

THE HYDE PARK PATENT

by

HENRY T. HACKETT

At a date prior to 1695, in which year he died, Henry Pawling of Ulster County purchased a tract of land in Dutchess from the Indian owners. The purchase was made under a license granted to Pawling by Governor Dongan and the land acquired was bounded on the west by Hudson's River, on the south and east by Crum Elbow Creek and on the north by the Rhinebeck Patent. Within those boundaries there were supposed to be 4,000 acres.

Captain Pawling applied to the Governor for a Crown Patent, (i.e. confirmation of title) to the described tract but the Patent was not issued until May 11, 1696, after he had died and so it was made out to his widow, Nieltie Pawling, and their children.

It was not long before it became known that there were more than 4,000 acres of land within the bounds of the Pawling Patent and so, on March 23, 1703 a group of men from New York City, led by Jacob Regnier made the following petition to the Governor for Letters Patent for the surplus portion and for a warrant to survey the bounds of such remainder:

"To his Excellency Edward Viscount Cornbury Cpt.
General and Governor in Chief of the province of
New York, New Jersey and the territories depending
thereon in America in Council
The humble petition of Jacob Regnier and Company

Showeth

That one Henry Pauling, decd, having in his lifetime purchased a certain tract of land on Hudson's River in Dutchess County from the native Indians, propriotors thereof, by virtue of a license granted to him by Coll. Dongan, formerly Gov. of this province, called by the Indians Eaquaquansinck, beginning at a marked tree by the river side; thence running by marked trees eastwardly by the side of fresh meadow, including this meadow called Mansackin, also running eastwardly to a small creek, called Nancapaconnick, and following the sd creed southerly and southwest, as it runs, to Hudson's river by the Crom Elbow, called by the Indians by the name of Eaquansinck. Nieltie Pauling, his widow, after his decease, on the eleventh day of May, 1696, obtained a patent from Coll. Benj. Fletcher, formerly Gov. of this province, for 4,000 acres of land within the limits and bounds, to herself and her children.

Petitioner having discovered that there is a parcel of land still remaining unallotted and unappropriated within the said limits and

bounds over and besides the said 4,000 acres, that altho the same is generally rocky, mountainous, lying in and adjoining to the high lands, yet that some small places are to be found therein, fit for cultivation and improvement, and yor Excell. petitioner being willing to do the same

Humbly pray

may it please yr. Excellency to grant unto yr. petitioner her Majesties letters patent under the broad seal of this province, for the remaining part of the said tract of land at and under such moderate quit rent as to your excellency it seems well and in order there-to that

Excellency would be pleased to grant to your said petitioner a warrant of survey for the ascertaining the bounds of the said remainder

Yr. Excell. petitioner

shall ever pray

J. A. Regnier”

On April 5, 1704 Augustine Graham, Surveyor General of New York, reported, viz:

“Pursuant to his Excellys

Warrt dated 24th March 1703.

I have surveyed for Mr. Jacob Regnier the property of Henry Pauling pursuant to the limits expressed in the same but could not ascertain the boundary of the four thousand acres granted to Neiltie Pauling and her children the same not having been surveyed or in any manner of ways expressed, but do find by within the limits of the Paulings Purchase including the four thousand acres granted his widow there is contained ten thousand acres of land of which scarce one third part is improveable it being generally very mountainous and rocky. Performed April 5th, 1704

Augus. Graham

Sur. Gen.”

Seven weeks later, that is on May 25, 1704, Jacob Regnier and his partner acted on the information obtained from the report of the survey and petitioned for a Crown Patent for the surplus acreage. As a result, Lord Cornbury, Governor of the Province of New York, on April 18, 1705, granted a Patent for the said surplus to Jacob Regnier, Peter Fauconnier, Benjamin Aske, Barne Cosens and John Persons. The patent is recorded at Albany at page 303 of Book 3 of patents and reads as follows:

“Anne by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith &c to all to whom these presents shall come or may concern greeting

Whereas Jacob Regnier, of Lincoln’s Inn of Kingdom of England, Esq., barrister at law now resident at New York in America, and company, to witt Peter Fauconnier, Esq., Benjamin Ask, Merchant, Barne Cosens, gentleman, and John Persons, gentleman, all of New York, (appeared) by their several petitions, humbly presented to our right trusty and well beloved Cousin, Edward, Viscount Cornbury, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over our Province of New York.

and Territories depending thereon in America, ec, in Council, have prayed our grant and confirmation of all that tract of land on the east side of Hudson's River in Dutchess County, called by the Indians Eaquaquanesick, beginning at a marked tree by the riverside, thence running by marked trees eastward by ye syde of a fresh meadow called Mansakin also running eastwardly to a small creek called Nancapaconnick and following said creek southerly and southward, as it runs, to Hudson's River by said Crum Elbow, called by the Indians by ye name of Eaquarsinck except only such land, parcel thereof, to which Wyntie, John, Albert, Anne, Henry and Mary Pauling, children lawfully begotten between Henry Pauling, decd, and Neilche his wife, are duly entitled to, and that we would be graciously pleased to make our royal grant of said premises unto them Jacob Regnier, Peter Fauconnier, Benj. Ask, Barne Cosens and John Persons, whereupon we think fit to grant their request.

Know Ye that of our Special Grace certain knowledge and (Meer Mocon?) we have given, granted, ratified and confirmed and, by these presents, do for us ourselves and successors give, grant, ratify and confirme unto ye said Jacob Regnier, Peter Fauconnier, Benj. Ask, Barne Cosens and John Persons (which said Peter Fauconnier, Benj. Ask, Barne Cosens, and John Persons are the company of the said Jacob Regnier) all of the said tract of land above to be on the east side of Hudson's river in Dutchess County aforesaid, called by the Indians Eaquaquanesinck, beginning at a marked tree by the said river syde thence running by marked trees easterly by a fresh meadow called Mansakin, also running easterly to a small creek called Nacapaconnick, and following said creek southerly and southwest, as it runs, to Hudson's River by ye Crown Elbow, called by the Indians by the name of Eaquarsinck. Together with all the singular the woods, underwoods, trees, timber, meadows, marshes, swamps, pools, ponds, waters, water courses, rivers, rivvlets, runs and streams of water, brooks, fishing, fowling, hunting and hawking, mines, minerals, all standing, growing, running, flowing, lying or being within the bounds and limits aforesaid and all other profits, benefits, advantages, heraditiments and appurtenances whatsoever, to the land belonging or in any wise appertaining, in five parts, to be divided except and always reserved out of this our present grant all gold and silver and also all such land, parcel thereof, to which Jane, Wyntie, John, Albert, Anne, Henry and Mary Pauling, children lawfully begotten between Henry Pauling, deced, and Neiltie, his wife, are duly entitled to, to have and to hold one-fifth part of said tract of land and premises and the appurtenances hereby granted or meant, menconed or intended to be hereby granted, as aforesaid, to (except as is hereinbefore excepted) unto ye sd Jacob Regnier, his heirs and assigns, forever. To the only proper use and behoof of the said Jacob Regnier, his heirs and assigns for ever. One other fifth part thereof to said Peter Fauconnier, his heirs and assigns forever, to the only proper use and behoof of said Peter Fauconnier, his heirs and assigns forever—one other fifth part thereof unto the said Benj. Ask, his heirs and assigns forever, to the only proper use and behoof of said Benj. Ask, his heirs and assigns forever,—one other fifth part thereof unto ye sd Barne Cosens, his heirs and assigns forever, to the only proper use and behoof of said Barne Cosens, his heirs and assigns forever,—and one other fifth part thereof to the said John Persons, his heirs and assigns forever, to the only proper use and behoof of said John Persons, his heirs and assigns forever.

To be holders of us, our heirs and successors in free and common socage, as of our manner of East Greenwich in the County of Kent, within our Kingdom of England—Yielding, rendering and paying therefor yearly and every year forever unto our heirs and successors at our custom house at New York (afore sd?) or to our Collector or receiver Gen'l there for the time being at or upon the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (commonly called Lady Day) the rent or sum of five pounds current money of New York in lieu and stead of all other rents, services, dues, duties and demands whatsoever provided, always and these present are upon that condition, that if no Improvement be already had or made upon the sd Tract of Land, hereby granted as aforesaid, nor on any part or parcel thereof, that then and in such case they the sd Jacob Regnier, Peter Fauconnier, Benj. Ask, Barne Cosens, and John Persons their heirs and assigns, some or one of them shall in the time and space of two years now next following from and after the date hereof settle, clear and make improvement of or upon the said lands and premises hereby granted, or of or upon some part or parcel thereof.

In Testimony Whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent and the seal of our Province of New York to our letters patent to be affixed and the same to be recorded in the Secretary's Office of our said Province aforesaid.

Witnesseth our right, trusty, and well beloved Cousin, Edward, Vicount Cornbury, our Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over our said Province of New York and Territories depending thereon, in America, and Vice Admiral of the same ec. in council at the Fort at New York the eighteenth day of April in the fourth year of Our Reign anno ye dne 1705."

Representatives of the owners of the Patent of Hyde Park met at "James Harding by the Ferry on Long Island" on September 8th, 1730, for the purpose of "justly dividing the same by casting of lots" and there executed a deed of partition which with the map showing the partition of the Patent were filed, at the request of Dr. Samuel Bard, in the office of the Secretary of State, on June 27th, 1787.

One of this group of patentees, Peter Fauconnier, occupied a number of offices under Lord Cornbury, the Governor of New York. In 1702 he was appointed Secretary to the Governor. Later he was made one of the three Commissioners for managing the office of Collector and Receiver General of New York, the other two being Caleb Heathcote and Thomas Wenham. As Surveyor General of the Province of New York he is said to have taken advantage of his office to further his interest in land patents.

Peter Fauconnier died between April 10, 1745, and Nov. 6, 1746, and is believed to have been buried at Hackensack, N. J. A miniature of him is reproduced in *Pierre Fauconnier and His Descendants*, published by A. E. Helfenstein, 1911.

Fauconnier's share and interest in the "Hyde Park Patent" appears to have passed to his daughter, Magdalene Fauconnier, wife of Peter Valteau. Mrs. Valteau sold her $2\frac{1}{4}$ shares to her son-in-law, Dr. John Bard, and he later purchased the other outstanding shares, thereby becoming the sole owner of the "Hyde Park Patent".

The name "Hyde Park" was applied by Dr. John Bard to the "Patent" and to his own residential portion of it in honor of Sir Edward Hyde, Lord Cornbury, who, as Governor, granted the Patent to Peter Fauconnier and others.

Dr. John Bard, who married Suzanne Valteau, the granddaughter of Peter Fauconnier, practiced his profession in Philadelphia until 1746 when he moved to New York City. While living in Philadelphia he had become an intimate friend and associate of Benjamin Franklin, who wrote a letter to Cadwallader Colden, Lieutenant Governor of New York, recommending Dr. Bard as "an ingenious physician and surgeon and a discreet, worthy and honest man."

In 1772 Dr. John Bard moved to Hyde Park where he erected a house on the east side of the Post Road on a site north of the site of St. James's Church. He called his home "Red House" and lived there during the Revolution.

At the close of the war he returned to New York City and resumed the practice of his profession. In 1788 he became the first President of the New York Medical Society.

While President George Washington resided on Cherry Street, New York City during the first term of his office, Dr. John Bard and his son, Dr. Samuel Bard, attended President Washington.

In 1797 Dr. John Bard gave up his practice and returned to Hyde Park where he died on March 30th, 1799, and was buried a short distance east of St. James's Church. A portrait of him is reproduced in the Fauconnier genealogy opposite page 82.

During his ownership of the Patent of Hyde Park, Dr. John Bard sold off a number of lots some of which conformed in location and dimensions to the lots as laid down on a map of the Patent which is recorded in Liber 17 of Deeds at page 471 in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office, viz:—

To George Rim (Rymph) a file maker, by deed dated Nov. 10th, 1768 lot No. 5 of the Patent consisting of 215 acres. The stone house on this property on the west side of the Post Road was designated "Dut-

ton's tavern, Hyde Park" on the map of the towns of Clinton, Stanford, Washington and Amenia made by Jacob Smith in 1797. The title to this property remained in the Rymph family until May 15, 1915 when it was sold to the "Dominican Fathers of Sherman Park."

To Joseph Bouton (Boughton Broughton), by deed dated May 3rd, 1769 *lot No. 6* of the Patent consisting of 217 acres. In 1809, the Rev. John McVicker, the first Rector of St. James' Church, who had married Eliza Bard, a daughter of Dr. Samuel Bard, purchased this property called "Inwood" and built a stone house, which is still standing, and lived there until 1814 when he sold the property to Alfred S. Pell. Robert Montgomery Livingston succeeded as owner in 1823 and in 1827 sold it to Hamilton Wilks, of New York city who had married Louisa Matilda Coster, a stepdaughter of Dr. David Hosack. The Wilks family owned and occupied this property until 1850 and it was during their ownership that the Hudson River Railroad was built along the east shore of the river. After the Wilks sold out and moved away in 1850, the title passed through the hands of Albert Lowery, Thomas Wilson, Jane Maria Fisk, Paul Sgobel and Robert T. Ford, who sold it to Major Francis G. Landon of New York City in 1893, who represented the 2nd Assembly District at Albany for several terms. This property is now owned by the Anderson School.

To Christopher Hughes of New Haven, Conn., where he had been associated in business with Benedict Arnold, by deed dated Sept. 5th, 1776, a tract of 670 acres of land lying in the northeasterly part of the Patent on the Crum Elbow Creek. This tract comprised a number of farms including the Brooks Hughes farm now owned by Anthony T. Haines.

To Benjamin Boughton (Broughton), some time prior to 1795 *lot No. 7* of the Patent, consisting of about 206 acres. In that year he sold the lot to Frost Powell. James Conklin appears to have acquired title to a small part of the lot near the mouth of the Enderkill. On August 8th, 1815 he obtained a water grant from the State of New York and built a dock and store house on the property. The present Murray cross road was known for many years as the road to Conklin's Landing. This landing property was acquired by the Wilks in 1840 and thereafter was known as Wilks' Landing. The balance of this lot later became broken up into many small properties.

To Thomas Banker, by deed dated Nov. 10th, 1768 *lot No. 3* of the Patent and consisted of 111 acres. This lot was owned successively by John Rice, John Burnett, Phineas Ames, Samuel Cook and in 1800 by Cyrus Bramen of New Preston, Conn., then the Ellsworths and Nathaniel P. Rogers and finally sold to John S. Huyler in 1895.

To Anne Lazear, the wife of Lucas Lazear, some time prior to 1762, *lot No. 2* of the Patent consisting of 100 acres. Anne Lazear was Anne Magdalena Valleau, a sister of Suzanna Valleau, wife of Dr. John Bard. She is said to have built and occupied a stone house on the property which was standing in 1895 when it was converted into a milk house. The title to this property passed through John Burnett, Timothy Eames, Cyrus Bramen, William Ellsworth, Nathaniel P. Rogers and finally John S. Huyler in 1895.

Dr. John Bard became financially distressed in the latter years of his life and transferred all of his property to his son, Dr. Samuel Bard,

as it appears from the "Life of Dr. Samuel Bard" by the Rev. John McVicker at page 130, viz:

"Dr. John Bard had deeply involved himself by imprudent speculations in mining and iron works."

"He (Dr. Samuel Bard) accordingly relieved his father from his load of debt and by his persuasions induced him to return to the exercise of his profession in New York, in which he continued until the year 1797; when his son's projected removal determined his own and he retired for the last time to close a long and chequered but cheerful life, in the shades of his early retirement."

He apparently had no property of any value at the time of his death as there is no record of the granting of Letters Testamentary or Letters of Administration upon his estate in the Surrogate's Court of Dutchess County or of New York County.

Dr. John Bard left him surviving his sons, Dr. Samuel Bard, John Bard and his daughters, Magdeline Muirson, the wife of Rev. Muirson, a Chaplain in the English Army, Ann Pierce, the wife of John Pierce, a Colonel in the Continental Army, and Susan Pendleton, the wife of Judge Nathaniel Pendleton. His wife, Suzannah, predeceased him, dying in New York City in September, 1784.

After Dr. Samuel Bard acquired the title to the balance of the Patent he sold off the following tracts, viz:

To Mary Barbara Rymph by deed dated June 12th, 1793, recorded Feb. 25th, 1796, *Lots Nos. 16 and 4*. In later years this tract became divided, the northern part was owned by David Rymph now by Charles R. Stone, and the southern part was known as the Winchell place which in turn has been divided into the part west of the Post Road owned by John Kimberly and the part east of the Post Road known as Whitehall Manor. As this deed was executed and delivered several years before the death of Dr. John Bard, it is apparent that Dr. Samuel Bard had acquired title to part or all of the balance of the Patent during the lifetime of Dr. John Bard.

To John Bush by deed dated April 15th, 1799 a tract of 100 acres on the Crum Elbow Creek, some of which is now part of the Dickinson Mill property. In this deed there is a recital to the effect that this tract of land was *part of lots 7 and 9* in a map or survey made by Jacob Smith of the Patent of Hyde Park in April 1791.

To Bastian Traver by deed dated April 15th, 1799 a tract of 100 acres lying in the northeast corner of the Patent.

To Daniel S. Dean by deed dated July 8th, 1799 his grist and saw mills on the Crum Elbow Creek as shown on the map of Jacob Smith in 1797 of the towns of Clinton, etc. This now forms part of the Dickinson Mill property.

To Hunting Sherrill by deed dated Sept. 29th, 1801, a 40 acre tract on the north side of the Mill Road which included the Rozell, Soaper, and part of the Jenks farm.

To Isaac Traver by deed dated May 7th, 1802, a 75 acre tract lying next west of Bastian Traver's land, being a *part of lot No. 5* on

map or survey of the Patent of Hyde Park made by Jacob Smith in 1791.

To John Culver by deed dated May 13th, 1803 a tract of 145 acres on the Crum Elbow Creek next north of Bush's land and now forming part of the farm of Lewis Croft.

To Isaac Albertson a tract of 225 acres of land on the Crum Elbow Creek next north of Culver's land, some time prior to May 15th, 1804 when he sold it to John Albertson. This property was later owned by John S. Stoutenburgh, the father of John Albert Stoutenburgh and later became part of the John S. Huyler property, being *lot No. 6* in a map or survey made of the Patent of Hyde Park by Jacob Smith in 1791. The dimensions and location of this lot and of the lots heretofore referred to on the Jacob Smith map of 1791 do not in any way conform to the location and dimensions of the lots as laid out on the map of the Patent of Hyde Park recorded in Liber 17 of Deeds at page 471 and, therefore, these are not the same but different maps of the Patent of Hyde Park.

To Hunting Sherrill by deed May 1st, 1813, a lot of 4 acres 2 roods and 13 perches on the north side of road near the New Guinea Bridge and also a 7 acre 10 perch lot south of the road which included the Kipp, Schryver, Callahan, Carter Mill and other properties.

To Silas Wickes a tract of 262 acres 2 roods and 4 perches of land lying on the east side of the Post Road next north of the Vanderbilt farm prior to 1812, as it appears from a deed from Silas Wickes to Edmund H. Pendleton dated April 21, 1835, that Wickes had executed and delivered a deed to Nathaniel Pendleton in 1812 of the above tract of land which had been "casually" lost and that this deed was made to confirm the title.

To Nathaniel Pendleton, by deed dated Sept. 29th, 1812, a tract of 37 acres 2 roods and 3 perches west of the Post Road next north of the Vanderbilt property. He was born in Culpepper County, Virginia, in 1756, served in the army during the Revolution, became a Major on the staff of General Greene, studied law at the close of the war and located in Georgia where he was appointed a Federal Judge. Later he removed to New York City and continued the practice of law. He was a delegate to the convention which framed the U. S. Constitution, but being absent the last day did not sign the document. He married Susan Bard, a daughter of Dr. John Bard. He acted as a second to Alexander Hamilton in his duel with Aaron Burr at Hoboken, N. J. on July 11th, 1804. He died at his home at Hyde Park as a result of injuries received in an accident on Gay's Hill near John A. Roosevelt's place according to Edward Bramen on October 20th, 1821. In 1832 the Executors of the estate of Nathaniel Pendleton sold this property to Washington Coster, a stepson of Dr. David Hosack, who sold it to his brother in law, William E. Laight, who had married his sister, Caroline C. Coster. In 1846 he sold the property to James Kirk Paulding, whose sister had married William Irving, a brother of Washington Irving. Paulding collaborated with Washington Irving in writing the "Salmagundi Papers" and other works. He was Secretary of the Navy under President Martin Van Buren from 1837 to 1841 and retired to his home at Hyde Park at the close of Van Buren's term in 1841 where he died on April 6th, 1860. The title to this property passed through Caroline D. Woodworth, wife of Charles R. Woodworth, a son of Judge William W. Woodworth, William B. Dinsmore, N. P. Rogers and finally to John S. Huyler in 1895.

To the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry of St. James's Church at Hyde Park by deed dated May 15th, 1812 a lot on which the church now stands consisting of 2 acres of land.

To Hunting Sherrill by deed dated Oct. 4th, 1819 a lot of 6 acres and 10 perches on the south side of the "Shunpike Road" being that part of the Mill Road lying between Fredonia Lane and the Bridge and west of Fredonia Lane.

To Asahel Armstrong a tract of 189 acres of land lying on the Crum Elbow Creek between the land of Albertson on the south and Hughes on the north, prior to 1821 when he conveyed it to Abner Armstrong. This tract included the Rapelyea, Tigh and part of the Mulford farms purchased by John S. Huyler.

To Alexander McClelland a tract of 5 acres, 3 roods and 20 perches by deed dated Jan. 1, 1812 lying on the east side of Fredonia Lane, being bounded on the south by Crum Elbow Creek.

Dr. Samuel Bard and Mary, his wife, executed a deed on Sept. 1st, 1816 to their son, William Bard, for the balance of the Patent of Hyde Park then remaining, being about 540 acres of land. This deed was not recorded until July 15th, 1826. On May 24th, 1821 Dr. Samuel Bard died, his wife having predeceased him by twenty-four hours.

William Bard, son of Dr. Samuel Bard and Mary Bard, was born at Philadelphia, Pa., April 4, 1778. He studied law and was admitted to the bar of New York. On October 7th, 1802 he married Catherine Cruger, daughter of Nicholas and Ann (deNully) Cruger. In the Spring of 1803 he began to purchase the entire tract of land fronting on the Hudson River extending from Fuller or Hoffman Lane on the north to the north line of the Thomas Newbold property on the south. On May 13, 1803 he purchased 64 acres from John I. Stoutenburgh; on May 23, 1803, 242 acres from James Stoutenburgh and on May 27, 1818, 320 acres from John Johnston. William Bard called this tract "DeNully Farm" and built a house on the River bank and lived there. This tract comprised the Butler, Reed, Miller and Hoffman places, later owned by Col. Archibald Rogers. In 1823 he began to sell off this property and then took over possession of his father's country seat at Hyde Park and two years later sold it to Dr. David Hosack and moved to New York City where he founded in 1853 the New York Life Insurance and Trust Company.

After the death of Dr. Samuel Bard, William Bard and John McVicker as Executors of his estate sold to Dennis Beach by deed dated August 27, 1823 a lot of $6\frac{1}{4}$ acres situate on the northeast corner of Fredonia Lane and the Mill Road. They sold to Andrew Phillips by deed dated June 2, 1831 a lot of 4 acres and 1 rood situate on the east side of Fredonia Lane.

David Hosack, who succeeded William Bard as owner of "Hyde Park", was born in New York City on August 31, 1769, he attended Columbia College and Princeton where he graduated in 1789 and in 1791 received the degree of medicine at Philadelphia. He then went abroad and studied medicine at London and Edinburgh. On his return to this country in 1794 he brought with him the first collection of minerals and also a collection of duplicate specimens of plants from the herbarium of Linneaus. This collection now forms a part of the Museum of the Lyceum of Natural History in New York City. In 1795 he was appointed professor of botany at Columbia College and in 1797 of materia medica. He was the founder of the first botanic garden in the United States which was known as the Elgin Botanical Garden in 1801. This garden consisted of about 20 acres and covered the area between 47th and 51st streets and Fifth and Sixth Avenues, New York City. Part of this tract is now occupied by Rockefeller Center where there is a stone tablet commemorating the Elgin Garden of Dr. David Hosack. He was the most prominent physician in New York City for many years. Dr. Hosack married the widow of a New York merchant, Henry A. Coster, for his second wife, his first wife being a sister of Thomas Eddy, the philanthropist. Dr. Hosack, like Dr. Samuel Bard, had studied medicine at Edinburgh and they had been closely connected in New York City. In 1828 Dr. Hosack purchased from William Bard, son of Dr. Samuel Bard, the country seat of Dr. Bard at Hyde Park. His second wife was a cousin of Philip Hone, once mayor of New York who left a most interesting diary of his time. In this Diary Hone states on September 17, 1829, "Catherine and I left home this morning on a visit to Dr. Hosack's family at Hyde Park We landed at Hyde Park at a quarter past one, and finding the carriage waiting for us, rode up to the Doctor's splendid residence, what is by the road about a mile and a half from the landing. This house is now undergoing alterations and repairs, and he resides at the cottage which is situated at the northerly end of the park, and a more beautiful spot is not to be found on the North River. The remainder of the day was occupied in viewing the improvements which were in progress on every part of the farm." It is generally understood that the "Cripple Bush Meadow" was cleared and drained during Dr. Hosack's ownership.

On Christmas day 1835, Dr. Hosack's funeral was held at Grace

Church in New York City. Among the pall bearers were Edward Livingston, who had helped in the purchase of the Louisiana Territory, Chancellor Kent and Gen. Morgan Lewis, who had been an aide on the Staff of Gen. Washington and later Governor of the State of New York.

Dr. Hosack died intestate leaving him surviving Magdalena Hosack, his widow; Alexander E. Hosack, Nathaniel P. Hosack and David Hosack, his sons, and Eliza B. Hosack and Emily Hosack, his daughters.

After the death of Dr. Hosack, his heirs conveyed in 1837 the "Cottage", on the west side of the Post Road nearly opposite St. James Church, with 60 acres of land, to his widow, Magdalena Hosack. In 1840 they conveyed the main part of his country seat to John Jacob Astor who in the same year conveyed it to his daughter, Dorothea Langdon and her children Eliza, Louisa, Walter Jr., Woodbury and Eugene Langdon. In 1841 the heirs of Dr. Hosack conveyed the land on the east side of the Post Road known as the "Red House Farm" to John A. DeGross, who owned this property until Walter Langdon bought it back and reunited it with his estate in 1872.

Magdalena Hosack died at Hyde Park, N. Y. intestate on July 12th, 1841, leaving her surviving, her son, Washington Coster, her daughters, Anna Maria, Julia, wife of Francis Baretto, an attorney of New York City; Louisa Matilda, wife of Hamilton Wilks; Caroline C., wife of William E. Laight; Laura M., wife of William C. Emmett, a son of Thomas Addis Emmett, a brother of the Irish Patriot, Robert Emmett; and Adeline E., wife of Peter A. Schermerhorn. In 1842, her heirs conveyed the "Cottage" and the 60 acres of land to Augustus T. Cowman, who was the son of Capt. John Cowman who had sailed ships in the employ of John Jacob Astor. He had saved his money and invested it in New York real estate and had become wealthy. Augustus T. Cowman married Ann Gillinder, a daughter of Capt. James Gillender of New York, and had lived at Rhinebeck before coming to Hyde Park, where he had owned for a time the property south of Hyde Park, which he sold to Elias Butler before he bought the "Cottage". He was much interested and active in the rebuilding of St. James Church in 1844. He also built the "row" on the west side of the Post Road extending north from the corner of Main Street. After sustaining considerable losses in various ventures he sold this property and the "row" to Joseph R. Curtis of New York City in 1853. Curtis had at one time

been a clerk in the Astor House and later gone to California where he had made a fortune in gold mining. He built the Mansion out on the River bank. In 1861 he sold the property to Sylvia L. Drayton, the daughter of Mortimer and Sylvia Livingston. Sylvia Livingston was the daughter of Francis Depau and Sylvia de Grasse, the daughter of Count de Grasse who had commanded the French fleet sent to the aid of the American Colonies in the Revolution. Mortimer Livingston was a son of Maturin Livingston and Margaret, the only daughter of Gov. Morgan Lewis. Mrs. Mortimer Livingston and her daughter Mrs. Drayton built the Roman Catholic Church of "Regina Coeli" at Hyde Park in 1863-64, in which there is a vault where many members of the Livingston family are buried. Sylvia Livingston married William S. Drayton of the U. S. Navy, a son of Col. William Drayton of the famous Drayton family of Charleston, South Carolina. They had four children, of whom only Percival and Maud survived. After Mr. Drayton's death, she married R. Temple C. Kirkpatrick of the English diplomatic service. They had one daughter, Sylvia Mabel, who married Reginald Prendergast. Mrs. Kirkpatrick died Nov. 16, 1882. In 1890 the property was sold to Samuel B. Sexton, the son of Samuel J. M. Sexton and Caroline, daughter of Samuel H. Braman. He married Jean Hunter Denning, daughter of the late Edwin James Denning of New York City. After the death of Samuel B. Sexton the mansion burned and the property was sold to Frederick W. Vanderbilt in 1905, who had purchased in 1895 from the Executors of Walter Langdon, deceased, his country seat on the Hudson River.

BARD'S ROCK

On May 12, 1768, Dr. John Bard advertised for sale a tract of land in Dutchess County, N. Y., called "Hyde Park" and in the advertisement stated that there were three good "landing places (particularly on this farm) where the largest Albany sloop can lay close to a large flat rock, which forms a natural wharff." The "flat rock" was Bard's Rock, which may still be seen on the east shore of the Hudson River near the mouth of a small stream (known as "Mariannetta") at the northwest corner of the Vanderbilt place. When the British fleet under Gen. Vaughn passed up the Hudson River on October 16, 1777, and upon

their return down the River on October 23rd, 1777, (from Log Book "Dependence" Galley, Lieut. James Clark, Commander, Oct. 7-Oct. 25, 1777), they did not disturb Dr. Bard's property as he was regarded as a Loyalist. He had a store house at the dock as appears on the map made by Jacob Smith 1797. This store house and the other buildings were said to have been torn down by Dr. David Hosack while he owned the property some time between 1825-1830. Near "Bard's Rock" there was a spring where the old whaling ships used to fill their casks with drinking water before putting out to sea and regularly sailed up there for that purpose from the old "Whale Dock"—Mill Street Dock at Poughkeepsie. There also appears to have been a ferry across the River from Bard's Rock, as the Road leading down to the dock from the Post Road was called the Ferry Road in a deed from Samuel Bard to Nathaniel Pendleton, dated Sept. 29, 1812.

SLAVES

The Bards, Hosacks, McVickers and Pendletons owned slaves. The negroes cleared the land, dug the ditches, built the stone walls and did most of the hard work. At one time there were over sixty colored families living in and about Hyde Park. The neighborhood around the first bridge east of Hyde Park on the road to Union Corners was known as "New Guinea" because of the number of colored people living there. The remains of a colored burying ground are on the Martin lot on the west side of Fredonia Lane, which lane runs north from the road from Hyde Park to Union Corners to the Mill Road. In the first building of St. James Church there was a gallery which was usually occupied by colored people. When General Morgan Lewis was buried in St. James Cemetery, an eye witness stated that the General's body was born by his colored servants in full livery; two were Caesar and Pompey; the names of the others she could not recall. Nathaniel Pendleton, who had been a second for Alexander Hamilton in his duel with Aaron Burr, provided in his Will dated March 4, 1816; probated October 26, 1821, viz: ITEM, I do authorize and require my Executrix and Executors to provide for the maintenance, ease and comfort of my negro slave, Molly, during her life out of my estate and in case of sickness, she is to be furnished in like manner with everything necessary, convenient and

comfortable, not only as a reward for her long faithful services, but also in compliance with the request of her late departed affectionate mistress; a motive which I know will induce my Executors and Executrix to treat her with great kindness and liberality. I manumit all my slaves at the expiration of 5 years from the first of January last, except the girl Sarah, who is lame, and cannot provide for herself and who is therefore to be provided for, and to render such services therefor as she can, but not to be sold without her consent. In case of security being offered to indemnify my estate, I manumit her also.

THE MILLS ON THE CRUM ELBOW CREEK

As the bed and stream of Crum Elbow Creek were entirely within the boundaries of the Great Nine Partners Patent, no dam could be erected across the creek between the Patent of Hyde Park and the Great Nine Partners on the south and east without the consent of the owners on each bank of the Creek. In view of this fact Dr. Samuel Bard began to acquire title to the land on the east bank of Crum Elbow Creek, purchasing on Jan. 3rd, 1786, a large tract from Joshua Nelson and he added to this purchase until he owned the entire east shore up to the north line of the William H. Halstead farm. He built a dam across the creek and a saw and grist mill, which were designated on the map of Jacob Smith made in 1797 as "Doctor Samuel Bard's Grist & Saw Mills." Subsequently he sold off most of this land on the east bank but reserved the right to maintain the dam and overflow it.

Dr. Bard sold this mill property to Daniel S. Dean of Beekman by deed dated July 8th, 1799. Some time prior to 1809 Major Marshall became the owner of the mills, as he sold off a parcel of land belonging to it to Alexander McClelland in 1809 and another to Jabez Miller in 1814. Deeds to property in that vicinity during that period referred to the "road leading from Major Marshall's Mills to the landing of Richard DeCantillon." About 1818 Nathaniel Pendleton became the owner of the mills and the deeds of property in that neighborhood contained references to "the road leading to Judge Pendleton's Mills." By deed dated July 18, 1829, Edmund H. Pendleton, as sole acting Executor of the last Will and Testament of Nathaniel Pendleton, sold the mill prop-

erty to Benjamin Delamater of Amenia, who then owned the W. D. Halstead farm.

Benjamin Delamater and his son Benjamin E. Delamater—"big Ben" and "little Ben" as they were locally known, owned and operated these mills until 1856, when they were sold to Madison Smith and Andrew J. Odell, who ran them until 1864 when they sold them to John A. Wood. In 1880 this property was sold at a foreclosure sale to Smith Dickinson whose grandson, Sterling Dickinson, is the present owner. The grist mill is still standing, but has not been grinding feed in several years, but the saw mill, which was in the east side of the race way was torn down in 1880. For many years vast quantities of rye, buckwheat, corn and oats were ground there.

On June 4, 1789, Dr. Samuel Bard and Richard DeCantillon and James Stoutenburgh executed a deed providing for the erection of four dams across Crum Elbow Creek, beginning from the Hudson River. The location of the first dam was apparently at the "Old Plaster Mill" near the mouth of the Crum Elbow. The sites of the other three are not very clear, but the second was probably where the Post road crosses the Creek, the third at Traudt's Mill and the fourth at Brewster's or Metcalf's—just west of the present Hyde Park Fire Department pumping station on the creek.

Hunting Sherrill purchased a lot from Samuel Bard in 1814 and a lot from William L. Stoutenburgh, across Crum Elbow Creek, in 1813, and erected a mill and dam which was located a short distance down stream (west of the swimming hole on the creek and west of the remains of the Carter dam). This dam apparently backed the water up into the valley where the Gold Fish pond used to be in the Pine Woods. Sherrill had here one of the first nail factories, which was later used by Ripley in the manufacture of white lead. After the Civil War, Israel M. Carter had a large dam built across Crum Elbow Creek further east, the remains of which are still standing, and also a mill where he made edge tools, cleavers, knives, and axes up until quite recent times.

The Cudner saw mill and old dam just north of the bridge were built by the Marshalls who owned the east shore of the creek. Alexander McClelland at that time owned the west shore and had a right to the use of the water power. When the Cudner family purchased the property about 1850, the old dam had fallen down, so they built a new

dam further up stream, where they owned both shores of the creek, and a long wooden flume to carry the water down to the mill. They sawed out large quantities of white oak plank and made wagons, brick trucks and other implements up until the death of Henry Cudner.