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# OLD<sup>E</sup> VLSTER



An Historical and Genealogical Magazine



KINGSTON, N. Y.

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# OLD<sup>E</sup> VLSTER

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VOL. VI

AUGUST, 1910

No. 8

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## *The Iroquois and* *\* \* \* Old Ulster*

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THE great Indian confederacy known as the "Five Nations" dominated the Indian tribes of this country east of the Mississippi and north of the Carolinas. This magazine has often spoken of the tribute it exacted from the tribes under its suzerainty. It is proposed to speak here of its influence in the earliest history of the region of the Esopus in behalf of the settlers. For from the time when Jacob Eelkens negotiated his famous treaty in 1618 with the Indians at Tawasentha, just below Fort Orange (Albany), which was usually referred to by the red men as "The Covenant Chain," or "The Silver Covenant Chain," the Iroquois, the great confederacy of central New York, could be depended upon to control the river Indians in all the troubles between them and the settlers of this region.

We have heretofore (OLDE ULSTER, Vol. IV., pages 1-10) told the story of the treaty thus called by the Iroquois. We will recount its influence during the early story of the Esopus. In 1646, seven years before Thomas Chambers purchased his first tract of land from the red men, after the Indian troubles under Director-General Keift, the articles of the treaty of peace concluded at New Amsterdam were signed by the chiefs of the river Indians "in presence of the Maquas [Iroquois] ambassadors."

It was not until the Indian troubles of May, 1658, terrorized the settlement that the value of that friendship under the "Covenant Chain" really appeared. The carousal of the Esopus Indians over the ten-gallon keg of brandy they obtained from the Albany fur traders, which occasioned the killing of Harmen Jacobsen by the drunken savages on May 1st, 1658, led to the founding of the village at the Esopus (Wildwyck, Kingston) May 31, 1658. At the conference Stuyvesant held at that time with the Esopus Indians he asked of them if the Dutch had not come to settle among them at the request of the Indians themselves and if they had not bought outright all the lands which they had taken. The Indians assented. This assent was many times thereafter made use of by the Iroquois when they were called upon in quarrels between the Esopus Indians and the Dutch.

On the 4th of September, 1659, ninety-six Indians appeared before the gate of the stockade at the Esopus. Friction had continued between the Esopus Indians and the settlers since the troubles which led to the building of that stockade. A conference was

held with these savages at which some Iroquois were present. The Indian orator called attention to the fact that when the Dutch settlers of the Esopus fled from their homes during the Indian troubles about Manhattan in 1655 the Esopus Indians had entered the Esopus but had done no harm. They had permitted the settlers to re-occupy their homes and, at the suggestion of the Iroquois, had "concluded a perpetual peace with them and the Maquas [Iroquois]." But on the night of the 16th of the same month occurred the drunken *Kintekoy* of the savages as they finished husking the corn of Thomas Chambers. It was followed by the senseless attack upon the sleeping savages by the hotheaded of the settlers and the trouble known as "The First Esopus War" was the result. This was settled by the treaty negotiated on the present "Academy Green" in Kingston on the 15th of July, 1660, and known as "The Treaty Made Under the Blue Sky." (See OLDE ULSTER, Vol. V., pages 264-68.) The first names to the treaty are those of the Iroquois representatives. During the intervening time messengers from the Senecas had been laboring with the local Indians to bring this about. At a conference held with the Mohawk sachems at Fort Orange on the 19th of October of that year (1659) it had been proposed that the Mohawks declare war against the Esopus Indians unless they kept quiet. The truth was that the elder men of the local Indians desired peace. It was the hot-headed youngsters, called by the Dutch *kalebakkeren* (naked faces) who ached for a fight and made the trouble. Meanwhile the Iroquois had sent the Esopus Indians this message :

“The Maquas and the Dutch were brothers and bound by one chain for a long time : If this chain were broken they would all be very much distressed and weep like children.”

While this was occurring Stuyvesant wrote to Ensign Smit recommending him to “inveigle” some savages into the stockade and seize them and hold them as hostages. This was followed by the sale of those captives as slaves in the West Indies to strike terror in the hearts of the Esopus Indians. It led to reprisals, the massacre of June 7, 1663, the seizure of the women and children of Esopus (Kingston) and Nieuw Dorp (Hurley) and the Second Esopus War.

Once more the assistance of the Iroquois was solicited. It was even proposed that an effort be made to have the Mohawks declare war against the Esopus. But this was opposed. No Indian war was desired. At last Mohawks were employed as scouts to search the country to locate the Indians in charge of the captives and through the efforts of these Mohawks their presence at “The New Fort” in Shawangunk was discovered. It was one of these Mohawks who prevailed upon the Indians in charge of the captives not to take them out into the woods at night and tie them with thongs to trees distant from each other so that they could not be found at night and rescued by the Dutch. Thus when the Dutch troops reached the Indian stronghold the captive women and children were there.

The Second Esopus War was settled by the treaty made at New Amsterdam on May 15, 1664. At this conference there does not seem to have been present



any Iroquois chieftains. But the principal spokesman for the Esopus Indians announced that the Iroquois "are well pleased and satisfied that the peace between the Esopus and the Dutch is to be concluded."

To the subsequent conferences at which the Indians disposed of lands in the Esopus the Iroquois sent no delegates. They claimed no interest in the title to land. But they insisted upon the recognition of their authority over the tribes as overlords. It was one of the complaints of the Maquas passed through Esopus villages without condescending to notice them despite the greetings which were given them. Thus to be counted beneath the recognition of these proud warriors was an insult they could hardly bear. It made the subject red men furious almost to fighting.

It is an interesting matter of inquiry to what an extent this relation to the tribes under their domination influenced the habits, manners and customs of such subjects. It is known that the "People of the Long House," as the Iroquois delighted to call themselves, developed strongly along domestic and family lines. Inheritance was through the mother. Their houses were long wigwams in which many families united their homes. Their chieftains were nominated by the matrons of the families to be elected at the tribal councils. The question of war or peace was decided in assemblies in which the women had a voice. Women must agree to the sale of land. Within the tribes the family or clan was of greater influence and importance than the tribe itself.

As the documents to which the Esopus Indians

were parties are examined we find that woman holds a large place therein. The Indian deed to the twelve Huguenots (which preceded the New Paltz patent) contains the names of two women, Mam-a-roch and Wawa-mis. When the lands at "Koxsinck" were wished in purchase by Cornelis Swits it was found that they were owned by Mam-ar-i-och-qua, the former of the above named Indian women. She would not sign them away until after the return of her son then away trapping beavers.

History tells of the great Indian conference at Geneseo in 1797 when the Senecas sold for \$100,000 their lands in western New York. For twenty days thousands of Indians discussed the matter. On the two sides of the question the red men were divided. With wonderful eloquence Red Jacket led in opposition. Almost as great was Cornplanter on the other side in favor. It was not determined until the women were won over to the side of sale by the eloquent tongue of the latter. The women decided to sell the great tract and it was signed away.

The treaty made with the Esopus Indians by Governor Andros April 27, 1677 has the signatures of three Indians who declare they sign for families—Kaelcop, Kugakapo and Wengiswars, who respectively sign for the Amogarickakan, Mahow and Kakatawis families.

It was this family tie which developed into the clan. When the remnants of the tribe were finally merged into other tribes the Esopus, largely of the clan of the Wolf, gravitated to the Delawares and the Oneidas where that clan was the strongest.

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## *Building the Delaware* *❧ ❧ and Hudson Canal*

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ACCESS to the region of the Minisink was a great problem from the earliest days of the settlement of the vast region known as the Esopus. This magazine (Vol. III., pages 33-41) told the story of "The Old Mine Road."

For years it was the outlet. The other outlet, which was down the Delaware river, was dangerous, difficult and uncertain. About one hundred years ago the discovery of excellent anthracite coal, and the further discovery that it could readily be made the best of fuel led to various devices to reach the Delaware river and the coal mines. In 1813 the first mine had been opened to obtain coal for the market. But the enterprise was not successful and little was mined and shipped.

The laws of Pennsylvania provided that debtors be imprisoned for debt. And when such unfortunates saw before them the terrors of an indefinite incarceration many fled from the prospect.

Among the successful merchants of Philadelphia in the decade 1810-20 was Maurice Wurts. He was not only a successful merchant but public spirited, far-seeing and broad-minded. In his business transactions had come to him interests outside of matters relating to his own province in mercantile affairs. He had

acquired mountain lands and other unproductive real-estate holdings. One day he journeyed into northeastern Pennsylvania to visit and inspect some wild lands of which the title had passed to him. Here he met a man in hiding who owed a considerable amount without the ability to make his assets available. Examination showed that the land was underlaid with what was then known as "stone coal," or anthracite. Wurts immediately awoke to the pressing importance of getting access to the markets. His active mind began to devise schemes. Despite every other suggestion the great need was water conveyance to tide water on the Hudson. It was before the days of railroads and the country was going wild over internal improvement by building canals for "slack-water navigation." Wurts grasped the idea and proceeded to work it out. First of all he obtained from the State of Pennsylvania an act permitting him to improve the Lackawaxen, at whose headwaters the coal lands lay that had been found. This done he sought his outlet to the world that awaited a supply of the best of fuel.

A Philadelphian, he attempted to get easy access to that city. An examination of the Delaware soon showed it not available for water communication. He sought a direct route to the Hudson about Newburgh or Cornwall. Mountain ranges, especially the Shawangunks, barred the way for a canal and a water supply for higher levels. One day he met Abraham Cuddeback and talked with him of his project. Cuddeback told him that he must follow the "Old Mine Road" to 'Sopus, as Kingston was always spoken of in the days when the Dutch was the colloquial tongue. The advice was followed.

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## *Building the Delaware and Hudson Canal*

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The incorporation of a company to carry out the project was necessary, and on the 23rd of April, 1823, the Legislature of the State of New York passed an act, the preamble of which sets forth :

“ WHEREAS, it is desirable that a channel should be opened through which the city of New York, and other parts of the state, may receive a supply of stone coal, which is found in the interior of the state of Pennsylvania :

“ *And whereas*, there is a large body of this valuable article, belonging to Maurice Wurts, of the said state of Pennsylvania, situated near the head waters of the river Lackawaxen, which empties into the river Delaware, opposite the county of Sullivan ; and the legislature of that state has recently passed an act, authorizing the above named individual to improve the navigation of said river :

“ *And whereas* it is represented, that a water communication can be found between the rivers Delaware and Hudson, through the counties of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster, or some one or more of them, so that a supply of this coal may be had from the source aforesaid ; and a number of the citizens of this state have petitioned the legislature to incorporate a company for the purpose of making such a communication between the two rivers. Therefore,

“ *Be it enacted by the People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly*, That for the purpose of cutting a canal, and making a complete slack water navigation, between the rivers Delaware and Hudson, it shall be lawful to open books for receiving and entering subscriptions to the amount of five hundred thousand dollars, in shares of one hundred dollars each share, under the management and superintendence of G. B. Vroom, Philip Hone, Lynde Catlin, Jonathan Thompson, Gerret B. Abeel, George Janeway, and Elisha Tibbits, of the city of New York, or any three or more of them, in the city of New York, and under the management and superintendence of George D. Wickham and

Hector Craig of the county of Orange, and Abraham Hasbrouck and John C. Brodhead of the county of Ulster or any two of them at such places within the counties of Orange, Sullivan or Ulster, as they or any two of them, may deem expedient."

The act of incorporation provided that tolls were not to exceed the rate of eight cents per mile for every ton weight of the ascertained capacity of any boat, and permission was given to the company to acquire all the rights, privileges and interests of Maurice Wurts, granted him by the State of Pennsylvania by the aforementioned act to improve the navigation of the river Lackawaxen.

The Legislature of New York on April 7, 1824 authorized the increase of the capital of the company to \$1,500,000 and extended the route of the canal, originally granted from the Hudson to the Delaware river, along the latter river to the mouth of the Lackawaxen. The company was also given banking privileges for twenty years. In 1864 the capital was increased to \$10,000,000.

On May 2nd, 1829 an act was passed loaning the credit of the State of New York "to the President, Managers and Company of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company . . . in such sums as the said company may require," special certificates of stock to the amount of three hundred thousand dollars, redeemable at any time after the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, at the pleasure of the State, and bearing an interest at the rate of four and a half per cent per annum.

The canal being assured preliminary surveys began.

The route to tide water was found to be the most practicable along the west base of the Shawangunk mountains to the Hudson, thus using the beautiful valley of the Rondout. Benjamin Wright was the first chief engineer but was soon succeeded by John B. Jervis, whose name was given to the village of Port Jervis. The assistant to both was James S. McEntee. All had been engaged in laying out the line of the great Erie canal, which preliminary survey had been completed January 8, 1820, and its construction had begun with the passing of the frost. As soon as the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company was organized Jervis and McEntee left the former enterprise and engaged upon the latter. Preliminary surveys completed, plans made and contracts let, on the 13th of July, 1825 the first spadeful of ground was thrown out. McEntee was appointed resident engineer of the first twenty miles from tide-water at the falls at Eddyville. Rensselaer Schuyler took a contract to build thirty locks and began one the same year (1825). In building the locks of the Erie Canal it was supposed that cement would have to be imported from Europe to lay the stone work below water. But a deposit had been found in 1818 at Chittenango, Madison county, New York which had provided it for the Erie, and Schuyler transported a quantity of it to the site of the first lock he was to build for the Delaware and Hudson. But within a few weeks of the day the first sod on the Delaware and Hudson was turned the engineers noticed the close similarity of the rock at High Falls to that at Chittenango and determined to ascertain its value and adaptability. A quantity was blasted out, burned in

the forge of a blacksmith at High Falls, pounded to the necessary fineness and thoroughly tested. To the delight of the engineers it was found to be of the finest quality, superior to any natural cement then known. Here was the material needed right upon the spot.

During the winter following preparations were made to manufacture. John Littlejohn contracted to furnish what cement was needed for the canal. As early as the following spring (1826) he commenced quarrying, burning and grinding. The first kiln was built near the sulphur spring below High Falls, and the burned stone drawn in bulk to the old mill of Simon DePuy and ground. McEntee directed the building of tight wagon-boxes of a certain capacity and teamsters were paid by the load drawn. It was found necessary to erect more mills. These continued to manufacture until the canal was completed. Then the mining, burning and grinding ceased. Littlejohn had completed his contract and shut down his works. The tremendous importance to Ulster county of the discovery of natural cement was not yet apparent.

There was one man awake to it. Judge Lucas Elmendorf, who had represented the district in Congress three terms (1797-1803), and who was the most energetic citizen of his day and generation the old county ever possessed, was awake to the opportunity. He commenced the manufacture at what has since been known as Lawrenceville, grinding at the old Snyder mill. Then the Hoffmans followed in the business at Hickory Bush. But the story may be left to a later opportunity for narration. The decade from 1825 to 1835 was a wonderful one in developing the county. It



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## *Building the Delaware and Hudson Canal*

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witnessed the building of the canal, the opening of the bluestone quarries, the discovery and manufacture of "Rosendale cement," the development of the great manufacturing interests at Saugerties, the opening of the unlimited transportation of coal to the markets of the United States, the building of Rondout and the construction of the fleet of Hudson river vessels to convey these millions of tons of merchandise to the markets awaiting them.

The work of constructing the canal was pushed with energy. Its completion was rapid and it was opened for business in October, 1828. As originally constructed it afforded a depth of four feet of water navigable for boats of thirty tons. In 1842 it was enlarged to accommodate boats carrying forty tons, and in 1851 farther enlarged to the capacity of boats of one hundred and twenty tons. By 1874 boats carrying one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and forty-eight tons used the canal. The great article carried was anthracite coal. The first cargo of this was carried in 1829 and during that year 7,000 tons were transported. In 1872 2,930,333 tons reached tide water by the canal. The railroad from Honesdale (the Pennsylvania terminus of the canal) to the mines was begun in 1827 and completed in 1829.

The original cost of the canal was \$2,037,117 of which amount \$1,424,994 was spent in the State of New York until the Pennsylvania line was reached.

In the summer of 1829 there was carried up the canal the pioneer of the machine that was to be the destruction of the enterprise. It was the first locomotive engine used in America. It was to be placed

upon the railroad from Honesdale to the mines. As the years went by it was found that railroads could be built up the steep grades necessary to reach the coal fields and they were constructed and gradually increased their mileage and carrying capacity. The days of the canal were numbered. At last, in the year 1898, the last boat came to tide water, the water was drawn off and the canal abandoned. On the tow-path, for many miles to-day, is the track of the locomotive. The canal remains for a few miles from the Hudson to convey cement. It seems to exist to repay its debt to the article discovered in its construction. But it finds that natural cement too is passing and the day fast coming when, with the Delaware and Hudson Canal, Rosendale cement will be a thing of the past.

After the close of the canal at the end of the season of 1898 the company applied to the Legislature of New York and its corporate title was changed to "The Delaware and Hudson Company." The act also gave permission to sell the canal and abandon the waterway



#### *MANUEL GONZALES AND HIS NICKNAME*

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The following letter explains itself. The article appeared upon pages 172-176 of the June, 1910 number of OLDE ULSTER. The suggestion regarding the suffix to the name of Manuel Gonzales was given for what it was worth. The editor of this magazine has no theories. He threw out the suggestion that it might ascertain the truth in the matter. He would say in this connection that the second edition of the "Nederlandsch-Engelsch Woordenboek (1892)" of

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*Manuel Gonzales and His Nickname*

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Calisch thus defines *delven* : "v. a. irr. (pret. *dolf*, p. p. *gedolven*), to dig, delve, hollow." The editor of OLDE ULSTER does not pretend to be a Dutch scholar and knows little of Dutch usage in such matters and appreciates being set right. The editor thus gives his readers the benefit of the letter of Mr. van Laer :

*New York State Education Department*

**New York State Library**

James I. Wyer, Jr., Director

**Manuscripts Section**

A. J. F. van Laer

Archivist

ALBANY, N. Y., June 2, 1910.

MY DEAR MR. BRINK :

Having just read your interesting article about Manuel Gonzales, the Spaniard, in the June number of "OLDE ULSTER," I feel impelled to say that I can not agree with you as to the probable meaning of the nickname "dolf" or "duk," used after the name of the elder Manuel Gonzales. To assume that "dolf" may be the preterit of the verb "delven," seems to me entirely contrary to the Dutch usage in forming nicknames, which, in all instances that I can recall, are composed of a noun, or an adjective, or a combination of the two, but not of a verbal tense. As a matter of fact, the name appears in the printed Kingston Church Records, as Manuel Gonsalis *dolk*, not *dolf*. "Dolk," as you know, means poniard, a familiar weapon of the Spaniards, and it seems to me much more likely therefore that this Spaniard was in the habit of carrying a poniard and so received his nickname. "Duk" may be a careless reading of the same word, the *o* and *l* having been imperfect and together been mistaken for *u*.

Offering this suggestion for what it is worth, I am,

Very truly yours

A. J. F. VAN LAER.

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# *Anthonij de Hooges, a Charming Personality*

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*Contributed by Helen Reed de Laporte*

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PROBABLY there is no more picturesque a personality in all the colonial records than Anthonij de Hooges. We first learn of him in 1641, when he entered the employ of the Patroon of Rensselaerswyck, sailing on *den Coninck David*, the skipper being commanded to allow him to eat and sleep in the cabin. He brought letters of introduction to Willem Kieft, Director-General, and also to Arent Van Curler, to whom he was sent as an assistant.

He kept a journal of his long voyage for the patroon. It begins:

“In the year of our Lord 1641, the 30th of July, I commenced this journal in the name of the Lord. May the Lord conduct us to the place of our destination in order that on our arrival we may offer to the Lord the offering of our lips to His honor and our Salvation. Amen.”

They had an unusually stormy passage. He closes his journal, saying:

“At day break we ran to the sand point [Sandy Hook] and we rounded it too close. We got aground on a reef

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*Anthonij de Hooges, a Charming Personality*

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which had formed there within a year. After two hours we got afloat again. God be praised we suffered no damage and with good speed passed between the Hoofden [the headlands at the sides of the Narrows] and in the afternoon came to anchor at the Manhatans, in front of Smits Vly [on the East river]. Thus the Lord delivered us at last, after much adversity, for which He be praised forever, Amen. The next day a dead horse overboard.

[Endorsed]

“ Journal of *anthonij*  
*de Hoges*, of his voyage  
to New Netherland  
beginning 30 July  
ending 29 November  
1641.”

One year later Kiliaen van Rensselaer writes him that the journal had been received and had given him great satisfaction. The letter is filled with advice and van Rensselaer evidently felt a deep interest in him. “ In the beginning,” he writes, “ hear and see, notice and learn, obey and make yourself agreeable and liked ; in that way you will be able to accomplish much.” That he considers his counsel worth seeking was shown by a letter to Domine Megapolensis urging him “ to confer sometimes with de Hooge and extract the quintessence of his discourse.”

Van Curler, de Hooges' superior officer, was somewhat dissipated and, going from bad to worse, all his papers were turned over to de Hooges. Then van Rensselaer writes again to Domine Megapolensis :

“ Every effort ought to be made to stop the excessive drinking and now that there is a public brewer [Evert Pels]

I hope that private brewing will cease. . . . I hope that *Anthonie de Hooges* will conduct himself well. What I fear most for him is that he may become addicted to drink, against which he must be strongly warned. His sweetheart here in the Netherlands *Anneken Sporum*, married at *Campen*, so that he need not wait for her any longer. I have sometimes thought that his thoughts were too much concentrated on her, and that he liked the country less on that account. You may tell him this when there is an opportunity or have somebody else tell him in order that he may be at ease. . . . Let him behave well and have patience and he will be advanced in due time."

That he stood high in the opinion of van Rensselaer a letter to van Curler shows, for he told the latter "not to lightly reject the advice of *hooges*, although he is younger than you and not so experienced. I consider him an upright young man." March 18, 1643 the patroon writes to de Hooges himself :

"I have your letters of the first of March and the 18th of August of last year, 1642. . . . I have recommended you well, as you will learn from *de megapolensis*, but I must admonish you to be religious and faithful and especially to guard yourself against drunkenness and lewd women. There are many rumors current about the first, but you can best test the matter yourself ; heed the faithful admonitions of your pastor *de Megapolensis* and do not follow the footsteps of those who may be guilty thereof, but fear the Lord ; do right and fear no one. You will do well to keep and send me a daily journal, giving a truthful account of affairs, for I have no use for things that are not true.

. . . . I hope that you will have more and more satisfaction ; all new things are difficult but matters will turn out to your advantage if you conduct yourself well. I

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*Anthonij de Hooges, a Charming Personality*

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must thank you for communicating to me the text of the first sermon of de megapolensis ; no other foundation can and ought to be laid. *Vale.*"

The position of de Hooges was a responsible one. He was commissioner and administrator of goods suitable for merchandise, and was to pay the laborers. We find him leasing farms and making contracts for buildings. From the departure of van Curler for Holland October 1, 1646 until the arrival of Brant Aerts van Schlichtenhorst March 22, 1648 he was entrusted with the business management of the colony.

From the latter date until his death on or about October 11, 1655 he held the office of secretary and *gecommitteerde* (commissioner), also that of *voorleser* or reader in the church. In a petition for the payment of his salary he states that he must have a house built for him, inasmuch as the stone house assigned to him has been turned into a church.

He married in October, 1647 Eva Bradt, daughter of Albert Andriesz Bradt, the Norman. Remsen is mistaken when he says: "His daughter and only child" married Herman Rutgers, for in the marriage agreement between Roelof Swartwout and Eva Albertsen Bradt, widow of Anthonie de Hooges, August 13, 1657, the bride serves for each of her children with her former husband, Marichen, Anneken, Catrina, Johannis and Eleonora de Hooges, one hundred gulden each.

One point of land still perpetuates his memory, Anthony's Nose in the Highlands, referred to in the early records as "Antonio's Nose."

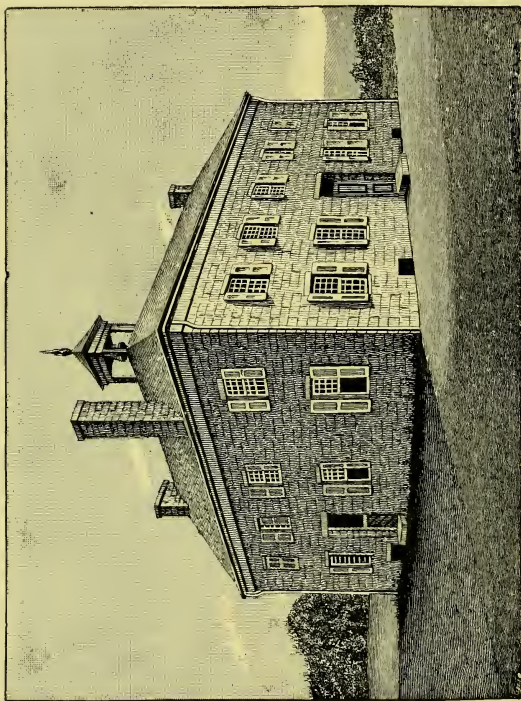
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This magazine is devoted to the history of "the

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*Olde Ulster*

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*The Old Kingston Academy*



Esopus," or Ulster county in its original sense. While de Hooges had no direct connection therewith, in fact died before 1658, when the first settlement was laid out and stockaded, it was with him as secretary of the great lauded estate of the patroon, van Rensselaer, that the earliest settlers at the Esopus, as Thomas Chambers, had to do. These came from Rensselaerswyck. OLDE ULSTER has published the business accounts of Chambers with the patroon (Vol. III., pages 303-311) and told the story of "The Settlement of Katskill (Leeds)," (Vol. V., pages 33-41). It was with de Hooges that the settlers dealt. Besides this the marriage of his widow with Roelof Swartwout, the first sheriff at the Esopus, brought her to live here.



### *THE OLD KINGSTON ACADEMY*

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On the southwest corner of John and Crown streets in the City of Kingston is still standing the building of the old Kingston Academy. This institution was founded in 1774 and soon became the most celebrated institution of learning in the State. Its reputation spread until prominent men made Kingston their home that their children might receive the advantages of the best education of the day. About the beginning of the last century the academy was removed to its present site and the old building was sold. It should be owned by the Kingston Board of Education and made the home of that organization.

*SLAVERY IN ULSTER COUNTY*

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Whereas by the Last will and Testament of Cornelius Newkerk Late of the Town of Hurley Deceased it appears that his Negro man Named Charles was to Continue the sole property of his Wife Diana During her Life Time and after her Decease to Descend to his heirs, the Underwritten Subscribers Heirs to the Said Cornelius Newkirk, And Whereas we the Said Dianah and Underwritten Subscribers Heirs to the Said Cornelius Newkerk do hereby mutually agree to and with the Said Negro man Charles, that he Shall have his freedom from the Date of these presents, Provided that he the Said Charles Do Maintain and Support his mother Gin an Aged Negro Wench in Such a manner that we the Subscribers may Not hereafter become Chargeable Nor Accountable in Supporting or maintaining Gin Negro Wench, upon the above Conditions we Do hereby Manumit the above Said Negroe Charles and Order the Same to be Entered in the Clerk's Office of the Said Town of Hurley this 15 Day of August 1800.

Entered of Record pr. me,  
Derick DuBois, T. C.

Corn<sup>s</sup>. Newkirk,  
Corn<sup>s</sup>. Newkerk, Jun<sup>r</sup>.,  
Peter DuBois,  
Peter Newkerk,  
Cornelius Dumond.

(This magazine is indebted to Chaplain R. R. Hoes, U. S. N., for the above manumission.—THE EDITOR).



THE NORTHWEST CORNER of the New Paltz patent, given as an illustration on page 202, Vol. VI. (July 1910) of OLDE ULSTER, is thus mentioned in the Revised Statutes of the State of New York (1829):

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*Lineage of the Christian Meyer Family*

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“The town of Hurley shall contain all that part of said county [Ulster] beginning at a flat rock known by the name of Tawrataque, being the northwest corner of the New Paltz patent, etc.”

The formation of the town of Rosendale in 1844 out of the towns of Hurley, Marbletown and New Paltz so changed the bounds of the town of Hurley that its boundaries no longer reach this rock.



*LINEAGE OF THE CHRISTIAN MEYER FAMILY*

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*Continued from Vol. VI., page 222*

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(CV.) PETRUS D. MYER<sup>4</sup> (David<sup>3</sup>, Petrus<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) by occupation a farmer, was born 24 June 1791, at Saugerties N. Y., married 18 March 1815, at Katsbaan, N. Y., SARAH HOMMEL, born 16 March 1787, daughter of Herman Hommel and——. Petrus D. served as a soldier of the war 1812, in the company of Captain John Gillespy from Saugerties. They removed from Katsbaan to Fawns, N. Y., in 1823, where he died 6 March 1848. Sarah died 6 July 1860. Children:

- b (363) Rebecca<sup>5</sup>: B. 19 Sep. 1815; d. 21 Feb. 1882.
- a (364) David P.<sup>5</sup>: B. 29 Aug. 1817; d. 23 Oct. 1883.
- a (365) Stephen P.<sup>5</sup>: B. 16 Aug. 1820; d. 10 Nov. 1892.
- b (366) Catherine<sup>5</sup>: B. 7 March 1823; mar. 27 Feb. 1846, Henry Hommel; b. 13 Aug. 1819, son of Ephraim Hommel and Catherine Dederick. Henry d. 10 Aug. 1887; Catherine, his wife, d. 1 July 1903.

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*Olde Ulster*

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a (367) Christian<sup>5</sup>: B. 6 July 1825; d. 20 Jan. 1901.

(CVI.) BENJAMIN D. MYER<sup>4</sup> (David<sup>3</sup>, Petrus<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) by occupation a carpenter and farmer, was born 1 May 1799 at Basic, Rensselaer Co., N. Y.; married 23 Feb. 1822 at Katsbaan, N. Y., MARY MAGDALEN ALIDA VAN VLIERDEN, born 9 Aug. 1793, daughter of Rev. Petrus Van Vlierden and Maria Magdalen Houdtkoper. Benjamin D. died 2 Aug. 1850. Mary Magdalen Alida died 5 Jan. 1858. They resided at Katsbaan. Children;

b (368) David<sup>5</sup>: B. 7 Jan. 1823; d. 2 Sep. 1842.

a (369) Jane Catherine<sup>5</sup>: B. 3 Dec. 1824; d. 12 Apr. 1898.

b (370) Julia Ann<sup>5</sup>: B. 26 Jan. 1827; d. 31 Mar. 1855.

b (371) Peter Van Vlierden<sup>5</sup>: B. 3 July 1829; d. 9 July 1837.

b (372) William<sup>5</sup>: B. 21 June 1832; d. 7 Sep. 1833.

b (373) Mary Elizabeth<sup>5</sup>: B. 29 Sep. 1835; d. 13 Jan. 1860.

a (374) Peter William<sup>5</sup>: B. 11 Oct. 1838; d. 13 Dec. 1886.

(CVII.) LEVI D. MYER<sup>4</sup> (David<sup>3</sup>, Petrus<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>), by occupation a farmer, was born at Basic, Rensselaer county, New York, 31 May, 1802; married at Saugerties, N. Y., 6 November 1824 MARY MYER (183); born 19 January, 1804. Levi D. died 28 November, 1860. Mary died 27 April, 1885. They resided at Plattekill (Mount Marion), New York. Children:

- a (375) Harvey<sup>5</sup>: B. 2 June 1827.
- b (376) Mary Jane<sup>5</sup>: B.—: married Peter Saile.
- b (377) Lavina<sup>5</sup>: B.—; married Jeremiah Whitaker.

(CVIII.) CATHARINA MYER<sup>4</sup> (David<sup>3</sup>, Petrus<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) was born in Katsbaan, New York 29 May, 1805; married at Katsbaan 15 October, 1829 PETER C. WINNE, a farmer, born 7 January, 1803, son of Cornelius Winne and Elizabeth Backer. Catharina died 7 March, 1856. Peter C. died 22 August, 1877. They resided at Katsbaan, New York. Children:

- b (378) John Valentine<sup>5</sup>: B. 3 Nov. 1830; married (1st) 18 Oct. 1854 Eliza Catherine Kimble, born 15 Sept. 1833, daughter of John P. Kimble and Altie Wynkoop. Eliza Catherine died 15 May, 1868. John V. Winne married (2nd) 6 June 1872 Anne Sax, born 17 Feb. 1831, died 27 May 1900, daughter of John P. Sax and Elizabeth Wynkoop. No issue of second marriage. John V. died 24 May, 1893.
- b (379) Catherine<sup>5</sup>: B. 26 Dec. 1836; died 18 March 1860.

(LXXV.) CORNELIUS MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) by occupation a farmer, was born in the town of Catskill, Greene county, New York, 14 October, 1764; married at Kingston, New York, 29 April, 1787, MARIA BRITT, born 16 May, 1765, daughter of Nicholas Britt and Margaret Backer. Cornelius Myer was a soldier of the Revolution in First Regiment Ulster County Militia. In his will, executed 18 May, 1828, he mentions his father Chris-

tian and his children Jonathan, Wyntje, Nellie, Sarah, Polly, Ann and Mahala. He resided in Kiskatom in the town of Catskill, New York. Cornelius died 22 July, 1828. Maria died 17 September 1845. Children:

- a (380) Wyntje<sup>5</sup>: B. 30 Jan. 1788.
- a (381) Neeltje<sup>5</sup>: Bap. Katsbaan, 30 Jan. 1790.
- a (382) Jonathan<sup>5</sup>: Bap. Katsbaan 5 May, 1792.
- a (383) Sarah<sup>5</sup>: Bap. Katsbaan 13 Sept. 1794.
- a (384) Catherine<sup>5</sup>: B. 21 June 1797.
- a (385) Mary Magdalena<sup>5</sup>: B. 29 Jan. 1800.
- a (386) Annatje<sup>5</sup>: B. 6 Sept. 1802.
- a (387) Mahala<sup>5</sup>: B. 25 Feb. 1805.

(LXXVI.) JONATHAN MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>), by occupation a farmer, was born in the town of Catskill, New York, 9 August, 1766; married at Kingston, New York, 12 March, 1790, CATHERINE VAN LEUVEN, born 1 March, 1762. Jonathan died 3 January, 1815. Catherine died 7 May, 1822. They resided at Katsbaan, New York. No children.

(LXXVII.) HENDRICUS MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>), by occupation a farmer, was born in the town of Catskill, New York, 6 August 1768; married at Katsbaan, New York 2 July, 1796 MARIETJE PERSEN, born 4 October 1772, daughter of Cornelius Persen and Elizabeth Masten. Hendricus died 13 September 1853. Marietje died 2 July, 1853. They resided at Brabant in the town of Kingston, New York. Children:

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*Lineage of the Christian Meyer Family*

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- b (388) Mary Anna<sup>5</sup>: B. 11 June 1797; married 20 Feb. 1815, Jacob Hasbrouck DeWitt, b. 2 Oct. 1784, son of Col. Thomas De Witt and Elsje Hasbrouck. Mary Anna d. 13 July, 1816. Jacob Hasbrouck d. 30 Jan. 1857. They resided in Marbletown, New York. No issue.
- b (389) Jannitje Elizabeth<sup>5</sup>: B. 18 Sept. 1799; married 5 Jan. 1820 Richard W. Tappen, b. 22 Jan. 1798, son of George Tappen and Anna Kiersted. Jannitje Elizabeth d. 6 Nov. 1856. Richard W. d. 14 Sept. 1866. No issue.
- b (390) Cornelius Persen<sup>5</sup>: B. 16 Aug. 1802; d. 24 Sept. 1805.
- a (391) Cornelius Persen<sup>5</sup>: B. 11 Oct. 1807.
- b (392) James<sup>5</sup>: B. 30 May 1811; d. 28 April 1883. Not married.
- b (393) A son<sup>5</sup>: B. 6 Sept. 1813; d. 6 Sept. 1813.
- a (394) Mary Anna<sup>5</sup>: B. 6 June 1820; d. 29 April 1848.

(LXXVIII.) LEAH MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) was born in Kiskatom in the town of Catskill, N. Y., 19 October, 1770; married ———— ANDREW VAN LEUVEN, son of ———— and ————, born 10 May, 1767. Leah died 30 July, 1825. Andrew died 20 February, 1836. They resided in Kington, New York. Children:

- b (395) Benjamin<sup>5</sup>: B. 25 Sept. 1795.
- b (396) William<sup>5</sup>: B. 2 Nov. 1796; died about 1812.
- b (397) Sally<sup>5</sup>: B. 14 May 1798. Unmarried.

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*Olde Ulster*

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- b (398) Catherine<sup>5</sup>: B. 1 Dec. 1800; mar. Matthew Stewart.
- b (399) Cornelius M.<sup>5</sup>: B. 7 Aug. 1803; mar. Margaret Van Keuren.
- b (400) Hannah<sup>5</sup>: B. 7 Apr. 1805; mar. Richard Jones.
- b (401) Andrew<sup>5</sup>: B. 18 Sept. 1807.
- b (402) Mary<sup>5</sup>: B. 15 July 1809; mar. Nelson Talmage.
- b (403) Jane<sup>5</sup>: B. 23 Apr. 1811; mar. Samuel Coleman.
- b (404) Almira<sup>5</sup>: B. 2 June 1813; mar. William Ziegler.

(LXXX.) HEZEKIAH MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>), by occupation a farmer, was born in Kiskatom, New York, 8 June 1775; married at Katsbaan, New York, 6 June, 1802 MARGARET SCHOONMAKER; born 21 Sept, 1784, daughter of ——— and ———. Margaret died 1 March, 1862. Hezekiah died 10 May, 1868. They resided near Palenville, Greene county, New York. Children:

- a (405) William F.<sup>5</sup>: B. 22 Apr. 1804.
- b (406) A son<sup>5</sup>: B. 12 Sept. 1805; d. 13 Sept. 1805.
- a (407) Jane Pamelia<sup>5</sup>: B. 7 Sept, 1807.
- b (408) James Demarest<sup>5</sup>: B. 25 Mar. 1808; d. 30 Dec. 1898; unmarried.
- b (409) Peter Valentine<sup>5</sup>: B. 24 Sept. 1811; d. 15 Aug. 1839; unmarried.
- a (410) Sarah Maria<sup>5</sup>: B. 11 Nov. 1814.
- a (411) Jonathan<sup>5</sup>: B. 20 Mar. 1818.
- a (412) Catherine Ann<sup>5</sup>: B. 4 Jan. 1821.
- a (413) Charlotte<sup>5</sup>: B. 16 Aug. 1826.



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*Lineage of the Christian Meyer Family*

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(LXXXI.) CATHERINE MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) was born at Kiskatom in the town of Catskill, N. Y., 5 September 1777; married 18 February, 1798 SAMUEL WELLS, by occupation a farmer, born 12 August, 1773, son of Hendricus Wells and Margarita Burhans. Catherine died 27 January, 1842. Samuel died 17 August, 1858. Residence at Durham, N. Y., until about 1815 when he removed to Katsbaan, New York. Children:

- a (414) Sarah<sup>5</sup>: Born in Durham, N. Y., 27 Dec. 1799; died 25 Dec. 1831.
- b (415) Catherine Ann<sup>5</sup>: B. in Durham 5 Aug. 1801; mar. 11 Mar. 1829 Peter H. Brink, b. 16 Aug. 1790, son of Petrus Brink and Sarah Cole. Catherine Ann d. 24 July 1833. Peter H. d. 7 Mar. 1861.
- b (416) Henry<sup>5</sup>: B. at Oak Hill, Greene Co., N. Y., 27 May 1804; mar. 28 Feb. 1832 Margaret Brink, b. 20 Jan. 1807, daughter of Andrew Brink and Anna Persen. Henry d. 22 Feb. 1834. Margaret d. 8 Apr. 1886. No issue.
- a (417) Christian Myer<sup>5</sup>: B. at Durham 30 July, 1806; d. 29 Jan. 1893.
- b (418) James<sup>5</sup>: B. Durham 13 Dec. 1809; married 16 Sept. 1845, Fanny H. Winans, b. 8 July, 1822, dau. of Darius Winans and Betsy Holmes. James d. 31 Mar. 1878. Fanny H. d. 10 Jan. 1907. Resided in Katsbaan, N. Y., and later in Flatbush, Ulster Co., N. Y. No issue.

- b (419) Margaret Maria<sup>5</sup>: B. in Durham 3 Oct. 1811; mar. 8 June, 1842 the Rev. Josiah Judson Buck, b. 30 Mar. 1794, son of Asaph Buck and Phoebe Wainwright. The Rev. Josiah Judson d. 17 Apr. 1870. Margaret M. d. 9 Apr. 1901.

(LXXXIV.) JANNITJE MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>) was born 10 June, 1784; married at Katsbaan, N. Y., 18 February 1813 HENRY BRINK, born 14 August, 1780, by occupation a farmer, son of Petrus Brink and Sarah Cole. Henry died 25 July, 1815. Jannitje died 22 March, 1873. They resided in the town of Saugerties, New York. Child:

- b (420) Sally Ann<sup>5</sup>: B. 10 Dec. 1813; mar. 12 Oct. 1836 Peter P. Sharp, b.—; son of Peter P Sharp, M.D., and Margaret Whitaker. Sally Ann d. 22 May, 1895. Peter P. d. ———.

(LXXXV.) BENJAMIN C. MYER<sup>4</sup> (Christian<sup>3</sup>, John Wilhelm<sup>2</sup>, Christian<sup>1</sup>), by occupation a farmer, was born in the town of Catskill, N. Y., 19 December, 1787; married at Katsbaan, New York, 23 September, 1810 RACHEL MYER (149), born 8 November, 1783, daughter of Johannes Myer and Seletje Snyder. Benjamin C. died 22 September, 1839. Rachel died 14 May, 1855. They resided in the town of Saugerties, New York. Children:

- a (421) Gerrit Mynderse<sup>5</sup>: B. 15 June, 1811; d. 13 Sept. 1873.  
a (422) Louisa<sup>5</sup>: B. 3 May 1814; d. 23 July 1890.

*To be continued*

**ORGANIZING THE STATE GOVERNMENT  
AT KINGSTON**

*(July 30, 1777)*

---

To-day our chief ungirds his sword and lays the blade at rest  
To take the oath of fealty to his proud State's behest ;  
To-day obeys the voice that bids the very sword to draw  
Subservient unquestioned unto the reign of law.

An era dawns, a sovereign comes to enter on his own,  
An entity created to be the regnant one—  
The people's will when registered,—a court without appeal  
The civil power all power above within the common weal.

Proclaim the fact that here, to-day, in all its ponderous weight  
On Clinton's shoulders has been laid the burden of the State.  
“God save the people ; save the State ; let the new govern-  
or be  
Embodied law, incarnate peace, invested liberty !”

And here upon these court-house steps to all the world  
proclaim  
“GEORGE CLINTON is our governor and ruleth in our  
name.  
GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE !” Let the world in wonder  
gaze and awe  
At universal liberty submissive unto law.

And as the generations of their sons successively arise,  
And all their rich inheritance of patriotism prize,  
May they look back upon this spot, this hour, and know  
’twas here  
Our great imperial commonwealth began its proud career.

# OLD<sup>E</sup> ULSTER

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AN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

---

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WITH ALL ITS WEALTH OF HISTORY this old county has no historical society to gather and preserve its records. We have often spoken of the flourishing Ulster Historical Society which was organized in 1859. It began to collect immediately. But it died as its members sprang to the defense of the Union in the Civil War. Its collections were dispersed and are mostly lost. The preservation of records and documents is fully as important as their accumulation. In Livingston county, New York, is one of the best of county historical societies. It has a small park in the village of Geneseo in which it has built a log cabin as the headquarters of the society and the depository of its collections. The society meets about the county. It has papers prepared and read. Many are not of great value, as they are often based upon insufficient investigation of data, or are merely traditions which cannot be established. But with these are many fully substantiated. Would that Ulster had as vigorous an organization !

---

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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## THE COLONIAL DAMES OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

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