, Esquire, born 28 April, 1732,
died March 11, 1758, N. S."

In the Bruynswyck Churchyard

Alexander Clinton was the physician of the town and married Mary Kain of Shawangunk in November, 1757. He was the second son of Judge Charles Clinton of Little Britain and a brother of General James Clinton of Revolutionary fame (the father of Governor DeWitt Clinton) and also a brother of Governor George Clinton, the first Governor of this State and Vice President of the United States.

Here is another worth transcribing :

“Sacred to the memory of Johannis Bruyn, Esq., who departed this life on the 10th day of February, 1814, aged 63 years, 11 months and 17 days.

“Sweet be the slumbers of this virtuous sage,
Who from a well-spent life retir'd in age.
The stroke of death could not his peace destroy ;
He died in faith the realms above t' enjoy.”

Johannis Bruyn was a Member of Assembly of the State of New York in 1781 and four times subsequently ; was elected State Senator in 1810 and again in 1812 and was one of the presidential electors at the second election of George Washington as President of the United States.

We copy another inscription :

“In memory of Jacobus Bruyn, Esq^r, who died on the 26th day of April, A. D., M. D. C. C. L. XXXI, Aged 75 years & 5 mon.

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“ His mortal part now claims its pristine state,
Which heaven once taught whate’er was good and great,
That Virtues Eminent like his can die,
Full oft his friends shall witness with a sigh,
And say, when passing by this well-known grave,
Here rests the good, the Just, the wise, the brave.
’Mong fallen men so few like him remain,
’We scarce shall look upon his like again,’
The friend of human-kind, his Country’s friend,
And in one word, his Eulogy to end
(Let truth say more of monarchs if she can),
Here lies God’s Noblest work,—an HONEST MAN ! ”

In colonial times, before the Revolution, Jacobus Bruyn was twice elected a member of the Assembly, first in 1759 and then in 1761. He continued thus until the election of 1768 when George Clinton and Charles DeWitt were chosen, who served until the breaking out of the Revolutionary War.

Here is another that we must preserve :

“ To the memory of all that could be lost in the Husband, the Father, and the Friend, James Kain, who departed this life on the 26th of July, 1812, aged 55 years.

“ Affliction sore long time I bore,
Physician’s art was vain,
Till God did please to give me ease,
And free me from my pain.

“ A husband Kind, a parent dear,
A faithful friend lies buried here.
Free’d from the world’s distressing care & pain,
His soul is fled immortal joys to gain.”

Slaves in Marbletown in 1755

"KIT DAVIS'S" PATENT

Petrus Stuyvesant etc with the Hon^{ble} Council declare, that we have to-day, date underwritten, given and granted to *Christoffel Davids* a parcel of land, measuring 36 morgens [72 acres], situate about a league inland from the North river in the *Esopus*, on the west side of the Great Kil [Esopus Creek], opposite to the land of *Thomas Chambers*, running S. W. and N. E. halfway to a small pond [binnewater] on the border of a valley, which divides this parcel and the land of the Hon^{ble} *Johan de Hulter*, dec^d., with as much hayland (meadow) as shall pro rata be allowed to the other bouweries. Under the express condition etc etc. Done at Fort *Amsterdam* in *New Netherland*, the 25th of September, 1656.



SLAVES IN MARBLETOWN IN 1755

MARCH ye 20th, 1755.

A list of the Negro slaves Which Are Given up to me (Fredk Davis) as Captn of the town of Marbletown pursuant to An Act of Generall Assembly made for that Purpose :

MASTERS,

Levi Pawling, Esq., 8 ; Levis Bevier, 4 ; Johannis DeWitt, 5 ; Gerret DuBois, 4 ; Matthew Newkerk, 3 ; Johannes Janson, Jr., 2 ; Malgart Keater, 1 ; Nathan Smades, 5 ; Jacob Hasbrouck, 3 ; Isaack

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Hasbrouck, 4; John Newkerk, 1; Marten Delameter, 5; Marten Bogert, 2; Stephen Nottingham, 3; Elesabeth Moures, 1; Johannes VanWag-
anen, 1; Samuel Mowris, 1; Thomas Janson, 5; Leonard Hardenbergh, 2; Daniel Brodhead, 3; John Crispell, Jr., 1; William Wood, 1; Thomas Vandemark, 1; Andrew Oliver, 1; Peter Cantine, 5; Ann Garting, 7; Frederick Davis, 1; Johannes Bogart, 1; Wessel Brodhead, 4; Cornelius Brink, 1; Hendrick Croom, 7; Thomas Vankeuren, 3; Solomon VanWagenen, 2; William Nottingham, 1; faulintine Smith, 1; frederick Schoonmaker, 5; Johannes Keater, 2; Matthew Cantine, 1; Jannoche Elting, 3. Total 111.

The records of the town of Marbletown contain many entries like the following ;

“I do certify that my negro wench gave birth to a female child named Lane, on the 11th of September, 1799.

“THOMAS JANSEN (Farmer).

“Recorded by JOHN N. CANTINE, Town Clerk.”

“I do certify that I have a male child, named Pet, born of my slave April 14, 1800.

“LEWIS BRODHEAD.

“Recorded July 26, 1800.

“JOHN N. CANTINE, Town Clerk.”

“I have a black female child, named Sarah, born the 3d of November, 1799.

“ADAM HOFFMAN.

“Recorded by me, 3d of November.

“JOHN N. CANTINE, Town Clerk.”

Petition for Domine Bloem

PETITION FOR DOMINE BLOEM

To their Noble Very Worshipful Honors, the Honble Director-General and Council of New-Netherland,

Show with due humility the inhabitants of the place, called the *Esopus*, that on the 17th of August the Rev. *Harmanus Bloem* has preached at the place of the petitioners in the fore and afternoon, which has satisfied the petitioners very well and they wish sincerely, that they could obtain him for their duly authorized minister. They request therefore respectfully that your Hon^{ble} Worships will please, to consider this matter and effect, that he may be appointed here by the proper authority, while we promise to treat him decently and in order that his Reverence shall be able to sustain himself and be more encouraged in his work we have all resolved (subject to your Hon^{ble} Worships' approval) to make a good bouwery for him, provide it with a house, barns, cows and other cattle as proper, to tend the land, which your Hon^{ble} Worships shall please to allot to him, plough it and bring the whole in good order, so that he may cultivate it himself or hire it out advantageously; as long as he shall fill the position of preacher here, but in case he should leave or die, then this bouwery shall always remain for the support of the minister, then being here, and as the number of the petitioners is as yet very small and the establishing of such a bouwery will be troublesome and costly for them, may the petitioners therefore be granted, that all who hereafter come to take possession of lands and bouweries here shall also contribute pro rata to the obligations of the present petitioners, who must now incur these expenses. We await a favorable decision hereon.

Esopus, the 17th of August 1659.

Willem Jansen, Thomas Chambers, Jan Broersen, Dirck Henrichsen, Matthys Roloffsen, Aelbert Goebertsen, Jacob Jansen Stoll, Juriaen Bestvaal, Jaecob Jansen Stoutenborgh, Jan Jansen, Henrick Cornelissen, Pieter Dircksen, Cornelis Barentsen Slecht.

THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 286

(CCCIIL.) RACHEL VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹), born October 31, 1766; married BOUDEWYNE BRINK. Child:

(383) Samuel Brink⁵: Born March 2, 1789 at Minissink

(CCCV.) LEA VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink December 25, 1776, married JACOB HORNBECK at Minissink February 5, 1794. Child:

(384) Priscilla Hornbeck⁵: Born January 28, 1812 at Walpack. —

(CCCVI.) JEREMIAH VAN AKEN⁴ (Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹), born in Minissink January 25, 1778; died in Ira, Cayuga county, New York, March 17, 1848. He married MARY WESTFALL, who was born February 22, 1778 and died in Ira, Cayuga county, New York, December 13, 1831. Children:

(385) Benjamin⁵: Born — —.

(386) Thomas⁵: Born — —.

(387) Daniel⁵: Born — —.

(388) Rachel⁵: Born — —; married Jonas Gumaer of Skaneateles, Onondaga county, New York. She died at Cato, New York.

(389) Angeline⁵: Born — —; married Peter Loyster of Niles, Cayuga county, New York.

(390) Leah⁵: Born — —; married Smith O. Ferris of Ira, Cayuga county, New York.

(NOTE.—The Minissink Records contain the record of the marriage of Daniel Van Aken and Sarah Van Vliet Nov. 18, 1792).

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(391) Mary⁵: Born ——— ; married Lewis Lockwood of Niles, Cayuga county, New York.

(CCCXVII.) BENJAMIN VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacob³, Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink February 13, 1756; married MARGARET CHESNEY. Children :

(392) Abraham⁵: Born in Walpack December 10, 1784.

(393) Benjamin⁵: Born in Walpack March 19, 1787.

(394) Daniel⁵: Born in Walpack August 21, 1789.

(395) Ann⁵: Born in Walpack Nov. 13, 1791 and bap. Jan. 16, 1792.

(396) Elshe⁵: Born in Walpack Jan. 22 and bap. March 30, 1794.

(397) Jacob⁵: Born in Walpack Sept. 15, 1796 and bap. June 25, 1797; married Hannah Rummerfield.

(398) Hannah⁵: Born March 7, 1800 in Walpack.

(CCCXVIII.) CASPARUS VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacob³, Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink January 27, 1759; married ANNATJE (JOHANNA) VANDER MARK. Children :

(399) Jacobus⁵: Born in Walpack December 7, 1784.

(400) Joseph⁵: Born in Walpack Oct. 8 and bap. Dec. 21, 1794; married Catharine Miller.

(401) Mary⁵: Born in Walpack April 26, 1796.

(402) David⁵: Born in Walpack May 1 and bap. July 10, 1803; married Catharina Emman.

The witnesses to the baptisms of these children were Jacobus Van Aken and Jennecke Decker, his wife.

(CCCXIX.) HARMANUS VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacob³, Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Walpack September 22, 1762; married HANNAH WOOD. Children :

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- (403) Moses⁵: Born in Walpack March 10, 1787.
(404) Abraham⁵: Born in Walpack March 22, 1790.
(405) Sarah⁵: Born in Walpack March 22, 1790. Twin
of preceding.
(406) May⁵: Born in Walpack June 15 and bap. Aug.
19, 1792.
(407) Philip⁵: Bap. in Walpack July 6, 1794.
(408) Jenny⁵: Born in Walpack June 5 and bap. July
10, 1796; married James McCarty.
(409) Aaron⁵: Born in Walpack June 14, 1798; mar-
ried Mary McCarty.
(410) Caty Westbrouck⁵: Born in Minissink June 27,
1806.

(CCCXX.) RACHEL VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacob³. Isaac²,
Marinus¹), baptized in Walpack August 30, 1772:
married NICHOLAS SCHOONHOVEN. Child:

- (411) Rachel Schoonhoven⁵: Born in Walpack Dec.
3, 1791.

(CCCXXI.) JACOB J. VANAKEN⁴ (Jacob³, Isaac²,
Marinus¹), baptized in Walpack May 22, 1774; mar-
ried in Walpack, HANNAH BROOKS. Children:

- (412) Solomon⁵: Born in Walpack Feb. 24, 1809.
(413) Cornelius Brooks⁵: Born in Walpack Aug. 27
and bap. Nov. 24, 1811.
(414) Mary Ann⁵: Born in Walpack Nov. 12 and bap.
Dec. 25, 1814.
(415) Jane⁵: Born in Walpack April 20, 1821.
(416) Sarah⁵: Born in Walpack Aug. 21, 1822 and bap.
Feb. 16, 1824.

(CCCXXIII.) ELIZABETH VAN AKEN⁴ (Jacob³,

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Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Walpack June 8, 1777; married JOSHUA WESTBROOK. Children:

(417) Margaret Westbrook⁵: Born in Walpack March 12 and bap. July 23, 1807.

(418) John Westbrook⁵: Born in Walpack May 11 and bap. Aug. 3, 1817.

(CCCXXIV.) JOSEPH VAN AKEN⁴ (Isaac³, Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink February 12, 1758; married ELSJE VREDENBURGH. Children:

(419) Wilhelmus⁵: Born in Walpack Feb. 17 and bap. April 23, 1784.

(420) Catharina⁵: Born in Walpack July 23, 1789.

The witnesses to the baptisms of these children were Isaac Van Aken and Margaret Hornbeek, his wife.

(CCCXXV.) JAMES (JACOBUS) VAN AKEN⁴ (Isaac³, Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink April 8, 1764; married JANE DECKER. Children:

(421) Jacob⁵: Born in Walpack May 1, 1786.

(422) Blandina⁵: Born March 1 and bap, April 12, 1789 in Walpack.

(423) Daniel⁵: Born in Walpack Nov. 5, 1791.

(424) John⁵: Born in Walpack June 9, 1794.

(NOTE.—Isaac Van Aken, who seems to have been a son also of Jacob Van Aken and Margriet Van Garden, was the husband of Barbara Shipley. Their children were Jacob, born in Walpack August 10, 1783; Margriet, born in Walpack February 13, 1786; Elizabeth, born in Walpack February 13, 1788; Rachel, born Sept. 18, 1792 and baptized March 7, 1793).

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- (425) Grietie⁵: Born in Walpack August 7 and bap.
August 27, 1797.
(426) Hannah⁵: Born in Walpack July 30, 1800.
(427) Eliza Johnson⁵: Born in Walpack Mar. 18, 1804.
(428) James⁵: Born in Walpack June 29, 1807.
(429) Sarah⁵: Born in Walpack July 19, 1810.

(CCCXXVIII.) GRIETJE VAN AKEN⁴ (Isaac³, Isaac², Marinus¹), baptized in Minissink January 24, 1778; was married at Minissink January 22, 1796 to SIMON COLE. Children :

- (430) Peter Cole⁵: Born in Minissink Dec. 17, 1797.
(431) Jacobus Van Aken Cole⁵: Born in Minissink
Sept. 10, 1800.
(432) William Cole⁵: Born in Minissink Jan. 10, 1804.
(433) David Finch Cole⁵: Born in Minissink Nov. 6,
1810 and bap. June 16, 1811.
(434) Caty Van Aken Cole⁵: Born in Minissink March
20 and bap. Nov. 17, 1813.

The witnesses to the baptisms of these children were Jacobus Van Aken and Catharine Westbrook.

(CXVI.) JAN (JOHN E.) VAN AKEN j. m.⁵ (Eliphas, Jr.⁴, Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹), born January 11, 1777; died July 30, 1861; married in Kingston December 6, 1800, RACHEL VAN VLIET, j. d., "both parties residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." She was born December 22, 1781 and died April 27, 1848. John E. Van Aken raised a company in 1812, which he commanded and drilled in readiness for military service in the Second War with Great Britain. Children :

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- (435) William⁶: Born in Esopus February 25, 1801 ; married (1st) Polly Van Benschoten ; (2nd) Jannet Hasbrouck.
- (436) Eliphas⁶: Born in Esopus December 26, 1802 ; married Jane Ann Eckert.
- (437) Barent Gardinier⁶: Born April 25, 1806 ; married Catharine Plasz.
- (438) Enoch⁶: Born July 21, 1808 ; married Eliza Gulick.
- (439) Leah⁶: Born Oct. 8, 1810 ; married David Van Aken.
- (440) Catherine ⁶: Born Oct. 8, 1810 ; married Walter Felton. Twin of the preceding.
- (441) Elisabeth⁶: Born Mar. 29, 1814 ; m. Aaron Carle.

(CXVII.) ELISABETH VAN AKEN⁵, (Eliphas⁴, Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹), born May 4, 1780 ; died March 10, 1862 ; married EPHRAIM VAN AKEN⁵ (211) (Abraham⁴, Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹) was born June 28, 1779 and died March 5, 1844. Children :

- (442) Peter Myer⁶: Born in Esopus Jan. 13, 1803 ; married (1st) Ann Cole ; (2nd) Phoebe Suthard ; (3rd) Mrs. Lucy M. Norris.
- (443) Marinus⁶: Born in Esopus Feb. 10, 1806 ; married (1st) Jane Terpenning ; (2nd) Hannah Eckert.
- (444) Ephraim⁶: Born in Esopus Jan. 7, 1810 ; married Eliza Catherine Cole.
- (445) Levi⁶: Born in Esopus Aug. 6, 1812 ; married Margaret Terpenning.

(CXIX.) JACOBUS VAN AKEN⁵ (Eliphas⁴, Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹), born March 23, 1790 and died

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June 4, 1837; married (1st) NELLIE VAN NOSTRANT⁵ (Casparus⁴, Jacob³, Jacob², Jacob Jansen¹) who was born March 23, 1790 and died January 5, 1821. She was a sister of Wynche, who married Marinus, a brother of Jacobus Van Aken. Children;

(446) Wynche⁶: Born in Esopus June 21, 1811; married Peter Cole.

(447) Eliza⁶: Born in Esopus Sept. 6, 1813; married Solomon Eckert.

(448) Ebenezer⁶: Born in Esopus June 22, 1815; married Eliza Ann Van Vliet.

JACOBUS VAN AKEN married (2nd) MARGARET TERPENNING, who was born——; died May 12, 1887. Child:

(449) Mary Catherine⁶: Born in Esopus Sept. 12, 1828; married Amaziah Niese.

To be continued



THE GATES OF THE HUDSON

So bright the day, so clear the sky,
So grand the scene before me,
My meaner life my soul puts by,
And a better mood comes o'er me.

From under trees whose rustling leaves
Wear all their autumn glory,
I watch the brown fields far below,
And the headlands, gray and hoary.

The Gates of the Hudson

I see the beetling Palisades
Whose wrinkled brows forever,
In calms and storms, in lights and shades,
Keep watch along the river.

Such watch, of old, the Magi kept
Along the sad Euphrates : —
Our eyeless ones have never slept,
And this their solemn fate is :

God built these hills in barrier long,
And then He opened through them
These gates of granite, barred so strong
He only might undo them ;

Through them He lets the Hudson flow
For slowly counted ages,
The while the nations fade and grow
Around the granite ledges,

He bids these warders watch and wait,
Their vigil ne'er forsaking,
Forever standing by the gate,
Not moving and not speaking.

So, all earth's day, till night shall fall,
When God shall send His orders,
And summon at one trumpet-call
The grim and patient warders ;

The guards shall bow, the gates shall close
Upon the obedient river,
And then no more the Hudson flows,
Forever and forever.

WILLIAM OSBORN STODDARD

OLD^E ULSTER

AN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

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WE PRESENT THIS MONTH a brief outline of the history of the First Reformed Church of Kingston, familiarly known as "The First Dutch Church," which has just celebrated its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary. Ever since this magazine issued its first number the editor has been requested to print in its pages various historical and memorial sermons. The request has not been granted. It would be but a brief address of the kind that would not fill one whole number of the magazine. There have been so many of these in the county that the magazine would have been largely a publication of such memorials. An exception has been made in this number and we give a sketch of the first church established in Old Ulster. For almost a generation it was the only one in its bounds. Until within one hundred years it was the only church within what is now the City of Kingston. Its relation to the religious and civil history of our country is worth setting forth in these pages. All honor to the venerable First Dutch Church !

FORD HUMMEL

Teacher of the Violin

A graduate of the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, studied with pupils of Dr. Joachim and Ysaye; now studying at the Metropolitan College of Music, New York City, with Herwegh von Ende, a pupil of Carl Halir.

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An Historical and Genealogical Magazine



KINGSTON, N. Y.

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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the DeVinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

¶ A few copies of the History of the Reformed Church of Flatbush, Ulster County.

¶ Dr. Gustave Anjou's Ulster County Probate Records from 1665; invaluable in tracing ancestry—in two volumes.

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OLD^E VLSTER

VOL. V

NOVEMBER, 1909

NO. 11

A Palatine Boy ❁ ❁ ❁ and a Free Press



AMONG the more noticeable floats in the great Hudson-Fulton parade in the City of New York last September was one representing the fight in New York City for a free press. It told the story of one of the most stirring of the events in American history and one which had its complete victory when, as an amendment to the Federal Constitution, there was written into the fundamental law of the land the prohibition: "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech nor of the press."

The greatest of all the immigrations to the valley of the Hudson was the second exodus of the Palatines, reaching New York in June, 1710. More than three thousand men, women and children comprised the great company. The story has been told fully in these pages. Five months were required for the

journey, which began in mid-winter. Four hundred and seventy died on the terrible passage. The mortality among fathers and mothers was severe and Governor Robert Hunter had sixty-eight orphan and half orphan children upon his hands. Their ages ranged from three years to fifteen. He bound them out to farmers and to men who would teach them trades. The boys were to serve until seventeen years of age and the girls until the age of fifteen. Some of these children thus found homes in Ulster county and their descendants have greatly honored the county of their adoption. One of these Palatines boys, bound out to William Bradford, the printer of New York City, became one of the famous men in the colonial history of America. His name was John Peter Zenger.

The entry upon the documents of the State is very brief and merely says:

“Johanna Zangerin, widow, aged 33, with three children, John Peter, aged 13, Johannes, aged 7 and Anna Catharine aged 10. On Oct. 26, 1710 Governor Robert Hunter apprenticed John Peter to William Bradford, the printer of New York City to learn the trade.”

Many of the colonial governors under the British were adventurers who came to mend their dissipated fortunes and oppressed and robbed the people. Governor Hunter was one of the best of these officials and was greatly beloved for his personality and uprightness. His successor, William Burnet, worthily filled the office from 1719, when failing health compelled Hunter's resignation, until 1728, when he became governor of Massachusetts and Connecticut. Burnet was

succeeded by John Montgomery and he in 1731 by Colonel William Cosby, a needy adventurer.

He immediately set about restoring his fortunes. He attempted to compel Rip Van Dam, who had been the executive in the interval before Cosby arrived, to divide his salary with him and instituted a suit at law for it. When the majority of the court decided against the claim Cosby removed the judges. William Bradford, the publisher of the *New York Gazette*, supported the governor and his party. The friends of popular rights had no organ. They determined to have one. Zenger, the former apprentice of Bradford, had developed into a sharp, caustic and pungent writer, and not very choice in his epithets.

The new organ was named *The New York Weekly Journal*, and Zenger secured the pens of two of the ablest lawyers in America, William Smith and James Alexander. In issue after issue Zenger's paper poured out a constant stream of invective, sarcasm and biting charges. The community knew the charges to be true. The governor and his party writhed under the attacks. Finally they decided that the paper must be suppressed. In November, 1734 the governor and his councillors decided that four numbers of the paper be burned at the pillory by the public hangman in the presence of the mayor and the aldermen. The aldermen declared the order an illegal one and void; then forbade its execution. Finally, the four issues were burned in the street by one of the negro slaves of the sheriff. But the end was not yet.

Zenger was arrested for libel and thrown into prison. Smith and Alexander applied for a writ of

habeas corpus and he was brought into court. The court consented to his release on a bail of eight hundred pounds. Zenger swore that he had not forty pounds in the world, aside from his tools of trade. So he was remanded to jail. He placed in his paper the following notice :

“ TO MY READERS :

“ As you last week were disappointed of my journal, I think it incumbent upon me to publish my apology, which is this: On the Lord's Day the seventeenth of this instant, [November,] 1734 I was arrested, taken and imprisoned in the common jail of this city, by virtue of a warrant from the governor, and the Honorable Francis Harrison, Esq., and others in council, of which, God willing, you will have a copy. Whereupon I was put under such restraint that I had not the liberty of pen, ink or paper, or to see or speak with people, till upon my complaint to the honorable chief justice, at my appearing before him, * * * who discountenanced that proceeding. Therefore I have had since that time the liberty of speaking through the hole of the door to my wife and servants, by which, I doubt not, you will think me sufficiently excused for not sending last week's *Journal*; and I hope for the future, by the liberty of speaking to my servants through the hole of the door to entertain you as formerly.”

He did. Week after week the paper continued its attacks upon the corrupt administration. Then the governor and his council called upon the Assembly to assist in prosecuting the editor. The Assembly laid the request upon the table. The governor and council next sought an indictment by the grand jury. It refused to find a bill. The next thing attempted

was in January following—1735. The attorney-general filed an information against John Peter Zenger for “false and seditious libel.” Smith and Alexander, in answer, attacked the commission of Chief Justice De Lancey, before whom the case would be tried, as having been granted by the governor without the advice or consent of his council. They further attacked it in that it ran “during pleasure,” instead of “during good behavior.” De Lancey grasped the point and, instead of deciding it, replied, “either we must go from the bench or you from the bar,” and ordered their names stricken from the roll of attorneys. It seemed as if arbitrary and tyrannic power had won the victory.

The leader of the American bar during these years was a venerable Quaker, Andrew Hamilton of Philadelphia. All over the colonies it was recognized that a crisis had arisen. If arbitrary power could suppress an attack upon the corruption of public officials by arrest and imprisonment the cause of popular rights and the liberty of the citizen was lost. The patriotic old Quaker offered to defend Zenger without fee or reward. The case came to trial on August 4th, 1735 before Chief Justice De Lancey. Richard Bradley, the attorney-general, was the prosecutor. The principal charge was that Zenger had stated in his paper that judges were displaced and new courts erected without the consent of the Assembly, whereby jury trial was taken away whenever a governor felt so disposed; and that the tendency of such acts was to drive residents of New York to other colonies. All felt this to be true. Hamilton determined to strike a blow for the rights of the people that would tell for

all time and boldly admitted the publication of these charges and offered to prove them true. The chief justice reminded him that the truth of a libel could not be admitted in evidence. He then reminded Hamilton that all that could go to the jury was the fact that such a charge had been published. Hamilton determined that the time had arrived that such precedents were no longer to be followed. When the time arrived for his appeal to the jury he made a wonderfully eloquent plea for the freedom of the press to publish the truth at all times. In closing he alluded to his age and infirmities and the sense of duty to his countrymen which had brought him at risk to defend the rights of freemen. Attorney-General Bradley replied, but it was to be seen that Hamilton's plea had won. The Court charged along the line of precedent but the audience saw that a new day had dawned. The jury withdrew and returned immediately with the verdict of "Not guilty." The shouts in the court room were caught up by the crowded streets and the throngs upon the squares. Hamilton was escorted to his lodging place, a public dinner was given him by the mayor and the aldermen, and the latter presented him with the freedom of the city and a gold snuff-box. The City of Philadelphia, afterwards, did the same. The verdict of this jury has been called "the greatest victory encompassed in America by the democratic spirit before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and the one that made all others possible." The twelve men in the jury box wrote themselves freemen as they rendered their verdict that day.

Fox Hall Manor ❧ *and the Monument*



OLDE ULSTER derives considerable satisfaction from the rounding out of the celebration of May and June, 1908 by the erection of the monument to Thomas Chambers, Lord of Fox Hall Manor. The celebration grew from an article in these columns setting forth the appropriateness of such a recognition of the long history of Kingston. OLDE ULSTER, too, had called attention to the unmarked graves of those who had led in the fight for the liberties, rights and security of person and property. Those of Thomas Chambers and Charles DeWitt have been marked. Others need to be as well.

When the county of Ulster was erected into one of the original counties of the Colony of New York, upon November 1st, 1683, its bounds were specified to be as follows:

“The County of *Ulster* to containe the Townes of *Kingston*, *Hurley* and *Marble Towne*, *ffox Hall* and the *NewPaltz* and all the villages neighbourhoods and Christian Habitacons on the West Side of *Hudsons River* from the *Murderers Creeke* neare the *Highlands* to the *Sawyers Creeke*.”

It was thus noted that the Manor of Fox Hall was not part of the town of Kingston. The story of its

erection into a manor was told in these pages (See OLDE ULSTER, Vol. II., pages 97-104). The date of this was October 16th, 1672. Fourteen years thereafter, in October, 1686, Governor Thomas Dongan, in granting to Thomas Chambers a new patent, adds to his domains three hundred more acres of land, then allows "one Court-leet and Court-baron," or right to try civil and criminal cases, and Chambers was granted the right of advowson, or the patronage of any churches upon his manor.

What was a manor? As held in this country it was a tract of land in which the proprietor had a right to certain service or rent from his tenants. He could hold courts upon his domains and hear and decide legal questions which might arise. So far as the Colony of New York was concerned the granting of manorial rights arose from the peculiar first settlement. Settlements began with the granting of a charter, first to the United New Netherland Company and afterwards to the Dutch West India Company. The last exercised proprietary rights and granted such to those who settled colonies upon lands thus conveyed. When the English seized the colony it was bestowed upon the Duke of York, also as a proprietor. Both the West India Company and the Duke were willing to, and did, thus convey rights to individuals which were opposed to the American idea of the equality of all before the law. Holding title as proprietors they could and did grant proprietary rights. Thus New York had the great manors of Van Rensselaer, Van Cortlandt, Van der Donck, Phillipse, Livingston and the smaller one of Thomas Chambers.

Fox Hall Manor and the Monument

This is not the place in which to particularize upon the Manor of Fox Hall. Its boundaries are not definitely known to-day. It is not now known how many acres were comprised in its extent. It would be an undertaking worthy of considerable painstaking work to locate its outlines from old deeds and grants. It has never been done. The badge of the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Kingston, which celebration was held at the close of May, 1908, bore a representation of the manor house, which still stood upon the farm west of Kingston Driving Park until about 1850, and was known as "The Van Leuven Place" until recently.

In general terms it may be said that Fox Hall Manor did not extend farther south than the edge of the plateau along the present Manor avenue in the City of Kingston. Thus the present lowlands were not included. In fact these were swamps at that day. An old map shows "road from manor house to the strand" and this road is, practically, the present Fox Hall avenue. Flatbush avenue appears as a road leading to the Hudson by way of the present City Alms House. Just how far north the manor reached has not been proven. Subsequent grants brought it to the creek at Rondout, and Thomas Chambers built a house on the Strand in his later years. He seems to have died there and was buried there. The late Jansen Hasbrouck, when erecting his residence upon this site, disinterred the remains of Chambers and removed them to Montrepose Cemetery. Here they remained in an unmarked grave until, as a result of the celebration of May, 1908, a monument has been erected by the Com-

Olde Ulster

mittee on Plan and Scope. In OLDE ULSTER for November, 1905 (Vol I., pages 333-4) are shown the stone formerly standing at the grave of Chambers, now embedded in the foundation of the Hasbrouck house, and the pear tree planted by the Lord of the Manor. The old tree has survived the storm and the stress of more than two hundred years.

Because of the erection of Fox Hall as a manor and the proprietary rights granted its lord it occupied a peculiar relation to Ulster county. It was not within nor part of any town. The quoted clause of the act erecting Ulster county shows this. For this reason it was necessary that the taxes levied upon the manor be laid with a separate warrant for collection, and addressed to the collector of the manor. We give one of these warrants. It is signed by nearly all of the members of the Board of Supervisors of Ulster county for the year.

ULSTER }
COUNTY } *fs:*

By M^{rs} Abraham Van Keuren Abraham Low
Coll Johannes Hardenbergh Levi Pawling Johan-
[L. S.] nes G. Hardenbergh, Jacob Hasbrouck Jur and
Johannes Hardenbergh Jur Supervisors Elected and
Chosen for the Several Towns, Mannor and Pre-
[L. S.] cincts within the said County.—

To the Collector of the Mannor of Foxhal Greeting,—

[L. S.] Pursuant to Several Acts of the General
Assembly for Raiseing the Necessary and Con-
tingent Charges of the County, and also pursuant

Fox Hall Manor and the Monument

[L. S.] to an act Entitled an Act for enabling the Per-
sons therein named to finish the Court House
[L. S.] and Gaol, in Ulster County and other purposes
therein mentioned, THESE are therefore in his
[L. S.] Majesties name to Require you the Aforesaid
Collector of the Mannor of Foxhal to Collect
[L. S.] the Sum of Ten pounds Nineteen shilling and
one penny one farthing According to the within
[L. S.] List and if any Perfon or perfons Shall refuse
delay or Neglect to pay the said Afsefsment or
Rate you are to Levy the same by Distrefs on
the Goods and Chattles of such Defaulter or
Defaulters, which said fum of Ten pounds Nine-
teen Shillings and one penny one farthing by you
Collected as you shall on or before the first
Tuesday in October next ensuing the date hereof
pay and Lodge the same into the hands of Mr
Christopher Tappen the County Treasurer, first
Retaining to yourself your fees by the respective
Acts abovementioned is allowed for Collecting
(excepting for your and the Treasurer fees) for
collecting as aforesaid for which this shall be
your sufficient warrant.

Given under our hands and Seals this 22nd
Day of August 1775.

JACOB HASBROUCK, JUN.

ABRAHAM LOW

A. VANKEUREN

JOHANNES HARDENBERGH

LEVI PAWLING

JOHANNES G. HARDENBERGH

JOH^s HARDENBERGH, JUN.

AN ESTIMATE or List of all the Estates Real and Personal
of all the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Mannor of
Foxhall 1775.

Olde Ulster

	Afsefsments		Rates		
	£	S	£	S	d
Jacobus VanGaasbeek	300.		5.	10.	11 1/4
Laurence Salisbury	75.		1.	7.	8 3/4 1/4
Laurence VanGaasbeek	75.		1.	7.	8 3/4 1/4
Blandina Ten Brook	50.			18.	5 3/4 1/2
Silvester Salisbury	80.		1.	9.	7
Counradt Ten brook	7.			2.	7 1/4
Wilhelmus VanGaasbeek		12.			2 1/2 3/4
Henry Janfen		12.			2 1/2 3/4
Abraham Ten brook		6.			1 1/4 1/2
Mary Elmendorph		12.			2 1/2 3/4
Cornelia Low		17.			3 3/4
Evert Bogardus		9.			2
John D. Wynkoop		12.			2 1/2 3/4
James Roe		12.			2 1/2 3/4
Counradt Ten brook		18.			4
	592.	10.	10.		191 1/4

Rec^d the 3^d Octr 1775 of Mr. Counradt Ten Broek the sum of ten pounds nineteen Schillings & 1 1/4 out of which sum allowed him Seven Shillings & 9^d for Collectors Fees.

CHRIST^R TAPPEN, County Treasurer.

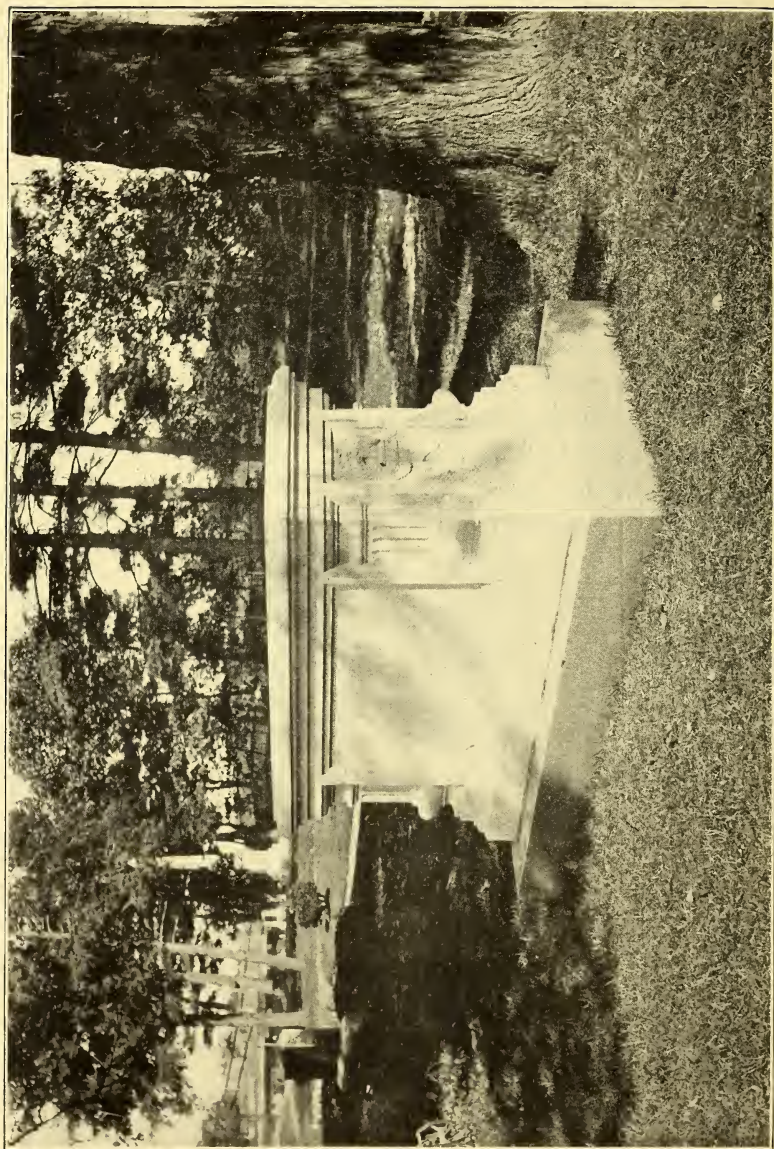
How frequently do the efforts of men to found an empire or even a family to perpetuate their name prove futile. Thomas Chambers, Lord of Fox Hall Manor and it honors, left no child. His wife was the widow of Domine Laurentius Van Gaasbeek. Chambers made her son Abraham his heir and made a will which contained a most intricate entail of his estate. This son of his second wife, Abraham, should assume his name. If Abraham died without issue the estate should go to Jannetje, a sister of Abraham, on condition that she and her children take the name of Cham-

Fox Hall Manor and the Monument

bers, as well as whoever should marry her." Should she leave no children, or should they not assume the name of Chambers, the property passed to the next sister, Maria Salisbury, on similar conditions, and her eldest son was to inherit the property and assume the Chambers name. It was entailed until the tenth son, or if no sons survived to pass down through the daughters, beginning with the eldest. The manor property in all cases was to be kept intact.

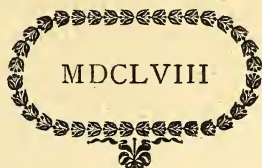
But before the death of Abraham Gasbeek Chambers he broke the entail himself, and the property was divided. Repeated efforts were made to have the eldest of the family considered the head. But all have failed and the manor and its lord are but a memory. The success of the efforts which secured American independence and the equality of all men before the law forever destroyed privilege in America. The manor was not large enough nor was the number of tenants great enough to have caused the anti-rent troubles from which the Van Rensselaers and Livingstons suffered. even had the manor survived to the middle of the nineteenth century.

In connection with the celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the river by Henry Hudson, and the one hundredth of Robert Fulton's successful application of steam to the propulsion of vessels, a monument was unveiled on October 4th, 1909, to Thomas Chambers by the Committee on Plan and Scope of the celebration of 1908, from funds then raised for that event. The monument stands in Montrepose Cemetery. Through the civic spirit and pro-



The Monument to Thomas Chambers

vision of Samuel D. Coykendall the land in the immediate vicinity of the plot was purchased, leveled and graded. The monument is a block of granite reposing upon a granite base. It is six feet long by three wide. An error in the inscription is to be corrected. When this is done the inscription will be:



TO
THE MEMORY
OF
THOMAS CHAMBERS
LORD OF THE MANOR
OF FOX HALL
AND ONE OF THE
FOUNDERS OF THE CITY
THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED
BY THE CITIZENS OF
KINGSTON
ON THE TWO HUNDRED
AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF ITS SETTLEMENT
MAY XXXI
MCMVIII

The exercises at the unveiling were simple and appropriate. Major James H. Everett, first vice-president of the Committee on Plan and Scope of the celebration of a year and a half ago, presided. He out

Olde Ulster

lined in a few fitting words our obligation. Prayer was offered by the Reverend John G. Van Slyke, D. D., and Judge Alphonso T. Clearwater, chairman of the Executive Committee of last year's celebration, set forth some of the few things known of the life of Thomas Chambers, Lord of Fox Hall Manor.

The monument stands immediately in front of the small vault, hidden beneath the ground, in which are the remains of Thomas Chambers, who died April 8th 1694; Laurentia Kellenaar, wife first of the Reverend Lanrentius Van Gasbeek, second of Thomas Chambers and third, of Wessell Ten Broeck and who died May 3rd 1703; Abraham Gasbeek Chambers, her son by the minister and the adopted son and heir of Thomas Chambers, who died September 28th, 1759; Sarah Bayard, the wife of Abraham Gasbeek Chambers, who died November 13th, 1739; and a number of children and grandchildren of Abraham and wife. See OLDE ULSTER, Vol. I., pages 117-8.



CHAPLAIN ROSWELL RANDALL HOES, U. S. N.
contributes the following :

"The 19th Instant, Abraham Lowe was killed by the Indians, on the Minisink Road, in Ulster County, and four Days after, one Andries A. Dewint, was shot by a Party of Indians also, at a Place called Rochester, in the same County." (*New York Mercury*, 3 May 1756).

"On Thursday the 8th Instant, four of our People were Killed on the Road from Minisink to Rochester, at the Place where his Excellency our Governor proposed the Building Block-House." (*From Same*, 19 July, 1756).

Colonel ❁ ❁ ❁

Jacob Rutsen

Contributed by DeWitt Roosa



ACOB RUTSEN of Ulster county was born at Albany in 1650, where he married Maritje Hanssen. He was the son of Rutger Jacobsen of Schoenderwaert, Holland, who married Tryntje Jansen at Albany in 1646.

About 1670 Jacob Rutsen came to Kingston with his wife, where he engaged in trade and so prospered that he soon became the richest man in Esopus. His fortune he rapidly augmented by purchasing large tracts of the best land the Indians had for sale.

In 1685, after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, which had given freedom of conscience to the Huguenots, thousands of them came to America. Among them was Jacob Leisler, the son of a French exiled minister, and born at Frankfort. He had enlisted as a soldier in the Dutch West India Company. After this military service he rose by diligence and character to be a church officer, one of the richest merchants in New Netherland and a judge. Naturally he was an intense Protestant. As a deacon of the Dutch Reformed Church and a man of wide experience he loved the people and generally helped the French Huguenots.

Olde Ulster

When William of Orange landed at Torbay in 1688 with an army half Dutch and half Huguenot, and William and Mary had been proclaimed sovereigns in Great Britain, the people of New York were wild with joy. The French immigrants, who had never slept without fear lest King James II. might make alliance with Louis XIV, and send an army from Canada to invade New York and ship them all back to France, were now sure of safety and freedom; the Dutch rejoiced because England had a king of their own blood and liberal ideas. The situation was critical, however, for the office holders, being all the creatures of James, had power to work mischief. The people waited anxiously for King William's agents, but when neither these nor dispatches came they showed their power.

In Boston the citizens arrested and imprisoned Governor Andros and appointed a Committee of Safety. On Manhattan Island it was determined to take possession of the fort in the interest of King William's friends. Leisler was made captain of the Train Band. When the royal governor overstepped his authority and arbitrarily dismissed a sentinel, the people so emphatically showed their resentment that he fled. The counties then selected a Committee of Safety and appointed Leisler commander of the fort and then governor of the whole Province.

Unfortunately the aristocratic element for the most part took no part in this change of government. The domines, socially well disposed towards the former civil officials, the manor people at Albany, the Livingstons on the east bank of the Hudson and the offi-

cers of the West India Company at Manhattan, many of whom were members of their churches, held to the old order of things, among them, Domine Nucella of Kingston, where the Burgher Guard was ordered not to support Leisler.

The majority of the farmers and settlers at Schenectady and Kingston, which were free settlements and claimed the unrestricted right to bolt flour and trade in furs, which was denied them by those in power at Albany and New York, sided with Leisler, who opposed this monopoly and stood for the freedom of the people. Among these were "a goodly number" at Esopus led by Jacob Rutsen, who was sent to New York to meet with the Leisler Legislature. On Rutsen's return to Kingston the people celebrated the "Accession" by firing the public cannon and drinking a "tap" which cost "twenty dollars" but when he asked the magistrates to take the Oath of Allegiance to the Crown they did so but took care to say that they did it from loyalty and not by the direction of Leisler Legislature, or orders from Rutsen.

On the arrival of Colonel Henry Sloughter, the new governor in 1691, through the influence of Bayard and Livingston, Leisler was arrested and with his son-in-law, Jacob Milborne, was tried for treason and hanged and their property confiscated. The execution took place beyond the city walls, on the site of the present New York Tribune building.

Jacob Rutsen and his friends at Esopus had to endure much opprobrium in consequence of their support of Leisler, which continued for years, and became so intense eight years afterwards, that the consistory

Olde Ulster

of the Dutch Church at Kingston, to please the rich patroons up the river, entered on its records in 1699 a resolution prohibiting the baptism of children by the name of Jacob, because that was the baptismal name of Leisler and Milborne.

Queen Mary restored Leisler's estate to his family and a bill was passed by Parliament removing the attainder of treason and legalizing Leisler's authority. Governor Fletcher did not obey the act of Parliament. Queen Mary died in 1694. In 1698 the family asked Lord Bellomont, then governor, for permission to take up the bodies of Leisler and Milborne, which were buried near the gallows, and give them Christian burial. He not only consented but had them exhumed himself and against the protest of the minister and all the consistory, caused the bodies to be buried under the floor of the Dutch Church on Garden street.

Notwithstanding all this opposition Jacob Rutsen, because of his democratic manners and uprightness, commanded the respect and admiration of the people. Only one year after the execution of Leisler he was elected to the Assembly and continued there for three years an opponent of Bayard and Livingston. The people returned him to the Assembly from 1699 to 1702 and from 1713 to 1726. Besides he was a justice of the peace; judge of the Court of Common Pleas; captain, major, lieutenant-colonel of Ulster and Dutchess county troops in 1700, and colonel of the same from 1710 to 1728.

In 1680 Jacob Rutsen purchased a tract of land of about 960 acres on both sides of the Rondout Kill from Rock Locks to Coxing of the Indians. This

Colonel Jacob Rutsen

tract he leased the same year to Dijrck Keyser in consideration of his building a stone house thereon. Dijrck Keyser occupied this stone house and land until about 1700 when Jacob Rutsen left his store in Kingston in charge of his son-in-law Johannis Hardenbergh and moved on this property, which now comprises the town of Rosendale, while his residence is now a part of the Cornell mansion below the village.

Jacob Rutsen died at Rosendale, Ulster county, New York, in 1730, and was buried near his home "between two Cedar posts."

He left a son Jacob and three daughters, Sarah ; Margaret, wife of William Nottingham ; Catherine wife of Johannis Hardenbergh, the patroon, and two grand-children, John and Catherine, children of his deceased son Johannis.

The story is that Jacob Rutsen objected to the marriage of his daughter, Margaret, to William Nottingham, because he was an Englishman, but he afterwards became reconciled when she received "a goodly portion" and Nottingham rose to distinction in Ulster county.

Margaret Rutsen's daughter Mary married Egbert DeWitt and had nine sons and one daughter, as follows:

Andries DeWitt, the father of Surveyor General Simeon DeWitt and Dr. Benjamin DeWitt, health officer at New York City in the early part of the last century.

Jacob Rutsen DeWitt married Jenneke, daughter of Moses Depuy and Margaret Schoonmaker and was captain in Colonel James Clinton's regiment during the Revolutionary War, and the father of Moses DeWitt,

one of the surveyors to establish the boundary line between New York and Pennsylvania and county judge and surrogate of Herkimer and Onondaga counties (1791-94) and Jacob Rutsen DeWitt Jr. One of Jacob Rutsen DeWitt's daughters, Mary, married William Rose, and another, Rachel, married Colonel Robert Burnet, of Revolutionary fame.

William DeWitt married Susanna Chambers.

John E. DeWitt, married to Catherine Newkirk, daughter of Cornelius Newkirk, Jr., and Neeltje Dubois.

Stephen DeWitt, married Wyntje Brodhead, daughter of John Brodhead and Venni Nottingham.

Mary DeWitt, married to General James Clinton, son of Charles Clinton and Elizabeth Dennison. Their third son, DeWitt Clinton was governor of the State of New York.

Stephen DeWitt, baptized at Kingston April 1 1739.

Thomas DeWitt, married to Elsie Hasbrouck, major in the Third New York Regiment; was stationed with the regiment (of which Peter Gansevoort was colonel) at Fort Stanwix, and assisted in its defense when it was besieged by the British and Indians under Colonel St. Leger in 1777. In 1779 Major DeWitt accompanied General Sullivan's successful expedition against the Indians. He died at Twaalfskill, now a part of Kingston, New York, September 7, 1809, leaving three sons and one daughter. The daughter, Mary, married David W. Thorp of New York City. The oldest son, Jacob Hasbrouck DeWitt was adjutant in the War of 1812; Member of Cong-

An Alarm of Early Days

ress, 1820-2; member of the Legislature of the State of New York in 1839 and 1847; he died at Kingston, New York., January 30 1857; the second son, Reuben DeWitt, died (unmarried) in 1859; the youngest son, the Reverend Thomas DeWitt, D.D., was graduated from Union College, Schenectady, and for many years was the "honored and well-beloved senior pastor of the Collegiate Dutch Reformed Church at New York City."

Benjamin DeWitt, baptized at Kingston, New York, January 19, 1743.

Reuben DeWitt, baptized at Napanoch, New York, October 20, 1745, married Elizabeth Depuy, daughter of Moses Depuy and Elizabeth Clearwater.



AN ALARM OF EARLY DAYS

Two celebrations held this year in the eastern part of New York have awakened an interest in the history of this State, especially in the region along the line of Lake Champlain and the Hudson. Attention has been directed to the great contest between France and Great Britain for the control of the continent. As an illustration of how the people of the Esopus were affected we will narrate the following: On the 10th of May, 1696 Governor Benjamin Fletcher of New York wrote to the London Board of Trade in these words:

"Several sculking partys of French and Indians disturb the people in their husbandry, who live upon the Fronteer, but our Indians do revenge that part with better success upon the French."

Olde Ulster

These incursions had been so daring that nineteen days before the governor penned the above words the New York Council had taken the following action :

“ Resolved for the future, that six pounds shall be given to each Christian or Indian as a Reward who shall kill a frenchman or indian Enemy—within three miles of Albany or any other Settled farme in Albany Ulster or Dutchess Countyes & ordered Proclamacon issued accordingly.”

But these alarms resulted in nothing serious until the middle of the following century. On page 336 of this magazine are two notices of Indian attacks in 1756. During the next year, about ten o'clock in the morning of October 12th, 1757 a band of predatory Indians made a sudden attack upon the house of Peter Jans Saxe near Homowack. Saxe and his two sons were at work in a field upon his farm at the time. There were three rangers stationed there. Two of these, with one daughter of Saxe, were killed before the doors of the house could be closed. The remaining soldier, assisted by Saxe's wife and two daughters made a sharp defense and the savages were driven off with loss. After it was certain that they were gone the valiant soldier conducted the women safely to the house of Captain Charles Brodhead at Leuren Kil. The father and sons did not return until after the fight, when they found the house deserted and sought the whereabouts of the family. After he had found them at Captain Brodhead's he called upon the regiment stationed in the Rondout valley for protection. It marched to his assistance but was unable to locate the Indians, although traces were found of their misdeeds.

THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 318

(CLXII.) JONAS VAN AKEN⁵ (Peter⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston March 23, 1775 and married RACHEL YORK. Children :

- (450) Annatje⁶: Born Sept. 3 and bap. Oct. 15, 1797 at Blomendale (Poughkeepsie C. R.); married—— Freer.
- (451) Peter⁶: Bap. at Esopus July 5, 1811; married Eliza Harps.
- (452) Rachel⁶: Bap. at Esopus Nov. 11 1816; married Stephen Van Aken.
- (453) Elizabeth⁶; Bap. at Esopus June 8, 1822.
- (454) Jonas⁶: Born ——; married Cornelia Van Sickle.

(CLXIII.) ABRAHAM (ABRAHAM P.) VAN AKEN⁵, (Peter⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston March 23, 1775, married CATHARINE TERPENNING. Children :

- (455) Anatie⁶: Bap. at Esopus Aug. 27, 1802.
- (456) Elizabeth⁶: Bap. at Esopus March 31, 1804; married Abraham Auchmoody.
- (457) Peter⁶: Bap. at Esopus Dec. 31, 1805. married (1st) Maria Van Sickle; (2nd) Elizabeth Neise.
- (457a) Maria ⁶: Bap. at Esopus March 7, 1808.
- (458) John⁶: Bap. at Esopus July 22, 1810.
- (459) Bowdewine⁶: Bap. at Esopus Sept. 22, 1812.
- (460) Abraham⁶: Bap. at Esopus Aug. 24, 1814; married Sarah Van Keuren.
- (461) Catherine Margaret⁶: Bap. Esopus Jan. 4, 1816.

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(462) James⁶: Bap. at Esopus Sept. 16, 1817.

(463) Catherine⁶: Bap. at Esopus Feb. 8, 1820; married William Van Alstine.

(464) Samuel⁶: Bap. at Esopus Oct. 4, 1824.

Catherine Terpening, wife of Abraham P Van Aken, was received as a member of the Klyn Esopus church on confession during the year 1833.

(CLXIV.) JAN VAN AKEN⁵, j. m. (Abraham⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹), who was baptized in Kingston November 20, 1775, married at Kingston January 15, 1794 MARI DE GRAEF, j. d., "both residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston.

(465) Margaret⁶: Bap. at Esopus Oct. 6, 1795.

(466) Jenneke⁶: Bap. at Esopus Oct. 9, 1798; married Casparus Winfield.

(467) Henry Van Aken⁶: Bap. at Esopus, June 20, 1800.

(468) Joshua⁶: Bap. at Esopus Feb. 4, 1803; married Helen Van Keuren.

(469) Cornelius Hasbrouck⁶: Bap. at Esopus Dec. 8, 1804; married Catherine M. Hermance.

(470) Ann⁶: Bap. at Esopus March 31, 1807.

(471) Solomon⁶: Bap. at Esopus Feb. 27, 1809,

(472) Catherine Maria⁶: Bap. at Esopus May 18, 1812.

Maria De Groff united with the Klyn Esopus church by certificate in 1824.

(CLXV.) BENJAMIN A. VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Marbletown November 8, 1773. He married ESTER CONCLIN. Children:

The VanAaken and Allied Families

(473) Hannah⁶: Bap. at Esopus July 6, 1805; married David S. Decker.

(474) Sarah⁶: Bap at Esopus June 22, 1807.

Ester Conclin, wife of Benjamin A. Van Aken, was received as a member of Klyn Esopus church Aug. 2, 1835 by certificate from the church in Rondout.

(CLXVI.) ABRAHAM S. VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston April 6, 1777 and married HANNAH COOPER. Children:

(475) Jane Cooper⁶: Bap. at Esopus July 12, 1808.

(476) Mary Ann⁶: Bap. at Esopus Feb. 4, 1810.

(477) Josiah⁶: Bap. at Esopus May 29, 1812.

(CLXVII.) MATTHEW VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston August 13, 1780. He died June 6, 1843 aged 62 years, 1 month and 14 days. He married JENNY SMITH who died October 27, 1853 aged 65 years and 20 days. Child:

(478) Anna⁶: Bap. at Esopus May 19, 1807; married (1st) Calvin P. Marshall; (2nd) Isaac D. Van Aken.

Jane Smith, wife of Matthew Van Aken, was received on confession in Klyn Esopus church in 1826.

(CLXVIII.) MARGARET VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston July 2, 1786 and died February 21, 1845. She married SOLOMON ECKERT, JR. Children:

(479) Jane Ann Eckert⁶: Bap. at Esopus March 28, 1808.

Olde Ulster

(480) Abraham Eckert⁶: Bap. at Esopus Feb. 14, 1814.

(481) Sarah Helen Eckert⁶: Bap. at Esopus Feb. 28, 1820.

Margaret Van Aken. wife of Solomon Eckert, Jr. was received on confession into Klyn Esopus church in 1829.

(CLXIX.) ANNA VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston July 2, 1786 and died in January 1861. She married JACOB DEGRAFF. He died January 27, 1854. Children:

(482) Samuel DeGraff⁶: Bap. at Esopus Sept. 14, 1804.

(483) William Smith DeGraff⁶: Bap. at Esopus Oct. 6, 1806.

(484) Benjamin Low DeGraff⁶: Bap. at Esopus Apr. 16, 1810.

(485) James Elmore DeGraff⁶: Bap. at Esopus Apr. 8, 1813.

(486) Abraham DeGraff⁶: Born———; married Ester Freer.

(487) Maria DeGraff⁶: Born———; married Lyman Ellsworth.

(488) Jane DeGraff⁶: Born———; married Oliver Ackerman.

(489) Matthew DeGraff⁶: Born———; married Rachel Maria Van Aken.

(CXXI.) JACOB VAN AKEN⁵ (Isaac⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston July 9, 1775. He married MARGRIET WIEST (135) who was baptized in Kingston October 8, 1780. Children:

(490) Levi⁶: Bap. in Kingston Oct. 13, 1799.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

(491) Isaac⁶: Born Apr. 3 and bap. in Rochester Apr. 1804.

(492) Johanna⁶: Bap. in Kingston March 21, 1807,

(CXXIII.) JOHANNES VAN AKEN⁵, j. m. (Isaac⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston October 14, 1781 and married in Kingston July 1, 1804 CATHARINA FRANS, j. d., "both parties residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." Child:

(493) Moses⁶: Bap. in Kingston Feb. 17, 1805.

The witnesses at this baptism were Cornelis Van Aken and Annatje Joy, his wife.

(CXXIV a.) CORNELIS VAN AKEN⁵, j. m. (Isaac⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston May 14, 1786 and married July 26, 1807 in Kingston ANNATJE JOY, j. d., "both parties residing under the jurisdiction of Kingston." Child:

(494) Lucas⁶: Baptized in Kingston July 26, 1807.

The witnesses to this baptism were Isaac Van Aken and Judith Van Aken, his wife.

(CXXV.) SAMUEL VAN AKEN⁵ (Isaac⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston July 20, 1788 and died January 17, 1861 at Pine Bush, New York. He married MARY WHITAKER. Children:

(495) Peter⁶: Bap. at Pine Bush Sept. 13, 1811.

(496) Benjamin Isaac⁶: Bap. at Pine Bush Sept. 7, 1813; married Gertrude Legg.

(497) Julia C.⁶: Bap. at Pine Bush Oct. 1, 1820; married July 25, 1842 Jeremiah Terpenning.

(498) Henry⁶: Bap. at Pine Bush Feb. 12, 1826.

(499) John I.⁶: Born——.

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(CLXXI.) SELETJE VAN AKEN⁵ (Benjamin⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston April 1, 1776 and married JOHANNES NIESE. Children :

- (500) Elsie Neise⁶: Bap. at Esopus Sept. 15, 1795.
- (501) Benjamin Neise⁶: Bap. in Kingston Jan. 6, 1798.
- (502) Annatie Neise⁶: Bap. at Esopus Sept. 18. 1803.
- (503) Isaac Niese⁶: Bap. at Esopus Apr. 10, 1808.
- (504) Maria Eckert Neise⁶: Bap. at Esopus July 31, 1811.
- (505) Blandina Freer Neise⁶: Bap. in Esopus Aug. 27, 1813.

The witnesses at the baptisms were Benjamin Van Aken and Maria Eckert, his wife.

(CLXXII.) PETER VAN AKEN⁵ (Benjamin⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston November 16, 1777 and married MARIA HOOFFMAN. He always wrote his name Peter B. Children :

- (506) Sally Catherine⁶: Bap. at Esopus Sept. 3, 1813 ;
married Abraham J. Terpenning.
- (507) Benjamin⁶: Bap. at Esopus March 7, 1816.
- (508) Lawrence Conklin⁶: Bap. at Esopus April 22, 1818, married Ann Maria Van Aken.

Maria Hoofman wife of Peter Van Aken, united on confession with Klyn Esopus church in 1827.

(CLXXIII.) ISAAC VAN AKEN, JR.⁵ (Benjamin⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) was baptized in Kingston October 25, 1780 and married MARGARET KRUM. Children :

- (509) David⁶: Bap. at Esopus May 19, 1808.
- (510) Evert Hoofman⁶: Bap. at Esopus May 18, 1810.
- (511) David Krum⁶: Bap. at Esopus Jan. 30, 1816.

Night in Katsbaan

(512) Maria Catherine⁶: Bap. at Esopus June 1, 1818.

(513) Ann Eliza⁶: Bap. at Esopus Aug. 9, 1821.

(CLXXIV,) MARIA VAN AKEN⁵, j. d. (Benjamin⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹) who was baptized in Kingston September 14, 1783, married January 18, 1804 CORNELIUS D. KROM, j. m. Children :

(514) Isaac Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus May 1, 1805.

(515) Martinus Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus Nov. 27, 1808.

(516) Conradt Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus Apr. 22, 1810.

(517) Elsie Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus Dec. 13, 1812.

(518) Margaret Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus July 28, 1816.

(519) Wynche Winfield Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus——
1818.

(520) Dinah Krom⁶: Bap. at Esopus Aug. 10, 1822.

To be continued



NIGHT IN KATSBAAN

Now, his diurnal course complete, the imperial sun
To his pavilion gone, o'er all the hills environing
This charming vale the guardian stars troop forth
Unto the watch towers held from that primeval day
When chaos fled from light and harmony.
Lo, Arcturus marshalling the watchful host !
See Ursa Major's seven mighty sons
In silence marching round their captain's tower.
And belted Orion take his austral keep !
The while the gentle influence of the Pleiades
Pervades the serried ranks till earliest dawn.
Thus down the flight of ages held secure
This vale has slept in their eternal ward.

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THE UNMARKED GRAVES of Thomas Chambers and Charles DeWitt, leaders of the people of Old Ulster in the fight for freedom and liberty in early days have been marked. Would that that of Colonel Jacob Rutsen might have the same attention. While the erection of Fox Hall Manor has been brought into prominent notice by the unveiling of the monument nothing has been said of the great battle led by Chambers in the petition of January 26th, 1684, to Governor Dongan for the right to choose their own local officers and have their own local courts to try their own cases. The result was that the petitioners were arrested and fined. Chambers, who had drawn and circulated the petition, was fined fifty pounds, which he paid and became security for the payment of the fines of the rest. All were afterwards remitted and the Colonial Assembly, when organized, established the local court. This act of Thomas Chambers, more than any other, showed him to be the leader of the people of Ulster county (OLDE ULSTER, Vol. II., pages 257-63).

~~~~~  
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WE have a few copies of the Dutch Church Records of Kingston (baptisms and marriages from 1660 through 1810) elegantly printed on 807 royal quarto pages, with exhaustive index containing references to 44,388 names, edited by Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., and printed by the De Vinne Press, N. Y. But few Knickerbocker families can trace their ancestry without reference to this volume.

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 VOL. V

DECEMBER, 1909

 No. 12

The First Census of the Town of Kingston



HE Constitution of the United States was signed by the members of the convention that framed it on the 17th day of September, 1787, and the government which was thereby organized received its executive head when General George Washington was inaugurated the first President of the United

States of the 30th day of April, 1789. Within a year it was determined that a census of the whole of the new United States be taken and preparations were made for its immediate enumeration. At that time the present town of Saugerties did not exist and the territory thus called at this day was the north part of the town of Kingston.

The enumerator for the town of Kingston began his labors in the territory to be set off for the town of Saugerties in 1811. By the examination of the returns

of the enumerator it is not difficult to trace his daily journey at his task. He began the first morning at the house of John Brink, on the banks of the Hudson, opposite Clermont, the home of Chancellor Robert R. Livingston on the east side of the Hudson. Here was enumerated a family of nine, three males of the age of sixteen and over, three males less than that age and three females. He had no slaves. One of the males of sixteen and over was Andrew, son of John Brink, who became associated with Livingston and Robert Fulton in the steamer Clermont in 1807 and was its commander. This place of John Brink is the present Mason-McClurg residence.

From this starting point the enumerator proceeded to the home of Myndert Mynderse just south. Here were enumerated two adult males, one minor and three females. Here were found two slaves. The place is still in the possession and occupancy of the Mynderse family. The taker of the census then passed up the present road to the village of Saugerties, calling at the houses he found. On the corner of Main street and Malden avenue is yet standing the house of Egbert Schoonmaker. Here were living five whites, the family of Schoonmaker, and six slaves. The course of the official was then north through the present Malden, Evesport and West Camp. At the house of Thomas Van Steenberg at Malden a family of thirteen was found, exclusive of three slaves. Seven slaves were held at West Camp by Captain Matthew Dederick of the First Regiment of Ulster County Militia during the late War of the Revolution, but no slaves were held by his neighbor, Lodowyck

The First Census of the Town of Kingston

Russell, who served under him, and whose son Jeremiah and grandson William F. were in after years both Representatives in Congress from the Congressional district in which Ulster county is situate. Reaching the bounds of Albany county (now Greene) the enumerator turned westward to the present Asbury. Thence he proceeded south along the Old Kings Road. He continued south until he had called at the store of Cornelius Persen, when he swung to the west and visited the houses below Mount Airey and continued north to that of Peter Freligh, lately known as the Morgan Gray farm. Here were seven slaves. The course was next along what has been until very recently the Malden Turnpike. Reaching the Saw creek he once more turned north until the families of the Mauterstocks were reached, when he went to the present Saxton, on the fertile flats at the foot of the Catskills where the prolific acres supported a considerable population. Enumerating this he continued south until the farm of the Van Ettens, at the present hamlet of Fish Creek, had been entered upon his lists. The course thence was down the Plattekill creek to what is now Mount Marion. Here William Cockburn was the owner of eight slaves, the greatest number held by any one person in the Saugerties township of to-day.

The official passed north along Mount Marion until he reached his former tracks and then turned down the present course of the State Road until the village of Saugerties was reached. Here he had reached the point whence he had started. His course was next back to Mount Marion and over into the present town of Ulster.

After gathering the data from those living on the west side of the Esopus Creek within what is now the town of Ulster he returned to the former town of Saugerties and the peninsula formed by the Esopus creek and the Hudson, collecting the statistics of what is now Glasco and Flatbush. He continued on the east side of the Esopus until he had covered the remainder of the town of Kingston, including the present City of Kingston.

The census revealed that within the limits of the present town of Saugerties there were 1,613 white inhabitants and 190 slaves. In the whole of the then town of Kingston there were 3,350 white inhabitants and 734 negro slaves. The owner of the largest number of slaves in the town of Kingston was Andries DeWitt, Jr. He was credited with sixteen. It will be noticed that what is now the town of Saugerties, contained in 1790 almost exactly one-half of the population of the town of Kingston.



RENSSELAERSWYCK SETTLERS CONNECTED WITH THE ESOPUS

1634.—Cornelis Anthonisz van Schlick, from Breuckelen, [near Utrecht]; generally referred to as *Cornelis Teunisz*, often as *Broer Cornelis*, and occasionally as

NOTE.—The editor desires to state that the sketches of those connected in early days both with the colony at Rensselaerswyck and the Esopus are copied from the "Van Rensselaer Bowier Manuscripts," recently issued by the New York State Education Department.

Cornelis Teunisz, alias Broeder ; signs his name *Cornelis anthonisen van schlick*. He was a carpenter and mason and sailed by de Eendracht in 1634, having entered into a contract with the patroon on April 5th of that year. His account in the colony begins Aug. 12, 1634. He was before Oct. 1636 in charge of a farm, which till 1648 he seems to have worked on shares ; from 1648 to 1652 he is charged with an annual rent of f600 ; from 1652 to 1661, with an annual rent of f500. The indications are that during all these years he occupied the same farm, which appears to have been located some distance north of the fifth, now Patroon's, creek and to have adjoined the farm called de Vlackte, later known as the Schuyler Flatts. Between 1643 and 1648, Cornelis Teunisz spent much of his time at the Manhattans ; Aug. 6, 1646, de Hooges urges him to come up the river to see how the harvest proceeds and intimates that he might come to the colony at least once a year to look after his farm. While at the Manhattans Aug. 22, 1646, he received from Director Kieft a patent for land at Catskill, in return for services rendered in bringing about general peace and in ransoming prisoners in the hands of the Indians. He was appointed the patroon's *voorspraecke*, or representative, May 12, 1639, and as such filled the place of officer jointly with Arent van Curler and Pieter Cornelisz, till the arrival of van der Donck in 1641. Sept. 23, 1650, he was chosen to go with van Curler and others on an embassy to the Maquaes, and in 1658, 1660 and 1661 he was a member of the court of the colony.

1638.—Christoffel Davids, also referred to as *Kit*

davitsz; according to his own statement, was born in England and on Sept. 3, 1658. was 42 years of age. He appears first in the colony in 1638 and between 1642 and 1647 is various times credited with tobacco furnished to Arent van Curler and Antony de Hooges. Till stubble time 1649, he was with Crijn Cornelisz in possession of six morgens of land in Greenbush, and July 22, 1650, he leased the *Dominees Hoeck*, on the west side of the river, opposite Papscanee Island, for six years, at an annual rental of f50, in addition to tithes, Christoffel Davids to build his own house and fences and the patroon to furnish the live stock. March 3, 1650 an action was brought against him for striking Rijck Rutgersz on the head, for beating his servant and for wounding Jan Dircksz, from Bremen. [Readers of OLDE ULSTER are familiar with his subsequent history in the Esopus].

1642.—Evert Pels, from Statijn [Stettin, Pomerania]; was engaged as brewer for the term of six years, June 5, 1642 and sailed the same year by den Houttuyn with his wife and servant. Feb. 26, 1647, he leased the farm formerly occupied by Symon Walichsz, on Papscanee Island for six years, at f560 a year, but after building a new house and barns transferred his lease to Jurian Bestval and Jochem Kettelheyn, Jan. 14, 1649, and turned the property over on March 25, 1649. Nov. 18, 1649 he leased, jointly with Willem Fredericksz (Bout) the farm formerly occupied by Crijn Cornelisz, in Greenbush, for which he is charged in the accounts with an annual rent of f400, from May 1, 1649, till 1661 when he removed to the

Rensselaerswyck Settlers Connected with the Esopus

Esopus; the same day they also leased the saw and grist mill in Greenbush, formerly occupied by Jacob Jansz Flodder, for which he is charged with an annual rent of f125, from May 1, 1649 till May 1, 1658.

1645.—Jacob Jansz Stol ; signs himself *Jacob Jansz Hap.*: appears first in the accounts of the colony under date of 1645 and in that year furnished various colonists with shoes, stockings, shirts and other supplies. He acted as skipper between Rensselaerswyck and New Amsterdam in July, 1649, and soon after succeeded Harry Albertsz, from London, as ferrymaster of the colony. Feb. 15, 1652, he accompanied Johannes Dyckman in serving on the authorities of the colony an extract from the resolutions of the director general and council of Jan. 29, 1651, and a reply to the request for restitution of the colony's cannon. In 1658 he lived at the Esopus where with Evert Pels he had bought land in 1654.

1646.—Thomas Chambers (Chamber), carpenter ; appears first in the accounts in 1646, in connection with building a kitchen and chimney at the house of Domine Megapolensis. Sept. 7, 1646, he entered into an agreement about the lease of the land between the Wynants and Poesten Kills, in the southern part of the present city of Troy, for the term of five years from Nov. 1, 1647. He occupied this land till July, 1654 and shortly after moved to the Esopus. Sept. 23, 1650, he was chosen to accompany Arent van Curler to the Maquaes to renew the former covenant of friendship. He was nicknamed *Clabbordt*, a corruption

of the English term clapboard, and may have introduced into the colony the method of weatherboarding houses with clapboards, which is not practised in Holland.

1648.—Aert Jacobsz, occupied, apparently as early as 1648, a farm at Bethlehem which was destroyed by fire before May, 1654. He then leased for 12 years a farm in Greenbush, north of Cornelis Hendricksz van Nes. About 1661 he removed to the Esopus.

1649.—Aert Otterspoor, also referred to as *Aert aerntsz van Otterspoor*; was at Bethlehem in 1649, 1650 and 1651. He came probably from Otterspoor in the province of Utrecht.

1650.—Willem Jansz Stol (Stoll), cooper; is charged from 1650 to 1652 with ground rent of f16 a year for a lot granted to him May 20, 1650. He married the widow of Claes Hendricksz and moved to the Esopus in 1661.

1652.—Peter Winne (Winnen); also referred to as *Pieter de Vlamingh* (the Fleming); charged in the accounts with an annual rent of f275 and tithes from stubble time 1652 till May 1, 1655, for a farm, apparently situated at Bethlehem, which on April 10, 1655, was taken over by Eldert Gerbertsz Cruyf; also with two years' rent of a saw mill at f150 a year; and with two years' hire of two horses for the mill at f60 a year. He made a will June 1, 1677 in which it is stated that he was born in the city of *Gent in Vlaenderen* (Flan-

The Rhinebeck Ferry

ders) and his wife, Tannetie Adams, in the city of *Leeuwvaerden in Vrieslandt*.

1653.—Johan de Hulter ; was a participant in the colony of Rensselaerswyck and sailed with his family and a number of free colonists by the Graft, in May, 1653. March 7, 1654, he obtained a lease of a farm north of the fifth creek, for which he is charged an annual rent of £275 for four years. In the accounts he is also charged with £900 for the purchase of a tract of land which is not described, but which is probably the land conveyed to his wife by Jan Baptist van Rensselaer, Aug. 24, 1654, upon which she seems to have established a farm, a brick yard and a tile kiln, all of which were sold by her at auction on Nov. 7, 1655. Johan de Hulter was a member of the court of the colony in April, 1655 and died before Aug. 7, 1658. Aug. 5, 1660, his widow Johanna, who was a daughter of Johannes de Laet, appears as the wife of Jeronimus Ebbingh.



THE RHINEBECK FERRY

In colonial days intercourse between the west side of the Hudson river and the east side was not very frequent. Too deep to be forded and too wide to be bridged the majestic stream held its course uninterrupted on its way to the sea. At Saugerties and at a number of places to the north there were scow ferries. They had obtained no charter and ran infrequently. So with the ferry from Columbus Point (Kingston

Point) to the east side of the river. Moses Cantine, who had built a dock at Columbus Point, transported passengers and vehicles across the river from the west side and Abraham Kip, who possessed a large tract of land at Rhinebeck, did the same from the east side.

This had continued for about a score of years when these two men united in a petition to the then royal governor, Admiral George Clinton, for a charter for a ferry across the Hudson. It was granted and a patent was issued, giving to them, their heirs and assigns forever, from August 5th, 1752

“The full free sole and whole power, liberty and authority, privilege and right of Setting up, establishing. using, keeping and enjoying a public ferry to be duly kept and attended for the conveniency of passing and re-passing with travelers and their horses, cattle and goods whatsoever, to and from the said landings of the said Abraham Kipp and Moses Cantine, exclusive of all others to keep and ferry within two miles above and below the said landings.”

The right was given to charge certain specified fees. The charter provided that the grantees could not be compelled to transport any person, cattle or goods after sunset from November 1st to March 1st, or after eight o'clock in the evening from March 1st to November 1st, unless paid double fees. Nor could even the tender of double fees compel such a ferriage if there was apparent danger from ice in the river.

This charter is in force to-day and the ferry between the two sides of the Hudson at Kingston is maintained under the old royal grant given more than one hundred and fifty years ago.

THE OLD CATSKILL HOUSE

This magazine, in the number for October, 1909 (pages 289-297) presented an account of the efforts of the people, in the years succeeding their successful achievement of independence, to reach the regions to be developed that lay beyond the Catskills, and in western New York. We would supplement the story by giving a copy of one of the certificates of stock issued for the Ulster & Delaware Turnpike Company. It is from the collection of Chaplain Roswell Randall Hoes, U. S. N., and corresponds to a similar certificate in possession of the editor of this magazine issued to Cornelius Persen.

“No. 436.

“**This Certifies**, That *Wessel Ten Broeck* is entitled to *Eight Shares* in the Stock of the *Ulster & Delaware Turnpike Road Company*, of the value of **THIRTY DOLLARS each** transferable at the Office of the Treasurer thereof, in the town of Kingston, in the county of Ulster, by the said Stockholder, or his Attorney. Given under the Seal of the said Company, the *third* day of *April* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *ten*.

“C^o ED^m ELMENDORF *President*

“A. DUMOND, *Treasurer*.”

We give, as the illustration for the month, a picture of the “Catskill House,” the starting point of stages for the journey west by the old Catskill Turnpike mentioned in that article for October. When built the turnpike began at old Catskill (Leeds). But it was found necessary that connection be made with the boats upon the Hudson, and the Strand at the

mouth of the Catskill creek became the terminus. This caused the building of the present village of Catskill.

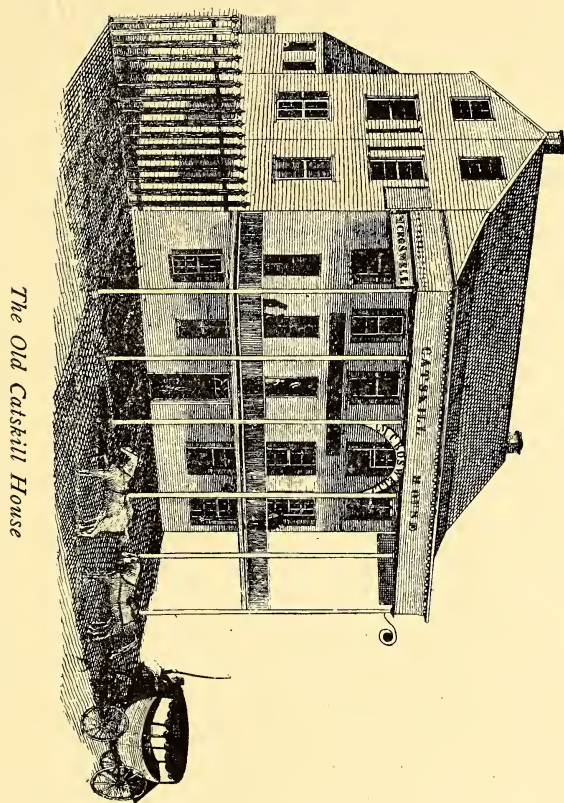
Our engraving of the old Catskill House is from a card in the collection of Chaplain Hoes. It was secured at the sale of the effects of John Trumbull, the famous American portrait painter who painted the celebrated portrait of Governor George Clinton in the City Hall, New York, which was reproduced in this magazine, Vol. IV., page 69. The Catskill House card bears upon its back a laundry memorandum in a handwriting similar to that of Trumbull, which reads thus:

“Pd Eunice Short 22 ^d Sep ^t 1826.	\$2.—
Mrs Short 29 th	5.—
to Wash	
6 Shirts & Cravats 7 Handk ^s	
5 p ^r Stockings 3 Vests	
1p ^r Drawers 2 Night Caps	
to Eunice 22 Sep ^t 1826	
30 pieces returned 29 th Sep ^t 1826 by Mrs Short”	



SOME OF OUR READERS wish to know the meaning of the names Esopus and Ponckhockie. According to the late E. M. Ruttenber, the authority on Indian names in Eastern New York, Esopus means “small river.” It is derived from *es*, small and *sepu*, river. The Indians of the valley of the Hudson were of Algonquin stock and *sepu*, or a variant, was used by all the tribes in speaking of a stream. Ponckhockie is from a Dutch word, *punthoeckje*, “the point of a small angle.”

The Old Catskill House



The Old Catskill House

Governor ❁❁❁ George Clinton

TWENTIETH PAPER



URING the whole of the long war Governor Clinton could pass no day in which the valley of the Mohawk and the highway of Lake Champlain did not claim his attention and cause him anxious moments. All through this year of the treason of Arnold the frontier was restless and savage Indians and still more savage Tories murdered, scalped and made prisoners of the helpless patriot settlers. The previous year (1779) had witnessed the vengeance of Sullivan upon those of the great Iroquois confederacy who had joined the British and gone upon the war path against helpless women and children. But that vengeance had scattered the firebrands instead of extinguishing the fire. The savages lurked along the outlying settlements eager for revenge.

With the advent of 1781 it was felt that there had arrived a crisis in the long struggle. The campaign in the South had been committed to General Greene. General Gates, fresh from his victory in the surrender of Burgoyne, had, in the words of a severe critic, "exchanged his Northern laurels for Southern willows." The British commander, Lord Cornwallis,

defeated him at Camden and almost annihilated the conqueror of Burgoyne. The splendid victory of Colonels Cleveland, Shelby and Campbell at King's Mountain had been won by the hardy mountaineers without Gates' supervision and it served to keep up the spirits of the patriots. On the 2nd of December Greene arrived at Charlotte, North Carolina. "I think I am sending you a general," remarked Washington to a member of Congress as he sent Greene. Little else could be sent. But Greene knew he had enough troops to wear out the army of Cornwallis, and his tactics was to do so. Early January of 1781 saw the victory of Cowpens, March the defeat at Guilford Court House, September the drawn battle at Eutaw Springs and October the surrender of Cornwallis and the long war was over.

On the first day of June, 1781, Samuel Huntington, the president of the Continental Congress, wrote to Governor Clinton that the Minister of France in this country by order of the French Court, together with the Courts at Vienna and St. Petersburg "had offered their mediation to the belligerent powers for the re-establishment of Peace. That these overtures had been eagerly embraced on the part of Great Britain." In this Spain had acquiesced. The president of Congress urged that operations be pushed to secure all the military advantages possible that when a peace was effected it might be "upon no other terms than the Independence of the thirteen United States of America in all their parts." But the approach of peace upon such terms as the recognition of the independence of the United States was the very gall of bitterness to the

Tories. Their journal, *Rivington's Gazette*, thus broke out on the 4th of July, 1781 :

“ The imagination can scarcely conceive of a more miserable condition than that of the inhabitants of New York, between the Highlands and Albany. The persons favoring independency, which consist only of such as despair of escaping the vengeance of their countrymen, abandon themselves to all the cruelty of cowardice. Alive to suspicion, the general consideration is about spies and harbourers of spies, and in the extremity of their terrors, the slightest preparations pass with the tyrants in office for demonstrative proof. Hence women are committed to their jails, capital executions grow more frequent, and to the reproach of humanity, there was an instance within a month passed of a man under public condemnation, being hanged in his prison to gratify the pride of the sheriff. who (obliged to be the executioner himself) was ashamed to perform the office of hangman in the fields. Albany was reserved for this first and rare instance of infamy.

“ And though the credit of paper money is totally extinct in all parts of the continent, (and for that reason the late mint of specie or hard money paper not wholly issued, but withheld if possible to increase its value, or rather the demand for it,) their late mob assembly have published a tax law, to oblige every man to give a bushel of wheat for every sixty dollars of his former assessment, in old continental, and if he has no wheat, then twelve shillings in lieu of a bushel of wheat, and on failure in ten days, two bushels or twenty-four shillings. This wheat, it is said, is for the supply of Washington's army, but really intended to be sold to the French for hard money ; and what will be done with that, no person is at a loss to conjecture. Miserable people, the prey of plunderers of their own creating ! ‘ How long, O Lord ! ’ is the cry of the oppressed !

Governor George Clinton

“By the abandoning of Fort Stanwix, all the western country is deserted down to Schenectady, and the persecutors who dare to continue in Kingston have fortified and drawn ditches around their houses, in expectation of the Indians as soon as the harvests are in stack.

“The advocates for peace and the re-union, and who have been so ever since the fatal declaration of independence, and who are a vast majority, grow every day more numerous, and it is remarkable that not a single instance can be assigned of the apostasy of a loyalist to the wicked and interested views of the usurpers.

“There is a new set of mob legislators met at Poughkeepsie ; a little time will show whether they mean to expose themselves to the vengeance of which the late assembly and senate live in constant dread, many of them changing their lodgings, to elude the search of the avengers of the innocent blood they have shed.

“Mr. Clinton, the titular governor, has fortified his huts against a sudden surprise, and the rebel slaves of Poughkeepsie guard it every night.”

This was printed in the Tory organ more than a month after President Huntington had written to Governor Clinton that Great Britain had eagerly embraced the proposals of the European courts for peace. A little more than three months from the date of its publication Cornwallis had surrendered and the struggle was practically ended.

This year of 1781 had brought to the frontier the greatest crops on record. The valley of the Mohawk and the valleys of the Susquehanna and Schoharie rejoiced in their harvests. The military control of the frontier had been in the hands of Colonel Marinus Willett and the situation had at last found its master.

His energy and thoroughness gave a sense of security to the patriotic settlers on the frontier and held the Indians and Tories in a wholesome check.

During this summer of 1781 Governor Clinton received a letter by express messenger apprizing him that a party had left New York City to seize the governor and deliver him in New York for a reward. This was the third attempt during that same year. During the same summer the house of General Schuyler at Albany was entered by a party whose object was the seizure of the general. The bravery of the servants and the discharge of firearms by the sturdy old patriot drove the kidnappers away. On the 8th of November of that year Governor Clinton received the confession of a certain Cornelius Hasbrouck, with a plea for the mercy of the governor, stating that he was a party to the proposed seizure of the governor and that the actual attempt was to be made by one George Harden, a certain James Riley and two men from Dutchess county whose names he had forgotten, and that they were to receive two hundred guineas, if successful.

The month of October 1781 was made memorable by the surrender of Cornwallis on the 17th. On all sides the feeling arose that the long war was just over. It was known that the British ministry was in straits. It was known that the British public was divided. All through the years of the struggle a large part of that public abhorred the conflict and felt that the Americans were in the right. There were many who followed Burke and Chatham in England. Now these men made themselves felt.

The year 1782 opened thus with earnest expectations. Negotiations for peace were known to be in progress. But things moved slowly. Europe was so much farther in those days of infrequent vessels and almost constant warfare that rumors made up the most of what was said of foreign affairs. It was not until the 30th of November, 1782 that a preliminary treaty of peace received the signatures of the commissioners. Great Britain was disposed to make a treaty with the United States acknowledging their independence but to go no farther than that. The claims of France as the ally of this country would be ignored. America would not consent. This deferred the settlement until that day at the last of November.

But the beginning of 1783 brought the welcome news. There was rejoicing on every side. Yet the frontiers that had given Clinton so much concern and trouble during all these years were in an unrest. No sooner had Clinton received the positive information that a treaty had been signed than he wrote to Washington urging that the information be spread all along the frontiers and among the Indian tribes. Washington acted upon the advice of Clinton with promptitude and immediately wrote to Colonel Marinus Willett to spread the tidings. He also asked General McLean, commanding the British forces, for his good offices in the matter. It was cheerfully granted. It put an end to Indian outrages in the State of New York. The expedition of General Sullivan three years before had crushed the Iroquois and the great confederacy was no more. The raids since 1779 had been of bands who had sought revenge. Now with the close of the War of the Revolution these ceased.

THE VAN AAKEN AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Continued from Vol. V., page 351

(CLXXVI.) JACOB VAN AKEN⁵ (Benjamin⁴, Jan³, Peter², Marinus¹), born February 2, 1794, married WYNTJE WINFIELD⁵ (John⁴, John³, John², Richard¹), who was born May 11, 1797 and died August 14, 1878. Children:

- (521) Henry DeGraff⁶: Born in Esopus Aug. 12, 1818; died ——— 1828.
- (522) John Winfield⁶: Born in Esopus June 10, 1820; married Catherine Terpenning.
- (523) Benjamin⁶: Born in Esopus January 22, 1822; married Nov. 18, 1848 Sarah Helen Louw.
- (524) Solomon Terpenning⁶: Born in Esopus Dec. 21, 1824; married Catherine Ann Atkins.
- (525) Peter Hoofman⁶: Born in Esopus November 14, 1825; died ——— 1843.
- (526) Eliza Maria⁶: Born in Esopus April 12, 1828; married (1st) Jeremiah Ronk; (2nd) Jonathan Woolsey.
- (527) Richard DeWitt⁶: Born in Esopus April 13, 1830; married Charlotte Eckert.
- (528) Jane⁶: Born in Esopus July 13, 1832; married Solomon Bedford.
- (529) Elmira⁶: Born in Esopus Sept. 30, 1834; married Jacob Ronk.

(CCXI.) EPHRAIM VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham G.⁴, Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹), born June 28, 1779 and baptized in Kingston July 4, 1779, died Mar. 5, 1844.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

He married ELIZABETH VAN AKEN⁵ (117) (Eliphas⁴, Marinus³, Peter², Marinus¹) who was born May 4, 1780 and died March 10, 1862. Children :

- (530) Peter Myer⁶: Born in Esopus January 13, 1803; married (1st) Ann Cole; (2nd) Phœbe Southard; (3rd) Mrs. Lucy M. Norris.
- (531) Marinus⁶: Born in Esopus Feb. 10, 1806; married (1st) Jane Terpenning; (2nd) Hannah Eckert.
- (532) Ephraim⁶: Born in Esopus Jan. 7, 1810; married Eliza Catherine Cole.
- (533) Levi⁶: Born in Esopus Aug. 6, 1812; married Margaret Terpenning.

Ephraim VanAken was an officer in the State militia, belonging to the Light Horse Regiment.

(CCXII.) ABRAHAM VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham G.⁴, Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹) baptized in Kingston May 5, 1780; married RACHEL WIEST and died August 5, 1847. Children :

- (534) Nicholas Low⁶: Bap. in Esopus Nov. 9, 1807 married Mrs. Gitty Ann Freer Cornell.
- (535) William⁶: Bap. in Esopus March 30, 1810; married Margaret VanAken.
- (536) Stephen⁶: Bap. in Esopus July 21, 1811; married Rachel VanAken.
- (537) Matthew⁶: Bap. in Esopus Sept. 13, 1812; married Margaret Van Vliet.
- (538) Jeremiah Terpenning⁶: Bap. in Esopus Sept. 10, 1814.
- (539) Jane⁶: Bap. in Esopus Nov. 24, 1821; married Jonas VanAken.

Olde Ulster

Rachel Wiest was received by certificate as a member of Klyn Esopus church in the year 1824. She removed and returned and was again received.

Abraham A. VanAken was received on confession in the same church in 1831, removed from the church and returned.

(CCXIII.) POLLY (MARIA, MARY) VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham G.⁴, Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston October 24, 1784; married JEREMIAH TERPENNING and died August 14, 1853. Children:

(540) Jenny Terpenning⁶: Born in Esopus July 3, 1808.

(541) Abraham Terpenning⁶: Born in Esopus July 9, 1810; married S. C. VanAken.

(542) Margaret Terpenning⁶: Born in Esopus Jan. 25, 1814.

(543) Ann Elizabeth Terpenning⁶: Born in Esopus Apr. 29, 1816.

(544) Sarah Maria Terpenning⁶: Born in Esopus July 13, 1819.

(545) Hiram Terpenning⁶: Bap. in Esopus Sept. 29, 1825.

Mary VanAken was received on confession into the Klyn Esopus church in the year 1832.

(CCXV.) JACOBUS (JAMES JR.) VAN AKEN⁵ (Abraham G.⁴, Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston September 30, 1792, married SARAH ECKERT, who died April 23, 1862, aged 70 years, 6 months and two days. Children:

(546) Ann Maria⁶: Born in Esopus June 23, 1813; married Lawrence C. VanAken.

The VanAaken and Allied Families

- (547) Isaac Decker⁶: Born in Esopus May 3, 1816 ;
married Anna VanAken.
(548) Eliza Helen⁶: Born in Esopus May 30, 1820.
Died.
(549) Solomon E.⁶: Born in Esopus Dec. 21, 1822 ;
married Catherine Ferguson.
(550) Hannah Margaret⁶: Born in Esopus ——— ;
married Henry York.

(CCXVII.) BENJAMIN B. VAN AKEN⁵ (Benjamin⁴,
Gideon³, Peter², Marinus¹), baptized in Kingston Sep-
tember 10, 1786, married MARGARET TERPENNING.
Children :

- (551) Cornelius⁶: Born in Esopus Nov. 7, 1806.
(552) Ann Maria⁶: Born in Esopus May 1, 1808.
(553) Ann Eliza⁶: Born in Esopus March 14, 1810.
(554) Margaret⁶: Born in Esopus Sept. 3, 1815 ; mar-
ried William VanAken.

(CCCXXXII.) RACHEL VAN AKEN⁵ (Jeremiah⁴,
Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized at Red Hook
(Rhinebeck) November 11, 1764, married at Rhinebeck
Flats September 18, 1782 BARENT VAN WAGENON.
Child :

NOTE.—The New Paltz church records contain the mar-
riage Oct. 11, 1808, of Charity Van Aken to Jacob Halstead
and the baptisms of their children as follows: Jacob Hal-
stead. born Oct. 28, 1809 ; Gideon Van Aken Halstead,
born Jan. 19 and bap. in New Paltz Feb. 10, 1810 ; Rebec-
ca Ann Halstead, born May 12, 1813. Also the baptism of
a child of Elizabeth Van Aken and David Parker April 15,
1815. Both families are probably of Gideon Van Aken and
Elizabeth Masten, his wife.

Olde Ulster

(555) John VanWagon⁶: Born Aug. 9, and bap. at Rhinebeck Flats Aug. 17, 1783.

(CCCXXXIII.) PETRUS VAN AKEN⁵ (Jeremiah⁴, Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), baptized at Red Hook (Rhinebeck) October 5, 1766, married at Rhinebeck Flats November 6, 1785, SARAH KIP. Child:

(556) Annatje⁶: Born Dec. 7, 1791, baptized at Rhinebeck Flats Feb. 1. 1792.

The witnesses to this baptism were John Kip and Annatje VanAken.

(CCCXXXVI.) HENDRICUS VAN AKEN⁵ (Jeremiah⁴, Petrus³, Pieter², Marinus¹), born May 28, 1775 at Red Hook, married CATHARINA SCHRIVER. Children:

(557) Jeremiah⁶: Born at Rhinebeck Flats October 13, 1793.

(558) Annatje⁶: Born at Rhinebeck Flats January 29 and bap. June 17, 1798.

The witnesses to these baptisms were Jeremiah Van Aken and Catalyntje Sleght, his wife; Solomon Van Steenburg and Annatje Van Aken.

(CCCLXVII.) HANNAH VANAKEN⁵ (Levi⁴, Jacobus, Jr.³, Cornelis², Marinus¹), born in Minissink January 28, 1786, married JACOB WESTBROOK. Children:

(559) Maria Westbrook⁶: Born in Walpack May 15, 1810.

(560) Solomon Westbrook⁶: Born in Walpack Nov. 17, 1812.

(561) Levy Westbrook⁶: Born in Walpack Aug. 25, 1814.

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- (562) Hannah Jane Westbrook⁶: Born in Walpack Dec. 30, 1819; bap. Feb. 13, 1820.
(563) Saffaryne Westbrook⁶: Bap. in Walpack May 18 1823.
(564) Hyman Westbrook⁶: Born in Walpack Nov. 14, 1826; bap. Feb. 4, 1827.

(CCCLXXVIII.) ABRAHAM C. VAN AKEN⁵ (Elijah⁴, Daniel³, Abraham², Marinus¹), born December 3, 1800; died at Wykertown, N. J. in January, 1880 and was buried at Beemersville. He married April 2, 1831 MARTHA REESE. Children:

- (565) Catharine⁶: Born ———; married Walter Van Sickle, a farmer of Wantage.
(566) Obadiah C.⁶: Born ———; married Celesta L. Clarke of New York City. He was a butter merchant of New York and died in Passaic, N. J. August 26, 1871.
(567) Jane Maria⁶: Born ———; married Robert McMickle of Wantage.
(568) Martha Ellen⁶: Born ———.
(569) Barent A.⁶: Born ———.
(570) Isabella P.⁶: Born ———; died Feb. 9, 1867.
(571) Cornelia⁶: Born ———; married Daniel Dalrymple of Frankfort.
(572) Rena Louisa⁶: Born ———.

(CCCXCVII.) JACOBUS VAN AKEN⁵ (Benjamin⁴, Jacob³, Isaac², Marinus¹), born in Walpack September 15, 1796 and baptized June 25, 1797; married HANNAH RUMMERFIELD. Children:

To be continued

LINEAGE OF THE CHRISTIAN MEYER FAMILY

Continued from Vol. IV., page 311

(CXCIIL.) BENJAMIN MEYER⁴ (Teunis³, Benjamin², Christian¹) born at Saugerties N. Y., 9 May 1783. Occupation a farmer; married (1st) at Kingston N. Y., 2 Sep. 1804 SARAH SNYDER, born 2 Sep. 1785, daughter of Johannes Snyder and Leah Myer (23). Sarah died 20 Apr. 1833. Benjamin married (2nd) REBECCA MYER, (175), born 1 Mar. 1789, daughter of William Myer Jr., and Rachel Myer. Rebecca died 29 Jan. 1869; Benjamin died 31 Jan. 1869. They resided at Saugerties, N. Y. Children :

- a (249) John B.⁵: B. at Saugerties, 27 Feb. 1806.
- a (250) Maria⁵: B. " " 29 Nov. 1807.
- a (251) Eliza⁵: B. " " 24 Sep. 1810.
- a (252) Jane⁵: B. " " 31 Aug. 1812.
- a (253) Jesse⁵: B. " " 6 Jan. 1823.

(CXCIV.) JANNITJE MYER⁴ (Teunis³, Benjamin², Christian¹), born at Saugerties N. Y., 17 Sep. 1791; married at Saugerties N. Y., 17 Dec. 1815, PETER I. POST, occupation a farmer; born 19 Jan. 1792; son of Isaac Post and Catherine Snyder. Peter I. died 2 Apr. 1870. Jannitje died 30 Oct. 1872. They resided at Saugerties. Both were buried in Finger cemetery at Plattekill, N. Y. Children :

- b (254) Cornelia⁵: B. 16 July 1816; m. Henry Longendyke, son of John Longendyke and Elizabeth Dumond; Cornelia d. 13 Jan. 1882.
- b (255) Catherine⁵: B. 20 Apr. 1819; m. Henry Over-

Lineage of the Christian Meyer Family

bagh, son of Peter Overbagh and Gertrude DeWitt.

- b (256) Peter Brink⁵: B. 24 Mar. 1823; m. Harriet Schoonmaker, daughter of Henry Schoonmaker and Altje Wynkoop.
- b (257) Tobias Myer⁵: B. 13 Oct. 1825; m. Jane Schoonmaker, daughter of David Schoonmaker and———. She died 29 Mar. 1904.
- b (258) Isaac⁵: B. 25 June 1828; m. Leah Van Aken, daughter of David Van Aken and Leah Van Aken.
- b (259) Teunis Myer⁵: B. 12 Apr. 1832; m. Mary Jane Walter; b. 39 July 1834; daughter of Alanson Walter and Mary M. Gillespy. She died 24 Oct. 1909.
- b (260) Abraham⁵: B. 13 Mar. 1834; m. Mary E. Graves; b. 18 Feb. 1835.
- b (261) Sarah⁵: B. 13 Mar. 1834; d. 30 June 1836. Twin of preceding.
- b (262) Henry⁵: B. 13 May 1837; d. 20 Feb. 1841.

(CXC.V.) SOLOMON MYER⁴ (Teunis³, Benjamin², Christian¹), born at Saugerties N. Y., 3 Aug. 1797. His occupation was a farmer. He married ELIZABETH GOODWIN, born in 1801; daughter of Phineas Goodwin and Mary Smith. Elizabeth died 25 June 1878; Solomon died 11 Feb. 1879. Both were buried in Finger cemetery at Plattekill, N. Y. Children:

- a (263) Mary Ann⁵: B. 14 July 1823.
- b (264) James⁵: B. ——— 1829.
- b (265) John Henry⁵: B. 10 Dec. 1830; d. 28 Feb. 1837.
- b (266) Benjamin⁵: B. ——— 1831; d. 17 Aug. 1831.

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- b (267) Benjamin S.⁵: B. 8 Aug. 1835 ; d. 11 Mar. 1837.
b (268) Cornelia⁵: B. 3 May 1838 ; d. 8 Apr. 1849.
a (269) Phineas⁵: B. 8 Apr. 1842.
a (270) Rhoda⁵: B. 12 Aug. 1843.
a (271) Clarissa⁵: B. ——— 1846.

(CXIX.) PETER BRINK MYER⁴ (Tjerck³, Petrus², Christian¹), born at Saugerties, N. Y., 28 Sep. 1804. He was by occupation a tanner. He married 23 Oct. 1833, ANNA BRINK, born 5 Sep. 1810, daughter of Andrew Brink and Anna Persen. Peter Brink Myer was a captain of militia in 1833 and Supervisor of the town of Saugerties in 1854. He died June 1, 1863. She died 21 May 1901. They resided at Saugerties. Children :

- a (272) Henrietta⁵: B. 17 July 1834.
b (273) Elizabeth⁵: B. 21 Jan. 1836 ; d. 24 Apr. 1838.
a (274) Julia⁵: B. 7 June 1840 ; d. 28 Nov. 1870.
a (275) Charles L.⁵: B. 15 Mar. 1842 ; d. 25 Jan. 1904.
b (276) Albert⁵: B. 30 Sep. 1844 ; d. 19 Oct. 1844.
a (277) Anna Persen⁵: B. 26 Aug. 1846 ; d. 3 Sep. 1905.
b (278) Emily⁵: B. 12 June 1849 ; d. 24 Nov. 1852.

(CXX.) MARIA AMELIA MYER⁴ (Tjerck³, Petrus², Christian¹), born at Saugerties N. Y., 24 Mar. 1807 ; married at Saugerties CURTIS HOYT ; born 6 Nov. 1807 ; son of Stephen Hoyt and Nancy Hodges. Maria Amelia died 28 Aug. 1853. Curtis died 6 Aug. 1855. Their residence was in Saugerties, N. Y. Children :

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- b (279) Stephen A.⁵: B. 27 July 1834; married 3 Oct. 1865 Rutillia Gillam; b. 11 Mar. 1840; daughter of James D. Gillam and Eleanor C. Harvey.
- b (280) Sarah Rebecca⁵: B. 17 Jan. 1837, m. 2 July 1855 Mynard Turner, b. 16 Jan. 1834, son of Obadiah Turner and Emeline Post. Mynard d. 7 Apr. 1891.
- b (281) Theodore⁵: B. 1 July 1839; died in Fiji Islands, date unknown.
- b (282) Francis Marion⁵: B. 19 Nov. 1841; m. 16 Sep. 1867 Emma Hale; b. 25 June 1849, daughter of Alonzo Hale and Hannah Bassett.
- b (283) Peter Myer⁵: B. 1 Sep. 1844; m. 26 Apr. 1878 Anna Kate Dederick; b. 30 Sep. 1857; daughter of Alexander Dederick and Eugenia Shaffer.
- b (284) George⁵: B. 20 Aug. 1847; d. Jan. 4 1849.
- b (285) Julia Elizabeth⁵: B. 22 Mar. 1850; m. 24 May 1870 Thomas Kerr, b. 1834; son of Orson Kerr and Cynthia Claussen.

(CXXI.) JOSIAH MYER⁴ (Tjerck³, Petrus², Christian¹) born at Saugerties, N. Y., 12 Mar. 1810. He was by occupation a farmer. He married 22 Oct. 1844, MARIAN KNAPP; born 1 Mar. 1818, daughter of Dr. Nathan S. Knapp and Susan Knapp. Marian died 14 Nov. 1881. Josiah died 1 Apr. 1886. Their residence was in Saugerties, N. Y. Children:

- b (286) Nathan Smith⁵: B. 30 Sep. 1845; d. 9 Mar. 1865.
- b (287) Kirtland Josiah⁵: B. 17 Nov. 1847.

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- a (288) Sherwood Downs⁵: B. 20 Sep. 1853; d. 2 Mar. 1907.
b (289) Marietta Reed⁵: B. 20 Aug. 1857; d. 21 June 1872.

(CXIII.) JOHN MYNDERSE MYER⁴ (Jonathan³, Petrus², Christian¹), b. at Saugerties, N. Y., 4 Sep., 1802; married 24 Jan., 1823, SALLY LEGG b. 20 Feb., 1804, daughter of Cornelius Legg and Maria Wolven. They resided at Hurley, N. Y. John Mynderse died 27 Nov., 1885; Sally died 5 Oct., 1878. Children:

- a (290) Mary Ann⁵: B. 19 May, 1824.
a (291) Hiram⁵: B. 9 Mar., 1827.
a (292) Emeline⁵: B. 14 Mar. 1829.
a (293) Titus⁵: B. 2 Apr. 1831; d. 9 Nov. 1880.
b (294) Garrett⁵: B. 10 June, 1833; d. 17 June, 1833.
a (295) Augustus⁵: B. 2 Oct., 1834.
b (296) Mynderse⁵: B. 5 May, 1837; d. 8 Feb., 1848.
b (297) Louise⁵: B. 5 May, 1840; d. 8 Apr., 1857.
a (298) Sarah Catherine⁵: B. 29 Mar., 1843.
b (299) Amanda⁵: B. 23 Nov., 1848; d. 9 Feb., 1849.

To be continued



CATSKILL MOUNTAINS

And, lo ! the Catskills print the distant sky,
And o'er their airy tops the faint clouds driven,
So softly blending, that the cheated eye
Forgets or which is earth or which is heaven.—

Catskill Mountains

Sometimes, like thunder-clouds, they shade the even,
Till, as you nearer draw, each wooded height
Puts off the azure hues by distance given ;
And slowly break upon the enamored sight,
Ravine, crag, field and wood in colors true and bright.

Mount to the cloud-kissed summit. Far below
Spreads the vast champaign like a shoreless sea.
Mark yonder narrow streamlet feebly flow,
Like idle brook that creeps ingloriously;
Can that the lovely, lordly Hudson be,
Stealing by town and mountain ? Who beholds,
At break of day, this scene, when silently,
Its map of field, wood, hamlet, is unrolled,
While, in the east, the sun uprears his locks of gold.

Till earth receive him never can forget,
Even when returned amid the city's roar,
The fairy vision haunts his memory yet,
As in the sailor's fancy shines the shore.
Imagination cons the moment o'er,
When first discovered, awe-struck and amazed,
Scarce loftier Jove--whom men and gods adore--
On the extended earth beneath him gazed,
Temple, and tower, and town, by human insect raised.

Blow, scented-gale, the snowy canvas swell,
And flow, thou silver, eddying current, on.
Grieve we to bid each lovely point farewell,
That, ere its graces half are seen, is gone.
By wooded bluff we steal, by leaning lawn,
By palace, village, cot, a sweet surprise,
At every turn the vision breaks upon ;
Till to our wondering and uplifted eyes
The highland rocks and hills in solemn grandeur rise.

THEODORE S. FAY

OLD^E VLSTER

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ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE in the press that the old court records, as translated by Dingman Versteeg, are to be published. They are to be brought out by the New York State Historical Association, presumably in the annual volume of its proceedings. It is an exceedingly interesting announcement and those interested in early Ulster county history will welcome the publication. These records are in Dutch and were the transactions of the local court established by Director General Petrus Stuyvesant when he chartered the village at the Esopus under the name of Wildwyck in 1661. For a generation or more these records had disappeared. A few years ago a box came by express without the name of the sender, directed to the clerk of Ulster county. When opened it was found to contain the missing records, some missing records of the First Dutch Church of Kingston and the charter of the old Lutheran church of Loonenberg (Athens), Greene county, New York. The Board of Supervisors of Ulster county had them translated.

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