Year Book

Dutchess County Historical Society

Volume 13

1928

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Dutchess County Historical Society

Volume 13

1928

In Memoriam

WILLIAM PLATT ADAMS

Died July 31, 1928

President of the Dutchess County Historical Society
1920 — 1928

DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETINGS — MEMBERSHIP — DUES

Annual Meeting, third Friday in May

Semi-annual Meeting, third Friday in October

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Dutchess County Historical Society may be had by the election of the applicant at the May or October meeting or at a meeting of the Board of Trustees and the payment of the dues.

Annual dues $2.00

Life membership $25.00

These payments carry with them the right to hold office, to vote and to take part in the proceedings of the society.

Annual dues are payable on January 1st of each year.

Payment of two dollars at date of election entitles a new member to a copy of the Year Book for that current year. Next payment falls due the succeeding January 1st and covers a copy of the Year Book issued in the year ensuing.

Copies of the Year Book are mailed only to those members whose dues are paid to date.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the

DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

.....Dollars

OFFICERS, 1928

President: W. Willis Reese, New Hamburgh, N. Y.

Vice-President at Large: James F. Baldwin, Ph.D., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Secretary: J. Wilson Poucher, M.D., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Treasurer: Irving D. LeRoy, M.D., Pleasant Valley, N. Y.

(Note: Mrs. George B. Waterman is assistant to the treasurer. Checks may be made payable to the order of Katherine B. Waterman, assistant treasurer, and sent to 56 Grand Ave., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.)

Curator: Allen Frost, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR TOWNS

J. E. Spingarn	Town of Amenia
Mrs. Samuel Verplanck	City of Beacon
Jacob Brill	Town of Beekman
William J. Browning	Town of Clinton
John A. Hanna	Town of Dover
Mrs. Edward B. Stringham	Town of East Fishkill
William E. Verplanck	Town of Fishkill
Franklin D. Roosevelt	Town of Hyde Park
Joseph H. Van Wyck	Town of LaGrange
Eugene Van Nest	Town of Milan
Darwin Morse	Town of North East
Miss Martha Akin Taber	Town of Pawling
Frank Eno	Town of Pine Plains
J. Adams Brown	Town of Pleasant Valley
Henry Noble MacCracken	Town of Poughkeepsie
John S. Wilson, M.D.	City of Poughkeepsie
William S. Massonneau	Town of Red Hook
Miss Ethel Douglas Merritt	Town of Rhinebeck
Willson Carpenter	Town of Stanford
Mrs. R. Theodore Coe	Town of Union Vale
Lenox Banks	Town of Wappinger
Oakleigh Thorne	Town of Washington

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The President, ex-officio
The Vice-President at Large, ex-officio
The Secretary, ex-officio
The Treasurer, ex-officio

CLASS OF 1929

Henry Booth
Thomas Newbold
Miss Mary Johnston Elsworth
Mrs. H. N. Bain

CLASS OF 1930

George S. Van Vliet
John J. Mylod
Miss Helen Wilkinson Reynolds
Franklin J. Poucher

CLASS OF 1931

Tracy Dows
Frederic Barnard
Edmund Van Wyck
Herbert C. Shears

CLASS OF 1932

Chester Husted
Ross Hasbrouck
Mrs. Frank H. Van Houten
Elizabeth B. Thelberg, M.D.

W. WILLIS REESE

President

Dutchess County Historical Society

On October 19, 1928, Mr. W. Willis Reese of New Hamburgh, New York, was elected President of the Dutchess County Historical Society. Mr. Reese is admirably qualified for the office he has been called to by his life-long residence in the county, his active interest in the objects of the society and by the fact that among his forbears are included several families prominent in the history of Dutchess. He is a descendant of the Mesiers of Wappingers Falls, whose eighteenth century homestead is now set apart as an historical museum in the center of the village, and he numbers among his ancestors Henry Livingston and Paul Schenck, who were prominent citizens of Poughkeepsie before and during the War of the Revolution. At a time when it has sustained a great loss by the death of Mr. William Platt Adams, who for eight years had so acceptably filled the office of President, the Historical Society is fortunate in obtaining Mr. Reese's consent to serve it. The Year Book extends to the new President a welcome in the name of all the members of the society and assures him of the support of a united organization.

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SECRETARY'S MINUTES

NOVEMBER 1, 1927 — OCTOBER 31, 1928

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

NOVEMBER 21, 1927

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Amrita Club, November 21, 1927. Present: Mr. Adams, Mr. Booth, Mr. Van Vliet, Mr. Dows, Mr. Mylod, Dr. LeRoy, Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Waterman and the Secretary.

The principal object of the meeting was to consider the advisability of making an effort to obtain and preserve the Glebe House. After considerable discussion it was decided to let the subject rest for the present as it seemed to be the general opinion that the price under consideration was too high.

Adjourned.

J. WILSON POUCHER,
Secretary.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

MAY 1, 1928

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held May 1, 1928. Present: Mr. Adams, Miss Reynolds, Mr. Van Vliet, Dr. LeRoy, Mr. Booth, Mr. Mylod and the Secretary.

Mr. Adams reported on old milestones which are being stored in the barn of Dr. Vigeant at Red Hook, during the construction of the new state road.

Mr. Mylod reported that the state highway authorities are taking steps to care for all old milestones and will have them re-set after the road is completed.

The Secretary reported that he had taken an option on the Glebe House. Mr. Booth moved that this action be approved. Carried.

Mr. Mylod and the President were named as a committee to provide speakers for the luncheon at the May meeting.

Miss Reynolds reported that she had collected a large number of marriage and death records from the files of old newspapers.

Dr. Poucher moved that these records be printed as a volume of the society's collections and that Miss Reynolds be allowed $150 for expenses and disbursements. Seconded by Mr. Van Vliet. Carried.

Owing to frequent requests for back numbers of the society's Year Book and the scarcity of some of the numbers, Mr. Van Vliet moved that a price of $5 be charged for each of the first ten numbers, and $2 each for later numbers. Carried.

Mr. Booth moved that ten copies of each number of the Year Book be reserved. Carried.

Miss Reynolds moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Booth for the years of service he has given the society as

Curator, after he had announced that he could not consider another election at the coming annual meeting. Carried.

The following were elected members of the society: Mr. A. R. Beal, Poughkeepsie; Mrs. John H. Darrow, Poughkeepsie; Mr. Frederick A. Ross, Madalin; Mrs. Frederick A. Ross, Madalin; Mrs. Norvin Cole, Hopewell Junction; Mr. William Wirt Ballard, 3rd, Philadelphia; Mrs. Voris Lent, Hyde Park; Mr. Allen Frost, Poughkeepsie.

Adjourned.

J. WILSON POUCHER,
Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 18, 1928

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. William Platt Adams. The minutes of the preceding meetings were read by the Secretary.

Election of officers ensued:

President, William Platt Adams.
Secretary, J. Wilson Poucher, M.D.
Treasurer, Irving D. LeRoy, M.D.
Curator, Allen Frost.

Vice-Presidents

J. E. Spingarn, Town of Amenia.
Mrs. Samuel Verplanck, City of Beacon.
Jacob Brill, Town of Beekman.
William J. Browning, Town of Clinton.
John A. Hanna, Town of Dover.
Mrs. Edward B. Stringham, Town of East Fishkill.
William E. Verplanck, Town of Fishkill.
Franklin D. Roosevelt, Town of Hyde Park.
Joseph H. Van Wyck, Town of LaGrange.
Eugene Van Nest, Town of Milan.
Darwin Morse, Town of North East.
Miss Martha Akin Taber, Town of Pawling.
Frank Eno, Town of Pine Plains.
J. Adams Brown, Town of Pleasant Valley.
James F. Baldwin, Town of Poughkeepsie.
John S. Wilson, M.D., City of Poughkeepsie.
William S. Massonneau, Town of Red Hook.
Miss Ethel Douglas Merritt, Town of Rhinebeck.
Willson Carpenter, Town of Stanford.
Mrs. R. Theodore Coe, Town of Union Vale.
Lenox Banks, Town of Wappinger.
Oakleigh Thorne, Town of Washington.

Trustees

Tracy Dows, Class of 1931.
W. Willis Reese, Class of 1931.

Mrs. George B. Waterman was appointed assistant to the treasurer.

Mrs. Waterman made the Treasurer's report, which is appended to these minutes.

Mr. Mylod reported progress for the Pilgrimage Committee.

Miss Reynolds reported progress on the Year Book for 1928.

Mr. Adams reported that Congressman Fish had taken steps in Con-

gress toward making *The Star Spangled Banner* the national anthem.

The President appointed as Year Book Committee: Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Theodore DeLaporte and J. Wilson Poucher.

Miss Reynolds reported that she had collected a large number of marriage and death notices from the old newspapers, between the dates 1785 and 1825, and that the trustees had authorized their publication in a book to become a part of our collections.

Mr. Mylod moved: That the list of notices of marriages and deaths copied by Miss Reynolds from the newspapers of 1785—1825 be printed by the society and that Miss Reynolds be and hereby is authorized to draw from the treasury for the necessary costs of the work.

This was discussed by Mr. Van Vliet, Dr. Poucher and Miss Reynolds. Carried.

Mr. Van Vliet moved that this would be probably the most valuable addition to our collections, that the members of the society be charged $1.00 a copy, the price for the public to be fixed later. Carried.

The Secretary reported that the society had lost five members by resignation since the last meeting: Miss Lavinia Wallace, Miss Belle Halstead, Mr. Lewis H. Losee, Mr. Edward Nally, Mrs. Edward Nally.

The society has lost by death: Mr. Monroe Crane (Nov. 6, 1927) Mr. Frank B. Lown (Dec. 9, 1927), Mr. John Gerow Dutcher, Colonel Archibald Rogers, Miss Mary Haldane (May 1, 1928), Henry T. Titus and Miss Sarah Ham.

A resolution of regret and condolence was offered by Mr. Mylod, seconded by Mr. Van Vliet and others. Carried.

The following were elected members of the society: Mrs. John Isaac Cotter, Mrs. Henry F. Nesbitt, Miss Jennie R. Haviland, Mrs. Lorenzo Warner Ford (Anne T. Martin), Mr. Louis G. Smith, 151 E. 81st St., New York City (Union Club), Mr. Eugene Kelley, Mrs. Eugene Kelley, Miss Ada Campbell Simpson, Mr. William E. Conklin, Mrs. William E. Conklin, Miss S. Louise Conklin, Mr. Frederick W. Heaney, Mrs. Frank Moul, Mrs. Roland S. Child, Mr. I. H. V. Dickinson, Mrs. Ronald F. Bogle, Miss Mary Conley, Mrs. Harry A. Gray, Miss Anna Dean Kendall, Mrs. Frank Sweetser, Miss Katharine K. Adams.

The members of the society then adjourned to the Nelson House, where 167 partook of luncheon and an enjoyable social time. After lunch President Adams introduced Dr. John G. Doyle, a member of the American-Irish Historical Society of New York, who gave a very interesting sketch of General Richard Montgomery, one of Dutchess County's most distinguished patriots and one of the first to give his life for the cause of American independence.

Following Dr. Doyle, George W. Krieger, Jr., County Engineer, described the state, county and town road systems by request, after which he gave an interesting talk on "Side Lights of American History."

Mr. H. N. W. Magill, the first president of the society, spoke briefly, congratulating the society on its growth since 1914 from 8 members to about 800.

Mr. Crispi, accompanied by Miss

M. Adelaide Michaels, sang in a very pleasing baritone.

The last speaker, the Rev. Alexander MacLeod, in a very interesting talk made an able and strong plea for histories which are plain statements of facts, whether they are complimentary or otherwise. History should not be colored by our present-day point of view.

Adjourned.

J. WILSON POUCHER,
Secretary.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

JUNE 26, 1928

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held June 26, 1928 at the Amrita Club. Present: Mr. Adams, Mr. Booth, Mr. Mylod, Miss Reynolds and the Secretary.

The subject of the Glebe House campaign was discussed.

The Secretary reported that an option to purchase the Glebe House had been given and that a joint committee representing the Dutchess County Historical Society, the Junior League and the citizens of Poughkeepsie and Dutchess County has been formed to carry on a campaign to raise $40,000.00 for the purchase of this old landmark for the purpose of turning it into a permanent museum.

After a thorough discussion Miss Reynolds moved that the sum of $500.00 be appropriated by the Dutchess County Historical Society from accumulated life membership fees, subject to ratification by the society at the semi-annual meeting in October, and that this sum be contributed by the society to the Glebe House fund. Seconded by Mr. Booth. Carried.

Plans for the September pilgrimage were discussed.

The following tentative plan was agreed upon: to visit the Vanderbilt place, Hyde Park, formerly the home of Dr. John Bard and his son, Dr. Samuel Bard, where a short historical address would be given, thence to go to St. Stephen's College, Annandale, for basket lunch, and thence in the afternoon to Montgomery Place, Barrytown, the residence of General John Ross Delafield.

Adjourned.

J. WILSON POUCHER,
Secretary.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

AUGUST 24, 1928

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held August 24, 1928, at the Amrita Club. Present: Mr. Henry Booth, Mr. W. Willis Reese, Mr. John J. Mylod, Miss Helen W. Reynolds, Mrs. George B. Waterman and the Secretary.

Mr. Mylod was named chairman.

Miss Reynolds moved that the chairman appoint a committee to draft proper resolutions on the death of President Adams. Seconded by Mr. Booth. Carried.

Mr. Mylod announced that he

would appoint such a committee later.

Mr. Reese moved that the chairman also appoint a committee to nominate a president in place of Mr. Adams. Seconded by Miss Reynolds. Carried.

Mr. Reese moved that a committee be appointed to revise the by-laws to provide for the election of a vice-president at large, to provide for the enlargement of the Board of Trustees and to make other necessary amendments to the by-laws. Seconded by Miss Reynolds. Carried.

The chairman appointed the following committees:

To prepare resolutions on the death of President Adams: Mr. Alexander C. Dow, Mr. W. Willis Reese, and Mr. John J. Mylod.

On nominations: Miss Helen W. Reynolds and Dr. J. W. Poucher.

On the revision of the by-laws: Miss Helen W. Reynolds and Dr. J. W. Poucher.

The following were elected members of the society: Mr. Albert C. Rust, Mrs. Albert C. Rust, Mr. Charles J. Cooke, Mr. Ralph T. Waterman, Mr. Sydney J. Barnes, Mr. Frank J. Mylod, Mrs. Amy Ver Nooy, Miss Josephine C. Tuthill, Mrs. James D. Keith, Miss Annie Hooker Keith, Mr. James G. Meyer, Mr. Herbert Shears, Mrs. Morris P. Ferris.

Meeting adjourned.

J. WILSON POUCHER,
Secretary.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 1928

Meeting at Vassar Institute was called to order at 11 o'clock by the Chairman, Mr. John J. Mylod.

The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meetings, which were approved.

The report of the committee appointed to revise the by-laws was presented as printed, by Miss Reynolds and Dr. Poucher. After discussion it was moved, seconded and carried that the old by-laws as a whole be rescinded and that new by-laws be adopted as follows:

BY-LAWS
DUTCHESS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name

The name of this organization is: The Dutchess County Historical Society.

Object

The object of the society shall be to discover, procure and preserve whatever may relate to American history in its several phases — social, economic, military, political, literary, artistic, etc.—but particularly material regarding the history of Dutchess County in the State of New York;

To encourage the writing of papers and the delivery of addresses on subjects of historical interest;

To collect objects of historical value and arrange for their preservation.

Members

There shall be three classes of members: Annual, Life, and Honorary.

Annual Members shall pay annual dues.

Life Members: Any person who shall pay at one time at least twenty-five dollars shall become a life member and be exempt from further dues.

Honorary Members: Any person who, in the judgment of the Board of Trustees, has attained distinction in historical work or research may be elected an Honorary Member and shall be exempt from dues.

All three classes of members are active members.

Officers

The officers of the Dutchess County Historical Society shall be:

A President
A Vice-President at Large
A Vice-President from each town in the County
A Vice-President from the City of Poughkeepsie
A Vice-President from the City of Beacon
A Secretary
A Treasurer
A Curator
Sixteen Trustees.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall consist of:

The President, ex-officio
The Vice-President at Large, ex-officio
The Secretary, ex-officio
The Treasurer, ex-officio
and sixteen Trustees.

There shall not be duplication on the board,—no one person may at the same time serve as an executive officer and as a trustee.

Meetings

There shall be two stated meetings of the society each year: an annual meeting on the third Friday in May, and a semi-annual meeting on the third Friday in October.

Other meetings may be called by the President or by the Vice-President at Large or by the Secretary or on the request of three members.

Ten members shall constitute a quorum.

Meetings of the Board of Trustees may be held at any time on the call of the President, of the Vice-President at Large, of the Secretary or of any two members of the board.

Five trustees shall constitute a quorum.

Duties of Officers

President: The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Board of Trustees. He shall initiate and direct the activities of the Society in conjunction with the Board of Trustees.

Vice-President at Large: The Vice-President at Large shall act in the absence of the President as need occasions.

Vice-Presidents for Towns: It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents for Towns to stimulate interest in the objects of the Society in their several localities.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Trustees; shall notify all persons elected to membership; shall notify members of the time and place of meetings; and shall perform all the duties of the Secretary of the Society.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect and disburse all moneys of the Society under the direction of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees: The Board of Trustees

shall transact any business of the Society and have general management of its affairs, including the election of members.

Dues

The dues shall be two dollars, payable at the time of election and thereafter annually upon the first of January.

Any member in arrears for dues for six months may be considered as having resigned from the Society.

Election of Officers

Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting on the third Friday in May.

Vacancies in any of the offices may be filled at any meeting.

Election of Trustees

Sixteen trustees shall be elected in four classes, each class to serve four years.

The trustees in active service in October, 1928, shall continue in the terms for which they were elected.

To the trustees in active service shall be added in October, 1928, the following:

Two trustees whose terms shall expire in May, 1929;

One trustee whose term shall expire in May, 1930;

Three trustees whose terms shall expire in May, 1931;

Four trustees whose terms shall expire in May, 1932.

Reports

The officers of the Society, standing committees and special committees shall report to the Society at the meetings in May and October upon such matters as are in their charge and shall inform members of the condition of the society.

Order of Business

The order of business at any meeting of the Society or of the Board of Trustees shall be as follows:

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.
Reports of officers.
Reports of committees.
Election of members.
Unfinished business.
New business.

Amendments

These by-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a majority vote of those present, provided a notice of the proposed amendment shall have accompanied the notice of the meeting at which they shall be acted upon.

The Nominating Committee offered the following nominations:

For President, W. Willis Reese.

For Vice-President at Large, James F. Baldwin

For Vice-President, Town of Poughkeepsie, Henry Noble MacCracken

For Trustee, Class of 1929, Miss Mary Johnston Elsworth, Mrs. H. N. Bain; for Trustee, Class of 1930, Franklin J. Poucher; for Trustee, Class of 1931, Frederic Barnard, Herbert C. Shears, Edmund Van Wyck; for Trustee, Class of 1932, Mrs. Frank H. Van Houten, Chester Husted, Ross Hasbrouck, Elizabeth Burr Thelberg, M.D.

These were elected unanimously.

Mr. Reese, the newly elected President, was introduced by Mr. Mylod and took the chair. The following new members were elected: Mrs. Frank Asher, Mrs. Sydney J. Barnes, Mr. Thomas W. Barrett, Mrs. Thomas

W. Barrett, The Rev. Frederick J. Baum, Mr. James H. Beatty, Mrs. George E. Bilyou, Mr. George M. Brill, Dr. Howard P. Carpenter, Mrs. George Cramer, Mr. H. E. Downer, Mr. William A. Dutcher, Mr. William W. Dwan, Mrs. William Garlick, Mrs. Frank Gibson, Mr. Seward T. Green, Mrs. Seward T. Green, Dr. F. Howell Greene, Mrs. F. Howell Greene, Mr. William D. Haight, Mrs. Oscar Imer, Mr. J. Wallace Kitts, Dr. William A. Krieger, Mr. J. Fred Lovejoy, Miss Carolyn Mase, Mrs. Harold K. Mount, Miss Edith Paulding, Miss Anna E. Penton, Miss Anna Platt, Miss Louise Platt, Mr. Frederick S. Quinterro, Mr. Paul A. Rieser, Mrs. Paul A. Rieser, Miss Carrie L. Rymph, Mrs. Anna L. Seaver, Mrs. J. N. Slee, Mrs. Herman Smith, Major Herbert Stanley Smith, Mr. Warner Stirling, Mrs. Lewis Tompkins, Dr. H. St. John Williams, Mr. Halsey P. Wyckoff, Mrs. Halsey P. Wyckoff.

Mr. Mylod reported for the committee appointed to prepare a resolution on the death of President Adams. The committee offered the following:

Through the death of William Platt Adams, the Dutchess County Historical Society and the community as a whole has suffered an irreparable loss.

Since retiring from the banking business and the severance of his connection as trustee of Union College, at Schenectady, New York, of which he was a graduate, Mr. Adams' life has been wholly devoted to unselfish activities in the County of Dutchess.

As President of the Dutchess County Health Association, he placed that organization on a sound financial basis, and made of it a constructive force in the county.

Mr. Adams' chief interest, however, was the Historical Society of the County of Dutchess, of which he was President from 1920 to the date of his death on July 31, 1928, and being a direct lineal descendent of two outstanding Colonial families, one of which contributed two Presidents to the United States, he was naturally keenly interested in the early history of the County, and by his indefatigable work as the President of the Historical Society, did much to preserve historical data pertaining to the County.

The Dutchess County Historical Society therefore records its regret at the passing of its President, William Platt Adams, and hereby extends its sympathy to his family, and it is therefore resolved that this memorial be made a part of the records of the Society, and a copy of same be forwarded to Miss Katherine E. Adams of Red Hook, and Mrs. Robert Johnston, of Rhinebeck, the daughter and sister of the deceased.

The Society stood respectfully during the reading of the above. It was moved and seconded that a copy be sent to the family of Mr. Adams.

Mr. Mylod spoke of Mr. Adams' deep interest in the society and stated as evidence of the same the fact that in his will Mr. Adams had made a provisional bequest to the society.

Mr. Baldwin, the newly elected Vice-President at Large, moved that this committee be continued and that it investigate the possibility of pro-

curing a picture of Mr. Adams for the society. Approved.

The Treasurer's report was read by Mrs. Waterman, and accepted. It follows these minutes.

Miss Reynolds spoke of the recommendation of the Board of Trustees that $500 of the sum accumulated from life memberships and now on deposit, be donated to the Glebe House Fund. Dr. Poucher reported the progress of the Glebe House Committee, saying that the option on the property had been closed, that the expenses of the campaign had been paid privately, that the entire sum so far received was intact in the bank, and that further subscriptions would be gladly received.

Miss Reynolds reported progress on the Year Book and stated that it would be distributed in November or early December.

Dr. Poucher spoke about the old milestones and reported that Col. J. E. Spingarn had had three milestones set in cement at Amenia and that there are several along the road between Poughkeepsie and Amenia that should be looked after.

Miss Reynolds moved that the thanks of the society be extended to Colonel Spingarn for the setting of the milestones. Seconded and carried.

Mr. Mylod spoke of an item he had noticed in the Year Book of the New York Historical Society, reporting that $500 had been set aside for the purpose of preserving milestones and suggested the possibility of having a part of that sum spent in Dutchess County. He also reported the willingness of the State Highway Department to co-operate in the preservation of these milestones.

Miss Reynolds spoke of the pilgrimage and moved that letters of thanks be sent to Mr. Vanderbilt and Mr. Shears of Hyde Park, and to Mr. Mills and Mr. Brooks of Staatsburgh for courtesies extended. This motion was seconded and carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned to the Nelson House where one hundred and sixty-eight members and friends partook of luncheon.

After lunch President Reese introduced Adjutant Charles E. Chase, who presented the documents relating to the purchase and dedication of the cannon which now stands on the soldiers' plot in the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery.

He was followed by ex-Mayor Daniel W. Wilbur, who in a short address, presented to the Historical Society the records of the 128th Regiment, New York Volunteers.

Major Robert W. Bowman of the State Department of Education gave a very interesting and instructive account of the military engagements about Sacketts Harbor during the War of 1812.

The Rev. Herbert Stanley Smith, rector of St. John's Church, Barrytown, a former army chaplain, spoke briefly and invited the members of the society to attend the dedication of a tablet to the memory of local heroes of all wars. This service is to be held on Armistice Day.

The next speaker, Mr. Charles Rann Kennedy of Millbrook, made a plea that the spirit underlying the facts of history should be studied, that the inner meanings should not be

lost, when the outward aspect is recorded. He spoke as a poet would in his usual graceful way.

Mr. Edmund Platt spoke briefly about the career of the late Mr. Benjamin Strong, Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and who was a Dutchess County boy who won success as a banker.

J. WILSON POUCHER,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Semi-annual Statement

of the Assistant Treasurer of the

Dutchess County Historical Society

May 18, 1928

Balance brought forward, Oct. 21, 1927	$1,497.29
Received in dues, to date	1,246.92
	$2,744.21

DISBURSEMENTS

Oct. 21—J. Wilson Poucher (for postage, cards, guest tickets and photographs for New York Times)	$28.20	
Nov. 8—Helen W. Reynolds, postage	2.00	
Nov. 9—J. Howard Fitchett, card index	3.65	
Dec. 19—Amy Ver Nooy, work on Index	4.87	
Dec. 23—Katherine Waterman, work on Index	1.50	
Jan. 5—Postage on Year Book	50.00	
Jan. 5—Frank B. Howard, engravings	129.65	
Jan. 10—J. Wilson Poucher, honorarium for secretary	50.00	
Jan. 10—Katherine B. Waterman, honorarium for treasurer	50.00	
Jan. 12—A. V. Haight Co., binding Year Book	71.75	
Jan. 24—Dues New York State Historical Society	3.00	
Jan. 24—Postage	10.00	
Feb. 14—Helen W. Reynolds, index cards	1.50	
Mar. 1—Albert Kerley, removing milestones	10.00	
Mar. 10—Helen W. Reynolds, index cards	.75	
Mar. 13—Rhinebeck Gazette, work on Year Book and Index, and envelopes for same	527.33	
Mar. 28—Helen W. Reynolds, index cards	.75	
Apr. 17—Amy Ver Nooy, post-cards for May meeting	14.00	
Apr. 20—Helen W. Reynolds, index cards	.75	
Total		959.70
Balance on hand May 18, 1928		$1,784.51

Permanent Account, created by Life Memberships of $25.00 each, May 18, 1928, with interest, amounts to $620.52

Respectfully submitted,

KATHERINE B. WATERMAN,
Assistant Treasurer.

Semi-annual Statement

of the Assistant Treasurer of the

Dutchess County Historical Society

October 19, 1928

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward May 18, 1928	$1,784.51
Received in dues to date	172.58
Total receipts	$1,957.09

DISBURSEMENTS

May 22—Lansing & Broas, for reply postals for May meeting	$3.30	
May 28—Miss Helen W. Reynolds, research for Year Book (expenses in New York City, postage, telephones)	10.00	
June 27—Chester Satz, for typewriter for Miss Reynolds	60.00	
July 3—Mrs. Ver Nooy, secretarial services	25.00	
July 3—Allen Frost, services as curator	25.00	
July 3—Mrs. Waterman, services as assistant treasurer	50.00	
July 20—John J. Mylod, for: rent of Vassar Institute, speakers' expenses, telephone calls, dinner tickets for guests	24.00	
July 20—F. B. Howard, for: engraving and printing for Year Book, reproduction of map	60.00	
Aug. 1—Chester Satz, paper for Miss Reynolds	2.70	
Aug. 13—Miss Helen W. Reynolds, items for Year Book and pilgrimage	2.50	
Aug. 14—Postage, notices, for pilgrimage	13.16	
Sept. 14—Gummed labels for envelopes for Year Book	1.70	
Sept. 14—Lansing & Broas, 800 envelopes	18.75	
Sept. 21—Miss Margaret Brown, photograph for Year Book	5.00	
Sept. 26—Miss Helen W. Reynolds, expenses day in New York for Year Book	6.66	
Oct. 11—Lansing & Broas, for: 700 stamped envelopes, printing 700 envelopes, 700 hundred notices for meeting	42.10	
Oct. 11—Lansing & Broas for 1,000 four-page circulars: nominations, by-laws, etc.	14.00	
Total disbursements		363.87
Balance on hand October 19, 1928		$1,593.22

Special Account, created by life membership fees $635.50

Respectfully submitted,

KATHERINE B. WATERMAN,

Assistant Treasurer.

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1928

For the fourth successive year good weather favored the autumn pilgrimage of the Society. Over seventy automobiles formed an imposing procession and carried an estimated number of two hundred and fifty pilgrims. The program for the day and copies of the addresses delivered are appended below.

Program

At 10:30 a. m. pilgrims will assemble on the Post Road at the Village of Hyde Park, south of the four corners. Cars will move in procession to "Hyde Park," the estate of Mr. Frederick W. Vanderbilt. Pilgrims will gather at the west front of the house for a program, Dr. J. Wilson Poucher, presiding. Two short addresses will be given on:

The story of Hyde Park and its Connection with the Medical Profession and the Science of Horticulture in Dutchess County, by Helen W. Reynolds.

The Medical Profession in Dutchess County, 1736-1928, by Elizabeth B. Thelberg, M.D.

Following the addresses, pilgrims will visit the gardens.

At call of the committee's whistle pilgrims will have basket lunches on the lawn.

Please leave no litter.

At call of the committee's whistle pilgrims will re-enter cars and will be conducted over the wood-roads of Mr. Vanderbilt's property by Mr. Herbert C. Shears, superintendent of the estate.

From "Hyde Park" cars will proceed to St. James' Church, where the rector, the Rev. Alban Richey, Jr., will point out the memorials to Dr. John Bard and Dr. Samuel Bard who founded "Hyde Park."

From St. James' church, cars will proceed to Staatsburgh where pilgrims will visit the estate of Mr. Ogden Mills, under the auspices of Mr. Edward Brooks, superintendent. Cars will enter the main gate and will be led about the place. Pilgrims will then gather at the front of the house for a program, Mr. John J. Mylod presiding. This was originally the home of Morgan Lewis, who served as Governor of the State of New York 1804-1807. Program:

Morgan Lewis, a biographical account; by John J. Mylod.

Reminiscences of the Lewis estate at Staatsburgh; by Harry Arnold.

Politics in New York when Morgan Lewis was Governor; by Caroline Ware.

At call of committee's whistle pilgrims will re-enter cars and move in procession to main gate.

From the gate pilgrims will disperse for home at individual convenience.

J. Wilson Poucher, M.D.,
John J. Mylod,
Helen Wilkinson Reynolds,
Committee.

The Story of Hyde Park
Its Connection with the Medical Profession and the Science of Horticulture

Helen Wilkinson Reynolds

Mr. Chairman, Members and Friends of the Dutchess County Historical Society:

There is an old story, that many of you are probably familiar with, which runs to this effect: At the time that Americans first began to go abroad in any number one of our countrymen chanced to visit one of the great country seats of England. He marvelled at the beauty of the lawn, with its wonderful turf, and he enquired how it had been brought to such a state of perfection. " Well," replied his host, "we do this to it and this and this, and the next year we do the same, and the next, and we keep on for about five hundred years and finally we get turf."

That story is the key to the reason for our visit to "Hyde Park." In America we have no turf that can compare in age with that on the other side of the water but, right here in Dutchess County, we have some of the oldest turf that America can point to.

But—you may ask—why is turf important? Why should we come as pilgrims, to look at that?

The answer to your query is that for many years it has been assumed that history consisted of a narrative of military and political events. Now, however, the things that constitute the daily life of mankind are given more thought. Students are trying to record the various aspects of the personal concerns of the people. Here in Dutchess County there was a time when pioneers cleared the forests and laid out farms. The farms prospered but their development was arrested by the War of the Revolution and the war was followed by the period of economic depression that every war creates. After that depression there was recovery and it was in that period of recovery that Dutchess was a very interesting place.

In the earlier years conditions of life in the county were governed largely by utility. The pioneers and two or three generations of their descendants lived in close touch with necessity. Beauty and art, literature and culture were only occasional in their experience.

With growing prosperity the residents of Dutchess began about 1800 to have a more sophisticated outlook on life and it was right here, where we are gathered today, that we find one of the best illustrations of the advance of culture in the community.

Let us set aside the thought of war and government and substitute a consideration of the arts of peace. In so doing we shall understand what "Hyde Park" represents.

In the eighteenth century, in New York City, were a father and son who were prominent practising physicians, — Dr. John Bard and Dr. Samuel Bard. Dr. John Bard and Benjamin Franklin were personal friends. Dr. Samuel Bard was President Washington's family physician.

Dr. John Bard inherited through his mother the land we stand upon. His mother's father, Peter Fauconier, had been private secretary in 1705 to the Governor of New York and through the governor Fauconier obtained a patent for this land. The governor was Edward Hyde, Viscount Cornbury, and it is said that Fauconier named the property "Hyde Park" in his honor. I do not know certainly whether the name was conferred so early as 1705 when the patent was issued but I do know that it was used by Dr. John Bard before 1783 and long before there was a village where the village of Hyde Park now stands. The village came later and took its name from this estate.

In 1772 Dr. John Bard left New York and came to "Hyde Park" to live in the country. He stayed about ten years and then, to retrieve some financial reverses, went back to New York and again practised medicine in the city. In 1797 he returned to "Hyde Park," only to die here in 1799.

In 1797 Dr. Samuel Bard, the son, decided to remove from New York to a country-home and he began to build a house* on these lands. He made that house his home from 1798 to his death in 1821.

Later, today, we are to go across the road to St. James' church, which Dr. Samuel Bard helped to found, to see the memorials there to him and his father.

These two men, Dr. John and Dr. Samuel Bard, were interested in trees. It is matter of record that when Dr. John Bard lived on the place between 1772 and 1782 he had an orchard of seven-or eight-hundred apple-trees and many trees of grafted fruit, choice English cherries, pears and plums. Furthermore, he set out large numbers of locusts. The locust was then regarded as a valuable timber-tree in demand for shipbuilding, for posts, rails, etc., and in a contemporary letter of Dr. Samuel Bard's he said: "We have been planting a fortune for our children, a great quantity of locust-seed; our farm is to be one great forest of locust-trees."

If the members of this society will go about Dutchess County with eyes wide open they will find that the Bards were not the only residents who busied themselves at that time, planting locusts, for shade trees as well as for commercial purposes.

It was Dr. Samuel Bard, rather than his father, who did the most for "Hyde Park" and for Dutchess County. Although he had retired from professional life in New York he still practised medicine in this vicinity, where need called him; and his standing in New York, at the height of the profession, made him the natural leader of it in Dutchess. So, in 1806, when the Dutchess County Medical Society was organized he was made the first president of the society and served as such until 1812.

*It is possible that Dr. Bard built in 1797 a square brick house, two stories high (a type of house then in vogue) and that that structure formed the central portion of the dwelling of Walter Langdon, shown in an accompanying illustration. Mr. Langdon may have added wings and a new entrance to the original unit and stuccoed the whole.

To the interest in trees, which he shared with his father, Dr. Samuel Bard added a general interest in horticulture—plants and flowers—and in agriculture. He built a greenhouse here at "Hyde Park" (perhaps the first in Dutchess) and had a garden. He imported smaller fruits from England, larger from France, melons from Italy and vines from Madeira. Hence it followed that when, in 1806, some of the prominent men of Dutchess organized: "The Society of Dutchess County for the Promotion of Agriculture" they elected Dr. Samuel Bard for their first president.

During Dr. Bard's service as president of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society he planned and effected improvements connected with local farming. He gave addresses on chemistry as applied to the farm; he interested himself in soils and fertilizers and in improved implements; he introduced or encouraged a greater use of clover grass as a crop and gypsum as a manure; and he was one of a group that furthered the importation of merino sheep to improve our woolen manufactures.

Altogether Dr. Samuel Bard was a citizen of Dutchess distinguished by public service and distinguished as a leader in several important scientific endeavors.

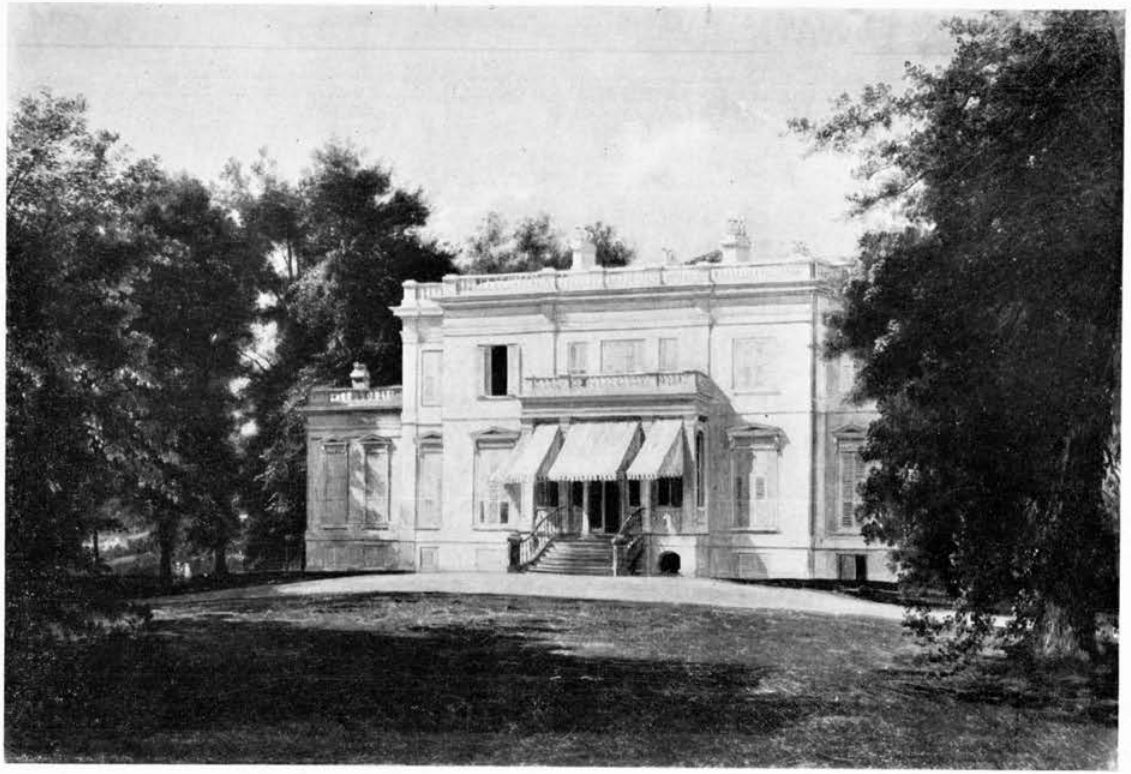
After the death of Dr. Bard, his former partner in New York, Dr. David Hosack, bought "Hyde Park" and made it his home from 1827 until his death in 1835.

Dr. Hosack was fully as eminent in the medical profession as Dr. Bard and possessed quite as widely distributed interests along scientific lines. Born in New York City, he studied in this country and in England and Scotland and he brought home with him from abroad a collection of minerals and plants, noteworthy for that day, and indicating his familiarity with geology and horticulture. He established the Botanical Garden in New York City. He was professor of Natural History at Columbia College. He served as president of the Horticultural Society, of the Philosophical Society, of the Literary Society, and of the New York Historical Society—surely a record of useful activity extensive enough for any one man, especially when that activity was carried on in addition to his actual profession.

It was for seven years, only, that Dr. Hosack owned and occupied the estate called "Hyde Park," but in that time he continued its development in the manner begun by Dr. Bard. He employed here André Parmentier, a Belgian, who came to New York in 1824 and who is said to have been the first landscape gardener in America. It was Parmentier who is understood to have laid out the roads and plantations of "Hyde Park" and, as Dr. Hosack bought the place in 1827 and Parmentier died in 1830, it is safe to assume that the scenic work here was done between those dates.

So, from the point of view of landscape gardening "Hyde Park" has been under cultivation for a century, and from the point of view of horticulture for a century and a half.

After Dr. Hosack died "Hyde Park" became the property of Walter Langdon, then of Walter Langdon, 2d, and since 1895, Mr. Frederick



House of Walter Langdon. Formerly on the estate called Hyde Park. Razed about 1895 by Mr. Frederick W. Vanderbilt.

From a painting done in 1856 and reproduced through the courtesy of Mrs. Seymour Johnson of Port Washington, Sands Point, Long Island.

W. Vanderbilt has owned and still further developed it.

As you walk about the grounds today I ask you to say to yourselves: this is one of the first bits of landscape gardening done in America; here we have traditions of an early interest in scientific farming, in horticulture, in tree-planting; here was centered leadership in medicine; all this advanced work in several sciences was at a relatively early date and in our own home-county.

Surely, when we inform ourselves about Dutchess County we find that we have much to look back upon with pride. It is our duty and privilege to hand on to the future an intelligent understanding of the same.

The Medical Profession in Dutchess County

(A summary of an extemporaneous address)

Elizabeth Burr Thelberg, M.D.

Dr. John Bard, builder and owner of the house once standing here and original owner of this beautiful estate, was born in 1716 in Burlington, N. J. His father, a refugee from religious persecutions under Louis XIV, settled in Philadelphia and was a friend of Franklin.

Dr. John Bard made the first dissection ever done in the colonies and when yellow fever was raging in New York his writings and speeches resulted in the establishment of a quarantine station at Bedloe Island and he became the first health officer of the Port of New York. He died at the age of eighty-three in 1799 at his country estate in Dutchess County, which we are visiting today. A profile drawing of his face was placed upon the seal of the Dutchess County Medical As sociation. He was a great man, a noted surgeon, a public spirited citizen. John Bard's greatest gift to the world however was his son Samuel Bard, born 1742. He took his degree at Edinburgh in 1762 having previously graduated from King's College, as Columbia was then called. In 1770 Samuel Bard returned to New York City and became a leading physician and founded the New York Hospital, the first in the city and was the first physician appointed to its staff.

Samuel Bard lived here in Hyde Park during part of the Revolution and after the war became President Washington's private physician. In 1805 he took Dr. Hosack into partnership and retired, as he supposed permanently, to his country place in Hyde Park. In 1813 however, he was elected President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, received an LL.D. from Princeton and resumed residence in New York City. He died here in 1821, his wife surviving him only twenty-four hours. Buried in a common grave in the family yard on this estate, they now both rest in St. James' Church yard.

Dr. Samuel Bard was the first President of the Dutchess County Medical Society, which was formed in Poughkeepsie, August 25, 1806, and his presidential address in No-

vember of that year is given in full in Dr. Guy Bayley's historical address upon the centennial meeting at Vassar Institute in 1906. Dr. Bard's address is most interesting and progressive, dwelling on the necessity for better education in medicine.

There is also given in Dr. Bayley's monograph a list of the names of the founders of the County Medical Society of great local value. Dr. Bayley's own address on the centennial occasion is followed by an alphabetical list of all the physicians of Dutchess County up to 1906. The address and list are presented in full in the Honorable Frank Hasbrouck's History of Dutchess County. Both are extremely interesting as the names in the list in almost every case are accompanied by a few words of illumination as to the character and standing of the doctor.

Time allows me to quote only the mention of four early doctors in Dutchess County, viz.; Dr. Keselbright, "the doctor of Rhinebeck" in 1740; Dr. Cornelius Osborne of Poughkeepsie and Fishkill 1723 to 1782; Dr. Nicholas de La Vergne, born in France 1703, died in 1783, lived in the Town of Washington, on what is now a part of the estate of Mr. Oakleigh Thorne; Dr. Theodorus Van Wyck, born in Wiccopee 1730, died in 1797, buried in the Rombout Cemetery, was a member of the Committee of Safety during the Revolution; he is said to have had a "fine temper of his own."

Dr. Bayley also mentions Dr. William Moore who practiced in Beekman for some years prior to his death in 1752. His son built Moore's Mill and founded the community there.

A Moravian missionary, Christian Henry Rauch, lived at Nine Partners in 1741 and while he never practiced actively as a physician, was known to be one and was of great use among members of his flock.

Stephen Thorne, 1737-1795, was a very interesting character. He is said to have left behind him a record which gives as his rule of professional faith and practice: "a Puke, a Purge and a Bleed," charge for each two shillings.

The famous David Hosack, physician of Alexander Hamilton and many other noted men, 1769-1835 is closely associated with Hyde Park and Samuel Bard.

If I could read the entire list as published by Dr. Bayley doubtless many in this audience would be greatly interested in many names. Dr. Bayley speaks with especial tenderness of the beautiful character of Dr. Alfred Hasbrouck, his sterling worth and ability.

Dr. George Huntington, who died at Hopewell Junction 1906, is a man of national reputation owing to his discovery of the heritable character of Huntington's chorea. My long residence in Dutchess County has brought me into intimate acquaintance with many valued friends in the medical profession: Dr. Payne, Dr. Bayley, Dr. Tuthill, Dr. James Sadlier, recently honored by the State Society as its President, the staff of Vassar Brothers Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, Thompson Hospital, Bowne Memorial Hospital, the officers and nurses of the Dutchess County Health Association. All of these and many more are a credit and

an honor to the medical profession of Dutchess County.

Dr. Thelberg closed with a warm tribute to Dr. J. Wilson Poucher, having special reference to his wonderful record of one hundred and one successful Caesarian sections.

Morgan Lewis

John J. Mylod

Francis Lewis was born at Llandaff, South Wales, in 1713. He was one of the four delegates from New York to the Provincial Conventions and had the great distinction and honor to sign the Declaration of Independence. The other three delegates were William Floyd, Philip Livingston and Lewis Morris. Francis Lewis was the father of Morgan Lewis, who was born in New York, October 16, 1754.

Morgan Lewis graduated from Princeton College with high honors in 1773. He had practically begun the study of law, in the office of John Jay in New York City, and had scarcely started to read Blackstone when he became captain of a volunteer company in 1775. Immediately after the engagement at Lexington he was detailed to Boston in a rifle company. In November, 1775, he received a commission as Major of the Second New York Infantry. The nominal Colonel at the time was John Jay but Lewis soon had full command of the regiment. He was Chief of Staff on the northern frontier in 1776. Subsequently he was appointed Quartermaster General of the northern department and continued to serve as such during the remainder of the war.

After the war he was admitted to the bar in New York City. In 1779 he married Gertrude Livingston, who was the daughter of Robert R. Livingston and Margaret Beekman. In 1789 he was elected to the Assembly from New York and served in the 13th Session, and in the year 1791 he was again elected but from Dutchess County, and served in the 15th Session. On November 8, 1791, he was appointed Attorney General of the State; in 1792 he became a Justice of the Supreme Court and on October 23, 1801, he was appointed Chief Justice of the same. In 1804 he defeated Aaron Burr for the governorship of the State of New York. He was the third governor of the State of New York; the other two were George Clinton and John Jay. While acting as governor he gave every encouragement to the common school system, following Governor Clinton in this respect. In the year 1810 he was nominated in what was then called the Middle District for the office of State Senator and was duly elected, and served in the 35th, 36th and 37th Sessions. In 1814 he was appointed a member of the Council of Appointment. In 1812 he received the appointment as Quartermaster General of the United States Army and in March, 1813, he received his commission as Major General in the Army.

During the Second War for Independence he was in command of the forces on the northern frontier. After returning to private life at the close

of this war he spent the remainder of his life in Dutchess County and in New York City. He was the chairman of an immense mass meeting of the Democracy in the presidential contest of 1840. He was a Jackson elector in 1828 and Chancellor of the University of the State of New York during his gubernatorial term.

At the time of his death, which occurred April 7, 1844, in New York, he was eighty-nine years of age. He was buried in the cemetery adjoining St. James' Church, Hyde Park, N. Y.

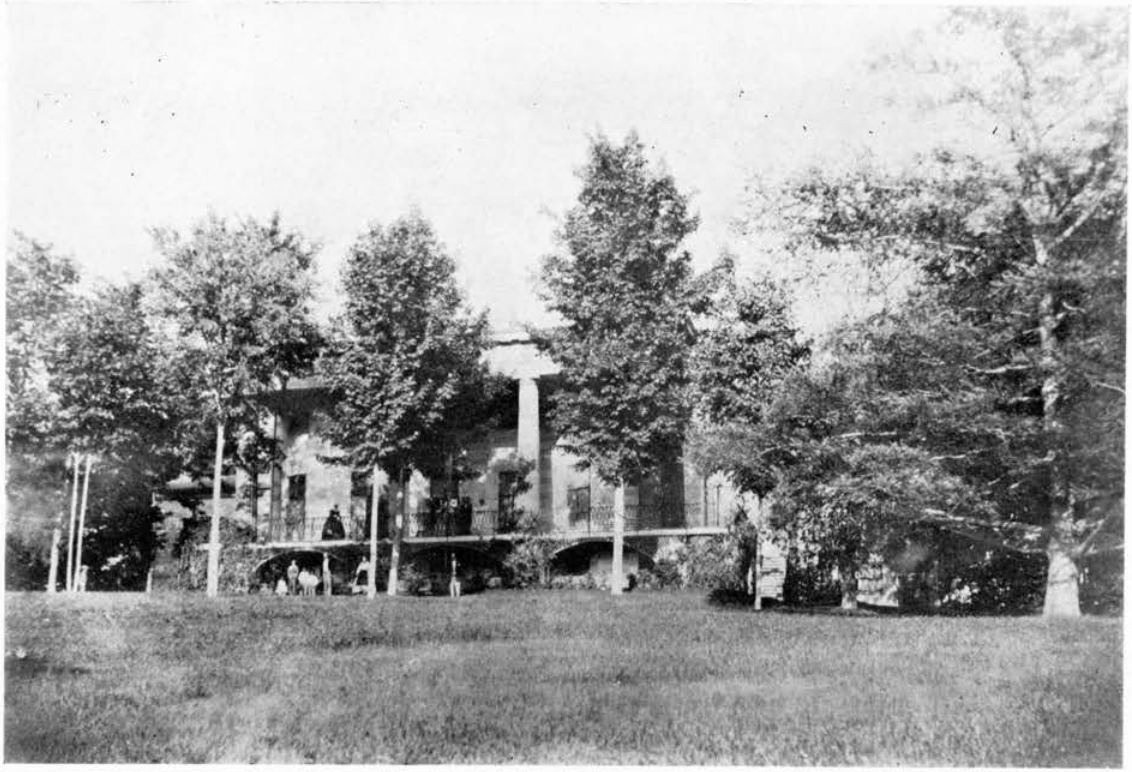
During his life many demonstrations of the respect in which he was held by his fellow citizens were made by his election to high office in various organizations, viz.: President of The New York Historical Society from 1832 to 1835 inclusive; President General of the Society of The Cincinnati, 1839-1844 (the immortal George Washington was first president of the Cincinnati, which was founded May 10, 1783, in the Verplanck House at Fishkill, Dutchess County, N. Y.); Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, having been elected as such June 3, 1830, and continued until April 7, 1844. He was made a Mason in Union Lodge of Albany in 1776, now Mount Vernon Lodge No. 3. He also became an affiliated member of St. John's Lodge No. 1, June 23, 1842. He was Junior Warden of St. James' Church, Hyde Park, N. Y., 1812-1827 and Senior Warden 1827-1836.

General Lafayette, while visiting this country in 1824, visited General Lewis at Staatsburgh, September 16, 1824.

Lewis County of this State was formed March 28, 1805, and named in honor of Governor Morgan Lewis.

This property, the Mills estate, Staatsburgh, Dutchess County, N. Y., where we are now holding this meeting, formed a part of what was known as the Pawling Patent or Pawling Purchase. In the second Year Book of our Society Mr. George S. Van Vliet, a member of the society, contributed what might be termed the early history of this patent or purchase, and from the same we learn that eventually Governor Lewis became the owner of lot No. 5 in said patent, the deeds to the same being recorded in the Dutchess County Clerk's office in Liber 12 of Deeds, at pages 89 and 93.

As before stated, Governor Lewis married Gertrude Livingston. They had one child, Margaret, born February 5, 1780, who married May 30, 1798, Maturin Livingston, son of Robert James Livingston and Susanna Smith. Maturin Livingston and Margaret Lewis had twelve children, one of whom was Maturin Livingston, Jr., born March 4, 1816, died November 29, 1888. He married Ruth Bayliss and they had eight children. He left a widow and two children, one of whom was Ruth Livingston, wife of Ogden Mills, and who died October 13, 1920. Mrs. Mills left her surviving three children, viz. Beatrice, Countess of Granard; Gladys Mills Phipps, and Ogden L. Mills. The title of this property, therefore, is now in the name of the Mills family.



House of Maturin Livingston, Staatsburgh, N. Y. Main part supposed to include the structural walls of the house built by Morgan Lewis about 1795. Wings and colonnade added about 1832. Whole house remodelled about 1895 by Mr. Ogden Mills.

From a photograph taken about 1865-1870. Reproduced with the kind permission of Mr. Ogden Mills.

Reminiscences of the Lewis Estate at Staatsburgh

Harry Arnold

General Morgan Lewis was the owner of a large tract of land some of which extended as far east as the Wurtemburg road and some two or three miles north in the town of Rhinebeck and along the Post Road in that town.

In searching titles to farm property in the south end of the Town of Rhinebeck, it is nothing unusual to come across a reference in a deed, reciting that the premises are the same as were described in a certain lease made by and between Morgan Lewis and a certain lessee, but frequently a thorough search will show that the original lease was never recorded, owing to the fact that it was not deemed as important in those days as now, to promptly record papers pertaining to a title.

It was the practice as shown by the records for the landowner who owned thousands of acres of land, to lease parcels of various acreages, from 15 to 20 acres or less to farms of 150 acres or more, to the tenant farmers.

These leases were known as perpetual leases and ran from the day that they were executed until the end of time, or forever, unless the lessor or landowner, or his heirs or assigns should release the payments or rent or whatever it was to the then owner of the title. The lessee or tenant farmer never had title and when he sold the farm, it was always conveyed subject to the original lease and whatever the terms were in that particular lease. Such conveyances were made frequently and references to the leases always appear.

Many times farmers leased considerable acreage and then 15 or 20 acres would be sold to some adjoining farmer or any other person, and in that case they would have to agree between themselves and the lessor how much of the ground-rent, or wheat or whatever it was would be apportioned to the parcel sold. This same arrangement would also apply in case a farmer died and his children desired a division of the farm.

Occasionally a farmer would not pay the rent, in which event under the lease Morgan Lewis or his heirs would re-enter and take possession, but it usually developed that later the farm would be sold subject to the lease by the paying up of the rent in arrears. It appears to have been the intention of Morgan Lewis and his heirs to treat the tenants as fairly as possible.

Many of the leases contained a provision that the tenant should pay a certain proportion of the sale money, and this was usually from one-sixth to one-tenth; also to deliver a certain number of bushels of wheat, usually "good winter merchantable wheat"; also to do a certain number of days riding wherever he was directed to do it, and to furnish a few fowls, mentioned often as "fat fowls"; and to have his grain ground at Lewis' mill, providing it was within a certain number of miles of the mill.

The tenants in many of the old leases actually did most of the things required of them, such as actually

delivering the wheat, doing the riding and plowing, driving the oxen and furnishing the fowls, but this practice gradually died out, and after that time the farmer paid in cash whatever the market value of the wheat was.

The fluctuating charges for wheat, for instance on a certain lease, ran from a high price of $38.75, to a year when the same number of bushels of wheat was only worth $16.25.

The price of fowls was substantially fixed at two for a quarter,—somewhat different from the present price!

The day's riding ran from $1.25 to $1.75.

Some of the leases on the larger farms paid in wheat value for certain years up to $65.00 or $70.00 and among the leases which the writer personally had to do with (as it was a separate lease for a tenant house) provided for the payment of a quarter of a bushel, which one year was as low as eighteen cents. Nevertheless that tenant and the others had no absolute title until the lease was released by Morgan Lewis or his heirs, and a deed given.

The earliest lease that I found on record given by General Lewis was in 1782, but the lease book, which the writer has, mentions many leases made back of that time and one in 1774.

At the time that the writer took possession of the lease book there were 17 leases in full force, but in 1917 Mrs. Ogden Mills, a direct descendent of General Lewis, with Mr. Ogden Mills and the writer, visited all the properties and those tenants who desired were given an opportunity to purchase the titles and receive deeds. Most of them took advantage of the offer as most of them had been anxious to have it for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Mills were very considerate in making these adjustments and in some cases made no charge whatever to the tenant; in others the tenants paid for the drawing of the papers, while in still others the tenants paid small sums.

Two leases are still in existence, one given in 1805 and the other in 1808.

Some old Dutchess County names appear in the lease book, such as the following: Ackert, Asher, Cookingham, Cramer, Cashner, Dedrick, DeWint, Eckert, Fraleigh, Fredenburgh, Frost, Hanaberg, Heermance, Henion, Markle, Maraquart, Nickel, Osstrom, Olivit, Pultz, Schultz, Schryver, Traver, VanEtten, Wager and others.

Portions taken from one of the leases read as follows:

"Yielding and paying therefore yearly and every year on the first day of May in each succeeding year *forever* hereafter 24 bushels of good sweet merchantable winter wheat to be delivered at such convenient place, within six miles of the hereby demised premises and to such person as the said Morgan Lewis, his heirs or assigns shall from time to time direct and appoint, free, clear and discharged from all abatement or deductions for on amount of taxes of any kind of imposition or assessments and also, yielding, rendering and performing to said Morgan Lewis, his heirs and assigns, one day's work with *waggon*, sleigh or plow, two horses or oxen and an able

man to drive in such manner with such of the above instruments and at such times and place, yearly and every year forever, within ten miles of the demised premises * * * as said Morgan Lewis * * * shall direct."

The lease then provided in case of default in paying rent for twenty days or performing the other services that then "the estate created be void and cease * * * that said Morgan Lewis * * * re-enter, re-possess and enjoy as in his first or former estate."

A further condition was that the tenant should grind all such grain raised on the farm at any grist mill owned by General Lewis * * * as they shall direct, within six miles of the premises.

Politics in New York when Morgan Lewis was Governor, 1804 - 1807

Caroline F. Ware

The years when Morgan Lewis was governor of the State of New York do not stand out in the history of the state. Inconspicuous as they are, however, they can reveal to us the conditions of political activity in the state as other years dominated by absorbing issues, might fail to do. In his administration we see reflected three aspects of contemporary politics. We see the characteristic dominance of personal and family loyalties in place of party affiliations. When Lewis became governor, the Federalist party was dead; immediately after his election the leading figure in the Republican ranks found ostracism and disgrace the price of one of the most tragic duels in our history; during his term, family rivalry between the Clintons and the Livingstons was the outstanding issue of each political battle. We see, too, the role which appointments played and the completely personal character of political placements. Lewis' principal activity revolved around the appointing power of the governor and his council. In addition, we see here the relation between political and economic life in the storm raised over Lewis' action in chartering the Merchants' Bank.

Let us look more closely at each of these three aspects of the years under our view.

The governorship to which Morgan Lewis succeeded for a three year term in 1804 had been filled only by men of great distinction and eminence in both state and national affairs. George Clinton, the state's first governor, served continuously from the organization of the state until 1795. Throughout his earlier terms there had been no alignment on a party basis. The alignment was, rather, a family one under the leadership of the three great families of the state, the Clintons, the Livingstons, the Schuylers. It was characteristic of the politics of the period that these families of wealth and social prestige should be also political leaders, as were the planter aristocrats of Virginia. To use the words of a re-

cent historian, "the Clintons had power, the Livingstons had numbers, and the Schuylers had Alexander Hamilton," who married into the clan.

In the embryonic days when national parties were as yet undefined all three of these families were more or less federalist in point of view. In the course of George Clinton's fourth term as governor, 1789-1792, however, the families separated on party lines. The first to take a definite position were the Livingstons who were thrown into the Republican camp, the stronghold of the opposition, when they failed to secure any appointments during this administration. At the same time, Aaron Burr's defeat of Philip Schuyler, Hamilton's father-in-law, for the U. S. Senate, thrust the Schuylers into the Federalist ranks, with Hamilton himself, of course, ready to be their leader. The party position of the Clintons was soon defined by the nomination of the Federalist Chief Justice, John Jay, as George Clinton's opponent for governor in 1792.

Clinton's victory in 1792 and the events of the term which followed set dangerous precedents of corruption and partisanship. The election fraud by which he secured the post was sufficiently obvious to give his enemies every excuse for hitting back. They held a point of vantage in that the legislature became Federalist as a result of the same election which should have given Jay the governorship on the basis of popular vote. The governor's vulnerable point was the fact that he shared the appointing power with a council of appointment, approved by the legislature, and empowered to confirm or reject the governor's appointees. Schuyler, Federalist leader of the legislature, undertook to replace the old council of appointment with his own men, who, in turn, proceeded to remove Clinton's nominees and to substitute Federalists. The legality of this move was severely challenged, but to no avail, and this act of revenge set the precedent for the generous exercise of the power of removal by legislature and council, a precedent especially followed during Morgan Lewis' administration.

The circumstances of Lewis' election as governor are as significant for an understanding of his administration as is the political background which we have described. He did not come in as a party candidate. With the Jeffersonian victory of 1800, Federalism suddenly and completely died. It even became unfashionable to wear knee breeches. The re-election of Jay at the end of his second term in 1801 thus became out of the question. Almost automatically the state turned back to George Clinton and pressed him once more into service. In 1804, however, the veteran leader chose to run for vice-president of the United States instead of governor of New York, leaving the state without obvious candidates and without a two party system to furnish the machinery for nominating them.

The choice of "the families" fell first upon Chancellor John Lansing, but shortly after his selection he refused to run because he found that the Clintons expected to dictate his appointments. Before his withdrawal, another candidate appeared in the field, the only person not supported

by one of "the families" who could aspire to leadership in the state, Aaron Burr. Self-nominated after Lansing had been put up as the regular candidate, Burr played for a personal victory. His following was a strong one. There were many personal supporters, there were the Republicans who did not accept the Clinton - Livingston leadership, and there was a group of violent Federalists with whom Burr had been playing fast and loose, probably in the hope of heading the northeastern federation of states that the New York and New England enemies of Jefferson's Louisiana policy hoped to set up. Who could oppose Burr? On Lansing's withdrawal, the leaders cast around for an available candidate, one congenial to Clintons and Livingstons and one who might attract some of the Federalist votes. Their choice fell upon Morgan Lewis, Chief Justice of the State of New York. He was acceptable to the Clintons, and was linked, by his marriage, with the Livingston family. His election was finally assured by Alexander Hamilton's distrust of Burr and his throwing of Federalist support onto Lewis' side.

As governor, Lewis was in an unenviable position. His selection had been acknowledgedly on the ground of his availability rather than his qualifications. His training and interest were centered in the field of the judiciary. His acts as governor did not reflect either his own preoccupation or his statesmanship, but rather the political code of the time.

The bulk of his term was taken up over the question of appointments. By appointing his son-in-law, Maturin Livingston, to the post of Recorder of New York and by dismissing some of Burr's supporters from posts which they were filling quite adequately, he threw down the gauntlet to his political opponents. Burr was not the one to take up the challenge. The first months of Lewis' governorship were darkened by the tragedy of the Burr-Hamilton duel, and Burr was in disgrace. To young De Witt Clinton fell the task of pitting his strength against that of Lewis and of the family which he represented. At the next Albany election, he ran a ticket against the governor's party on the issue of the bank charter which Lewis had approved, and secured control of the state legislature. This gave him, in turn, the council of appointment which followed his direction in removing Maturin Livingston - and Lewis' other appointees. The old precedent which Schuyler had set was now bearing fruit. In the following year, the Livingstons consolidated their forces and got back again into the legislature. Their reply to De Witt Clinton was immediate and complete. Not only did the governor with the new council of appointment throw out the Clinton appointees but he removed De Witt himself from the high office of mayor of the City of New York. The political game of using the appointing power for personal and family ends here reached its peak. When Lewis' term expired, the Livingstons put up their strongest candidate and Clintons theirs, all traces of party alignment vanished, and the two families stood face to face in the political arena. This appointment battle shows well the character of political activ-

ity in New York during the first decade of the nineteenth century.

The only conspicuous question of policy that came up during Lewis' administration was that of chartering the Merchants' Bank. In the controversy raised over this issue one can see the relation between government and business, and the tendency of the latter to corrupt official morals then as well as now.

Banks had been supported principally by the Federalists and the first two banks in the City of New York had been organized for the benefit of Federalist merchants. After the establishment of the Manhattan Bank with a Republican board of trustees the needs of the banking community appeared to be adequately served. When the Merchants' Bank applied for a charter, shortly before Lewis' election, it was refused. Unchecked by this rebuff, the bank kept on doing business without a charter. After Lewis became governor, the bank tried again to obtain legal status, and this time it had the foresight to pass around shares of its stock among members of the legislature. The device was successful. Opponents of the bank hoped that the governor would exercise his veto power, as the corruption practised in securing the charter was quickly exposed by a legislative investigation. Lewis, however, signed the bank charter bill.

Immediately a storm of protest arose which carried the Clinton party into the legislature in the next election. James Cheetham, the Clintons' old spokesman in their controversies with Aaron Burr, took up the cudgels, maintaining that the bank was not only unnecessary,—there were already banks of both parties,—but injurious, since additional banks did not increase the volume of specie but only divided up existing specie and led to the issue of paper money. It seemed to him ridiculous to suppose that bank paper would be any better than government paper, so it only pointed the way to speculation. Cheetham also had words to say on the corruption involved in securing the charter and on Lewis' inconsistency in signing a bill which he had opposed the first time the question came up.

The merits of the case are hard to determine. Lewis was keenly aware of the expansion of trade in New York. He devoted part of his address to the legislature in 1807 to pointing out the way that New York commerce was outstripping that of Philadelphia. He advocated a general corporation act in place of special bills for each corporation. His close connection with the Federalists, whose votes had won him the governorship, placed him in line with the banking and trading interests. Although his contemporaries largely condemned his action in regard to the bank, it may have been a genuinely far-sighted move.

These two issues, appointments and the bank, were the conspicuous events of Lewis' administration. They show the general character of politics at the time, but they do not reflect either Lewis' own major effort or the interest of posterity. The governor's real interest was in the reform of the criminal law which he worked for while on the bench and which he urged in each annual message to the legislature. Posterity on

the other hand, sees quite another significance in his work. The memorial tablet placed in St. James' Church at Hyde Park records only one fact of his governorship, that, through the appropriation of state funds for educational purposes, he laid the foundation for the public school system of New York State.

Saving the Glebe House

In the Year Book for 1927 attention was called to the fact that the Glebe House at Poughkeepsie, built in 1767, was in danger of being torn down. Since then a committee of citizens has been formed which, during 1928, has been actively at work trying to raise a fund to buy and preserve the old dwelling. Many persons have co-operated in the effort but, if the campaign is ultimately successful, credit will belong chiefly to Dr. J. W. Poucher, who has devoted almost all his time to the project and who has labored day in and day out, early and late, to secure the necessary money. The amount needed is forty thousand dollars. That sum would buy the house and sufficient land at the sides and rear to protect it.

Co-operating with the citizens' committee the Junior League of Poughkeepsie is also engaged in the effort to raise the purchase fund. The Junior League, a body of extremely able young women, who annually as an organization give substantial financial aid to various charitable and civic institutions, wish a permanent meeting-place. The plan proposed is that when the money to buy the Glebe House has been raised title to the property should be vested in the city and that the Junior League should be appointed custodian. The League would reserve a room for the books and papers of the Dutchess County Historical Society. The house as a whole the League would endeavor to furnish in the style of 1767 (the date of its erection), thereby making of it a museum, open to the public, as has been done elsewhere in many places in recent years.

It is the unwritten but generally understood and accepted policy of the Dutchess County Historical Society not to own real estate but to concentrate its activity upon the preservation and publication of historical source-material relating to the county. The society, as a society, is therefore not committed to responsibility for the Glebe House. As a society it has by resolution wished well to the plans for the salvage of the house, and individual members of the society are actively engaged in the campaign. It is hoped that when the time comes to take over the building the society will derive an appreciable advantage from its acquisition.

The amount of money so far pledged for the purchase fund is about $23,000.00 (including the amount pledged by the Junior League).

The citizens' committee working for the fund is composed of about one hundred persons, with the Hon. Joseph Morschauser as General Chairman. The executive committee is made up of: the Hon. D. W. Wilbur, chairman; and Messrs. John J. Mylod, George G. Salberg, Frank B. Howard, Thomas W. Barrett (treasurer), and Dr. J. W. Poucher (secretary).

In Regard to Fugitive Documents

Original, contemporary manuscripts form one of the best sources of information upon which to build up a knowledge of a given place or person at a particular time, Hence it would be a great benefit to Dutchess County if the members of this society would do all in their power to save such papers and also make their contents available for study. Whenever possible it is desirable to induce private owners to deposit family documents in a well established library, for a library will take them either as a loan or as a gift and is equipped to give protection against fire and permanent care, filing and cataloguing. Papers in private custody change ownership frequently and in the changes are lost, mislaid or destroyed by indifferent owners.

It is desirable for the county that the whereabouts, at least, should be known of such of this source-material as exists. and, to that end the Year Book would call attention to the fact that in the manuscript division of the Public Library of the City of New York there are many papers relating to Dutchess County, as there are also in the library of the New York Historical Society and in the Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie. A large collection of the personal papers of General Jacobus Swartwout (1734-1827) of Fishkill, Dutchess County, has been inherited by one of the general's descendants, Mr. Charles H. Goodsell of Short Hills, N. J., a member of this society. Of scattered items may be mentioned one in the possession of Mrs. Robert E. Dean of Poughkeepsie, also a member of this society, which is a list of the personal property of Loyalists offered for sale in this vicinity. Another single item is an

order issued by General Washington, having local significance, which is reproduced in this issue of the Year Book through the courtesy of Mrs. Harry Harkness Flagler of Millbrook.

Of papers in the Public Library of the City of New York part were purchased by the library at an auction and are known as the George D. Smith Collection and part, known as the Tomlinson Collection, are an indefinite loan. These two collections number several hundred separate items and cover such subjects as the building of the Court House at Poughkeepsie 1785-1789, the affairs of the Committee of Sequestration in the Revolution, miscellaneous personal papers of Governor Clinton, Gilbert Livingston, Henry Livingston, Jr., Dr. Peter Tappen, Dr. Theodorus Van Wyck, Matthew DuBois and others. At the library of the New York Historical Society may be found the Day Book of Henry Livingston, Jr., containing accounts between 1779 and 1807; a private minute-book kept by Gilbert Livingston of Poughkeepsie as Surrogate of Dutchess 1787-1804; and a large group of documents known as the Livingston Papers, which accumulated in the Livingston family. The latter include deeds and leases for land and much else that throws light upon the county and its residents.

The Year Book for 1928 is fortunate in being able to print a few of these hitherto unpublished papers. Below are given two letters owned by Mr. Goodsell, both from Governor Clinton to General Swartwout, and six letters on file in the New York City Library—two written by Dr. Peter Tappen of Poughkeepsie, two by Mrs. Tappen (Elizabeth Crannell), and two by Mrs. Gilbert Livingston (Catharine Crannell).

Letters from Governor Clinton to General Swartwout

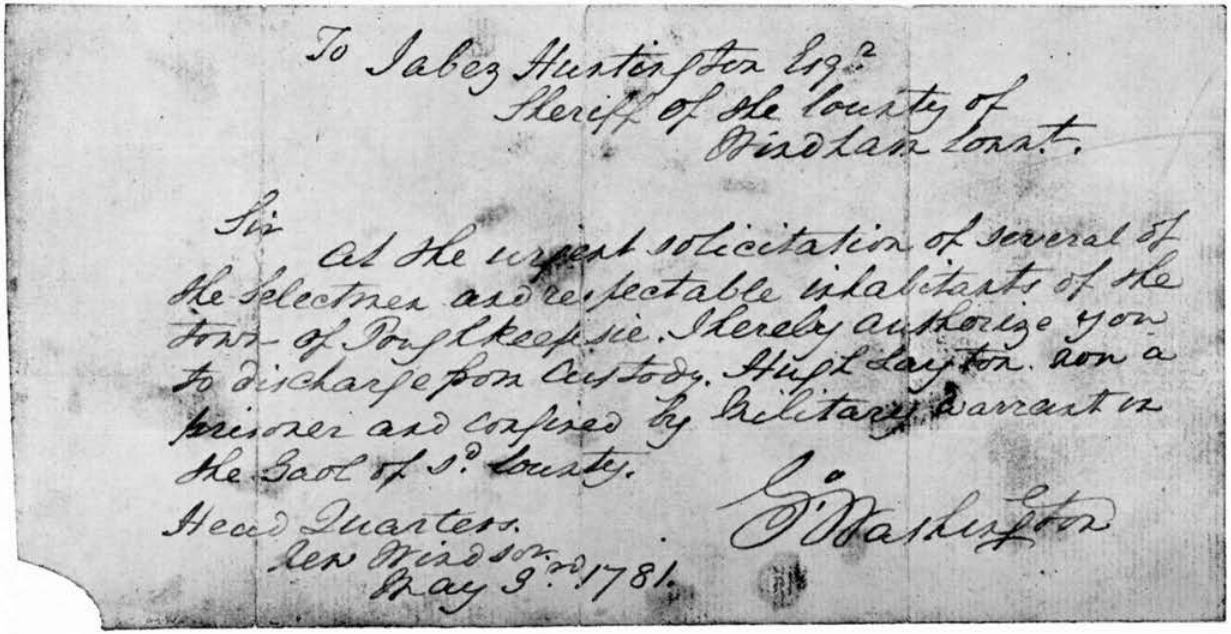
Letter addressed: The Honble Brigr Genl Swartwout Fishkill
By Express.

Endorsed: Governor's Order to Call out the Militia June 25th, 1780

Poughkeepsie Sunday Morning
25th June 1780

Sir

By Accounts this moment received from his Excellency Genl Washington & Major Genl Howe The Enemy are moving towards



To Jabez Huntington Esq.r
Sheriff of the County of
Dutchess County.

Sir
At the urgent solicitation of several of the Selectmen and respectable inhabitants of the Town of Poughkeepsie. I Hereby authorize you to discharge from Custody Hugh Layton. now a prisoner and confined by Military Warrant in the Gaol of s.d County.

Head Quarters.
New Windsor
May 9.th 1781.

G. Washington

Order issued by George Washington. Preserved among papers of Captain Jacob Wright of the New York Line, an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati. *Inherited from Captain Wright by his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Harry Harkness Flagler, and reproduced through her courtesy.*

the Highlands in great Force. His Excellency Genl Washington with our Army is also on his March thither; but it is uncertain when they will be able to reach the Forts and the Enemy will most probably arrive first (torn) the advantage of the Water. It is absolutely necessary in the mean Time that the Militia should be called out without one Moments Delay to succor the Forts in the Highlands and cover the Stores and Settlement of Fishkill. The whole of your Brigade together with the Corps of associated Exempts are therefore immediately to rendevouz at Fishkill and for this Purpose you will issue your orders without loss of Time. Direct such as have it in their Power to bring Provision with them.

Your

I mean to set out for Fishkill as soon as the necessary orders are dispatched

most Obed Servt

Geo. Clinton.

Brigr Genl Swartwout

Letter addressed: Brigadier General Jacobus Swartwout, Fishkill, to be forwarded immediately by Coll Hay
Endorsed: Public Service Geo. Clinton

Peckskill Augst 1st, 1780

Sir

His Excellency General Washington having in contemplation a movement of very capital consequence, has requested me to hold the Militia of this State in readiness to move at a moment's warning. You will therefore issue orders correspondent to his intentions. You will strongly impress your officers with the necessity of drawing out every man, on this occasion, and that each should carry into the field at least ten days provision; such as may not have meat to bring flour for twenty days. You will receive advice from General Washington or me when and to what place to march your brigade and on obtaining this you will move with all the celerity in your power. As much very much depends on a punctual compliance with this order I cannot entertain a doubt but that you will make every exertion in your power effectually to carry it into execution. The men must take the field well equipped for action, hence there is an evident necessity that you should immediately cause the regi-

ments in your brigade to be reviewed, that you may be enabled to discover what deficiencies and defects there is in their arms and accoutrements that you may give the requisite orders to compleat them. In all probability you will not be detained in the field for any considerable time.

I am
Sir
Your most humbl Servt
Genl Swartwout Geo. Clinton

Tappen and Livingston Letters

Living at Poughkeepsie in the Revolutionary period were Dr. Peter Tappen and Gilbert Livingston, two citizens prominent in their public services, whose wives were sisters, — daughters of Bartholomew Crannell, the Loyalist. Dr. Tappen married Elizabeth Crannell and Mr. Livingston married Catharine Crannell. The four letters below, written by Dr. and Mrs. Tappen, and the two written by Mrs. Livingston (one of which carries a postscript by Gilbert Livingston) are printed in chronological order. Their contents range from Dr. Tappen's request to Miss Crannell to set the date for their wedding to references to events at the forts in the Highlands and to activities at the shipyards in Poughkeepsie. Mrs. Livingston's second letter is addressed to her only child, who was the wife of Smith Thompson (sometime Secretary of the Navy and Justice of the Supreme Court). The Thompson children had apparently been left in the care of their grandparents temporarily.

Through the courtesy of the Public Library of the City of New York photostat copies of these letters were made for the Dutchess County Historical Society which are filed with the society's papers.

Poughkeepsie November 3d 1771

My Dear

I Come here last night and to my Surprise I found you was gone to New York and your Father tells me that you will be out some time yet. I Intended to have fixet a time for marriage at this time. My Dear I hope will Consider the Season It is a time that I ought

to make provision for winter I have made some already but Should be more free in it if we had fixt a time, I had formed a plan within myself which was this to git married next week and in this manner, to go to the Fishkills to Mr. Rysdicks and then Cross over to Mr. Clinton's and Stay there a Day or two and then you might Stay home as long as the Weather would Permit. I had Sot so much Store by this Sheme that I have Sent for our Licence in order to accomplish it. My Dear I hope you will Consider of this matter and Lett me have a line or two by the first Post after you Receive this, You Cannot Conceive the Discontentment of mind I Suffer on this occasion, and likewise my Business Suffers greatly from my being abroad, I hope will Consider Both these Circumstances in a Proper Light and then I Cannot Doubt but what you will be glad to Settle matters as Soon as you Can as well as I, if I had Known of your Going to New York I Believe we might have Contrived so that I had gone down two and got married there But Shall now Expect a Letter from you by the Post and a time Sot when it will Suit you.

I Remain your Affect
Lover for Ever
Peter Tappen

Fort montgomery in the bedroom my lap
April 10 1776

Dear Sister

I wou'd have wrote you by neighbor Rose's sloop—who took pigs to ballast the ships, but was disappointed by his going before the time fixed, the case was thus, last Sunday one of the sloops went for bricks to uncle Cortlands, we embraced the oppertunity of seing white people once more, set off about 2 o Clock got there just dusk. left them well about 9 in the morning—& arrived safe here about 2 afternoon a Monday when I heard Rose was to go in the evening, as we had company to tea I put off writing till afterwards, but before we had done Rose came for it. then I resolved to keep one ready wrote tho' I have no news here but what you have, yet I know you are Inquisitive to know how we live—as well as glad to hear we are well—we have plenty of what's good—as well for our-

selves as the carpenters. we have not had an oppertunity to Eat salt yet, least the fresh should Spoil. Veal and butter is brought us from peekskill, the commissioners brought oxen which they kill as they want, milk we get off of mamme Rose.

Yesterday arrived here Captain Cusion as Commander in Chief at this post and Capt something, I forget what, of the Artilary with their companys Who left Boston after we had possession they breakfasted din'd and drank tea with us and were very entertaining with their sumer and winters Campain, did not you hear our Cannon fire last Saturday., but I did tho, now let the tories come if they dare, we'll shew 'em what we can do, we have thirty two pounders within twenty yards of this door.

I was glad to hear by your letter of the 3d of April that you were all well, till then I have felt uneasy about Catey

I don't expect to come home til week after next I wish it could be for good and all for tho' I can make myself pretty easy here yet it is not like being settled at home it is more like making the best of a bad bargain we have a very bad servant he is old and loves liqur but the commissioners dont look for another so that I have not so much time to write or sew as I have at home

April II today I have moved in my own bedroom I have clean'd out my apple pye Closet and put all my cloaths in it (?) peg is a washing we have had disagreeable weather ever since I've been here except 3 days I am sifted out and can write nothing more so must conclude with wishing you well Give my love to all friends kiss the children for me I hope it won't be as long again before I se them

From your affectionate sister
Catherine Livingston

to save paper I inclose
Hanahs you may
read 'em both if she likes

Poghkeepsie July ye 19th 1776

My Dear

We have been in great Confusion ever since you left us, first place almost every Tory in the County was hunted up by the

Yankies & Brought to County Committy, then we had news of the ships—coming up the river, Troops flocking in here like swarms of Bees, People that live at the river moving every thing away others packing up one thing with another has put such a Damp upon my spirits—that I have very little left I have almost a continual pain in my head ears and Teeth and very faint & week I take a nap every day & cant seem to sleep enough I take the Bark once or twice a day but dont seem to do much good perhaps bleeding woud be of service to me but dont like to do any thing without your advice, if the Garrison is so that you can cleverly leave them I would be very glad to see you for a day on several accounts, your letter of ye 14th I recd yesterday I suppose it to be the one you mentioned to have sent to Clintons. Caty Recd her third yesterday from Gilbert he expects to be up on Business in two or 3 Days time I hope you have heard from me before this I wrote one by Lieutenant Belnat & one by (Quad?) Newcomb I might have wrote oftener had I known of the oppertunities several of our acquaintances has been to one or both the forts but was not kind enough to let me know of it I hear some hands are going this afternoon to fort Constitution by which I hope to send this I will get one of the little boys to carry it to shipyards if Mr. (Dally?) is one that gois I will send a pr white Linnen Rib'd stockings & let him give them to Peter for you if you dont come up yourself & have a safe opperunity send your New Brown linnen stockings up after they are Dirty, I will Run them & send them to you again I have not heard from sopas since you went away I heard they were all well at Mr. Clintons our friends are all well here we hear nothing of Toryism since independence was read to them at Carpenters they seem to be as much Distressed about the ships coming up as the wigs I believe they have given over all their lead & give up their tools for the purpose of intrenching at shipyards they as well as wigs are at work there it seemd the lot fell most on the tories there was in our Neighborhood Coll VKleeck, Snediker, (Hair?), Emot, Fisher, John Davis, Dick Everit—we have nothing new (but we?) here was a Gentleman of the army came in Company with Genll Sullivan from ticanteroga—left it last Sunday said there was nothing new the Children are well Caty slept at sisters last night I feel pretty well myself just now Sister was very sorry when she heard that

Lieut Bryon had lost his arm she is acquainted with him Farewell my Dear I hope the Lord will preserve you from all evil

I remain Yr Loving wife

Elizabeth Tappen

P. S. Please to let me know weather
you meant that I shoud sell the whole
of the medicine in the chests or selthem
singlely When I heard the ships were
Coming up I thought best not to unpack
that they might be ready for moving
let me know how to sell (?) pr oz & (?)
likewise what I must put in that (vial?)
I was speaking of to you to make it ink

Fort Constitution Octr. 26th 1776

My Dear

I got up here this evening about 7 o Clock to see Coll Bailey who is sick with the St Anthonys fire or Rose in his face if it had not been so late I should have endeavored to come up to see you but am obliged to Return again Early in the morning on account of some pasciants I have

This morning Coll DeWitt from Eusopus and two other members of Convension where at Montgomery they left the White Plains yesterday there was Nothing very Extraordinary the armies have Small Skirmishes every day but our people are always the better of them by several Deserters from the Enemy we have an account that General How has lost one of his Legs by a Shot from our People our army is again so well Situated that it is supposed the Enemey will not make any attack I expect this Campain will pass off without their affecting any great things, the Ships that are in the River have been within a few miles of us but have gone down again to Terry town they have had some very fair winds since they have been up but have not attempted to pass our forts and I believ will not if you would like to Come down now and live with me I think you might Come with Safety, I propose to Come up some time next week and to bring you down if you Conclude to come you will keep yourself Ready, Mrs. Waterbury has moved down to

Montgomery she will be a great Deal of Company to you, Mrs. DeWitt was In Company with Brother Clinton he is very harty and in high spirits My love to all I Remain your Dear and Loving

Husband
Peter Tappen

New York ye 15th 1783

My Dear

I Recd yours of ye 2d also one by Davis & I by North—& am happy to find that you are all well I long to see you all very much & had concluded to go up with Davis today but as my Father & family are going to Noviscotia & Probably I will never see them again they are desireous that I should stay till North goes up the wind is against us & as it has been sutherdly for some days past I suppose it will remain Northerly some time & Consequently they will have a long Passage—so that it may make little ado if I wait for North who will sail tuesday or wednesday at farthest aunt Jones and aunt Crannell Came in yesterday uncle Barent will go to Parson Schonemakers tuesday to stay a fortnite uncle Stuart came here last night he has been unlucky he did not intend going home but writing but hearing how Betsy is has concluded to come up with me his business prevents his going today our Friends are desiros to see you Gilbert Caty they expect to go by the first of Next month I shall without doubt be up so that you may Come down with Davis Next saturday but if I shoud be so unfortinate as to not be there then you may (venter?) to come leave your keys at Mrs. Clintons sunday is no day of business I must have a very long Passage if I am not home on monday Daddy wishes to have all the money due to him from you for Bill as well as this wench I shall be able to pay him about L35 daddy wants one Barrell of Vinnager & some Fowels Sam is unwilling to go with daddy except he takes that Child with him that is at uncle Baltuses daddy begs you woud go to him & ask him to let him have his on an account that is between them they woud be glad if he woud come down & bring her with him send the side saddle down & warming pan from sister I have sent a Chest with goods & some smoothing

Irons 2 pots & a Brass Kettle for sister the (?) & some sugar plumbs and oranges you will find in the private till let the Children eat the oranges soon I have given the key to davis send the Chest down again it is mammys I have Recd the money from Lefferts wheat is low North is offered 7/ Give my love to all Friends

Elizabeth Tappen

From yr affectinate wife

(?) is desirous to see her
Mother begs you woud let her know that
she is going away in a fortnite & wishes
she woud come down

Poughkeepsie March 15 1803

Dear child

I this evening received a letter from you am glad to hear you are all well I wrote you yesterday since which nothing new has happened I am glad you talk of coming home, it begins to look pleasant here our side of the way is dry

wednesday

the children are very lively and its such a fine day that they want to be out more than is for their health if I would consent I keep them pretty close to their books and Edward plays (?) I send inclosed the patern hope this will find you well their a general complaint of common sore throat I have a pretty good share of it the rest of the family is well tell Louiza the children talk of her daily they send a heap of love good by

your affectiont mother

Catherine Livingston

Tell Mr. Thompson there is nothing new worth telling—Genl Bailey returned monday night—we long to see you all very much

Yours very affectionately

G. Livingston

Items from Eighteenth Century Newspapers

The Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie, is so fortunate as to possess a large collection of local newspapers. The file begins before 1780 and even a casual examination of it discloses to an interested reader much that is both entertaining and informing. During 1928 Miss Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, one of the trustees of the Dutchess County Historical Society, has spent much time scanning these papers and taking notes from them. One result of this study is a list of several thousand notices of marriages and deaths in Dutchess from about 1785 to 1825, which list the society has voted to print as a volume of its collections. It is hoped to publish the list very shortly.

Besides the more serious and substantial subject-matter found in the newspapers, small items occasionally occur and, from among these, four selections have been made which are offered herewith as samples of the manner in which the newspapers throw light upon their times. First is quoted an advertisement from which is learned what sort of camp-chest was carried by General von Steuben in 1779. Let collectors of old silver take note of the same. Next comes a reference to the school conducted at Brinckerhoff, town of Fishkill, by the Rev. Chauncey Graham, pastor of the Rombout Presbyterian Church. From the third it is possible to compare transportation in 1787 with that of 1928 for speed, equipment and number of travellers. And finally from the fourth quotation it is evident that in 1798 those in search of amusement resorted to a device that was a first cousin—so to speak—to the cross-word puzzle. Some fun-lover composed a test that centered around the names of twelve young ladies. The girls were evidently the belles of Poughkeepsie and their names afford a "social register" of the day.

From: New-York Packet and the American Advertiser, Thursday, August 19, 1779.

"ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD

LOST, on the 26th inst. between Col. Hasbrouck's and the Continental ferry, at Newburg, a small triangular LEATHER CASE, containing, two small silver coffee pots; two silver tea-spoons gilt; one silver sugar pot; a silver goblet, gilt within, with a coat of

arms engraved on the outside; a small silvered candlestick; two china cups and saucers; a silvered salver, of the same form as the box. Whoever has found the above-mentioned articles, shall on delivering them to Major-General Baron de STEUBEN, at his quarters, at the house of Col. Hasbrouck, near the Continental ferry, Newburgh, receive the promised reward."

From: New-York Packet and the American Advertiser, Thursday, June 1, 1780.

"WHEREAS, the house built in this place, for a public seat of learning, has been for upwards of four years past, and still is occupied as a general hospital for the sick of our army; and not knowing how long it may be used for that purpose, we have opened our public seminary in a house contiguous to it, belonging to Colonel Abraham Brinckerhoff; where Reading, Writing and Speaking correctly, the Learned Languages, with every branch of the Mathematicks, and polite Literature, are faithfully taught; and a special regard had to the morals of youth.

CHAUNCEY GRAHAM, Pres.
Fish-Kill, State of New-York,
March 17, 1780."

From: The Country Journal and The Poughkeepsie Advertiser, Wednesday, April 11, 1787.

"ALBANY STAGES

The proprietors of the Albany Line of Stages will commence performing the tour in two days on Monday the 16th of April instant.—A Carriage will move from Hall's tavern, near the Oswego Market, New-York, and Lewis's in Albany, every Monday and Thursday mornings, precisely at 4 o'clock, and return on Tuesdays and Fridays following: at the same time the price of a passenger will be reduced from four-pence to three-pence per mile—150 weight of baggage the same as a passenger.

The public will be pleased to take notice, that the proprietors will not be answerable for the loss of any baggage whatever.
April 8th, 1787."

From: Poughkeepsie Journal, February 27, 1798.

"For the Poughkeepsie Journal
Juvenile Production
Enigmatical List of the young Ladies
of Poughkeepsie

1st. Four-sevenths of a contriver, the fourteenth letter in the alphabet, the numerical letter for an hundred and the initial of an unfortunate Polish general.

2d. A gentle blow and an instrument by which we convey our sentiments.

3d. Two-fourths of an infant, a vowel, and half of a town in Holland.

4th. To peruse a book, and a vowel.

5th. Half of a word generally used for a denial, an useful animal, and two-fourths of a disagreeable passion.

6th. What monarchs generally possess, and most females desire.

7th. Three-fourths of the beak of a bird, a fish, and the nineteenth letter in the alphabet.

8th. Three-fourths of the reverse of short, and a woman's Christian name boorishly contracted.

9th. A male fowl changing a letter, and a vowel.

10th. That part of an army most exposed in battle, the initial of a bird of prey, an American general, and the first and last letters of a measure of time.

11th. The foot of a beast changing a letter, and the Lord of the Creation.

12th. Half of a kind expression, an useful grain changing a letter, and three-fifths of what is recommended to all.

SELINA

February 12, 1798"

From: Poughkeepsie Journal, March 6, 1798

"SOLUTION
Of the Enigmatical List in last week's
Journal

Miss Schenck	Miss Billings
Miss Tappen	Miss Tallmadge

Miss Bailey	Miss Cooke
Miss Reade	Miss Van Kleeck
Miss Noxen	Miss Hoffman
Miss Power	Miss Deriemer

The Dutchess County Agricultural Society

Following the period of economic depression that was created by the War of the Revolution, Dutchess County enjoyed an era of great prosperity. The prosperity was based upon agriculture. Throughout the county were large productive farms and the farmer was the moneyed man of the community.

This condition of affairs was reflected by the organization in 1806 by a group of the most prominent residents of the county of an agricultural society. Once it was started, the membership increased rapidly and before long the society was an outstanding institution locally. Its first fair was held in May, 1809, and for many years the contemporaneous newspapers feature accounts of the annual fair and tell of the prizes given for achievements in stock-raising, in the quality and quantity of crops, domestic manufactures, etc.

The first president of the society was Dr. Samuel Bard of "Hyde Park," whose services to Dutchess are noted in the report—printed on another page of this Year Book—of the pilgrimage made in 1928 by the Historical Society to his former home. A long, dignified and scholarly address made by Dr. Bard to the Agricultural Society as its newly elected first president is printed in full in the Political Barometer of March 11, 1806 (on file in the Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie).

At the meeting held on February 15, 1806, to organize a society there were twenty-three present and twenty-three others had sent word that they wished to belong so the society began with forty-six members. Any reader of the Year Book whose forbears lived in Dutchess will be quick to realize in reading the names of those forty-six original members how representative of the best elements in the county the founders of the Agricultural Society were.

Appended below is a copy of the minutes of the organizing meeting. Also below are given: an account of the first fair held by

the society and accounts of the fairs of 1819 and 1823, all of which reflect the life of their times and afford items of a personal and reminiscent character.

From: The Political Barometer, February 25, 1806.

"AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Saturday, February 15, 1806.

At a meeting held this day at Cunningham's Hotel, in Poughkeepsie, convened for the purpose of considering the utility of an Agricultural Society, and for organizing the same.

HENRY LIVINGSTON, Esq. *in the Chair.*

Resolved, That the following articles be read:

1. This Society shall be denominated, *The Society of Dutchess county for the promotion of Agriculture.*

2. The object of this society shall be improvement in Agriculture and rural occupancy.

3. The society shall consist of ordinary and honorary members, the former to be persons residing in the county of Dutchess, the latter persons residing elsewhere.

4. The officers of the society shall be elected annually, and by ballot. They shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

5. There shall be semi-annual meetings of the society, one to be held the Wednesday following the first sitting of the March Court, and the other the second Tuesday in October. The officers of the Society shall be elected at the spring meeting.

6. At every spring meeting there shall be an election of fifteen members of the society, to compose a board for the purpose of recommending plans, of preparing and digesting business and of executing such other duties as may from time to time be committed to them by the society. The board shall meet quarterly, and report their transactions at each meeting of the society. The Chairman of the board shall have it at option to call extra meetings of the board for the dispatch of business.

7. The admission of a member shall be by ballot, at one of the semi-annual meetings, of whom there shall first have been a nomination at one of the meetings of the board.

8. Every member on his admission shall pay to the Treasurer, two dollars and also one dollar per annum during his continuance as a member.

9. A majority of the members present at a meeting of the society or the board, shall determine all questions.

10. The officers of the society are not to be considered as officers of the board, but the members of the board, by ballot, are to choose annually their own Chairman and their own Secretary, and to form their own by-laws.

11. If the presiding officer or Secretary be absent from any meeting, either of the society or the board, then the society or the board shall elect one to serve at that meeting.

12. The funds of the society shall be appropriated by the majority of the same, to the objects of the institution, and to no other purpose whatsoever.

13. All premiums shall be adjudged and bestowed by a majority of the society, at the semi-annual meetings.

14. Honorary members shall be elected in the manner prescribed for the election of ordinary members.

15. All correspondence is to be carried on in the name of the Secretary of the society, and all letters are to be addressed to him.

16. None but farmers shall be ordinary members of this society.

17. No person elected an ordinary member shall, after the first March meeting, be entitled to the privileges of the society, unless he shall have subscribed to these rules and regulations, and have paid his arrears, if any are due, to the society.

18. Each proposed member of the board shall be nominated by one member of the society, and seconded by another, his election to be determined by ballot.

19. Officers of the society shall have a voice at the board, when present at its meetings.

20. The second election of officers of the society shall take place the Wednesday following the first meeting of the March Court, in the year 1807.

21. All members of the society shall have liberty to be present at the meetings of the board, but shall have no voice in its decisions.

22. The Treasurer shall receive the subscriptions of the members and all other money which shall become due to the society, and shall pay the same agreeable to its orders, certified by the President, one of the Vice-Presidents, or member in the Chair, when the order is made; he shall keep a regular account of all money received or paid by him as aforesaid, and once every year he shall render an account to the society of the stock in his hands, and of the disbursements made by his orders.

The preceding articles being read and agreed to by the gentlemen present as a constitution, they have hereunto subscribed their names:

Henry Livingston, William Broom, John Johnston, Henry A. Livingston, William Bard, John B. Van Wyck, Gilbert Livingston, Samuel A. Barker, Theophilus Anthony, Levi M'Keen, William Akin, Derick A. Brinckerhoff, James Sleght, Moses Downing, Thomas Nelson, Joseph S. Dean, Jacob Schryver, Peter Lossing, Koert DuBois, Jacob Bush, Robert G. Livingston, Timothy Martin, Matthew Mesier.

The following gentlemen having requested to be admitted members of the society, though they should not be present at this meeting—RESOLVED that they be considered so without any ballot:

His Excellency Governor Lewis, Samuel Bard, William Downing, John Stoutenburgh, Jonathan Owen, Christopher Hughes, William Tobias Stoutenburgh, Frederick Uhl, Henry Cruger, John Allen, William Allen, Augustus Prevost, . . . Palmer, Philip Schuyler, John Crooke, Gerardus Duyckink, Ebenezer Carey, Benjamin Delavergne, Jonathan Akin, William Davis, Jeremiah Rogers, Abraham Pells, John Reade.

The following officers were then unanimously chosen:

SAMUEL BARD, M.D., President
SAMUEL A. BARKER, 1st Vice President
JONATHAN AKIN, 2d Vice President
WILLIAM DAVIS, Treasurer
WILLIAM BROOM, Secretary

RESOLVED, That the following Members constitute the Board, viz.

Benjamin Delavergne	Matthew Mesier
Ebenezer Carey	Henry A. Livingston
Philip Schuyler	John Johnston
William Bard	Moses Downing
Peter Lossing	Koert DuBois
William Akin	Henry Livingston
Levi M'Keen	John B. Van Wyck
William Allen	

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of this meeting this day, and the names of the members subscribing, be published in the Poughkeepsie papers.

RESOLVED, That the Secretary be directed to notify the members of the Board, that their first meeting will be held on Saturday the first day of March next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at Cunningham's Hotel, in Poughkeepsie.

Wm. Broom, Secretary."

From: The Political Barometer, May 24, 1809

"Dutchess Agricultural Society

The Society held their Spring meeting in Poughkeepsie, on

Wednesday the 3d inst. which was numerously and respectably attended. The exhibition of Cattle and Sheep for the Society Premium was greater than any that have appeared heretofore. The successful candidates were,

Morgan Lewis, Esq., for the best Bull of any age

Warren DeLancey, Esq., for the best Ram of two years old and the best Wether of one year old, both of the long wooled Tees water breed

Levi M'Keen, for the best Ram of one year old, a very fine full-blooded Merino of Col. Humphrey's breed.

Much other valuable stock was shewn, merely as specimens, without laying any claim to the premium, particularly a bull by the Secretary, a very fine animal, produced by a cross of the new Leicester or Dichley with the Holderness.

Several members appeared, dressed in suits of their own Manufactory, particularly W. Allen, Esq., who wore a suit of black, made from his own Merino wool, spun, wove and dressed at Lithgow, at the expence of $1.50 per yard, of 40 inches wide, and valued by competent judges at $8 per yard, broad cloth width.

The Society have heard with regret that several sales of the Merino blooded sheep have been made in this and other counties in which sales the purchasers have been led to believe that the sheep sold were higher bred than they have actually been, and as a practice of this kind is highly injurious to the fair breeder it was

RESOLVED, That the members of the Society mutually pledge themselves in their sales of sheep, to make to purchasers as far as they are able, a fair and accurate statement of their pedigree.

Daniel Jackson and John Pinkney of Fishkill, Garwood H. Cunningham of Poughkeepsie, James Marshall of Clinton and Philip Hart of Washington being admitted new members, the Society proceeded to the election of Officers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were elected.

Samuel Bard ..... President
Lemuel Clift ..... 1st Vice-President
Warren DeLancey ..... 2nd Vice-President
William Broom ..... Secretary
William Davies ..... Treasurer

Members of the Board for the ensuing year.

John Johnston	Ebenezer Cary
Benj. Delavergne	Peter Lossing
Levi M'Keen	John B. Van Wyck
Jonathan Owen	Koert DuBois
Henry A. Livingston	William Bard
Henry Cruger	Ebenezer Mott
Frederick Uhl	Matthew Mesier

The Fair was held on the Thursday and Friday following, and when considered as *the first essay of the kind* and not generally known, even through the county, was well attended. Some very good Cattle and Sheep were sold at high prices—young cattle and farrow cows were much in demand and sold readily at their full value. The whole was conducted with great order and regularity.

The next fair will be held on Thursday and Friday, the 2d and 3d of November next at Robert Haight's in the town of Washington; and from the sentiments and determinations of many persons, as well as from the pains which will be taken to make it more generally known, will be much better attended. A very great increase of the most valuable sheep has fortunately been obtained the present season; and the breeders of Merino and Tees waters will certainly feel it their interest to exhibit their finest shews of Ram Lambs; thereby offering an opportunity to such Farmers as choose to improve their flocks by a cross with those excellent breeds, of being supplied and making their selection from a considerable number. May 23, 1809."

From: The Republican Herald, November 10, 1819.

"Agricultural Society

The Dutchess Agricultural Society held their stated meeting at Luther Gay's in the town of Washington on Thursday, the 4th instant, which was attended by a very numerous and respectable portion of citizens from every part of the county.

The several Committees of Inspection having agreed upon their reports the Society proceeded to the church in the following order:

The Sheriff, G. Ketcham, Esq., Marshall

The Clergy

The President & two Vice-Presidents
Judges of the Court
Attorney General of the State
Secretary & Treasurer
Committee of Inspection
Members of the Board
Members of the Society
Visitors, &c

The ladies present had been previously introduced into the church. Divine service was opened by a prayer and an appropriate discourse by the Rev. Mr. Cuyler, after which the first Vice-President, Nathaniel Pendleton, Esq., delivered an address.

The Committee of Inspection then delivered in their several reports, which being read by the secretary were as follows:

Thomas Swift, For the best Bull $20
Warren DeLancey, for the best Calf 10
John Wilkinson, for the best two Cows 20
the best tub of Butter 5
the best five pair of woolen stockings 5
Robert Heaton, for the best Heifer 10
M. Vincent, for the best yoke of Oxen 12
Henry Hamm, for the best pair of Steers 10
Isaac Germond, for the best Ram 5
John Heaton, for the best 5 Ewes 10
Fyler Dibblee, for the best pair of Pigs 10
Abraham Perlee, for the best Colt 20
Richard T. Van Wyck, for the greatest quantity of
Timothy seed, 37 bush's 20
Bernard Mathewson, for the best Cheese 5
John Yates, for the best piece of Flannel 10
Martin W. Brett, for a model of a side-hill plough 5

The successful candidates then received from the President their respective premiums and after a short prayer by the Rev. Mr. Leonard were dismissed by the Rev. Mr. Reed and returned in the same order of procession to the place of meeting.

Extract from the Minutes

W. Broom, Sec'ry."

From: The Dutchess Observer, November 26, 1823.

"DUTCHESS FAIR

The Dutchess Agricultural Society held its annual Meeting and Fair, for shew and sale of stock and articles, contemplated by law, on the 6th and 7th inst. at the village of Poughkeepsie. The Society met at an early hour of the first day, at Mr. Forbus', and the committee of arrangements appointed the several committees of view. Mr. John Delavergne, assisted by young Wilkinson and Delavergne, came with the Car of Industry, a large covered waggon decorated with all the different products of the county, drawn by 57 elegant oxen, accompanied by a band of music. The Society and the citizens immediately formed in procession, under the direction of Col. Davies, Marshal of the day, and preceded by the Car of Industry marched to the field of shew.—After the viewing committees had performed their duty, the procession moved to the Court-House, where the Rev. Mr. Cuyler opened the exercises by prayer—Gen. Brush delivered an extemporaneous address upon practical farming, and the Rev. Doct. Reed closed with prayer, when the procession reformed and repaired to Mr. Forbus', and the Society and citizens partook of an excellent dinner. After which the Board met, received the reports of the several committees, and adjudged the premiums of the day. At evening there was a splendid ball, at Mr. Myer's Hotel, graced with the beauty and fashion of the county, and other guests.

On the second day, the Society again formed in procession, preceded by the Car of Industry, and proceeded to the ploughing field to view the ploughing match, which was performed under the direction of the Committee of Arrangements. Three teams, one yoke of oxen each and the ploughman driving, started at the tap of the drum. One of the competitors ploughed a full quarter of an acre, of close sward in 30½ minutes in elegant style; another, in like manner, in 33½ minutes; and the other, whose oxen proved to be unkind, was a considerable time longer. The committee being satisfied with the workmanship of all, decided the match according to the priority of finishing. The procession then went to the Court-House again, where the premiums were distributed to the successful competitors, and then returned to Mr. Forbus', and again partook of an excellent dinner. After dinner the society transacted its

ordinary business, and adjourned to meet again, at the next semi-annual meeting at Poughkeepsie. The affairs of both days were conducted with much good feeling and great satisfaction of the community at large.

The exhibition of Cattle, Sheep and Swine, was very excellent, with the exception of Cows, which had been in some measure neglected to be shown.—And the exhibition of Horses, generally, far exceeded any previous one, and induces a belief that the raising of fine horses in the county will be duly appreciated. The Wheat and Barley crops have been very good, and Corn extraordinary; the crop of Roots has also been very good. Premiums upon seeds will be determined at the spring meeting. The exhibition of family domestic manufactures, was very fine, and done great credit to the county.

PREMIUMS

Awarded by the Dutchess Agricultural Society, 1823

John Delavergne, best Bull	$12
Elisha C. Barlow, 2d do	10
Thomas Swift, best 2 dairy Cows	12
Elisha C. Barlow, best 2 milch Heifers 2 yr. old	10
John V. B. Varick, 2d do do	8
Gilbert Knapp, best pair Oxen, proved by the ploughing match	12
Thomas Swift, 2d do do	10
Stephen Peckham, 3d do do	8
John Delavergne, best pair 3 year old Steers, broke to the yoke	10
Thomas Swift, 2d do do	8

SHEEP

John B. Van Wyck, best Merino Buck	4
The same, 2d do	3
The same, best 10 Merino Ewes	8
John V. B. Varick, best 10 Ewes not full blood	8

SWINE

John Brush, best Boar	8
Stephen Peckham, 2d do	6
Elisha C. Barlow, best breeding Sow	8
John Brush, 2d do	6

HORSES

Leonard B. Van Kleeck, best stud, Revenge	15
Luther Gay, 2d do Hamiltonian	10
John Cooper, best brood Mare and Colt	12
Henry Parker, 2d do	10

John Brush, best 2 year old colt - - - - - - - - - 10
Elijah Reed, best year old colt - - - - - - - - - 8

FARMS

John B. Van Wyck, best Farm - - - - - - - - - 30

GRAIN

John I. Teller, best 3 acres Wheat - - - - - - - - 12
Thomas Swift, 2d do - - - - - - - - 10
Same, best 3 acres of Corn - - - - - - - - 12
John I. Teller, 2d do half premium - - - - - 5
Warren Delancy, 2d do half premium - - - - - 5
Cornelius C. Van Wyck, best 5 acres of Barley - - - - - - 10
Daniel Gidley, 2d do - - - - - - 8

ROOTS

Thomas Swift, best acre of Potatoes - - - - - - - - 10
Stephen Peckham, 2d do - - - - - - - - 8

DAIRY

John Brush, greatest weight of butter - - - - - - - - 20

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES

Same, 2d do - - - - - - - - - 5
John Yates, best 25 yds. Flannel - - - - - - - - - 7
Same, 2d do - - - - - - - - - 10
Same, best 30 yds. Carpet - - - - - - - - - 12
Same, best 25 yds. Diaper - - - - - - - - - 6
Catharine Duboys, best 25 yds. Linen - - - - - - - - 8
Mrs. Henry Livingston, 2d do - - - - - - - - 6

DISCRETIONARY

Miss Neilson, a piece of fine Thread Lace - - - - - - 3
Harriet Butler, an elegant worked Cap - - - - - - 2
Susan Kelsey, do - - - - - - 3
Mrs. Brockholst Livingston, 2 elegant work quilts - - - - 3
Mrs. Valentine, for an elegant specimen of needle work - - - 3
Robert Miller, for 50 bushels of superior large white Onions - - 5

The committees noticed with great pleasure many handsome specimens of art and taste, exhibited much to the credit of the artists, among which were a Verticle Spinning Machine by Mr. Hyde, which has the appearance of accuracy and despatch; a sample of fine Cotton, raised by James Thompson, Esq., of Rhinebeck, this season; a fine down Vandyke, by Mrs. George Bloom; an elegant picture of raised work, by Miss Booth; two elegant coverlids, by John Yates, &c, &c."

H. W. R.

A Map and a Tree

The land on which a large part of the city of Poughkeepsie is built was sold by the Indians in 1685 to two white men who were then residents of Albany. One of those two men, Robert Sanders, an Englishman, was widely known in the Province of New York as an interpreter between the natives and the settlers and he did not move down the river from Albany when he bought land in Dutchess County. His partner, Myndert Harmense Van Den Bogaerdt (that is: Myndert, son of Harmen of the Orchard), a Dutchman, did leave Albany and make a new home to the southward. He settled near the mouth of the Fallkill in 1691-1692, when all was a wilderness there, eventually building his dwelling (a small stone structure) about where the northeast corner of Mill and Bridge streets now is.

In 1709 Myndert Harmense(as he usually was called) sold to Bartholomeus Hoogeboom (in English: Bartholomew High-Tree) a tract of land fronting on the river. The tract began at its north end at a point not far from the foot of the present Church street and it ran south to, approximately, the foot of the present Pine street; eastward it extended from the river to, approximately, the present Jefferson street. This area in 1709 was wooded. Bartholomeus Hoogeboom cleared it, in part, for farming and held it until 1730, when he sold it to Jan DeGraeff. The deed for that conveyance contains a clause that reads: "al wais Leaven a sufficit Rode for Cattol too goo in the woods," and the cow-path thus suggested may have been the beginning of the present Union street.

The purchaser of the property in 1730, Jan DeGraeff, would seem from his name to have been a Dutchman but contemporary documentary evidence shows that actually he was Jean leComte, grandson of a Frenchman of the same name who was at Harlem (New York) in 1674. Dutch neighbors merely translated leComte into DeGraeff (the Count). Jan DeGraeff of Poughkeepsie had a house-lot on the north side of Mill street, west of Bridge, which he bought in 1712. His purchase of the Hoogeboom farm was not made until about four years before his death. Under his will his real estate was divided between his widow and children in equal portions and, by some arrangement made between the members of his

family, the farm on the river-front was acquired by his son, John (born 1720, died 1795).

The second Jan DeGraeff is referred to in deeds as a mariner and as the deeds also refer to a dock and storehouse as built by him on the water-front of his farm it is fair to assume that he sailed a sloop between Poughkeepsie and New York in the middle of the eighteenth century and founded what became known later as the Union Landing at the foot of Union street. It was presumably on some of his trips by sloop that he met and married Catelyntje Rapalie of Long Island, after whose early death he married, secondly, Johanna Yelverton of Poughkeepsie. John DeGraeff and his first wife had a daughter, Johanna, who married in 1765 James Winans (born 1742, died 1803), a son of James Winans, the elder, of Pine Plains. In 1766, the year following her marriage, John DeGraeff deeded to this daughter ("for love and affection and to keep the property in the blood") his farm on the river-front and the newly married young couple took up residence on the same.

Twenty-three years later James Winans became embarassed financially and his father, James Winans, Sr., bought the farm, leaving his son, James, Jr., and the latter's family on the place. That was in 1789. In 1795 James Winans, Sr., died, leaving a will by which he gave to his son and his son's widow a life-interest in the farm and directed that the property should be divided among their children. After the death of James Winans, the second, on October 27, 1803 (he is said to have died suddenly in Albany while away from home on business), his widow and children agreed that the land should be partitioned and in May, 1804, it was surveyed by Henry Livingston, Jr. It was laid out in lots by three commissioners (Henry Livingston, Jr., William Davies and David Carpenter) and Mr. Livingston made a map of the partition. The map was retained by John Winans (son of James Winans, second) and by him given in 1814 to Zadock Southwick who had purchased part of the farm. In 1820 the map passed to Edward C. Southwick. From him it was acquired by a later Edward C. Southwick, recently deceased, whose daughter, Mrs. David McCullough of Poughkeepsie now owns it. Through the courtesy of Mrs. McCullough, Mr. Frederic Barnard was enabled to have a photograph made of the map and a print of the photograph was contributed by Mr. Barnard

to this Year Book. As the map is not recorded in the County Clerk's office, it is evident that value attaches to it as a record of the source of title in a certain section of the city of Poughkeepsie. It is drawn on a sheet of parchment, thirty-four and one-half inches by thirty-one, and is done in color.

On the portion of the original farm that fell in 1804 to his share John Winans soon built a large house, which is still standing at the foot of Pine street. It has been in the possession of the Southwick family since Zadock Southwick bought it from John Winans and is now occupied by Mr. Benjamin Southwick and his sister, Miss Southwick. The house is a frame structure, two full stories in height above a deep basement, its outstanding feature, architecturally, being the gambrel roof (a double pitch between ridge-pole and eaves) that was in use in Dutchess County around 1800. The site of the house, affording as it does an extended view of the Hudson, demonstrates for this generation the setting of the homes of an earlier day when the river was more a part of the daily life of the residents of Dutchess. Adjoining the house is a garden, which presumably dates from the erection of the house and is one of the few gardens of the early nineteenth century that now remain within the city limits. In the garden is a thorn-locust tree that is worthy of record. The tree is nearly five feet in diameter and over fourteen feet in circumference at breast-height from the ground. In recent years a large upper limb was lost but it is still, as a whole, a fine survival and an approximation of what it was when in its best estate can be predicated upon what remains. Through the courtesy of Mr. Frederic Barnard of Poughkeepsie, who supplied the Year Book with a photograph made in 1927, the plate accompanying this article shows the locust tree and indicates the manner in which the garden was laid out.

H. W. R.

A corner of the Southwick garden, foot of Pine street, Poughkeepsie, in 1927. *From a photograph, made with the consent of Mr. Benjamin Southwick, for Mr. Frederic Barnard. Reproduced through the courtesy of Mr. Barnard.*

Dutchess County Men of the Revolutionary Period

GENERAL JACOBUS SWARTWOUT

Among the host of loyal citizens of Dutchess who did yeoman service during the long and trying period of the Revolution none have left a more enviable record than Jacobus Swartwout. One of the earliest moves in the county was the meeting at Captain Jacob Griffin's tavern in Rombout Precinct, a place known during the whole Revolutionary period as the "Rendezvous." Among those who attended this meeting was Captain Jacobus Swartwout, whose home at Swartwoutville was in sight of the "Rendezvous." A man then fifty years of age, he had won his title of Captain when he commanded a company of Dutchess County Colonial Militia in the expedition against Canada in the French and Indian War.

Then followed the New York Provincial Convention and the appointment of the Committee of Safety. Jacobus Swartwout was first appointed as colonel of the Second Regiment, Dutchess County Minute Men. He was one of those appointed to obtain signers to the Revolutionary Pledge for Rombout Precinct. It was reported by the chairman of this committee that no one refused to sign except those who were members of the Colonial Militia, whose oath to support the Crown would have made their signing an act of treason.

Then followed the organization of five regiments of Dutchess County Militia with Colonel Swartwout colonel of the First Regiment and, as senior colonel, Commandant of the five regiments known as the Dutchess County Brigade of Militia. It was the first duty of the militia to protect the county against any invasion of the enemy, but several times during the war Colonel Swartwout was called upon to send or lead a part of his forces out of the county.

First, as early as February, 1776, Colonel Swartwout marched his men down to Kingsbridge where General Washington was endeavoring to hold back the British forces. Again, at West Point in the Highlands and then to repel attacks by Indians and Tories upon the western frontier of Ulster and Orange Counties.

In January, 1777, Colonel Swartwout was appointed by the Committee of Safety a Commissioner to enforce militia requirements among the disaffected militia of the county. These were

troublous times and during the spring of 1777 we find Colonel Swartwout and the other Commissioners, Egbert Benson and Melancthon Smith, laboring to enforce discipline among mutinous and rebellious members of the militia, especially in Colonel John Freer's regiment which was the Poughkeepsie Regiment and in Colonel Henry Ludington's regiment in the southeastern part of the county. Much of the trouble was doubtless due to the failure on the part of the militia members to receive the bounty due them from the State.

To show that Colonel Swartwout was generous and humanely inclined, we find him joining with others in a petition to Governor Clinton for the pardon or reprieve of Mynderse Harris who has been "justly condemned to death," believing that a pardon will have a better effect than carrying out the sentence.

In February, 1777, when the Committee for Detecting Conspiracies was dissolved a Commission for detecting conspiracies was appointed, consisting of Egbert Benson, Jacobus Swartwout and Melancthon Smith. These men were all experienced in the methods of treating the Loyalists. This commission met almost daily. Among its duties was that of recalling all the deported Loyalists and tendering them the oath of allegiance to the Continental cause. As it was necessary for this commission to meet in different places frequently on the same day, often members were added to it from time to time.

There was considerable insubordination among the militia especially toward the latter years of the Revolution, as accounts of the various court martials show, many of the junior officers taking it upon themselves to decide whether or not they should obey the orders of the sessions, and even the privates refusing to turn out for duty, when they considered such duty as interfering with their private affairs. Much of the trouble arose from the fact that these regiments were poorly clothed and badly armed. There were no laws governing many of the points of disagreement among the state and county troops. The state was young and the militia, for the most part, inexperienced and it was almost next to impossible to raise sufficient money by taxation to properly equip these regiments. Flour and well bolted meal were purchased at £10 per hundredweight and wheat at ten dollars per bushel. As the General was a farmer we find by the records that he was furnishing wheat to the

army from his farm at Swartwoutville. During 1778 we find Colonel Swartwout, in addition to his military duties, serving as a Member of Assembly and acting on a committee to purchase an "immediate supply of flour for the army." April 12, 1779, Colonel Swartwout was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General by Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, April 12, 1779.

I am directed by his Excellency the Governor to transmit to you the enclosed Commission appointing you Brigadier Gen'l of the County of Dutchess, with his Gen'l orders and copy of the law to which they refer. The safety of the Frontiers so much depends upon the speedy embodying of these troops, that it is conceived unnecessary to hold out any other consideration to excite you and the other officers concerned to the utmost dispatch in the execution of this business.

I am with great respect

Sir, your most Obd't Serv't

ROB. BENSON, A. D. C.

The hon'ble
BRIG. GEN'L SWARTWOUT

In March, 1781, General Swartwout is presiding over the Court of Inquiry which was held to settle the question of charges brought against General Robert Van Rensselaer, in which General Van Rensselaer was acquitted as follows:

> "That the whole of General Rensselaer's conduct both before and after as well as in the action of the 19th of October last, was not only unexceptionable but such as became a good, active, faithful and spirited officer, and that the public clamors raised to his prejudice on that account are without the least foundation."

The Swartwout family was very well represented in the army of the Revolution in both the militia and continental lines. It was Captain Abraham Swartwout of Poughkeepsie, a nephew of the General, whose blue cloak together with a red petticoat of one of the women in the garrison and a white shirt was used to make the

flag which was flown at Fort Stanwix and which was indisputably the first American flag ever raised in combat with the enemy.

Jacobus Swartwout was of pure Dutch ancestry as his ancestor Roeloff Swartwout married Eva Barentse Bratt, widow of Antoine de Hooges, in Albany as early as 1656 and was Schout (sheriff) at Esopus in 1661. Roeloff's son, Bernardus, baptized at Kingston April 26, 1673, married May 19, 1700, Rachel Schepmoes, was the first to come over to Dutchess County, where he had a large family. It was one of his sons, Jacobus, who purchased land in the Rombout where he was a prominent citizen and served many years as Justice of the Peace. The subject of this sketch was the youngest son of Justice Jacobus Swartwout and Gielstjen Nieuwkerk.

Judging from the many papers and letters that have been preserved from his long and varied and useful life he must have had quite exceptional educational advantages for that period. After peace was declared he found more time to devote himself to his farm at Swartwoutville but retained his interest in military and civil affairs of his county and state. He held his commission as Brigadier-General of Militia until 1794 when upon his resignation Abraham Brinckerhoff was appointed in his stead.

In 1793 he had been offered the rank of Major General which he declined and the post was given to John Hathorn. He had served as coroner of the county for six years at different periods between 1769 and 1780. At the close of the war he was still serving as Member of Assembly, but in 1783 he was elected to the State Senate where he served for the next twelve years. In 1788 he served as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention that was held in Poughkeepsie and was a supporter of Governor Clinton on the anti-Federalist party.

In September, 1824, although in his ninetieth year, he took an active part in welcoming General LaFayette and was given the place of honor at the breakfast given the distinguished guest at Poughkeepsie.

The Poughkeepsie Telegraph & Observer of January 17, 1827, says: "Died in Fishkill yesterday morning General Jacobus Swartwout, aged 82 years. He was a patriot of the Revolution, a respected citizen and an honest man."

Table and silver and chair (at the right), once the property of General Jacobus Swartwout, whose portrait hangs above them.

Photographed through the courtesy of General Swartwout's descendant, Mrs. Joseph T. Tower of Millbrook.

His wife, who was Aaltje Brinckerhoff, had died many years before him. He left at his death three sons, Derick, Isaac and Jacobus I., and two daughters, Altie, wife of John A. Sleight, and Eady, wife of Peter Waldron. Another daughter, Sally, widow of Dr. Edward Hunting, had died a few years before her father, leaving no children. As he mentions eleven grandchildren in his will he has doubtless many living descendants who may well be proud of such an ancestor.

He was buried in the family vault on the home farm at Swartwoutville.

Isaac Huntting, the Dutchess County historian, says:

> "I visited the vault in June, 1880, finding it in an enclosure about four rods square. A tumbling stone wall enclosed the spot which is covered with a dense growth of bushes and young trees, with a few large trees scattered here and there. Crowding through the undergrowth to near the east side I came upon the vault. The covering stones were totally exposed, at the front of the vault, or what was once the vault, was a grey slab lying upon the ground upon which was engraven, 'Swartwout'."

The writer visited this old burying ground in 1912. There was then no sign of a vault, nothing but a dense undergrowth, but leaning against a tree was the grey slate slab with the word, "Swartwout" engraven upon it. A thorough search of all the burial places in southern Dutchess has failed to show that any removals have been made from this old ground, so that there is no doubt that the remaining dust of this old hero remains mingled with the soil that he loved so well and for so many years of his life.

J. WILSON POUCHER.

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Vandewater, Mrs. John H. (Rosamond Budd), Hyde Park, N. Y.

Van Etten, Mrs. Cornelius S. (Sarah Hill), Rhinebeck, N. Y.
Van Houten, Mrs. Frank H. (Lillian Merritt), Beacon, N. Y.
Van Houten, Mr. James E., Beacon, N. Y.
Van Houten, Mrs. James E. (Stella Rogers), Beacon, N. Y.
Van Houten, Mrs. John M. (Mary Brinckerhoff), Beacon, N. Y.
Van Kleeck, Mr. Baltus B., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
van Kleeck, Mr. Charles M., 10 Mitchell Place, New York City.
Van Kleeck, Mrs. Frank (Sara Sleight), Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Van Nest, Major Eugene, Red Hook, N. Y.
Van Tine, Mrs. Robert F., Beacon, N. Y.
Van Vliet, Mr. George S., Staatsburg, N. Y.
Van Wyck, Mr. Edmund, Arlington, N. Y.
Van Wyck, Mr. Joseph, Arlington, N. Y.
Van Wyck, Mrs. Joseph (Charlotte Bartlett), Arlington, N. Y
Van Wyck, Mrs. K. V. S., Murray Hill Hotel, New York City.
Vernooy, Mrs. Amy, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Verplanck, Mr. Bayard, Beacon, N. Y.
Verplanck, Mrs. Samuel (Katherine R. Wolcott), Beacon, N. Y.
Verplanck, Mr. William E., Beacon, N. Y.
Vincent, Mrs. Ralph, Millbrook, N. Y.
Vincent, Mr. Thomas O., Millbrook, N. Y.
Vincent, Mrs. Thomas O. (Lena Botsford), Millbrook, N. Y.

Waldo, Miss Helen, Hopewell Junction, N. Y.
Ware, Miss Caroline, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Waterman, Mrs. George B. (Katherine B. Hawley), Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Waterman, Mr. Ralph Ten Eyck, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Watts, Mrs. James T. (Edith L.), 4425 Ashland Avenue, Chicago.
Webb, The Hon. J. Griswold, Hyde Park, N. Y.
Weber, Dr. Jacob, Rhinebeck, N. Y.
Weber, Mrs. Jacob (Mary E.), Rhinebeck, N. Y.
Wells, Miss Caroline Thorn, Rhinebeck, N. Y.
Wettereau, Mr. William N., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wey, Mrs. Agnes T., Rhinebeck, N. Y.
Wey, Mrs. William F., (Eliza Traver), Rhinebeck, N. Y.
Weyant, Mr. Morrison V. R., Hyde Park, N. Y.
Weyant Mrs. Morrison V. R., Hyde Park, N. Y.
Wheaton, Mr. Isaac Smith, Lithgow, Amenia, N. Y.
Wheaton, Mrs. Isaac Smith (Helen M. Fairchild), Lithgow, Amenia, N. Y.
Wheeler, Mrs. Everett P. (Alice Gilman), New Hamburgh, N. Y
White, Mrs Albert W., LaGrangeville, N. Y.
White, Miss Annie D., Wappingers Falls, N. Y.
White, Mrs. Charles H., Wappingers Falls, N. Y.
White, Miss Frances E., 2 Pierpont Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

White, Mrs. Henry S. (Mary W. Gleason), Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wiberly, Mr. George, 52 Waller Avenue, White Plains, N. Y.
Wilber, Mr. David N., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wilber, Mrs. David N. (Elizabeth Howe), Poughkeepsie N. Y.
Wilbur, Mr. Daniel Webster, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wilbur, Mrs. Daniel Webster (Mary G. Conklin), Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wilbur, Mr. James B., Sharon, Conn.
Wilcox Mr. F. P., 59 West 85th Street, New York City and Stanfordville, N. Y.
Willis, Mrs. William H. (Adele S.), Hughsonville, N. Y.
Wilson, John S., M.D., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wintringham, Mr. H. C., Millerton, N. Y.
Wodell, Miss Katherine, Millbrook, N. Y.
Wodell, Miss Katherine Hall, 30 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, Conn.
Wodell, Mr. Silas, Millbrook, N. Y.
Wodell, Mrs. Silas (Ethel Paul) Millbrook, N. Y.
Workman, Mr. William J., New Hamburgh, N. Y.
Worrall, Mr. George, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Worrall, Mrs. George (Mary Lake), Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wyant, Mrs. A. L. (Katherine Field), Red Hook, N. Y.
Wyckoff, Mr. Halsey, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wyckoff, Mrs. Halsey, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Wylie, Miss Laura Johnson, Ph.D., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Zabriskie, Mrs. Andrew C. (Frances Hunter), Barrytown, N. Y.

Members Lost by Death

1927 - 1928

William Platt Adams
Miss Helen J. Andrus
Munroe Crane
John Gerow Dutcher
Miss Marion F. Dutcher
Miss Mary H. Haldane
Frank B. Lown
Mrs. Charles H. Roberts
Archibald Rogers
Mrs. Lewis Vail

Surveyed by Jno Winans
for
Landon Scattergood

Ed W C Smith

LEVI

KEEN

LAUREL STREET

TULIP STREET

LUMBER STREET

WILLOW STREET

Nassau

Elizabeth Reynolds

David Winans

Joanna Winans

Stephen Winans

Sarah Sprague

James I Winans

John Winans

George B. Everson

Joanne

Mary

Winans

Darrow

Catalina Crawford

Elizabeth Reynolds

Map of a parcel of land situate in the town of Bristol Bucks county and State of Pennsylvania surveyed by Jno Winans for Landon Scattergood

Laurel Nurseries 1844

MAP OF THE PARTITION OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES WINANS, POUGHKEEPSIE, 1804

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