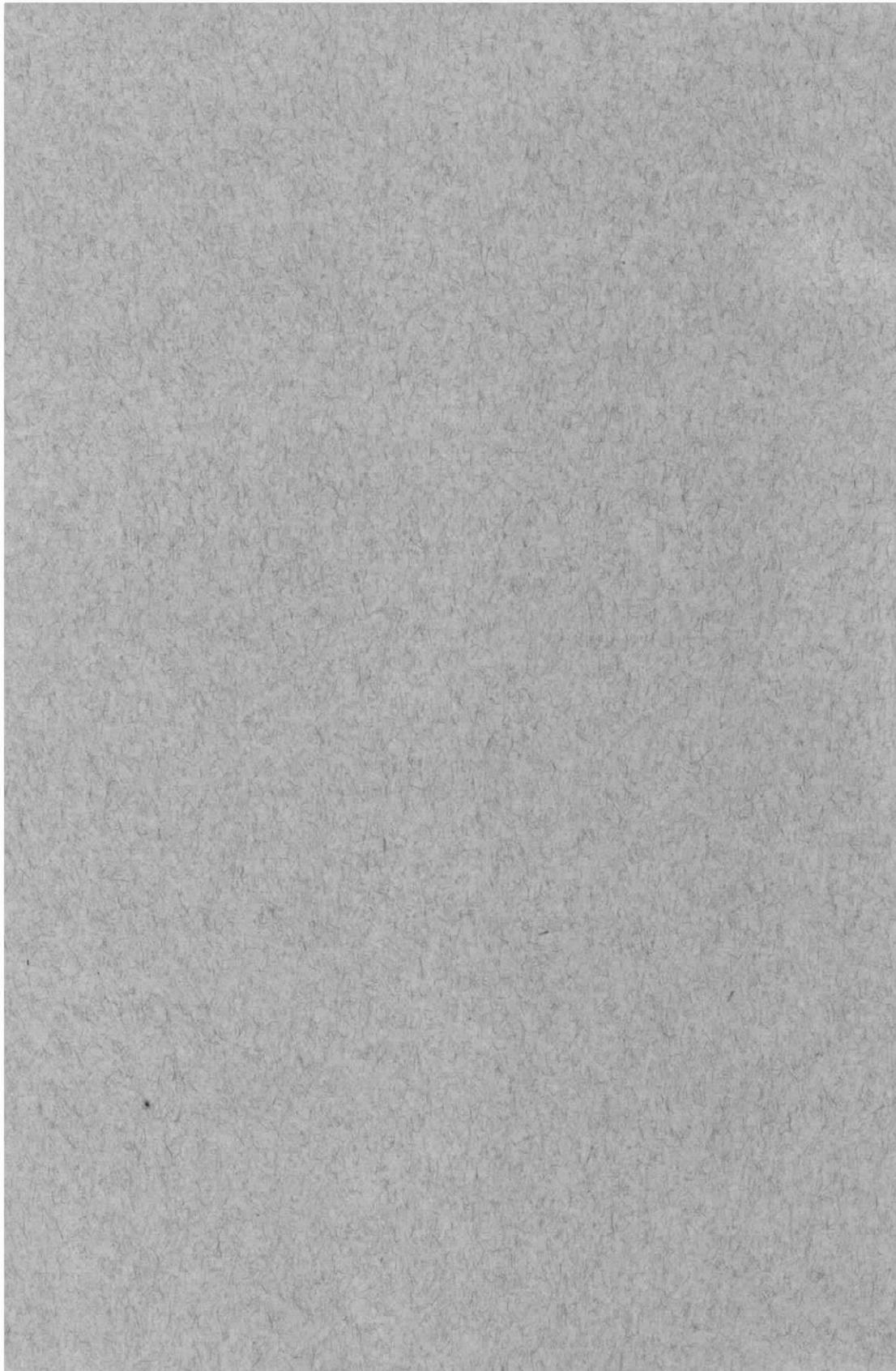


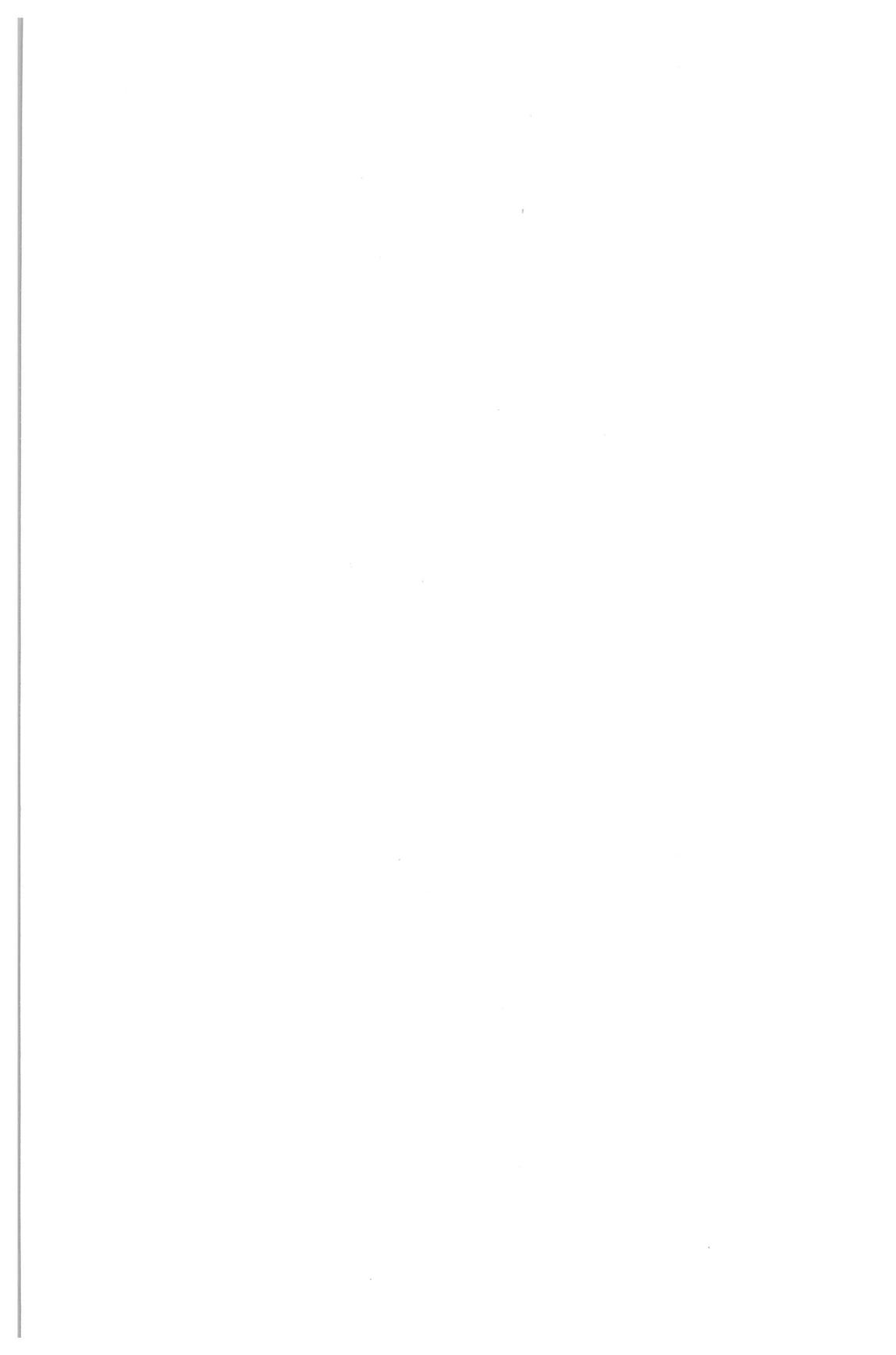
# Year Book

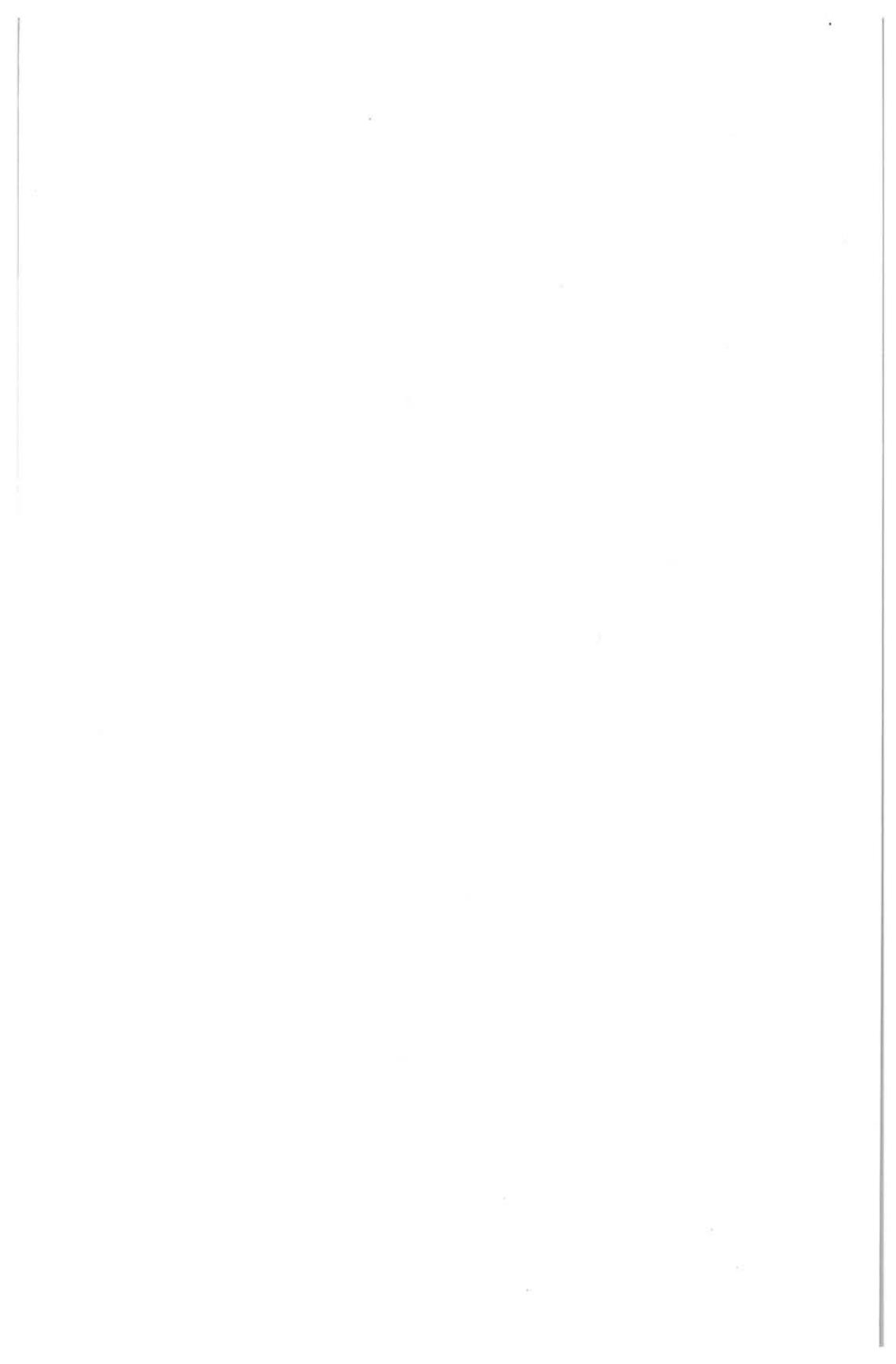
Dutchess County Historical Society

Volume 27

1942







8. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Ingles.
9. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Moore.
10. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Fowler.
11. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Rosendyke.
12. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Freshigh.
13. Baptized by the Reverend Arthur Grubair.
14. Baptized by the Reverend Fredk. Vn Horne.
15. Editor's Note. The date must be incorrect, either for Abraham or for Isaac.
16. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Clarke.
17. Baptized by the Reverend Thomas Ellison.
18. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Shieren.
19. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Ireland.
20. Baptized by the Reverend B. Bulkley.

Adeline	June 28, 1825	Aug. 28, 1825	John & Mary Leach	The Mother
Gilbert	Aug. 17, 1825	Oct. 16, 1825	Samuel & Barbary Weeks	Mrs. Phebe Weeks
Caroline Matilda	Adult	July 10, 1826	(?) & Deborah Thompson	Miss Jane Pine Miss Eliza Thompson & C. W. Teller, husband
Mary Ann	Dec. 25, 1814	Dec. 3, 1826	James & Maria Young	Mr. and Mrs. Schureman

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Married on the 9th day of March, 1824, by Revd. Wm. B. Thomas, Mr. Stephen Bedford to Miss Fanny Street, both of Fishkill.

On the 4th of April, 1824, Mr. John Burnley to Mrs. Maria Green.

On the 1st day of September, 1824, at Albany, Thomas A. Bridgen, Esq., to Miss Sarah Rivington, both of that place.

On the 16th day of August, 1825, George B. Reese of Philadelphia to Miss Margaret Mesier, daughter of Matthew Mesier, Esq., of Fishkill.

On the 29th December, 1826, Mr. Henry Van Voorhes to Miss Amanda Samson, both of Fishkill.

June 13th, 1826, I married John W. Knevil, Esq., of Newburgh, to Miss Elizabeth Verplanck, daughter of Daniel C. Verplanck, Esq., of Fishkill.

On the 15th of June, 1826, Mr. Charles W. Teller to Miss Caroline Thomson, both of Fishkill.

On the 12th of April, 1827, Mr. Benjamin Hasbrook, of New York, to Miss Jennette B. Hatch, daughter of Abijah S. Hatch of Fishkill.

On the . . . November, 1827, Mr. Peter Smith of Newburgh to Miss Sally Holstead of Fishkill.

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Married on 5th February, 1818, by Rev. Mr. Ten Broeck, in the Highlands, Joshua Nelson to Betsey Nelson.

In New York, by Rev. Mr. Ten Broeck, Rev. Robert Gibson of Charleston, S. C., to Margaret Stuyvesant, only daughter of Dirck Ten Broeck, Esq., of New York, 16th June, 1818.

(At) West Point, by Rev. Mr. Ten Broeck, Ransaln Carnes Austin, Esq., of Peekskill, to Margaretta Bradish, second daughter of James Given, Esq., "17th do."

Fishkill Landing, by Rev. Mr. Ten Broeck, Dr. John Wagner of Charleston, S. C., to Lydia Maria, daughter of the late Robert M. Brett. (Date not stated).

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#### FOOTNOTES

1. Baptized by the Reverend J. Oglesbie.
2. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Aucmudy.
3. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Rysdyke.
4. Baptized by the Reverend Dr. Provoost.
5. Baptized by the Reverend Dr. Van Horn.
6. Baptized by the Reverend Philander Chase.
7. Baptized by the Reverend Mr. Vn Dyke.

Susan	June 7, 1817	Apr. 26, 1818	Beverly & Mary Knapp	The Mother
Elizabeth	June 24, 1812	Apr. 26, 1818	Beverly & Mary Knapp	The Mother
Mary		Apr. 26, 1818	Beverly & Mary Knapp	The Mother
Elizabeth	June 18, 1818	Aug. 16, 1818	Daniel & Lydia Leach	

NAMES OF PERSONS BAPTIZED IN THE PARISH OF TRINITY CHURCH, FISHKILL, BY THE REV. WILLIAM B. THOMAS, WHO COMMENCED HIS SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25th, 1821

Name	Born	Baptized	Parents	Sponsors
Jacob Mandeville	Phillipstown	Feb. 3, 1822	Joshua & Betsey Nelson	Parents
Sally Ann		Feb. 3, 1822	Joshua & Betsey Nelson	Parents
Elizabeth	June 25, 1822	July 17, 1822	Thomas B. & Elizabeth Goelet	Parents
Mary Eliza	Adult	Dec. 25, 1822	(?) & Deborah Thompson	Miss E. Pine Miss S. Storet
Maria Kimball Phillips	Nov. 4, 1822 Phillipstown	Jan. 19, 1823	Claudius & Matilda McDonald	Parents & Mrs. & Miss Phillips
William Henry	Oct. 27, 1822	June 30, 1823	William & Mary Barnes	Parents
Eliza	Mch. 2, 1821	June 29, 1823	John & Mary Leach	Parents
Julia	Oct. 30, 1820	June 30, 1823	Daniel & Lydia Leach	The Mother
James Augustus	Apr. 13, 1823	June 30, 1823	Daniel & Lydia Leach	The Mother
Susan	Apr. 16, 1820	Sep. 5, 1824	Abijah S. & Mary Hatch	Parents
Billopp	Aug. 18, 1824	Sep. 7, 1824	Thomas B. & Elizabeth Goelet	Billopp Goelet & Parents
Phebe	May 8, 1822	Jan. 23, 1825	Samuel & Barbara Weeks	Mrs. Phebe Weeks & Mrs. (Ladon?)
Caroline	Sep. 27, 1823	Jan. 23, 1825	Samuel & Barbara Weeks	Mrs. Phebe Weeks & Mrs. (Ladon?)
Ann Elizabeth		Mch. 20, 1825	William & Mary Barnes	Parents
Sarah Janet	Aug. ..., 1817	Apr. 17, 1825	John & Esther Griffen	Mrs. Ver Planck
Sarah Jane	Feb. 24, 1825	Aug. 28, 1825	Daniel & Lydia Leach	The Mother

Alexander Rose	Nov. 13, 1814	Apr. 9, 1815	Alezander & Jennet Dallas	Parents
Hannah	Mch. 30, 1815	May 21, 1815	John & Mary Leach	Parents
Newton	Apr. 3, 1815	July 23, 1815	James C. & Mary Thorne	Parents
Mary Hannah	Nov. 30, 1814	Aug. 13, 1815	Cornelius & Charity Nelson	Father & Sarah Nelson
Sarah	Mch. 30, 1815	Aug. 27, 1815	Joseph & Maria Hoffman	Parents
Ann Jane	May 20, 1811	Aug. 27, 1815	Thomas & Elizabeth Phillips	Parents
Maria	July 12, 1813	Aug. 27, 1815	Thomas & Elizabeth Phillips	Parents
Louisa	June 9, 1815	Oct. 29, 1815	Frederick & Mary Place	Parents
John Jackson	July 3, 1815	Nov. 13, 1815	William & Mary Brown, Jun.	Parents
Adelia	Mch. 12, 1814	Dec. 3, 1815	Beardsley & Deborah Hendoyse	Mother & James Wood
Lucy Ann	Dec. 6, 1804	Dec. 3, 1815	Daniel & Lydia Leach	Mother
Caroline	Feb. 2, 1807	Dec. 3, 1815	Daniel & Lydia Leach	Mother
Lydia	July 12, 1815	Dec. 3, 1815	Daniel & Lydia Leach	Mother
James	Jan. 8, 1809	Dec. 5, 1815	Daniel & Lydia Leach	Mother
William	June 15, 1813	Dec. 5, 1815	Daniel & Lydia Leach	Parents

#### MARRIAGES BY THE REV. JOHN BROWN

Garrit Van Voorhis & Elisa Pine, February 8th, 1815.

Edward Haswell & Mary Murphy, May 13th, 1815.

John Crane & Salley Weaver, August 22d, 1815.

#### FUNERALS ATTENDED BY JOHN BROWN, LAY LEADER

William McKeebe, aged 77 years, October 17th, 1812.

Robert Mills, February 23rd, 1813.

Mrs. Mills, July 30th, 1813.

William Halstead, aged 20 years, October 17th, 1813.

Benjamin Rogers, aged 64 years, November 10th, 1813.

John Dixon, August 5th, 1814.

Christiana Terboss, aged 67 years, December 21st, 1814.

John Farnam, aged 51 years, August 25th, 1815.

#### BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH OF FISHKILL BY THE REV. P. S. TEN BROECK, RECTOR

Name	Born	Baptized	Parents	Sponsors
William Henry		Sep. 15, 1817	Henry & Anne Coyne	Parents
James Teller		Sep. 15, 1817	Benjamin & Nancy Thorne	Parents & Elizabeth Pine

Clarinda		June 12, 1806	Deborah Wood	
Sarah Ann	July 26, 1808	Nov. 27, 1808	Underhill & Sarah Budd	Parents
James Albert	Nov. 28, 1807	Dec. 17, 1808	Daniel & Maria Charman	Parents
Susannah Mills		Dec. 18, 1808	Gilbert & ... Weeks	Parents
Van Bun(sch) outon		Dec. 18, 1808	Eliza & Abigail Budd	Parents
William Augustus	Sep. 18, 1808	April 1, 1809	Nathaniel & Elizabeth Sackett	Parents

BY THE REVD. JOHN REED, RECTOR OF CHRIST'S CHURCH, POUGHKEEPSIE

Name	When Born	When Baptized	Parents	Sponsors
Catherine Elizabeth	Mch. 14,	April 21, 1811	Obediah Thorn	Parents
John G. Street	Feb. 12,	April 21, 1811	Greenleaf Street	Parents
Hannah		April 21, 1811	Thomas Zicar	Parents
Abram Suydam	Dec. 5, 1810	March 23, by Rev. Mr. Powel	Mathew & Joanna Mesier	Parents
Henry	Feb. 11, 1812	by Rev. Mr. Reed	Math. & Joanna Mesier	Parents

NAMES OF PERSONS BAPTIZED IN THE PARISH OF TRINITY CHURCH, FISHKILL, BY JOHN BROWN, RECTOR

Name	When Born	When Baptized	Parents	Sponsors
Mary	Sep. 16, 1813	Sep. 4, 1814	Greenliel & Susan Street	Parents
Benjamin James Thompson	May 20, 1799	Sep. 4, 1814	Joseph & Mary Green	Parents
	April 1, 1803	Sep. 4, 1814	Joseph & Mary Green	Parents
Almira	April 6, 1806	Sep. 4, 1814	Joseph & Mary Green	Parents
Edward	Aug. 12, 1810	Sep. 4, 1814	Joseph & Mary Green	Parents
Addison	Sep. 8, 1813	Sep. 4, 1814	James C. & Mary Thorne	Parents
Robert	Sep. 5, 1813	Sep. 4, 1814	Silvanus & Nelly Pine	Parents
Elizabeth	July 3, 1774	Sep. 25, 1814	Terboos	Adult
Hiram	Jan. 18, 1814	Oct. 26, 1814	Obadiah & Elizabeth Thorne	Parents
James	June 8, 1792	Oct. 30, 1814	Pudney	Adult
Mary	Sep. 8, 1814	Nov. 13, 1814	James & Jane Pudney	Parents
John Peter	Jan. 1, 1808	Nov. 13, 1814	John & Mary Leach	Parents

Gilbert	Feb. 27, 1804	May 12, 1804	Corn. & Prudence Bogardus	The Mother
Jane	Feb. 17, 1804	Apr. 1, 1804	Abrm & Agnis Wetmore	Parents
Ann Augusta	Mch. 16, 1799	Dec. 9, 1804	Thos. C. & Frances Long	The Father & Grandmother, Mrs. Ann Long
Maria Margarett	May 16, 1802	Dec. 9, 1804	Thos. C. & Frances Long	The Father & Grandmother, Mrs. Ann Long

BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH OF FISHKILL BY THE  
REV. BARZILLAI BULKELEY

Name	When Born	When Baptized	Parents	Sponsors
Gilbert		April 18, 1807	Weeks	Adult
Elizabeth		April 18, 1807	Gilbert Weeks	Parents
Elizabeth		April 20, 1807	Servant of Mathew & Joanna Mesier	
Stephen Richard		June 21, 1807	James & Jane Wood	Parents
Harriet		June 21, 1807	Dr. John Pinckney	Parents
Charles Edward		June 21, 1807	Dr. John Pinckney	Parents
Julia		June 21, 1807	Dr. John Pinckney	Parents
Isaac Seabring		Aug. 2, 1807	Elijah Budd	Parents
Phebe		Aug. 4, 1807		Mrs. Verplanck
James		Aug. 4, 1807		The Mother
Susannah		Aug. 4, 1807		The Mother
Elizabeth		Aug. 4, 1807		The Mother
Oliver Morris		Sep. 13, 1807	Caleb & Elizabeth Cromwill	Parents
Rachel Frear		Sep. 13, 1807	Caleb & Elizabeth Cromwill	Parents
Thomas		Oct. 25, 1807	Mrs. Ladue	The Mother
Mary Francis		Oct. 25, 1807	Mrs. Bogardus	The Mother
Jane		Jan. 1, 1808	Greenleaf & Susanna Street	Parents
William Bogardus	Sep. 17, 1807	Feb. 7, 1808	Obadiah & Elizabeth Thorn	Parents
Daniel Cahil	Oct. 21, 1807	Feb. 7, 1808	James & Mary Thorn	Parents
Sylvanus		April 10, 1808	Pine	Adult
Martha		April 19, 1808	Sylvanus Pine	Parents
Maria Lydig	Jan. 10, 1808	April 18, 1808	Mathew & Joanna Mesier	
Anne Loisa	Dec. 4, 1807	June 11, 1808	Daniel C. & Ane Verplanck	

Benjamin	Apr. 27, 1801	July 19, 1801	Obadiah & Elizabeth Thorn	Parents
Peter Johnson		July 19, 1801	Mathew & Joanna Mesier	Parents
George	June 6, 1798	Oct. 8, 1801	Joseph & Elizabeth VnOs-trand	Parents
Phoebe Ann	Nov. 29, 1800	Oct. 8, 1801	Catherine Mead	Catherine Pullock
Mary	Apr. 15, 1786	Oct. 8, 1801	Catherine Mead	Catherine Pullock
William	Dec. 30, 1788	Oct. 8, 1801	Catherine Mead	Catherine Pullock
Mirah	Dec. 13, 1790	Oct. 8, 1801	Catherine Mead	Catherine Pullock
Sarah	June 16, 1796	Oct. 8, 1801	Catherine Mead	Catherine Pullock
Katherine Ann	May 12, 1801	May 6, 1802	Saml & Mary Cooper	Parents
Zophar		May 9, 1802	Nelson	Adult
Susannah		Sep. 12, 1802	Wife of Joshua Lancaster	Adult
Ruth		Sep. 18, 1802	Wife of David Lancaster	Adult
Cata		Sep. 18, 1802	David & Ruth Lancaster	Grandmother & Father
Maria		Sep. 18, 1802	David & Ruth Lancaster	Grandmother & Father
John		Sep. 18, 1802	Joshua & Susannah Lancaster	Parents
Ruth		Sep. 18, 1802	Tunis & Elizabeth Cronk	Parents
George		Sep. 18, 1802	Tunis & Elizabeth Cronk	Parents
Mary Hannah	Oct. 12, 1801	Sep. 18, 1802	Henry & Jane Garrison	Parents
Jacob	Sep. 30, 1796	Sep. 18, 1802	Sylvenus & Martha Hait	Parents
Donald Sylvenus	June 7, 1802	Sep. 18, 1802	Donald and Martha McQueen	Sylvenus Hait
Joanna Elizabeth	Dec. 27, 1802	Feb. 27, 1803	Mathew & Joanna Mesier	Parents
George	Feb. 8, 1803	Apr. 10, 1803	Greenleaf & Street	Parents
Nicholas		May 9, 1802	Adult	Adult
Deborah	July 27, 1801	1803	Gilbert & Phoebe Weeks	The Mother
Willm Walton	Feb. 19, 1803	May 1, 1803	Danl C. & Ann VerPlank	James D. Walton Gulian C. VerPlank, Mary Walton
Zophar	March 1, 1802	Apr. 15, 1802	Danl & Priscilla Jones	Parents

Cornelia	May 22 1798	Aug. 17, 1800	Cornelius & Jane Hait	Mother and Thomas Carman
Martha	Aug. 1, 1757	Aug. 17, 1800	Pine	adult
Abigail	Feb. 15, 1759	Aug. 17, 1800	Pine	adult
Elizabeth	Jan. 3, 1771	Aug. 17, 1800	Pine	adult
Nancy	March 3, 1776	Aug. 17, 1800	Pine	adult
Abraham	Aug. 10, 1769	Aug. 17, 1800	Weeks	adult
Elizabeth	Sep. 2, 1778	Aug. 17, 1800	Sackett	adult
Jane	Mch. 28, 1797	Aug. 17, 1800	Sylvanus & Nellie Pine	The mother
Sylvenus Pine	July 20, 1800	Aug. 17, 1800	Abraham & Abigail Weeks	Parents
Abraham	Sep. 27, 1794	Aug. 17, 1800	Cor. & Prudence Bogardus	The mother
Jane	Sep. 17, 1796	Aug. 17, 1800	Cor. & Prudence Bogardus	The Mother
Salley	Aug. 2, 1800	Sep. 28, 1800	Greenleaf & Susan Street	Parents
Levi		Sep. 28, 1800	Mead	adult
Susan		Sep. 28, 1800	Mead	adult
Eliza	Aug. 9, 1799	Sep. 28, 1800	Levi & Susan Mead	Parents
Elizabeth		Jan. 1, 1801	Danl C. & Anne Verplank	Parents & Mrs. Elizabeth De Wint
Fanny		Feb. 21, 1801	Joseph & Rachel Nelson	The Mother
Polly		Feb. 21, 1801	Danl & Pricilla Jones	Dorcas Jones & parents
Dorcas		Feb. 21, 1801	Danl & Pricilla Jones	Dorcas Jones & parents
Jane		Feb. 21, 1801	Danl & Pricilla Jones	Dorcas Jones & parents
Catherine		Feb. 22, 1801	James & Hannah News	The father
Jane Ann	Jan. 30, 1801	June 6, 1801	Thos. & Hannah Southard	Parents
John Bar		June 6, 1801	Stephen & Elizabeth Monfort	Parents
James Northrop		June 6, 1801	Stephen & Elizabeth Monfort	Parents
Fanny		June 6, 1801	Southard	adult
Mary Wilson		July 18, 1801	Prudence Bogardus	The mother
Cate		July 18, 1801	Servant of Polly Bogardus	The mistress
Mary		July 18, 1801	Servant of Polly Bogardus	The mistress
Ann		July 19, 1801	Sylvenus & Nelle Pine	Martha, Elizabeth & Nancy Pine

Name	When Baptized
Mary Peters, adult	1805 <sup>6</sup>
Miriam Guerlane, adult	1805 <sup>6</sup>
Richard Fowler, adult	1805 <sup>6</sup>
Solomon Fowler, adult	1805 <sup>6</sup>

Name	When Born	When Baptized
Waller Henry Fowler	Apr. 16, 1799	1805 <sup>6</sup>
Maria Antoinette Fowler	Jan. 1, 1801	1805 <sup>6</sup>
Miriam Fowler	Jan. 8, 1803	1805 <sup>6</sup>
Salley Fowler	Jan. 27, 1804	1805 <sup>6</sup>

Name	When Born	When Baptized
Gilbert, child of Cornelius & Prudence Bogardus	Feb. 27 1804	May 12, 1804 <sup>6</sup>
Nathaniel Sackett	Oct. 21, 1770	Apr. 6 1805 <sup>6</sup>
Hannah Arkills	Oct. 2, 1773	Apr. 6, 1805 <sup>6</sup>
John Williams, child of Joshua and Hannah Arkills	Nov. 7, 1804	Apr. 6, 1805 <sup>6</sup>
Almira, child of Nathl & Elizb Sackett	Apr. 6, 1805	Apr. 6, 1805 <sup>6</sup>

Name	When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
James Delancy, child of Danl C. & Ann Ver Plank	Feb. 2, 1805	Apr. 14, 1805 <sup>6</sup>	Parents & Wm. Wal(t)on
Jamime Cholotte, adult		By Rev. P. Chase	
Ann Bailey, adult			Mrs. Ver Plank
Elizabeth, child of Danl & Ann Bailey			
Abraham, child of John J. & Gimime Chollot	May 9,		Mrs. Ver Plank and father
Jane, child of Phoebe Weeks	March 27,	June 3,	The Mother
Margaret, child of Mathw & Joanna Mesier	Apr. 30, 1805	June 16, 1805	Parents

NAMES OF PERSONS BAPTIZED  
IN THE PARISH OF FISHKILL BY ME  
PHILANDER CHASE

Name	When Born	When Baptized	Parents	Sponsors
Jacob	Oct. 27, 1797	July 27, 1800	Gilbert & Phoebe Weeks	Parents
Samuel	Apr. 21, 1799	July 27, 1800	do. - do.	do.
Catherine		Aug. 16, 1800	Widow of Benj. Wolftear	
Eliza Lockwood adult		Aug. 16, 1800		
Diana		Aug. 16, 1800	John & Phoebe Carman	Mary Wolflear & John Carman
Thomas		Aug. 16, 1800	John & Phoebe Carman	Mary Wolflear & John Carman

Their Children		Now Living		Sponsors
Name	When Born	When Baptized		
Elizabeth	March 27, 1788	In Infancy <sup>13</sup>	Parents	
Ann	Sep. 20, 1790	In Infancy <sup>13</sup>	Parents	
James	Jan. 8, 1793	In Infancy <sup>14</sup>	Parents	
Margaret	Jan. 27, 1796	In Infancy <sup>14</sup>	Parents	
William	Oct. 17, 1799	In Infancy <sup>14</sup>	Parents	
Joanna	Dec. 1, 1804	In Infancy <sup>6</sup>	The Mother	

James Wood, born Jan. 29, 1763 Married  
 Jane, born July 16, 1762

Their Children		Now Living		Sponsors
Name	When Born	When Baptized		
Nancy	Feb. 16, 1787	In Infancy <sup>7</sup>	Parents	
Deborah	Jan. 24, 1789	Feb. 17, 1789 <sup>7</sup>	Parents	
Jane	Nov. 4, 1791	Dec. 25, 1791 <sup>7</sup>	Parents	
John	March 8, 1793	Oct. 17, 1800 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Rachel	Aug. 30, 1795	Oct. 17, 1800 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Abraham	Dec. 14, 1799 <sup>15</sup>	Oct. 17, 1800 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Isaac	Sep. 25, 1799 <sup>15</sup>	Oct. 17, 1800 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Mary	May 5, 1802	In Infancy <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
James Edwin	May 3, 1804	In Infancy <sup>6</sup>	Parents	

Samuel Cooper, born June 13, 1757 Married  
 Mary Norton, born Sep. 21, 1761 June 6, 1782

Their Children		Now Living		Sponsors
Name	When Born	When Baptized		
Jane	May 15, 1783	In Infancy <sup>16</sup>	Parents	
Elizabeth	Dec. 7, 1785	In Infancy <sup>17</sup>	Parents	
Maria	Aug. 5, 1787	In Infancy <sup>17</sup>	Parents	
Sophia	Oct. 10, 1789	In Infancy <sup>17</sup>	Parents	
Sarah	May 13, 1792	In Infancy <sup>18</sup>	Parents	
George	Apr. 12, 1795	In Infancy <sup>18</sup>	Parents	
Samuel	June 12, 1798	In Infancy <sup>7</sup>	Parents	
Catherine Ann May	May 12, 1801	May 6, 1802 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	

Warren Delancey, born Married  
 Sarah R., born

Their Children		Now Living		Sponsors
Name	When Born	When Baptized		
John	July 3, 1796	..... <sup>19</sup>	.....	
Warren	Apr. 1, 1798	..... <sup>6</sup>	.....	
Henry	Aug. 13, 1799	Oct. 27, 1803 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Thomas	Aug. 18, 1802	Oct. 27, 1803 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	

Abraham Wetmore, born Married  
 Agnes Purdy, born Apr. 16, 1780 May 16, 1798

Their Children		Now Living		Sponsors
Name	When Born	When Baptized		
Salley	Dec. 5, 1799	June, 1802 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
William	Jan. 30, 1801	June, 1802 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Mary Rapalje	July 19, 1802	Sep., 1802 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Jane	Feb. 17, 1804	Apr. 1, 1804 <sup>6</sup>	Parents	
Anne Eliza	Oct. 13, 1805	June 29, 1806 <sup>20</sup>	Parents	
James	Nov. 11, 1806	Jan. 25, 1807 <sup>20</sup>	Parents	
Susannah	.....	Sep. 4, 1808 <sup>20</sup>	Parents	

John	June	6, 1786	In infancy	Parents
Jane	Augt	25, 1791	In infancy <sup>7</sup>	Parents
Obadiah Thorne, born Jan., 1773			Married	
Elizabeth Kilbourn, born July 30, 1776			May 15, 1794	
Their Children		Now Living		
Name		When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Henry	Oct.	28, 1796		
Mary	Feb.	3, 1799		
Benjamin	April	27, 1801	July 19, 1801 <sup>6</sup>	Parents
Greenleaf Street, born March 25, 1771			Married	
Susanna Whiting, born March 17, 1774			March 27, 1793	
Their Children		Now Living		
Name		When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Fanny	June	27, 1798		
Salley	Augt	2, 1800		
Zophar Jones, born June 7, 1742			Married	
Dorcas Northrop, born Sep. 2, 1745			1764	
Their Children		Now Living		
Name		When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Unice	Nov.	22, 1767	In Infancy <sup>8</sup>	Parents
Daniel	July	15, 1771	In Infancy <sup>8</sup>	Parents
John Bar	Sep.	28, 1773	In Infancy <sup>8</sup>	Parents
Elizabeth	Apr.	3, 1776	In Infancy <sup>8</sup>	Parents
Hannah	Nov.	22, 1778	In Infancy <sup>9</sup>	Parents
James	March	30, 1781	In Infancy <sup>9</sup>	Parents
Martha	March	1, 1787	In Infancy <sup>9</sup>	Parents
Daniel Jones, born July 16, 1771			Married	
Priscilla Merrit, born Aug. 8, 1774			Feb. 24, 1793	
Their Children		Now Living		
Name		When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Sarah	Nov.	22, 1793	In Infancy <sup>10</sup>	Parents
Dorcas	June	21, 1797	Feb. 21, 1801 <sup>6</sup>	Parents with grand- Mother, Dorcas Jones
Jane	Aug.	28, 1799	Feb. 21, 1801 <sup>6</sup>	Parents
Stephen G. Monfoort, born Nov. 14, 1770			Married	
Elizabeth Jones, born Apr. 3, 1776				
Their Children		Now Living		
Name		When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
John Bar	July	19, 1797	June 6, 1801 <sup>6</sup>	Parents
James Northrop	Sep.	1, 1799	June 6, 1801 <sup>6</sup>	Parents
Mrs. Elizabeth Bogardus, born (1754?)				
Her Children now in the parish of Fishkill				
Their Children		Now Living		
Name		When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Maria		1770	1770 <sup>11</sup>	Parents
William		1779	1779 <sup>12</sup>	Parents
William Seeds, born Sep. 20, 1764			Married	
Margaret Thomsen, born March 30, 1768			June 17, 1786	

Presumably, Peter Mesier, who lived in the house still standing in the center of the village of Wappingers Falls and whose family is the first mentioned on the parochial list prepared by the Reverend Philander Chase, secured from his kinsman in New York City a book in which Mr. Chase might enter the parish records.

After 1809, when Trinity and Christ Church ceased to be a joint charge, Trinity had a succession of short rectorships with vacancies of some length between incumbencies. Appended hereto are the entries in the register, beginning with Mr. Chase's list of families and continuing with all entries to 1827. Inasmuch as the state of New York did not require the registration of vital statistics until 1880, all reliable records of birth, marriage and death prior to that date are valuable and the Dutchess County Historical Society is indebted to Mr. Reese and Mrs. Roake for their contribution to this particular field of information.

THE EDITOR.

AN  
ACCOUNT OF HEADS OF FAMILIES NOW LIVING IN  
& BELONGING UNTO YE PAIRSH OF TRINITY  
CHURCH FISHKILL

Peter Mesier, born Oct. 30, 1733		Married	
Catherine Sleight born Oct. 25, 1743		Feb. 2d, 1764	
Their Children		Now Living	
Name	When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Peter	May 31st, 1767	In infancy <sup>1</sup>	Parents
Mathew	April 29, 1769	In infancy <sup>2</sup>	Parents
Catherine	Augst 24, 1772	In infancy <sup>2</sup>	Parents
Maria	Nov. 5th, 1776	In infancy <sup>1</sup>	Parents
Jane	Sep. 30, 1778	In infancy <sup>3</sup>	Parents
Abraham	July 23d, 1780	In infancy <sup>3</sup>	Parents
Phebe	June 6th, 1782	In infancy <sup>3</sup>	Parents
Eliza	Sep. 7th, 1784	In infancy <sup>4</sup>	Parents
Daniel C. Verplank, born March 19th, 1762		Married	
Ann Walton, born			
Their Children		Now Living	
Name	When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
Mary		In infancy	
Louisa		In infancy	
Samuel	Oct. 15, 1790	Nov. 1790 <sup>5</sup>	Danl C. & Anna Verplank
Elizabeth		Jan. 1st, 1801 <sup>6</sup>	Elizabeth Dervint
James Cooper, born Nov. 15, 1753		Married	
Jane Campbell, born March 30, 1758		May 14, 1777	
Their Children		Now Living	
Name	When Born	When Baptized	Sponsors
James	July 19, 1782	In infancy	Parents

with copies of portions of the register of Trinity, Fishkill. Mr. W. Willis Reese, president of the Dutchess County Historical Society, had had made a copy of entries beginning with Mr. Chase's list of 1802 and continuing with entries to the middle of the nineteenth century. Mrs. Harry Roake of Poughkeepsie copied the list of families entered by the Reverend Mr. Chase (beginning with the family of Peter Mesier and ending with the family of Abraham Wetmore). Part of the material provided by Mr. Reese is presented in this issue of the *Year Book*, including the items copied by Mrs. Roake. Between the two manuscripts of Mr. Reese and Mrs. Roake there are the following minor discrepancies.

Mathew Mesier

Born, as per Mr. Reese's manuscript, April 29, 1769

Born, as per Mrs. Roake's manuscript, April 19, 1769

Samuel Verplanck

Born as per Mr. Reese's manuscript, October 15, 1790

Born, as per Mrs. Roake's manuscript, October 15, 1798

Henry Thorn

Born, as per Mr. Reese's manuscript, October 28, 1796

Born, as per Mrs. Roake's manuscript, October 20, 1796

Zophar Jones

Born, as per Mr. Reese's manuscript, June 7, 1742

Born, as per Mrs. Roake's manuscript, June 27, 1742

Daniel Jones

Born, as per Mr. Reese's manuscript, July 16, 1771

Born, as per Mrs. Roake's manuscript, July 15, 1771

Monfoort

Mention in Mr. Reese's manuscript of Stephen G. Monfoort

Mention in Mrs. Roake's manuscript of Stephen C. Monfoort

William Seeds

Born, as per Mr. Reese's manuscript, October 17, 1799

Born, as per Mrs. Roake's manuscript, October 11, 1799

Because the page of the *Year Book* is somewhat narrow it was necessary to edit the two manuscripts by omitting the names of clergymen who officiated at baptisms from the record of the baptism itself and appending the said names in footnotes at the close of the article.

The register of Trinity Church is a large volume, bearing on the inner side of the front cover a printed label, worded as follows:

Peter A. Mesier  
No. 107, Pearl street  
New York

Who has for sale, an assortment  
of Books and Stationary.

services. There is no record of the celebration of the communion by him and nothing was accomplished by the laity to assure financial support for a parish, to secure the erection of a church building, no vestry was chosen and regular services were not held. Mr. Seabury died in 1764.

Following Mr. Seabury in Dutchess came the Reverend John Beardsley from Norwich and Groton, Connecticut, who in April 1766 succeeded in raising among the residents of Dutchess enough money to guarantee the purchase of a glebe and on October 26, 1766, due to his efforts, a meeting was held by men from Rombout, Poughkeepsie, Beekman and Charlotte Precincts at which a bond was executed to the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, an agreement made with Mr. Beardsley about payments to be made to him, a committee appointed to select a site for a glebe, and a clerk elected to record all business transacted.

This meeting gave the adherents of the Church of England in Dutchess a definite status with the S. P. G. and from it "organized" existence of the Church of England began in Dutchess. The adherents of the church in Charlotte and Beekman Precincts soon lapsed in their activities but from 1766 to 1809 Trinity, Fishkill and Christ Church, Poughkeepsie, functioned under a succession of joint rectorships. The Reverend John Beardsley served from 1766 to 1776. From 1776 to 1787 the rectorship was vacant, due to the War of the Revolution. Then from 1787 to 1791 the Reverend Henry Van Dyck was rector; from 1792 to 1795 the Reverend George Heartwell Spierin; from 1795 to 1798 the Reverend John Johnson Sayrs; from 1799 to 1805 the Reverend Philander Chase; from 1806 to 1809 the Reverend Barzillai Bulkley. After 1809 Trinity and Christ Church each called its own rector.

In 1767 the congregation of Trinity bought land on which to erect a church that is still standing and in 1785 Trinity was incorporated under the laws of the newly organized state of New York.

When the Reverend Philander Chase assumed the joint charge of the churches at Fishkill and Poughkeepsie he could find no registry of the baptisms, marriages and burials performed by his predecessors. He therefore began in each parish a list of the families then making up the congregations. The list he made at Poughkeepsie was begun in September 1801 and that for Trinity Church, Fishkill, in January, 1802. Both churches are now in possession of these original lists.

Within recent times the editor of this *Year Book* was presented

THE PARISH REGISTER  
TRINITY CHURCH, FISHKILL, NEW YORK

The earliest records of Trinity Church, Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York, are lost and the entries of baptisms, marriages and deaths that are now available were begun by the Reverend Philander Chase, who from November 27, 1799, to December . . ., 1805, held the joint rectorship of Trinity, Fishkill, and of Christ Church, Poughkeepsie.

Trinity and Christ Church were twin plantings. In 1894 the Reverend Horatio Oliver Ladd, M. A., a much loved rector of Trinity, published a pamphlet entitled: *The Founding of the Episcopal Church in Dutchess County, New York*, in which it was set forth that Trinity was "organized" in 1756. However, a few years later (in 1901 or 1902) a large collection of original eighteenth century documents, relating to Trinity and to Christ Church, were discovered in the cellar of Christ Church, which documents formed the basis for the volume, entitled: *The Records of Christ Church*, that was prepared by Helen Wilkinson Reynolds and published in 1911. In preparing *The Records of Christ Church* Miss Reynolds obtained from the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (the great missionary society of the Church of England, with headquarters in London, and familiarly known as the S. P. G.) copies of the correspondence in the files of the society which had to do with the founding of a mission in Dutchess County, New York. These two sources of information (the documents found at Poughkeepsie and the files of the S. P. G. in London) had not been available to the Reverend Mr. Ladd when he published his pamphlet and it is therefore necessary to modify his statement that Trinity Church was "organized" in 1756.

Organization of a parish implies the legal status of a group of people, the assumption by those people of certain definite engagements, and action of that sort did not take place in Dutchess until 1766.

The sources of information above referred to show that in 1756 the Reverend Samuel Seabury, rector of St. George's Church, Hempstead, Long Island, was commissioned by the S. P. G. as the society's missionary to Dutchess County, New York, with instructions to minister to the people, friendly to the Church of England, who lived in several separate localities. Mr. Seabury made six known visits to Dutchess, during which he baptized nine adults and ninety-nine children and held preaching

So far we have confined ourselves to the painters of portraits. But there were landscapes, and these are the outgrowth of such topographical works as had already been produced in England. Such rude but honest engravings reproduced important places and events. Their coloring was vivid and the drawing was naive. Withal they possessed a childlike and direct individuality. They have an innocent decorative quality such as one discovers in the modern "primitive" Henri Rousseau. We no longer have the first American landscapes done in oil medium, but we know that they existed as early as the time of Smybert and Benjamin West. What they may have looked like may be surmized from a study of contemporary religious, historical painting and portraits in which landscapes were introduced as backgrounds. "The Return of the Prodigal Son" by West might serve as an illustration. Here the coloring is a dull reddish-brown showing the influence of Claude Lorrain. The palm tree and pylon show how much West was affected by the European style.

This may not be called real American landscape painting. The latter deals only with the American scene. Because of the fact that the men who painted this subject for the most part worked in the Hudson Valley, the Catskills and the Adirondacks, these artists have been grouped together as the Hudson River School. Not so long ago this name was used rather derisively, chiefly because of the popularity of the later French Impressionists who dominated landscape painting for a while. But the Hudson River School eventually produced such valiant painters as Innes and Martin. To its utter credit it remained sincere and simple. And to such a simple style belongs the painting by Henry Livingston, Jr., a reproduction of which is presented in this Year Book.

OLIVER S. TONKS.



importance to the development of an American style. On the contrary it may be said with more or less confidence that his migration first to Italy and then to England did more toward putting off the development of an American style by leading young painters to believe that they should take on the formal classic style of Italy and its English derivatives.

A further illustration of this dependency upon Europe is to be found in the person of John Singleton Copley, a contemporary of West. Copley was born in Boston in 1737 where he received his first training from his step-father, Peter Pelham, a mezzotint engraver. While in many respects Copley's life parallels West's, he seems to have been more exposed to English and North European painting because of the presence in Boston of pictures by distinguished British painters and possibly such Flemings as Van Dyck. In any case his style was an American one based on such models. Before he moved to England in 1774 he had already sent paintings to London for exhibition in the Royal Academy. These works of his American years retain something of a provincial precision and dryness. It was only after his residence had been established in England that his work takes on the sophisticated softness of the English painters.

Thus the European tradition was established. In fact this was to be expected inasmuch as up to the time of the Revolution the American colonists looked upon themselves as Englishmen. To go to England to complete one's artistic education was the normal thing to do. It was this point of view which led Gilbert Stuart and John Trumbull, to mention no others, to go to Britain to study. They however came back to America and thus in a measure reasserted the need of maintaining a relationship with the mother country. Of course, in the case of these two men much of their work was done after the separation of the colonies from Great Britain, and as a result the "American theme" so to speak, began to assert itself. This is particularly true of Trumbull, who basing his art upon the formal, classic style of West, undertook to glorify the history of his own country, America. Stuart, on the other hand, who was born in 1755 and lived until 1828, was strong enough to resist the formal effects of West while taking on the technical mastery of the manipulation of pigment which had long since been the common property of the artists of Europe. America needed this technique, and Stuart brought it back. We find it in his well-known Atheneum portraits of George and Martha Washington.

so painted never wore such smart clothes as those in which they appeared in the finished portrait. In many cases it is highly probable that Miss Nancy Periwinkle or Aunt Tabitha chose this or that model, so to speak, because it seemed more or less swanky.

Such a method of creation at once precluded the feeling of conviction which would have been present had the the artist cared to, or had been able to, "take" the likeness as a totality of head, figure, hands and costume. Beyond question the wanderings of these limners explain the many naive and rigid portraits of our ancestors that so many of us now possess. However, in spite of their provincial character these portraits frequently reveal a hard sincerity that fits well into the time when they were created.

Work of this nature may properly be described as provincial in the strict sense of the work. It was not long before there appeared in the chief cities men of great ability who were within reach of instruction which could lead them to real achievement. To prove this one need hardly go further than to cite the case of Benjamin West. This painter was born in 1738 at Springfield not far from Philadelphia. His father, a Quaker, was a small merchant. At an early age young West displayed a distinct interest in drawing and painting, and, lacking the opportunities that might have been afforded him had he lived in Philadelphia, he made shift for himself by borrowing simple earth colors from the Indians who used to come into his home town, and by making brushes from hairs that he abstracted from the tail of the family cat. Such persistence had its reward, for his efforts soon attracted the attention of a friend of his father who took him to Philadelphia to receive proper instruction. By the time he was eighteen years old he had established himself in that city as a portrait painter at a guinea a head. Here he made such a favorable impression that in 1760 a group of Philadelphians collected a fund which made it possible for him to spend a year in Italy. After that West went to England where he remained the rest of his life—in the course of time rising in popularity to such a height that eventually he became President of the Royal Academy. Although never again a resident of America he exercised for a long time a considerable influence on American painting because his studio became the rendezvous of ambitious young artists who crossed the Atlantic to profit, as they thought they would, by having access to European instruction.

It can hardly be said however that West contributed anything of

seventeenth century however they were very scarce. By the eighteenth century the number increased.

With the growth of material comfort in this century it was only natural that adventurous spirits in Great Britain should look toward the colonies with the feeling that there they might find a field not already crowded by competition. As early as 1715 a Scotchman named John Watson came to America and settled in Perth Amboy. His style, developed in Great Britain, and under the influence of the grandiose manner of the Continent in the late 17th century, was pompous and decidedly formal. Considerably different was the work of John Smybert who in 1728 came to this country with Bishop Berkeley. His picture of the Berkeley family (Yale) shows a more sincerely direct style that has much in common with the manner of the later English painter, Hogarth. The effect is hard, but the drawing is good. This uncompromising, faithful work has given us also the convincing portraits of Jonathan Edwards and John Endicott.

Men like these not only established a fund of material in their own work but as well brought to this country the works of other men, thus offering the native-born artists something on which to build their own styles. Doubtless it was material of this character that helped to form the freshly naive style of Robert Feke; to produce his somewhat rigid but forthright likeness. Feke was born in New England, but he worked not only in the north but also as far south as the Carolinas.

It is not my purpose to describe the personal characteristics of the considerable number of very respectable painters who appeared in the latter half of the 18th century. I would like, however, to point out that there appeared also a great number of more or less workman-painters who are known as limners. These artists travelled through the outlying country districts, where they put up at this or that homestead, and, if they could persuade the inhabitants, painted their portraits. Many of these limners had so systematized their production that during the long winter months at home they had prepared many canvasses by painting figures of young and old people of both sexes complete in all respects except for the heads. These they left unpainted so that they might be filled in to conform to the person represented, when, during the spring, summer and fall the artists put up at this or that home in the course of their wanderings. As might be suspected the portraits they turned out in this fashion were not masterpieces. Undoubtedly many of the people

## EARLY AMERICAN PAINTING\*

The story of American painting represents in an interesting way the cultural development of the country. In the first place it must be evident that in its origins it was not an indigenous art. It did not have its roots in the native soil. It bore no relationship to the work of the primitive savage whom the newcomers found here upon their arrival. In fact the art of the North American Indian was distinctly inferior to that of the native of Central America—and even that the Spaniards forthwith destroyed or neglected. To the north the English, with whom we are mostly concerned, looked down upon the Indians as savages and as such incapable of producing commendable art. In the second place the settlers in this new land at first found themselves so completely occupied with the preservation of their lives that, even had they an interest in art, they would have had no time to develop it. Furthermore, most of the English settlers came from the middle class which generally speaking has little interest in aesthetics or the wherewithal to sustain that interest should it appear. Even in the southern part of the country, where at times the colonists included more cultured individuals, people found little time for developing an interest in art.

This emerged only when the newcomers began to feel more secure, when communities developed into towns or cities and commerce had brought in a considerable measure of wealth. Then certain more or less selfconscious individuals naturally thought it desirable to have their likenesses taken by painters. Evidence for this growing desire to preserve the features of notable people appears as early as the late 17th century. In his *Magnalia*, Cotton Mather tells how Edward Rawson, Secretary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, tried with no success to have John Wilson sit for his portrait. He even got so far as to bring along the artist. But Wilson in a pious mood of self-effacement would have none of it. To him it was a sign of vanity.

That, however, is not of particular interest to us. What is interesting is that as early as the middle of the 17th century (Wilson died in 1667) there were painters practicing their art in New England. There is little reason for thinking that these artists were native-born. There is considerable proof that they were not very good. In the first half of the

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\*Paper contributed to this Year Book by the head of the Art Department, Vassar College, Dr. Oliver S. Tonks.

nuptials of Duncan Campbell and a Miss Ferriss(?).\* Sally M. went with her and has returned.

So, doctor, you have lately been to Cleveland! Is the Ohio canal progressing? Is any part finished? When will the whole be completed? NYorkers feel interested in this work. A person at this place wishing to visit NOreans will take the route via Buffalo & your artificial river. Our Hudson and Delaware canal is nearly finished thro. It commences near Esopus Landing where the Walkil meets the tidewater & runs thence to Carpenter's Point on the Delaware (65 miles). Then up the east bank of the Delaware (20 miles) to opposite the mouth of the Lackawaxen stream. Here, crossing the Delaware, a canal or rail road to be constructed close along the Lackawaxen abt 18 or 20 miles to the anthracite coal mines, said to be inexhaustible. Some 20 or 30 boats have within a fortnight reached the Hudson from say, 40 miles interior, laden with lumber, leather, &c. This canal is 35 feet wide & 4 feet wide (deep?). Locks only 9 feet wide but 75 in length.

Our autumn has been unusually cold and wet. November was truly a winter month. December to this date has been milder; our navigation of the Hudson quite open. There is a coat at present of 1½ inches of hail & snow, which has put a few sleighs in requisition.

December 22d.

(End of Henry Livingston's handwriting)

My dear Brother

Papa has given me permission to write a postscript which I embrace with a great deal of pleasure. I have but a very few minutes to write in & you know Papa is not very patient, therefore, dear brother, you must forgive me if I do not express myself very elegantly or write intelligibly. I want to see your little darling more than anything else in the world. Don't you think you will come on and make us a visit next spring or fall? You said the Baby looks like me. It has a very good right to, for you know the memorable likeness between its own dear father and myself. We are all well and happy & often think of you, tho we do not so often write. We had a visit from Cousin H. Platt & Mr. Forman, a young gentleman from NYork. They came up to spend Thanksgiving & they staid more than a week. We have had pretty gay times, I tell you—4 horse sleigh and bells had to fly. I want to write to you very soon, a long letter, all by myself, and tell you all the news. I hope you will favor me with an answer to let me know whether it is acceptable. B. Hughson has been spending 6 weeks in NYork; has come home quite taken up with the city and its pleasures. We are going to have Jane W. for a neighbor in the spring. They are going in the farm-house on Mr. A's farm in Frear Town. Give my love to Sister Eliza & kiss little E. for me and accept a great share of love for yourself.

Susan."

HELEN WILKINSON REYNOLDS.

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\*The *Republican Telegraph & Observer* of Poughkeepsie, issue of December 12, 1827, announces the marriage of Duncan Campbell, son of Archibald Campbell, on December 5th, to Amanda, daughter of Peleg Ferriss of Pawling.

wedge for his paper into your quarter of the country. It is generally pretty healthy here, altho there has been a few cases of cholera. The Sages(?) children at the upper house have had it but I believe have recovered. Their mother, too, had an attack but has recovered. At the lower house all is well. In the village, the illness of Walter Cunningham has created some interest. It seems he had been complaining some weeks since, but now within a few days past has become quite delirious and requires constant attendance. Within a few weeks past a Presbyterian congregation has been formed here & the foundation for a house for worship laid in Cannon street to the west of and adjoining the Academy. A Mr. Walton is the minister,—say, 30; rather small but good looking;—preaches, it is said, quite well. Was born at Canojoharie; staid a short period at Hamilton College in Oneida County; travell'd for his health into Virginia & there married a daughter of a certain Judge Snyder (formerly speaker of their house of burgesses). This Mr. W., his wife and child of 8 months are now in the village at board. Until the new temple is ready he officiates in the court house. We have recently had a 5 days visit from my Grandson (of 53), his wife, formerly Susan Breese, & their little son, Edward Carpenter Stout. He is an excellent & sensible man, she very clever, & the child fine and robust. They reside in Waterford.

Edwin has had an attack of cholera at the Valley, altho not violent. He is here now (Sunday the 6th). Is there an opening in Granger? If so, *quickly tell*.

You mention the name of Peter Tiebou. That man is most necessary to us at this time. After his return from Canada he hired here for one year at \$4 a month, say, to the middle of next May.

I now, on Monday morning the 7th of August, seal this letter, carry it myself to the post office & will speak to Mr. Barnum.

Your mamma, myself, sisters, brothers and all send to dear Eliza and yourself Loves and affections in every abundance.

Your ever affectionate Parent

H. Livingston?"

\* \* \* \* \*

"Poughkeepsie, December 21st, 1827.

Dear Son Charles! Dear daughter Eliza! our much respected friend, Mrs. Brewer!

The last dispatch we have had from Painesville was from *your* Eliza to *our* Eliza. This, be sure, was well, very well; but we long to hear again and again. Believe me, my very dear relatives, you are all very near our hearts. 500 miles shall never separate you from our warm affection.

I returned from NYork about 4 weeks ago from attending as a witness on the Astor trial with James Carver, one of his *assorted* tenants. I was there about 20 days. Mr. Astor succeeded in this suit. When this important question will be decided, no one yet knows. Perhaps our legislature may, the ensuing session, take the business up in earnest; pay Mr. A. his just demand & quiet the minds of 700 families in Putnam.

I brought up a small cold I had caught in town, which increased since my return, but is now waning. The remainder of our family happily are quite well and so is our neighborhood generally, except our neighbor, Mrs. Allen, who has for many weeks been confined to her room & bed and is not expected to recover. Within a month past has died Mr. Jesse Oakley, 79, & Jane Tarpenning, a niece of Mrs. Capt. Harris. Last evening was spent by Edwin at the lower & Sidney at the upper house. All well in either mansion. Elizabeth is still with her aunt Campbell, whither she went a fortnight since to witness the

Your last of 22d ult. came to hand the 2d instant. The sunshine which irradiated this & Eliza's letter reflected its gleam on all our faces. Go on, my boy, and prosper. You have industry and talent and integrity and if heaven blesses you with health and protracted existence honors and wealth will follow. In due time you will form an item in your state legislature. To this I have no great objection. But beware of Congress; never consent to go there, except your fortune becomes tip-top-i-cal. While in active business you can never afford to spend half your time in Washington.

Fighting shadows with a vengeance, my good Father, perhaps you will exclaim and perhaps exclaim justly. I finish. I am much pleased with your Grand-river country because you say that *you* are pleased with it. From your opinion, I have long been sensible, it is not safe to appeal. Others have heard tidings in its favor and enquire. I conversed 2 evenings since with my neighbor, Baltus Freer, on this subject & he appeared to wish to be informed of the price of land at different distances from Grand river harbor; of land entirely new, as of land partially cultivated. He has money &, I believe, wishes for information. If your prices are not too topping, I should not be surprised if old Dutchess should pour some of her surpluses into Granger. Say something encouraging about your harbor at the mouth of G. river. It is now *tolerable*? Will it probably be soon *convenient*? Will it ever be *excellent*?

The facilities of the Hudson have spoiled our people. Marine advantages are among the first enquiries of our speculative emigrants. As our Hudson is now carried to Buffalo & Buffalo is in your neighborhood, these enquiries cannot be wondered at. When the great national highway becomes completed from the Hudson to Erie, one more avenue will be opened into your vicinity. This ensuing winter it is hoped and believed the measure will be carried. There is soon to be a meeting of delegates from, say, a dozen counties at Delhi, to confer on this subject.

You, who have been domesticated in so many different parts of the American world, may be tolerably satisfied with almost any situation, but that Eliza should be *pleased* with her novel abode is gratifying to us. From the whole tenor of her letters and yours I am led to believe that Paynesville is a pretty desirable place.

#### DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE

Our spring drought was severe. With difficulty our corn ground was plowed & we planted. The dryness continued & at length we abandoned all hope of a corn crop. At length, however, the rain descended in copious showers and every green thing felt its genial influence. Indian corn particularly showed its influence. In two words, our corn is called one of the best in the vicinity and bids fair to shoot up above mediocrity.

The clover field (opposite Mr. Allen) was much parched; we mowed it early & had not more than 6 or 7 indifferent loads of hay. We immediately replaster'd it & in about a fortnight shall try it a second time. The 2d culling promises to be far superior to the first. Our flax is pull'd and housed;—crop, so so. The oats in the meadow will be, say, 40 bushels. Wheat, ab't 130 bushels. Low meadows rather better than usual. Potatoes everywhere promise well. Garden does well.

On the 20th of May Pennsylvania dropped Sydney a horse colt, which is admired by many & approved by all. Will be a dark brown, perhaps black; two white hind stockings and a star; moves elegantly & is quite large enough. In fact it is a fine animal.

The first time I go to town I will give your address to Mr. Barnum,\* who

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\*Charles P. Barnum, one of the owners of a Poughkeepsie newspaper. unquestionably will gladly forward his *Observer*. It may operate as an opening

arms. It is said that the very common soldiers of the English army, however prone to ridicule the American fortifications, never mentioned this in a ludicrous manner.

Once, indeed, the idea of its subjugation was cherished; but then it was to be effected by treachery; yet, still it stood, and mocked the wiles as well as the force of its enemies.

#### EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE

- A. Constitution Island, on the east side of the river.
- B. A chain, suspended on pontoons, reaching quite across Hudson's River, there about 450 yards wide
- C. Fort Clinton, the principal work, intended to annoy any naval force that might attempt the passage.
- D. Fort Putnam, a very strong fortress on the summit of a mountain, about half a mile from the point, and which commanded all the plain beneath.

Besides these, there were a chain of forts reaching far west of Putnam; two considerable redoubts on mountains on the east side of the river; and a number of batteries nearly level with the river."

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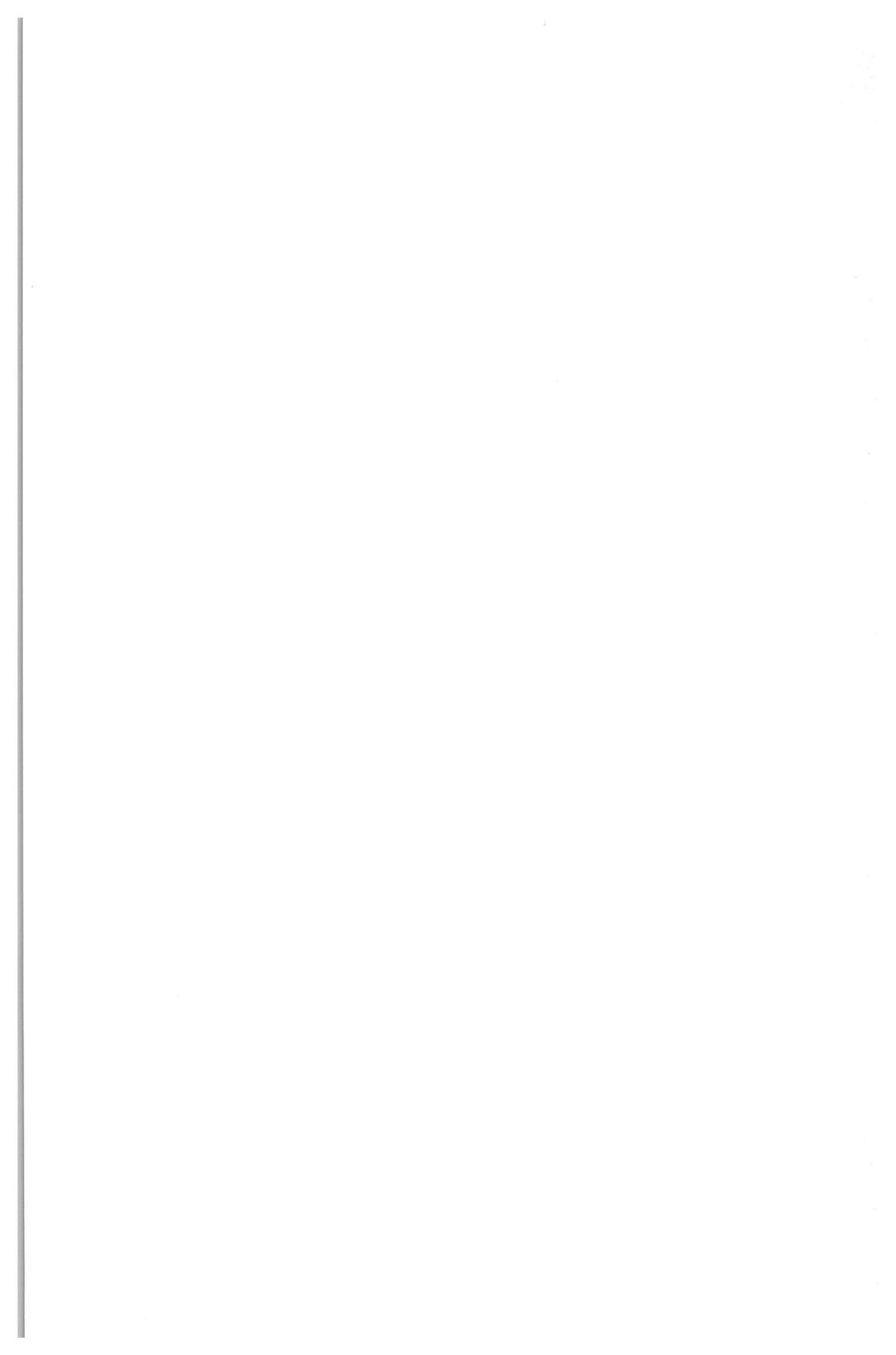
To close the list of selections made from Dr. Thomas's collection there are offered below two letters written by Major Livingston in 1826 and 1827 (when he was nearly eighty years old) to his son, Dr. Charles Patterson Livingston, who was then living at Painesville, Ohio. The letters contain local details that will interest many. It should be pointed out that the drift of population from the old communities of the East to new homes in Ohio and the promotion of new routes of travel and transportation, both of which occurred in the 1820's, are clearly shown in these letters and it is interesting to note what is said of canal-building, &c.

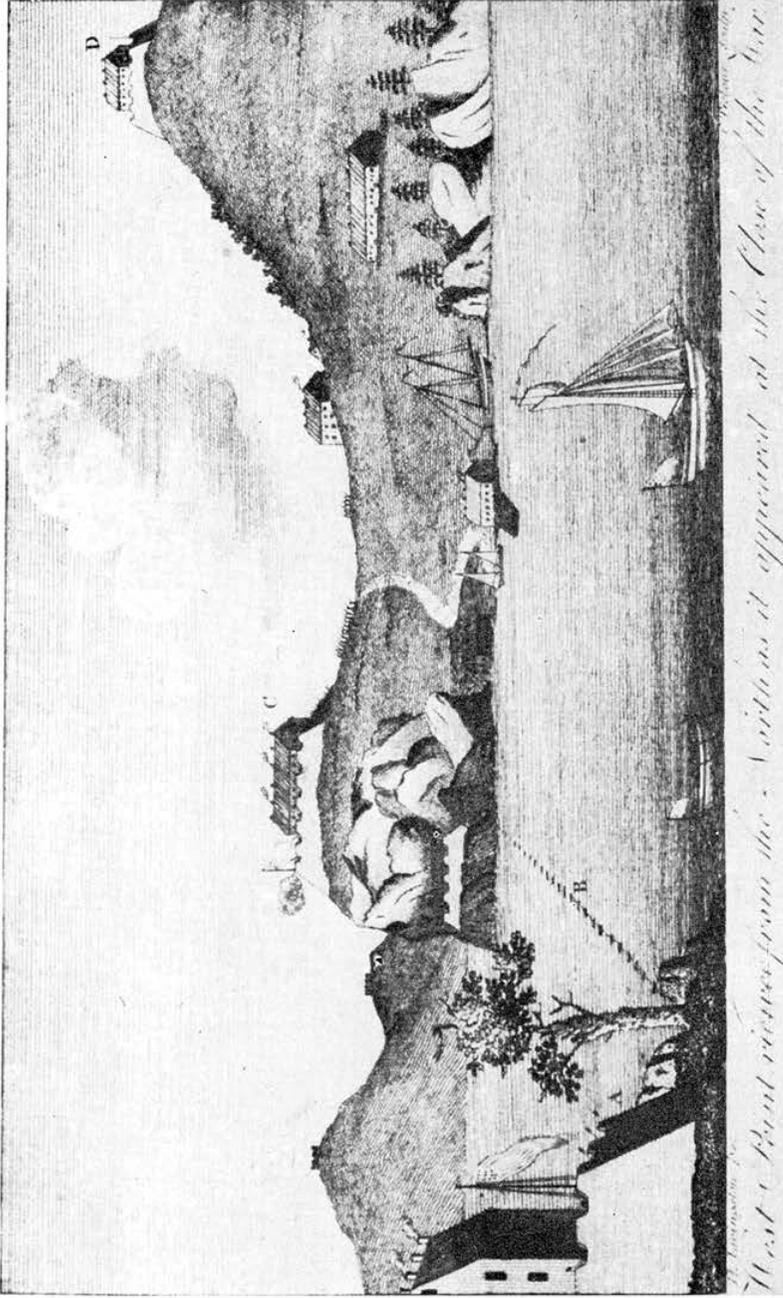
Details are given in the letters of the organization of a Presbyterian church in the village of Poughkeepsie and of the arrival of the pastor. Mr. and Mrs. Allen, spoken of, lived on the South Road nearly opposite Locust Grove. Walter Cunningham lived in the brick house that is still standing at 47 Cannon street. Jesse Oakley was long a prominent resident of Poughkeepsie. Baltus Freer lived a little north of Locust Grove on the east side of the South Road. The references to crops and weather show the writer's own preoccupations and his opinions of Congress will evoke many a smile. Running through both letters is a vein of affection and of family solidarity.

"Poughkeepsie, August 25, 1826.

Dear, Dearest! Son!

I have delayed too long in answering your interesting letters, I ingenuously confess. The languor of old age, I think, must be the apology: it cannot be laziness, for I never was *lazy*. It certainly cannot be want of *affection*, for, Heaven is my witness that I *love* you dearly.





West Point

as sketched by Henry Livingston, Jr., at the close of the Revolutionary War.

Reproduced from the  
New York Magazine  
of March, 1791

By the courtesy of  
The New York Historical  
Society, New York City

the coast of "Ava", from which wreck a midshipman survived and had a series of adventures. The adventures led him via "the northern part of Indostan, by Ispahan in Persia;" by the "dominions of the descendants of Tamerlane;" and then, past a range of high mountains, the wanderer found a valley that was the abode of peace. The valley is described as follows:

### "THE HAPPY VALE

Extract from a letter from a Gentleman at Smyrna to his Friend in Philadelphia, dated 15th February, 1791.

\* \* \* \* Peace was in all their borders. The golden age of the poets was realized \* \* \* The very name of an army of enormities that mar the general human visage was entirely wanting in their language. Altho' iron and steel were in use among them in agricultural and domestic concerns, yet I never saw those metals employed for hostile purposes. There was no such thing as a court of justice in all the country; for why erect tribunals to take cognizance of crimes that never exist? There were no laws because there were no transgressors. The dictates of an unscarred conscience and the precepts of an excellent traditional religion were their only judicial code.

Their civil government was patriarchal in its mildest form; and as its injunctions were never improper they never were opposed. The arts and sciences were understood—short, indeed, of their fanciful European length—yet fully equal to the wants and embellishments of decent cultivated life. The art of healing consisted chiefly in alleviatives; the very name of *nostrum* is not be found in their dispensaries. The profession of a merchant is unknown; they consider it as degrading to the husbandman not to be able to barter the productions of his own skill and industry.

\* \* \* \* With respect to their own story, all I could surmise was that at some very remote period a revolution drove them from the confines of Persia to their present abode, too distant for their enemies to pursue or their friends to discover. But how the arts of war became totally extinguished,—and those of peace so perfectly retained—how they possessed all the simplicity of savages without the barbarity,—in short, how they blended the elegancies, the conveniences, and all the decencies of life in one perfectly happy society, I am yet to discover."

\* \* \* \* \*

As an example of the drawings of Henry Livingston, Jr., there is presented in this *Year Book* a plate that reproduces an illustration in the *New York Magazine and Literary Repository* for March, 1791. The subject of the plate is a sketch of West Point from the north and the sketch is signed: "H. Livingston, del." (delineator); accompanying the plate is text by the artist explaining the picture in the following words:

"This formidable spot of ground is on the west side of Hudson's River, sixty miles north of the city of New York; and at this day, altho' its former defences are many of them entirely obliterated, and the rest mouldering into ruin, exhibits marks of surprising strength. It stood, during most part of the late war, the bulwark of the confederated states and the terror of the British

While tempests roar'd loud and while shrill scream'd the blast,  
 When sing'd the earth and when cold froze the air,  
 And sometimes when suns shone serenely and fair,  
 With the news gather'd up from the wide world all o'er,  
 True as time, ev'ry week, I arriv'd at your door;  
 And now, as old custom ordains, I appear,  
 To present you, my Patrons, a HAPPY NEW-YEAR,  
 The year which we name EIGHTEEN HUNDRED and THREE,  
 Which brings you a song and your Carrier a *Fee*,  
 At least I predict so (with deff'rence to you)  
 As we all can *predict* what we *wish* to be true.  
 How cheerfully then will I stick to the press  
 For a twelvemonth to come—be the same more or less,  
 To tell you what wonders the Fates bring along,  
 And how they behave, distant nations among;  
 To tell you if War his bold clarion shall sound,  
 Or Betsey's shrill voice Billy's bosom shall wound;  
 If fevers shall rage and their thousands destroy,  
 Or your poultry be kidnap'd by some thievish boy;  
 If hurricanes level both city and town,  
 Or Bragman, the bully, knock Limberlegs down;  
 Or Johnny be pierc'd by Miss Jenny's bright eye;  
 Or if Congress shall make, or our state legislature,  
 Remarkable movements—by land or by water,  
 And many more *strange things* we'll tell you to boot,  
 As the seasons roll on and occasion shall suit.

But 'tis time that I bid you good bye, till next year,  
 By wishing you happiness, peace and good cheer;  
 To the ladies, the charms both of form and of face,  
 Expression, attraction, and each nameless grace,  
 Their tempers benign, ting'd with sentiment's fire,  
 Galants whom they love and the swains they admire;  
 To the clergy meek charity, unmix'd with pride,  
 And *something* to wake us on Sunday, beside;  
 To the farmer fine crops; to the merchant much trade;  
 To the sexton small use for the mattock and spade;  
 To physicians few patients; to the lawyers light fees;  
 But to printers, the *shiners*, as oft as you please;  
 In short, to conclude my nonsensical song  
 To all, what they wish, if they wish nothing wrong."

\* \* \* \* \*

In the issue of the *New York Magazine and Literary Repository* for January, 1792, there was published one of the longer prose works of Henry Livingston, Jr., which is of interest not only because it tells something of the writer's imaginative power and of his general information regarding history and geography but because the article, entitled: *The Happy Vale*, describes a country in a state of peace, such as is much talked of and wished for in these latter days of ours.

Briefly, the story is that of the wreck of an English ship in 1781 on

With cakes of season on the board  
Collected from each housewife's hoard  
We'll push the glass of mead about  
And laugh the tedious ev'ning out."

\* \* \* \* \*

"The  
NEWS-BOY'S ADDRESS  
To the PATRONS of the  
POLITICAL BAROMETER

January 1, 1803.

All hail to the season so jovial and gay  
More grateful to News-Boys than blossoms of May  
Than Summer's green gown, or Miss Autumn's brocade  
Bespangled with gold and with diamonds o'erlaid;  
Give me surly winter, bald-headed and bare,  
Cold nights, frosty mornings and keen piercing air,  
With storms roaring round him; rain, hail, sleet and snow,  
While hoarse from the mountains the howling winds blow;  
For Summer and Autumn and fair-bosom'd Spring,  
With their pinks and their peaches no holidays bring;  
But now comes blithe Christmas, while just in his rear  
Advances our saint, jolly, laughing, New Year,  
Which, time immemorial, to us has been made  
The source of our wealth and support of our trade.  
For then *cockahoop*, with the magical song  
That charms from your purses the glittering l'argent,\*

(\*Pronounced larzhong)

With our pulse beating quick and our breast void of pain  
We quit *types* and *shadows* the *substance* to gain.  
But what, on this festive occasion, to say,  
Is a question which puzzles your poet today;  
Since the storms which have ravag'd old Europe are o'er,  
And the light'nings and thund'rings of war are no more;  
Even Oglou, who Turkey's grand Seigneur defied,  
Has at length gain'd his point and preferment beside;  
Toussaint, the black chief, too, is trick'd by Le Clerc,  
And in chains sent to limbo by king Bonaparte,  
While General *Le Death*, to revenge such foul play,  
Tricks Le Clerc and his minions in much the same way,  
And Negroes, by plunder and carnage and flame,  
Shew Frenchmen how well they their *rights* can maintain.  
Well—since from abroad no great tidings are brought,  
Let us see what at home there is, worthy of note;  
Why here we find little to trouble our heads,  
Except paper-battles 'twixt Demos and Feds;  
Abusing and squabbling and wrangling and spite,  
Though I, for my life, see not what they get by't,  
Unless 'tis the pleasure their venom to spit  
And make folks believe they've abundance of wit;  
But in this they mistake, for abuse, 'tis well known,  
Is the wit and the wisdom of blackguards, alone.  
But to come to the point which I've long had in view,  
My patrons attend, I've a few words for you;  
You'll please to remember how, many months past,

Deal at your doors each Wednesday morn  
The sun-shine of the week—or storm.

When earth quakes make old chimnies rattle  
Or gossips in a corner tattle  
Or twenty pumpkins in a row  
Enormous on one tendril grow.

When flush'd with wine (the modern nectar)  
Two Beaus as bluff and bold as Hector  
Like lions meet and nobly dare  
To flash their pistols in the air.

When sons of Neptune stoutly try  
Who shall affirm the toughest lye  
And swear they saw a fish, complete  
From stem to stern, twelve thousand feet.

When three grim (lygers) make their dinners  
Upon at least a dozen sinners  
When Cupid's arrows don't miscarry  
And lovers meet—and meeting marry:

When these events and thousands more  
Are acted—or not acted o'er  
The Country Journal ever ready  
To seize its prey, all keen and steady

Pursues the tidings as they rise,  
And plunders all as lawful prize:  
While we, the Mercuries of the day,  
Deliver at your feet the prey.

Tho suns shine clear, or tempests growl,  
Mild zephyrs fan or whirlwinds howl;  
The cold snows fly, or hailstones rattle  
And ev'ry element's in battle:

Thro thick and thin and thin and thick  
Go flound'ring on poor George and Dick!  
Nor care a button for disasters  
So you're contented gentle masters.

And now the end of all this clatter  
Is but a small and trifling matter:  
A puny sixpence or a shilling  
From willing souls to souls as willing.

And here to you our gen'rous donors  
We pledge our sacred words of honours  
No valrous rooster by our deed  
Shall on the field of battle bleed.

Nor by our too-well-aimed ball  
The hapless, flut'ring turkey fall:  
No deep-charge'd muskets thund'ring roar  
Beneath the peaceful burghers door,

Shall tell the sleeping folks within  
That mighty New Year doth begin.  
Like civil (chubs) we will retire  
And by a snug and social fire

Take your music down a peg—  
 Whipperwills, sweet bird of gloom,  
 Stop your loud, nocturnal tune;  
 And ye hooting, lovely owls  
 Listen to my lovelier howls.

#### THE EPITHALAMIUM

'Twas summer, when softly the breezes were blowing,  
 And Hudson majestic so sweetly was flowing,  
 The grove rang with music and accents of pleasure  
 And nature in rapture beat time to the measure,  
 When Helen and Jonas, so true and so loving,  
 Along the green lawn were seen arm in arm moving,  
 Sweet daffodils, violets and roses spontaneous  
 Wherever they wandered sprang up instantaneous.  
 The ascent the lovers at length were seen climbing  
 Whose summit is grac'd by the temple of Hymen:  
 The genius presiding no sooner perceived them  
 But, spreading his pinions, he flew to receive them:  
 With kindest of greetings pronounced them well come  
 While hollidays clangor rang loud to the welkin."

\* \* \* \* \*

Frequently Henry Livingston, Jr., wrote at New Year an address that was printed as a broadside and taken about to the subscribers to the Poughkeepsie newspaper by the boys who, during the year, delivered the weekly issues. In his notebook is the address for New Year, 1787. It mentions the two carriers, Richard and George (who are otherwise unidentified) and also: "N. Power", who was Nicholas Power, publisher of the *Poughkeepsie Journal*.

In Dr. Thomas's collection is an original broadside, printed January 1, 1803, by the *Political Barometer* of Poughkeepsie. It is unsigned but a granddaughter of Henry Livingston, Jr., (Miss Gertrude F. Thomas) identified it as his work and it is obviously in his own meter and style. He speaks of: "our saint, jolly, laughing New Year," of war in Europe, of Toussaint L'Ouverture (Haytian negro leader), of Democrats and Federalists and of the various types of persons in the community. It is a thoroughly characteristic item.

"A new year's address of Richard and George two boys of the printer N. Power.—1787.

Before the friends of Mr. Power  
 In this good-natur'd happy hour  
 Respectfully we both appear  
 And wish you all a Happy Year.

You see in us a brace of chickens  
 Who, as the plot of nations thickens,

married (as was just stated above) Paul Schenck. Her brother addressed her with this poem to mark her thirty-third birthday (May 16, 1787). As she left ten children when she died in 1795 it is to be noted that the birthday greeting refers to her "lovely infant train."

The lines to Helen Livingston celebrated her marriage to Jonas Platt, who later was well known in the New York legislature, as a member of Congress and as a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York.

These two poems to his sisters are in the manuscript notebook. The one to Helen was published in the *New York Magazine and Literary Repository* for February, 1791.

"On my sister Joanna's entrance into her 33rd year.

On this thy natal day permit a friend—  
A brother—with thy joys his own to blend:  
In all thy gladness he would wish to share  
As willing in thy griefs a part to bear.

Meekly attend the ways of highest heav'n!  
Is much deny'd? yet much my dear is giv'n.  
Thy health, thy reason unimpaired remain  
And while as new fal'n snows thy spotless fame  
The partner of thy life, attentive—kind—  
And blending e'en the interests of the mind.

What bliss is thine when fore thy glistening eye  
Thy lovely infant train pass jocund by!  
The ruddy cheek, the smiling morning face  
Denote a healthy undegenerate race:  
In them renew'd, you'l live and live again,  
And children's children's children lisp thy name.

Bright be the skies where'er my sister goes  
Nor scowling tempests injure her repose—  
The field of life with roses thick be strow'd  
Nor one sharp thorn lie lurking in the road.  
Thy ev'ry path be still a path of peace  
And each revolving year thy joys increase;  
Till hours and years of time itself be o'er  
And one eternal *day* around thee pour."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Robins! stop your whistling throats  
Listen to my sweeter notes;  
Cease to hop from spray to spray  
While I trill the wedding lay.  
Thrushes on the maples' top  
For a moment pray-ye stop—  
Twittering swallows cease to twitter  
Hearken to my ditty sweeter—  
Lovesick turtles gently cooing  
Leave your honey-suckle wooing—  
Little wrens I humbly beg

"Letter to my brother Beekman who then lived with Mr. Schenck at New Lebanon—1786.

To my dear brother Beekman I sit down to write  
Ten minutes past eight and a very cold night  
Not far from me sits with a baullancy cap on  
Our very good couzin, Elizabeth Tappen,  
A tighter young seamstress you'd ne'er wish to see  
And she (blessings on her) is sewing for me.  
New shirts and new cravats this morning cut out  
Are tumbled in heaps and lye huddled about.  
My wardrobe (a wonder) will soon be enriched  
With ruffles new hemmed and wristbands new stitched.  
Believe me dear brother tho women may be  
Compared to us of inferiour degree,  
Yet still they are useful I vow with a (fegs)  
When our shirts are in tatters and jackets in rags.

Now for news my sweet fellow—first learn with a sigh  
That matters are carried here gloriously high,  
Such gadding—such ambling—such jaunting about,  
To tea with Miss Nancy—to sweet Willy's rout,  
New parties at coffee—then parties at wine,  
Next day all the world with the Major must dine,  
Then bounce all hands to Fishkill must go in a clutter  
To guzzle bohea and destroy bread and butter.  
While you at New Lebanon stand all forlorn  
Behind the cold counter from ev'ning to morn.  
The old tenor merchants push nigher and nigher  
Till fairly they shut out poor Baze from the fire.  
Out, out, my dear brother, Aunt Amy's just come  
With a flask for molasses and a bottle for rum.  
Run! help the poor creature to light from her jade  
You see the dear lady's a power afraid.  
Souise into your arms she leaps like an otter  
And smears your new coat with her piggin of butter.  
Next an army of Shakers your quarters beleager  
With optics distorted and visages meagre  
To fill their black runlets with brandy and gin  
Two blessed exorcists to drive away sin.

But laugh away sorrow nor mind it a daisy  
Since it matters but little my dear brother Bazee  
Whether here you are rolling in pastime and pleasure  
Or up at New Lebanon taffety measure.  
If the sweetest of lasses, Contentment, you find  
And the banquet enjoy of an undisturb'd mind  
Of friendship and love let who will make a pother  
Believe me, dear Baze, your affectionate brother  
Will never forget the fifth son of his mother.

P. S. If it suits your convenience remit if you please  
To my good brother Paul an embrace and a squeeze."

\* \* \* \* \*

The manuscript notebook of Henry Livingston, Jr., contains two poems in honor of his sisters, Joanna and Helen. Joanna, born in 1754,

October 29th, 1781, when the news was received of the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

In the letter to "brother Beekman" a lively account is given of the doings of the younger social group in Dutchess in 1786.

#### A DANCING PARTY

"When she swims in the dance or wherever she goes  
She's crowded by witlings, plain-fellows and beaux  
Who throng at her elbow and tread on her toes.

If a pin or a handkerchief happen to fall  
To seize on the prise fills with uproar the hall;  
Such pulling and hawling and shoving and pushing  
As rivals the racket of 'key and the cushion;  
And happy—thrice happy! too happy! the swain  
Who can replace the pin or bandana again.  
Tho the fellows surround and so humbly adore her  
The girls on the contrary cannot endure her;  
Her beauty their beauty forever disgraces  
And her sweeter face still eclipses their faces—  
For no lov'ly girl can a lov'ly girl bear  
And fair ones are ever at war with the fair."

\* \* \* \* \*

#### "THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1787

With the ladies' permission, most humbly I'd mention  
How much we're obliged by all their attention;  
We sink with the weight of the huge obligation  
Too long and too broad to admit compensation.

For us (and I blush while I speak I declare)  
The charming enchanters be-torture their hair,  
Till gently it rises and swells like a knoll  
Thirty inches at least from the dear little poll;  
From the tip-top of which all peer out together  
The ribband, the gause and the ostrich's feather;  
Composing a sight for an Arab to swear at  
Or huge Patagonian a fortnight to stare at.

Then hoops at right angles that hang from ye knees  
And hoops at the hips in connection with these  
Set the fellows presumptuous who court an alliance  
And ev'ry pretender at awful defiance.

And I have been told (tho I must disbelieve  
For the tidings as fact I would never receive)  
That billets of cork have supplied the place  
Of something the Fair-ones imagine a grace;  
But whether 'tis placed behind or before,  
The shoulders to swell or the bosom to shoar,  
To raise a false wen or expand a false bump  
Project a false hip or protrude a false rump,  
Was never ascertain'd, and fegs I declare  
To make more enquiry I never will dare."

\* \* \* \* \*

That there was quite a bit of gayety in social life in Dutchess in the time of Henry Livingston, Jr., is to be inferred from his writings. One poem of his, that was referred to in the *Year Book* of this society for 1919, was printed in full in the volume: *Dutchess County Doorways* and is quoted below in part from the original in the manuscript notebook. Taken as a whole it is a rebus, providing the name of Nancy Crooke, a beauty of the 1780's, whose home was on the Post Road, north of the village of Poughkeepsie, on land where now Mrs. J. R. Roosevelt lives. The selection made here from the whole is chosen for its picture of a dancing party.

In the manuscript notebook of Major Livingston is a composition, *The Acknowledgement*, dated 1787, that describes the very high coiffures worn by the ladies of that period, the hoops that set out the dress-skirts, and all the elaborate artificiality then fashionable.

There is much of local detail in a letter in the notebook, which was written by Major Livingston (in the form of a poem) to his younger brother, Beekman Livingston. Henry Livingston, Jr., was one of the five sons of Henry Livingston, Sr. (and his wife, Susanna Concklin) of Poughkeepsie,—Gilbert, born 1742 (a lawyer at Poughkeepsie); John H., born 1746 (a minister in the Dutch Reformed Church); Henry, Jr., himself, born 1748; Robert H., born 1760, of Poughkeepsie; and Beekman, born (17. . ?), to whom the rhyming letter was addressed.

In this long "letter" (and who reads it but will be reminded by its meter and general character of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas, when all through the house," &c, &c) Beekman Livingston is shown to have been living in 1786 at New Lebanon, N. Y., with "Paul," who was Paul Schenck, his brother-in-law, the husband of his sister, Joanna. Paul Schenck was a well known merchant. In the 1770's he was at the Upper Landing, Poughkeepsie; in the 1780's at New Lebanon and, around 1800, he was on Main street, Poughkeepsie. The old dwelling occupied by him as both dwelling and store (the custom of the day) is now 319-321 Main street; it was remodelled in 1941 and its early structural lines and triple central window lost. Before helping his brother-in-law in the latter's store at New Lebanon Beekman Livingston is said\* to have had a store himself in 1781 in Poughkeepsie on the southeast corner of Market and Cannon streets and, further, that he illuminated the store

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\*J. H. Smith, *History of Dutchess County*, p. 142.



are here sub-joined which were written for children. The first one quoted was written for a little niece about a bird and is as sweet and tender an epitaph as a little wren could be given. Anne Duyckinck, the child to whom the second selection is addressed, was the daughter of Mr. Livingston's sister, Susanna, and Gerardus Duyckinck. The Duyckinck household lived near Locust Grove.

The third selection from the manuscript notebook is a humorous one. The boy of seven, for whom it was written, was Timothy Dwight, son of Timothy and Mary (Woolsey) Dwight, who grew up to be a prosperous merchant in New Haven and to endow the "Dwight Professorship of Didactic Theology" at Yale. The lines addressed to him afford a vivid picture of the games played in 1785 by little boys and of the perennial appetite of boys at play. These lines to "Timmy" were published (with minor changes) in the *Country Journal and Poughkeepsie Advertiser* of February 14, 1787, where they are headed: *An Epistle to a Young Friend Just in Breeches.*"

A child of Henry Livingston, Jr., Catherine Breese Livingston, born in 1809, died in 1814, and the stone at her grave was inscribed with a verse assumed to have been written by her father. The verse appears below, as a fourth quotation.

"To my little niece Sally Livingston on the death of a little serenading wren she admired.

Hasty pilgrim stop thy pace  
Turn a moment to this place  
Read what pity hath erected  
To a songster she respected  
Little minstrel all is o'er  
Never will thy chirpings more  
Soothe the heavy heart of care  
Or dispel the darkness there.  
I have known thee e'er the sun  
Hath on yonder mountain shone;  
E'er the sky-lark hath ascended,  
Or the thrush her throat distended;  
Cheerful trill thy little ditty  
As the singer, blithe and pretty.  
Labour stood, half bent, to hear,  
Study lent a list'ning ear,  
Dissipation stop'd a while,  
Grief was even seen to smile,  
Ambition—but the gushing tear  
O'erwhelms the stone and stops me here."

\* \* \* \* \*

## X

These snares may entangle the weak  
 But never the rational soul;  
 The flimsy enchantment will break  
 Where reason can ever control.

## XI

By the side of a murmuring stream,  
 Where willows the margin imbrown;  
 We'll wander, unheeded, unseen,  
 Nor envy the taste of the town.

## XII

In scenes where confusion and noise  
 And riot's loud voice is unknown;  
 We'll humbly participate joys  
 That ever from greatness have flown.

## XIII

Let avarice smile o'er its gain,  
 Ambition exult at its height,  
 Dissipation unloose ev'ry rein  
 In pursuit of forbidden delight.

## XIV

We'll cling to our cottage my love,  
 There a meeting with bliss we insure.  
 The seraphs who carol above  
 Must smile on enjoyments so pure."

\* \* \* \* \*

## "SONG

Let statesmen tread their giddy round  
 Undoing and undone,  
 I hug my cell where still is found  
 My puppy, squaw and gun.  
 Let the gay Beau and tinsel'd Belle  
 In pleasure's circle run,  
 My happiness their joys excel  
 My puppy, squaw and gun.  
 Where forests nod and lakes expand  
 And foaming cat'racts stun  
 I've fixed my home, on either hand  
 My puppy, squaw and gun.  
 Ambition's path, the miser's road,  
 The legal maze I shun;  
 But cling to my belov'd abode  
 My puppy, squaw and gun."

\* \* \* \* \*

One of the most engaging traits exhibited by Henry Livingston, Jr., was his delight in children and from his manuscript notebook three poems

"AN INVITATION TO THE COUNTRY

I

The winter all surly is flown,  
The frost and the ice and the snow;  
The violets already have blown,  
Already the daffodils glow.

II

The forests and copses around,  
Their foliage begin to display;  
The copses and forests resound  
With the music and disport of May.

III

E'er Phoebus has gladdened the plains,  
E'er the mountains are tip'd with his gold,  
The sky lark's shrill matin proclaims  
A songster harmonious as bold.

IV

The linnet and thrush through the day  
Join notes with the soft cooing dove;  
Not a bush but can witness a lay;  
Or the softer endearments of love.

V

At eve, when the shadows prevail;  
And night throws her mantle around,  
The nightingale warbles her tale  
And harmony dwells in the sound.

VI

The grasshopper chirps at our feet,  
The butterfly wings it along,  
The season and love will compleat  
What they want in the raptures of song.

VII

Not an insect that flits o'er the lawn  
But gambols in pleasure and play,  
Rejoicing the winter is gone,  
And hailing the pleasanter May.

VIII

Let us join in their revels my dear!  
To innocent joy give a loose!  
No surfeits or harm can we fear  
In pleasures we cannot abuse.

IX

What is all the gay town can bestow?  
What all its inhabitants share?  
But trifles and glitter and show,  
That cloy and displease as they glare.

tions in Dutchess County in the years in which Mr. Livingston lived and worked.

Henry Livingston, Jr., was born at Poughkeepsie in 1748; established his home at Locust Grove just before the Revolution; held a commission as Major under Montgomery in the expedition to Canada; returned home ill; and, recovering, lived a busy and useful life at Locust Grove until his death in 1828. He was a farmer; a lover of nature and of country life; a surveyor; a justice of the peace; he wrote poems; painted pictures; drew maps; went to dancing parties; was fond of music (he played both violin and flute); loved children; admired pretty girls; was a fun-maker; had a favorite exclamation: *Dunder and Blitzen*; while, finally, some of his serious writings reveal a truly devout religious faith. There may also be found in his writings traces of a good knowledge of geography, of foreign and domestic politics and of classical literature. That he had imagination is witnessed to by his story of: *The Happy Vale*, quoted in part below.

The versatility of Henry Livingston, Jr., cannot be taken as typical of most men in the community in which he lived. Such varied accomplishments as he possessed are rarely found at any time or in any place centered in an individual. But his standards in art and literature, the social customs outlined in his writings; his industry and business acumen may all, with fairness, be taken as the measure of such things locally in his day.

From this point of view Dr. Thomas's collection of material provides much that is informing about Dutchess County in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and, from that collection, a number of excerpts are here given that the reader may see not only what Henry Livingston, Jr., was like but what Dutchess was like in his day along certain lines.

To show something of Major Livingston's love of the country and dislike of the city his poem: *An Invitation to the Country* is copied here from the original, found in his own notebook, a book filled with entries in his writing. In this notebook is another composition entitled: *Song*, which also extols the simple life. *Song* was published in February, 1791, in the *New York Magazine and Literary Repository* but, in the printed version the title is changed to: *Frontier Song* and the fourth line of each stanza is altered from: "*My puppy, squaw and gun*" to read: "*My wife, my dog, my gun.*" The change in the title is explanatory but something of the frontier is lost in the change of the line.

Dutchess, nothing could give more pleasure than to see the poem proven of local production.

It may be permissible to say in passing that any person who becomes familiar with what is known definitely of Clement C. Moore and of Henry Livingston, Jr., will realize how completely different the two men were in mind and temperament and tastes. Dr. Moore was learned, measured, rather ponderous, and his writings do not indicate gayety of spirit and have no lightness of touch. Those who believe that he wrote the poem in question point to a volume of verses, published by him in 1844, in which the poem is included. The volume contains 37 poems and, in the preface, over his own signature, Dr. Moore states that every thing in the book was written by himself, except two items which, he said, were by his wife.

Examination of the book reveals, however, that of the 37 poems 7 were not written by Dr. Moore. Two were by Mrs. Moore, as he said. Subtitles show that one was written by William Bard and one by "P. Hone." Two were translations from Italian authors and one was a translation from the Greek. Of the rest, 21 have sub-titles stating when and why Dr. Moore wrote them: 8 have no sub-titles; and, finally, a ninth without a sub-title is headed: *A Visit from St. Nicholas*.

Thus there is a discrepancy between the contents of Dr. Moore's book and what Dr. Moore said, in the preface, that the book contained. This comment is not made to impugn Dr. Moore's integrity. But it does serve to show that his book was carelessly compiled, without co-ordination between the preface and the contents. The fact of that discrepancy focuses attention on *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, the spirit and style of which are totally unlike Dr. Moore's usual habit of thought and manner of writing and totally unlike anything else in the book. One of Henry Livingston's family (a contemporary of his), when she heard of this book, instantly said with calm and quiet confidence: "A mistake has been made." Which would seem to be a kind conclusion in the light of the several inaccuracies in the volume. It is probable that *A Visit from St. Nicholas* is the only poem in this book that is alive today.

Setting aside the question of the authorship of *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, there is another aspect of Dr. Thomas's data that is of special interest for the readers of this *Year Book*. The records throw strong light upon the personality, attainments and surroundings of Henry Livingston, Jr., and, in so doing, throw light also upon the cultural condi-

EDITORIAL NOTES  
ON THE WRITINGS OF HENRY LIVINGSTON, JR.

In December, 1941, the Dutchess County Historical Society lost by death one of its most interested and valued members, William S. Thomas, M. D., of New York City, who joined the society in 1917. Dr. Thomas's forbears were—many of them—residents of Dutchess and his boyhood was spent in the house (built 1786) that is still standing at 90-92 Market street, Poughkeepsie. He was a great-grandson of Henry Livingston, Jr., whose home was the property called Locust Grove (now owned by Mrs. William Hopkins Young), which is on the Post Road about two miles south of the Court House at Poughkeepsie.

Among all the descendants of Henry Livingston, Jr., there is a tradition and a firm belief that he wrote the familiar lines which begin: *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, lines which the general public credits to the pen of Clement C. Moore of New York, a professor in the General Theological Seminary. The family tradition is full of circumstantial detail and Dr. Thomas grew up steeped in all that his relatives told him in regard to this fascinating poem. In his mature years he made it his own particular task to assemble every item of information obtainable as to the authorship of the poem. When he died his large collection of material passed to his son, Mr. W. Stephen Thomas.

In the weeks immediately preceding Dr. Thomas's sudden death he had conferred with Mr. Reese, president of the Dutchess County Historical Society and with Miss Reynolds, editor of the *Year Book*, in regard to his collection. After his death, Mr. Reese conferred further with Mr. W. Stephen Thomas. Then came Mr. Reese's sudden death. Mr. Thomas then arranged for his father's data to be sent to Miss Reynolds, to be examined in behalf of the *Year Book*. The notes made by Miss Reynolds on Dr. Thomas's collection are in part presented here below.

Of course the major portion of Dr. Thomas's papers have to do with the evidence he gathered in support of the tradition that Henry Livingston, Jr., wrote: *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. In this present article is is not the intention of the editor to dwell on that evidence for it is admittedly not final, although to many it is convincing and no just person could brush it aside lightly. To a native of Dutchess County and to one who admires Henry Livingston, Jr., as an outstanding resident of

4. The same, p. 74.
5. *American Archives: Fifth Series*, Vol. I, p. 393.
6. *American Archives: Fourth Series*, Vol. VI, p. 449.
7. *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Vol. XXV, 1894, p. 127.
8. *Public Papers of George Clinton*, Vol. IV, p. 513.
9. The same, Vol. IV, p. 440.
10. The same, Vol. IV, p. 657.
11. The same, Vol. VI, p. 425.
12. The same, Vol. VI, p. 467.
13. The same, Vol. VII, p. 148.
14. The same, Vol. VII, p. 149.
15. The same, Vol. VII, p. 204.
16. The same, Vol. VII, p. 240.
17. General Washington's correspondence with his officers, in Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., photostat copies of which are on file in the Adriaance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
18. *Public Papers of George Clinton*, Vol. VIII, p. 295.
19. The same, Vol. VI, p. 414.
20. The same, Vol. VI, p. 512.
21. *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Vol. XXXII, 1901, p. 25.
22. The same, Vol. XXXIV, 1903, p. 45.
23. *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army during the War of the Revolution, April, 1775, to December, 1783*, by Francis B. Heitman-

New York City in November, 1783, Colonel Frederick Weissenfels was named on a committee of thirteen to plan the reception to be given Governor Clinton.<sup>18</sup>

What family Colonel Weissenfels had I have been unable to find. In a letter to Governor Clinton, written from Fort Rensselaer, November 15, 1780, he said: "I aknowledge your Excellency's Promiss respecting my Family with gratitude".<sup>19</sup> In the records of the Reformed Church of New York a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, born to Fredrick H. Weisenvelt and his wife Mary Schaerman, was baptized March 3, 1776, but there is nothing to prove that this was our Colonel. In the journal of Lieutenant Tjerck Beekman of Kingston, N. Y., a lieutenant in the Second New York Regiment, who kept a diary, 1778-1781, while at Valley Forge and during the Sullivan-Indian expedition, is mentioned: "Lieut Wissenfels (C. F. Weisenfels) 2nd Lieut 6th company, 1776; 1st Lieut 8th compy '78, served in Canada Campaign with his relative Col Frederick Von Weissenfels". Lieutenant Charles Frederick Weisenfels also served in the Fourth New York Regiment as First Lieutenant and Quartermaster in the Sullivan expedition in 1779. In 1780 he served in Westchester and Orange Counties as recruiting officer for the Levies.<sup>20</sup> At the close of the war he joined the Society of the Cincinnati from Dutchess County. Colonel Weissenfels was also a member of the Cincinnati Society.

After the war Colonel Weissenfels got into financial straits and lost his Dutchess County land in some manner not recorded. The land in Onondaga County, granted him as soldiers' rights, he sold July 11, 1789, to Richard Platt of New York City for £10.<sup>21</sup> On July 22, 1795, he transferred five lots to Jeremiah Van Rensselaer of Albany.<sup>22</sup> Impoverished by the war, he held a minor police office at New Orleans, La., where he died May 14, 1806, at the age of seventy-eight.<sup>23</sup>

J. WILSON POUCHER, M. D.

#### REFERENCES

1. *The Colonial Laws of New York from the year 1664 to the Revolution*, Vol. IV, p. 755.
2. *Liber 8, No. 75*, page 15, Dutchess County Court House, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
3. *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Vol. XV, p. 75.

On August 21, already in command of his regiment of Levies, he wrote to Governor Clinton concerning men to fill the junior officers' positions: "The best Levies, with respect to the Exterior appearance, I believe, that have been raised in this State, I have the honor to command, and hope the most of them serve from Principle, which will Promise success."<sup>16</sup>

On September 1, Governor Clinton reported that Colonel Weissenfels's regiment was ready for service and was ordered to proceed to Albany. The next year he was still active in the Levies along the western frontier. On May 18, 1782, he wrote to General Washington:

Fish Kill May 18th 1782

Sir:

I beg to acquaint your Exelency, that the distance, from the Cats Kill Mountains—Where the Righth of my Gaurd Comences, to Pienbeek is Seventy three Miles, to Gaurd that distance, I Expect to have about 300 Men, Excluse of a party of one Captain one Subaltren and 30 Men at Orange Town, and one Captain two Subaltren and 50 Men, at Bedford in West Chester County, Which disposition of The Levies (Except those raised in Dutches County, Who are to be Considered as a Quota for the Continental line) remains, until your Exellency Should please to order it otherwise. I Presume with Submission, that a Quantity of Provisions for the above mentioned Post may be Sent to Kingston, and there delivered, to a person appointed, for that purpose by the Governor of the State, the Bedford Party, to be suplied by the nearest Post, of the Continental Line, and Orange Town at King's Ferry, Which to accomplish, I hope wor your Exellency's order.

My indisposition prevents me the honor of Waiting on your Exellency and I have Sent Captain White of my Regiment to present with this, a Return for amunition in order to suply the Troops which are immedately to be Emploid on the Western Frontier.

I have the honor with great Respect to be

Your Exellency's

Most obedient most

humble Servant

Fred: Weissenfels.<sup>17</sup>

The frontier defenses against the Indians and bands of Tories comprised the last fighting of the war and continued long after peace had come to the rest of the country. When the British army evacuated

His regiment having been deranged and placed in the First and Second Regiments, at his request he was relieved January 1, 1781 and retired to his home. It was not long however before he wearied of simply looking on. July 31, 1781, he wrote to his friend, Governor Clinton:

Pawlings Precinct, July 31st 1781.

Sir, Permit me (in confidence) to Express my feelings to your Excellency, upon the subject of the seeming neglect I experience in not being Called upon to Serve (Which is so much both my inclination and my wish.) I am very sensible, Sir, of your Equitable Judgment in either accepting or Rejecting persons for public Employ, still I entreat to know if my Character as an officer, or Faithfull Citizen has been impeached, or what may be the occasion, that makes me unworthy of your Notice. Honor and real inclination to serve my Country is the prevailing motive which induces me to Wish, (if any stigma of reflection has been trown out against me) to have the satisfaction Either to stand or fall in the Judgment of my Fellow Citizens, by an Equall and public decision of facts. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's must obedient most humble Servant.

Fred Weissenfels.<sup>13</sup>

On August 4, Governor Clinton answered:

Sir, I have received your letter of the 31st ultimo expressing your desire of having a Command in the Present Levies. I had reason to have expected an earlier Intimation of your Intentions as by my General orders for embodying these troops I requested such Gentlemen Officers as were acquainted with Service & inclined to enter into the Present to signify the same to me immediately. A vacancy, however, suitable to your Rank is still open and if it is your wish to fill it, it is at your Service. In this Case it will be Necessary that you call upon me for your Orders without Delay. I cannot conceive what Reason you have to suppose you have been neglected when on the last and every former Occasion I am confident you have been treated with particular Marks of Attention & I am ignorant of any Thing to occasion a Change of the good Opinion of you which has been so repeatedly manifested.<sup>14</sup>

This offer as Lieutenant-Colonel of Levies was accepted at once and on August 14 he was ordered to take command of Levies assembled from Orange and Westchester Counties.<sup>15</sup>

vacant place and it was never filled. He remained commandant until the consolidation of the five regiments into two at the end of the year. His regiment formed a part of Clinton's Brigade in the Sullivan-Clinton expedition through central New York against the Indians and Tories who, under Sir John Johnson, the Tory Colonel Butler and Chief Brant, were devastating the frontier, and took an active part in the battle of Newtown where the city of Elmira now stands. During 1780, while his regiment had been transferred to the First and Second Regiments, he held a command in General Clinton's Brigade along the frontier and in the Mohawk Valley. In November, 1780, he commanded a force sent for the relief of Fort Schuyler. General Clinton wrote to the governor on November 12, 1780:

. . . . . I fear for Fort Schuyler; how long we can maintain it must depend on the exertions of Col. Hay. The river has been so low that Weissenfels has not got farther than the Little Falls. I wish the Ice may not detain him there.

On November 19, he again wrote:

. . . . . Col. Weissenfels has been remarkably slow in his progress to the Fort.

On November 21, Colonel Weissenfels reported his arrival at the fort:

. . . . . The Severe Spell of Frost prevented my making use of Boats and I was under a Necessity, to employ Waggons, to transport the State Stores; some Provision I had Collected and Baggage of the artillery and the Regiment. This Conveiance has been represented to me as impracticable, but by mending the Roads as I went along, I found it not only Practicable, but, Tollerable Easy. The State of the Garrison, is verry deficient, both for the maintainence of the Troops, and Defence . . . . .<sup>11</sup>

After he arrived at Fort Schuyler he set to work making repairs and looking for a better method of getting supplies which he reported to Governor Clinton as "60 Barrels of Flower, destined for Fort Schuyler, which where left at Fort Herkema without guard or direction, who where nearly half consumed, and the Rum half water." He further reported:

. . . . . My men are verry naked, which makes Duty verry severe. I do not expect to remain in the Service, and only wish, that I may not be left to take the trouble and anxiety for others, who will enjoy the honor of the Service.<sup>12</sup>

of a Board of General officers, (of which I herewith inclose a Copia) I humble Suppose I have a Righth to.

Your Excellency will Pardon me, When I intrude on your more material Concerns of Government, with this my humble Request, for nothing Could be more Conducive to my hapines, then to Continue in the Service of my Country. I am with the greatest Respect Your Excellency's Most Obedient Most humble Servant

Fred: Weissenfels.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr, Poughkepsy.<sup>8</sup>

Many of his fellow officers were outspoken in his favor. General McDougall, in a letter to Governor Clinton, December 31, 1778, wrote:

. . . . Lieut. Col. Weisenfels was with me to day. He informs me Col. H. B. Livingston has resigned and he seems feafull, Justice will not be done to him; as he has been twice or thrice superceed in the New-York line. He is now the oldest Lieut. Col. in it, on every construction, that can be rased; and by the Late Resolves of Congress Confirming the opinion of a full Board of General officers at the Plains. I hope, therefore, he will [not] have any future cause of Complaint. From what I know of him, the three last campaigns, he may be considered as one of the best and most attentive officers in the line of the State. adieu. yrs.

Alex'r McDougall.<sup>9</sup>

Colonel Marinus Willett, offered a colonelcy at this time although not of this regiment, wrote to Governor Clinton:

. . . . I am going to see Col. Wisenfelts, (who is not only in Justice, but by the most express Laws of Congress Intitled to the Command of that Regt.,) . . . I have from what appeared to me Sufficient Foundation, expected Col. Wisenfelts would have the Command of Col. Livingston's Regt., and that I would have been the Candidate for the next Vacancie . . . I think it also necessary to inform you, that if the Promotion of Col. Regnier is confirmed, it is my Intention to retire to some business where I may have an opportunity of freeing myself from such disagreeable embarrasements as I unfortunately Labour under at present. I am Sir Your most Obedient & Very Humble Serv't,

Marinus Willett.

Governor Clinton.<sup>10</sup>

Lieutenant-Colonel Weissenfels was never promoted to fill the

then flourishing German settlement in central Pennsylvania. It is certain that many did desert. Those who surrendered marched down through Dutchess County on their way to Pennsylvania and were given their freedom. After the fall of Burgoyne, Colonel Weissenfels with his regiment returned to the army of General Washington. The British had entered Philadelphia and the American army spent the winter at Valley Forge. Here the soldiers, hungry and ragged, went through the most distressing and discouraging period of the war. The commissary department failed absolutely in providing supplies. Congress had issued paper currency which had depreciated until it was almost worthless. "Not worth a Continental" has even come down to us. This was what the army had to buy with, and the people who had provisions to sell could get gold and silver for their goods by selling to the enemy at Philadelphia.

In the spring and summer of 1778, in spite of Valley Forge, the army became so active that the British in June evacuated Philadelphia and crossed the Delaware again. The battle of Monmouth, in which Colonel Weissenfels took an active part, was favorable to the American army and New Jersey and Pennsylvania were cleared of the enemy. On January 13, 1779, Lieutenant-Colonel Weissenfels was again transferred, this time to the Fourth New York Regiment from which Colonel Henry B. Livingston had resigned. Lieutenant-Colonel Weissenfels took command of this regiment as Lieutenant-Colonel-Commandant and naturally aspired to the full rank as colonel. There were many conjectures in official circles and several applications for the vacant colonelcy. He wrote to both Governor Clinton and to General Washington quite similar letters. To Governor Clinton, he said:

Rochester Jan'r 17t 1779.

Sir, I have Experienced the high favour of my Country When I wass apointed to a Post of Honor, (which office I flatter myself has to the best of my abiliety been held by me, to the advancement of Military Discipline, and to the full Execution of the trust Reposed in me) but as there is yet Room left, for a further advance by the Resignation of Col. H. B. Livingston, I beg leave to adress my self to your Excellency, if you and the Honorable Consel of Apointment, schould think me a proper object, to fill that Vacancy that I may be apointed.

As by the arrangement of this State, and by a Resolution

and he later went to Nova Scotia where he received money and land from the King.\*

Lieutenant-Colonel Weissenfels did not remain long in the Third Regiment but on November 21, 1776, became Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment under Colonel Goose Van Schaick. This was one of the regiments under General Washington in the late fall of 1776 when he was making a stand to protect Philadelphia from the British army that had crossed New Jersey almost without opposition. When they reached Trenton they found that Washington had seized all the boats and that they could not cross the Delaware river until it froze. It was Washington's plan to cross the river on Christmas night with three divisions of his army and attack the three British camps simultaneously. Unfortunately, the weather was very severe and only the division led by Washington personally was successful in crossing the Delaware. Colonel Weissenfels was fortunate enough to be in this party which found the Hessian camp entirely unprepared and were easy victims after their Christmas festivities.\*

The spring of 1777 opened with Washington's army fighting back the British in New Jersey, trying to save Philadelphia. He was obliged to send several of his regiments to strengthen the northern army against General Burgoyne's army which had left Canada early in the season and had taken Ticonderoga and everything in its way and had reached Saratoga on its way to Albany. One of these regiments was Colonel Weissenfels's which was very active in this campaign which resulted in the defeat and capture of General Burgoyne and his entire army at Saratoga in October. Lieutenant-Colonel Weissenfels is said to have been active in spreading propaganda among the German troops which comprised an important part of General Burgoyne's army, promising them land in the

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\*Colonel Rudolphus Ritzema was born in Holland. His father came to New York in 1744 as minister of the Reformed Church. Rudolphus went to Holland as a young man to study divinity, but gave up his studies and enlisted in the army of Frederick the Great of Prussia in the seven year's war. He returned to New York in 1762 and took up the study of law. He died in England in 1803.

\*Lord Cornwallis who had also been in command at Trenton, Princeton and Monmouth on that Christmas several years before, being dined by Washington and his generals after his surrender at Yorktown, raised his glass in a toast to Washington and said: "When history's verdict is made up the brightest garlands for your Excellency will be gathered not from the shores of the Chesapeake, but from the banks of the Delaware." (Life of George Washington, by John Marshall, 2d ed., Vol. II, p. 243)

- 4th, Elias Van Bunschoten  
 5th, E. Cooper  
 6th, Thomas DeWitt
- 1st Lieuts.—1st, Philip Dubois  
 2d, Albert Paulding  
 3d, Cornelius T. Jansen  
 4th, James Gregg  
 5th, William Martain
- 2d Lieuts.—1st, Evens Wherry  
 2d, Henry Vandenburgh  
 3d, Nathaniel Conklin  
 4th, Henry Docty.

I can certify that the above gentlemen were appointed by General Montgomery, and did duty as such the time I was Brigade-Major to the Army before Quebeck.

Fred. Weissenfels, Lieutenant-Colonel.

July 17, 1776.<sup>5</sup>

It was the purpose of the convention and the committee that the four regiments raised during the spring of 1776 should be officered as far as possible by men who had been officers in the four regiments recruited in 1775 and who had the experience of the Canadian campaign. This was done and also in the case of the Fifth regiment, raised by Colonel Lewis DuBois later in the summer.

On May 13, 1776, Colonel Weissenfels brought word to General Schuyler at Fort George that troops must be halted, as those in Canada were starving and without food supplies.<sup>6</sup> This was very likely when he was on his way to his new duties as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third Regiment, New York Line, as he had been commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel on March 8, while he was still in Canada. He soon after joined the Third Regiment and at the battle of White Plains, October 28, had command of that regiment in the unaccountable absence of Colonel Ritzema. Colonel Van Courtlandt, speaking of the battle of White Plains and this regiment, said: "[it] was engaged under Lieutenant-Colonel Weissenfels, Colonel Ritzema being absent four or five miles in the rear, either from cowardice or disaffection, perhaps both, for he shortly after discharged many of the men enlisted for the war, and absconded himself, going to the enemy at New York."<sup>7</sup> Colonel Ritzema was afterward court-martialled and dismissed from the American army,

1775, voted to raise four regiments "for the defense of liberty" for six months. They were commanded by:

1st Regiment, Colonel Alexander McDugall

2nd Regiment, Colonel Goose Van Schaick

3rd Regiment, Colonel James Clinton

4th Regiment, Colonel James Holmes.

Colonel Holmes did not accept and Philip Van Cortlandt was commissioned in his place. Henry Beekman Livingston, who was brother-in-law to General Montgomery, was commissioned a captain in the Fourth and was later its colonel. Frederick Weissenfels was first captain in the First Regiment. These regiments were ready for service about the first of September and marched upon the invasion of Canada under the command of General Richard Montgomery, arriving in Canada early in October. Here they were joined by troops from New England and fought their way toward Quebec where they arrived about Christmas time. Captain Weissenfels, after arriving in Canada, had been appointed a major by General Montgomery. At the meeting of the Provincial Congress held on February 26, 1776, in considering a list of officers still in Canada, the name of Fredk. Von Weissenfels was approved as one of the "Field Officers for the 4 Battalions ordered to be raised for the defense of the Colony."<sup>3</sup>

The term of enlistment for the officers and men of the four regiments of New York troops in Canada had expired on December 31, 1775, on the day of the battle in which General Montgomery was killed. They then had to make the best they could of the situation. On February 27 Lieutenant-Colonel Ritzema, who had returned home, reported to the convention that there were about nine hundred officers and men left in Canada.<sup>4</sup> Major Weissenfels, commissioned March 8, 1776, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third of the new regiments, reported the Third Regiment roster as he had left it in Canada:

Returns of the Officers belonging to the Third Battalion of Yorkers, commanded by Colonel Clinton, in rank, as they served at Canada, the last campaign, agreeable to General Montgomery's appointment.

Lewis Dubois, Major.

Captains.—1st, Jacobus S. Bruyn

2d, Robert Johnson

3d, David Dubois

## DUTCHESS COUNTY MEN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

### COLONEL FREDERICK WEISSENFELS

Frederick Weissenfels, or, as he was at various times designated, von Weissenfels, de Weisenfels and Baron de Weisenfels, was born in Germany and descended from a family prominent during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries at Weissenfels, a flourishing city on the river Saal, south of Leipsic, in Saxony.\* As a youth he received his military training in the army of Frederick the Great. Afterward he served as an officer in the English army, serving under General Braddock in America during the French and Indian war. The *New York Mercury* for April 30, 1759, contains an advertisement quoted at page 79 of Baird's *History of Rye*), signed: Frederick De Weissenfels, which announces that the subscriber was then operating a ferry between Rye, Westchester County, and Oyster Bay, Long Island, and that at the Rye end of the ferry he was conducting a store. The advertisement gives a long list of items, such as dry goods, hardware, paint, window glass, rum, sugar, molasses, etc., which De Weissenfels had for sale. He is said to have settled in Dutchess County as early as 1763. He was listed as Frederick de Weissenfelds December 20, 1763 in "An Act for Naturalizing the several Persons therein mentioned".<sup>1</sup> Whether he made his home continuously in Dutchess County is not quite clear. In his correspondence when not in the army he used the address Pawling Precinct, Dutchess County, and in 1781 there is a record of his purchasing several tracts of land in Dutchess County:

John Hathorn, Samuel Dodge, Daniel Graham, Commissioners of Forfeitures for the middle district in the County of Dutchess in the State of New York, pursuant to the directions of Sundry laws of the said State dated Aug. 30, 1788, certificate dated June 26, 1781, To Frederick Wisenfels 1st. Parcel, Certain tracts or lots of land situate in the Southeast Precinct in Dutchess County, containing 32 acres of land. 2nd. Parcel, 7 & 1/2 acres of land.<sup>2</sup>

When the war of the Revolution had begun in real earnest in New England, the New York Provincial Congress at its meeting in June,

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\*Suggestions from Mr. A. J. F. Van Laer, former State Archivist, on the origin of the von Wiessenfels family, are acknowledged with thanks.

Joanna Departed this Life Sepr 10 - 1808  
aged 86 years"

\* \* \* \* \*

"List of the Children of Pierre van Cortlandt when Born

Philip Augs 21 - 1749 ostile  
Catharine July 4 - 1751 ostile  
Cornelia Augs 2 - 1753 Nstile  
Gertruyd June 26. 1755  
Gilbert Aprile 6, 1757  
Stephen Feb: 13 1760  
Pierre Augs 29. 1762  
Ann June 1, 1766

Gertruyd Departed this Life Decemr 9, 1766

Stephen Departed this Life Augs - 29 - 1775

Gilbert Departed this Life Novr. 12: 1786

Catharine Van Wyck daughter of Pierre & Joanna van  
Cortlandt departed this life 24th September 1829  
aged 78 years 2 months and 9 days -

Philip Van Cortlandt Departed this life 5th November  
1831 aged 82 years 2 months & 4 Days

Cornelia Beekman departed this life 14th of March 1847  
aged 93 years 7 months & 12 days

Pierre Van Cortlandt departed this life 13th of June 1848  
aged 85 years 9 months & 15 days

Ann Van Rensselaer departed this life 10th of Jany 1855  
aged 88 years 7 months & 10 days"

A contribution of the Year  
Book intended to have been made  
by the late William Willis Reese.

This record of Gilbert Livingston's children is of value to Dutchess County primarily because it provides evidence of the date of the birth of his son, Henry, who for so many years served as Clerk of Dutchess County. Benson J. Lossing, in his writings on local history, gave 1714 as the date of Henry Livingston's settlement at Poughkeepsie. That statement has long been known to be inaccurate but, because of it, attention is called here to the entry in the Bible, showing 1714 to have been the year in which Henry Livingston was born.

Below are presented the entries, above referred to, as they appear on the back fly-leaves of the Bible of Joanna (Livingston) Van Cortlandt.

- "List of the Children of Gilbert Livingston & *Cornelia Beekman* when born  
*died 1746 McPheadres*  
 Robert *m Catharine* Decr 24 - 1712  
*died August 27th 1789*  
*m Susan Conklin*  
 Henry Augs 27 - 1714  
*died Feb. 10th, 1799*  
 Alida May 13 - 1716  
*married 1st Rutsen 2d Henry Van Rensselaer*  
*died Sep. 18 178(?)*  
 Gilbert Dec. 10 - 1718  
*died Sep 9th 1789*  
 John Sepr 19 - 1720  
*died August 31 1780*  
 Joanna Aug 17 - 1722  
*married Pierre Van Cortlandt*  
 William Aug. 22 - 1724  
*died Oct 4 17(?)9*  
 Phillip June 26 - 1726  
*died June 8th 175(0?)*  
*m (torn)ith Newcom*  
 James March 29 - 1728  
*died June 2d 1790*  
 Samuel Jany 29 - 1729/30  
*died July 2d 17(?)6*  
 Cornelius Aprill 28 - 1732  
*died Sep 3d 1750*  
 Catharine July 17 - 1734  
*married — Thorn died Nov 3d 1769*  
 Margret June 20 - 1738  
*married Peter Stuyvesant died Jan 8th 1818*

FAMILY BIBLE OF JOANNA LIVINGSTON  
WIFE OF PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT

An eighteenth century Bible, now held in the estate of the late William Willis Reese, who until recently was president of the Dutchess County Historical Society, contains certain entries of birth, marriage and death, which Mr. Reese had offered for publication in this Year Book, in the belief that the entries were valuable as genealogical source-material. It is therefore in the name of Mr. Reese that a report on this old Bible is made here.

The Bible was printed in 1736 by "Pieter en Jacob Keur" at Dordrecht. The text is in Dutch. Following the New Testament are: (1) the Psalms of David with musical notes; (2) text in sections which seem to be the catechism, doctrines, creed and liturgy of the Reformed Dutch Church.

On the title-page of the New Testament is written in old handwriting: *Joanna Livingston*. Joanna was born in 1722 and thus was fourteen years old when her copy of the Bible was printed.

In the front of the Bible a page of paper, of later date than the book, is pasted in. The page carries a record of the marriage of Pierre Van Cortlandt and Joanna Livingston in handwriting of a style later than writing which is found at the back of the Bible. The record reads:

"Pierre Van Cortlandt son of Philip Van Cortlandt and Catharine De Peyster was married to Joanna Livingston daughter of Gilbert Livingston and Cornelia Beekman the 28th day of May 1748 at the residence of her uncle Henry Beekman in the city of New York by Dominie Walter Du bois.

The speelnoots\* were James Livingston, Maria Johnston and Catharine Livingston."

At the back of the Bible, on original fly leaves, in old writing, there are entries pertaining to the families of Gilbert Livingston and Pierre Van Cortlandt, who were respectively the father and the husband of Joanna, the owner of the Bible.

The page devoted to the family of Gilbert Livingston shows in one writing and one ink the names of his children and the dates of their births. In different writing and different ink and inserted between the first lines are items of marriage and death.

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\*brideman, bridemaid.

1907		168	30
1908		37	11
1909		33	6
1910		37	4
1911	29,172	35	4
1912	29,994	24	4
1913	30,926	17	3
1914	31,856	12	1
1915	32,756	14	8
1916	33,254	11	2
1917	33,753	13	3
1918	34,252	6	3
1919	34,751	9	1
1920	35,062	7	2
1921	35,186	6	3
1922	35,309	5	2
1923	35,453	3	1
1924	35,557	15	4
1925	35,645	10	2
1926	35,695	3	0
1927	36,295	2	0
1928	39,619*	6	0
1929	39,999	6	1
1930	40,384	6	1
1931	40,770	2	0
1932	40,156	4	0
1933	40,542	2	0
1934	41,928	3	0
1935	42,314	3	0
1936	41,044	3	0
1937	41,168	5	1
1938	41,268	0	0
1939	41,542	0	0
1940	41,840	0	0

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\*The Eighth Ward section was added to the city in 1928.

J. WILSON POUCHER, M. D.



the water leaves the river everything is done to it that science can devise to make it a pure water for our domestic uses. Infectious diseases have become rare. In August of 1933 the sewerage from the Hudson River State Hospital, after having been discharged for sixty years into the river 2,000 feet above our intake point, ceased to be emptied into the river. The purification of our water since that time has been less difficult.

When Hudson River water first came into use in 1872 nothing was known of the germs of disease, knowledge of which has since become of such great importance in our everyday life. It was not until the 1880's that the first disease-germs were discovered and their relation to infectious diseases made known to the world. Bacteriology and the study of infection is a new study since that time. After 1897 specimens of water, filtered and unfiltered, were sent to Dr. David B. Ward, who was then the only bacteriologist here, and one of the best of his time. In 1907 a new laboratory was built and a competent bacteriologist employed at the pumping station. During the early years the filters in use were not covered but it was soon found that there were advantages in having not only the filters but also the sedimentation basin and reservoir under cover.

In 1923 the pumping station was remodeled and duplicate electric pumps installed in place of the old steam pumps. The water is carefully examined every day by microscope and chemical analysis and I believe that with the conscientious scientific care given our water supply our noble old Hudson is giving us the best water we could find.

For the kind and courteous assistance given me in the preparation of this rather crude account of our water supply I want to thank the officials with whom I came in contact and especially Mr. Frank A. Tripp, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works of the city and Mr. Thomas A. Cole, Bacteriologist at the pumping station.

The following table shows the number of cases of typhoid and the resulting deaths in Poughkeepsie during the last forty years:

Year	Population	Number of Typhoid Cases	Number of Deaths
1900		51	11
1901		63	12
1902		33	5
1903		39	11
1904		93	15
1905		78	9
1906		66	3

stones. This well started an epidemic of 168 cases of typhoid with 30 deaths, the worst in the history of Poughkeepsie.

Several years after the Hudson River water had been in use it was discovered that the intake pipe through which the water was pumped from the river did not extend into the river far enough from shore. When the tide was low it was taking surface water as well as all kinds of drift material which naturally drifted into the shore. Then, in 1902, a new intake pipe was extended 110 feet further out into the river channel, where the water is 42 feet deep at low tide. In 1907 a new sedimentation basin was built at the pumping station, which first receives the water pumped from the river and which takes much of the work from the filters. It has a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons. The water then goes through a rapid filter, then to aerators, then slow filters, then to pure water wells and high pressure pumps to the reservoir and by gravity to the city mains. Much of our water is pumped from the pumping station to the distribution and never sees the reservoir on College Hill. In 1872 there were two slow sand filters. In 1942 there are four. This type of filter was used for the first time in Poughkeepsie. These filters, each of which covers one-third of an acre, are cleaned by removing and washing the sand about once a year.

The first pure water reservoir built at College Hill in 1872 had a capacity of 12,000,000 gallons. In 1928 part of the eastern section of the city was annexed and as the land was higher a new reservoir was built at the top of College Hill, fifty feet higher than the first one. The new reservoir is of solid concrete and is covered to keep out algae, leaves and all foreign matter. It has a capacity of 5,000,000 gallons. The old reservoir is not used except for emergency and thus far none has occurred. It is kept filled with water by the overflow from the new reservoir.

The sedimentation basin which first receives the water pumped from the river is an important part of our process of purifying the water. There the water is treated with carbon and various chemical substances to coagulate various germs and clear the water of turbidity. It is cleaned twice a year and from 1,500 to 1,800 yards of sludge is removed each time. From the sedimentation basin the water goes through a pre-filter which consists of eighteen inches of gravel and twenty-seven inches of sand. Aeration comes next, where the water is thrown into a spray five to seven feet high. Then it goes through a slow sand and gravel filter, sand forty-eight inches deep and gravel thirty-six inches. From the time

considerable excavation. Then they must be insured against damage by flood and also take chances on severe droughts, which occasionally occur, leaving practically no water in the Fallkill.

Then the board announced its intention of using the Hudson River water, which had been the second choice of the engineers. There was a great deal of criticism. The Poughkeepsie Eagle of July 12, 1870, in an editorial entitled, "Drinking Water and Sewerage," said: "If we must have our water from the river, the point from which it is to be taken from such a river is at least an open subject. Nothing can be more important than to avoid the fated influences from both the city and hospital sewerage. The public must be satisfied on this point or the water will not be used and the work a failure." Again, later in the same month, "The Water Commissioners have decided to take the water from the river near the State Hospital. If we put in water unfit for use, no one will use it but will have to pay for it."

Land was purchased from the Swaim estate and two sand filters erected. The reservoir was built on the College Hill grounds to furnish enough gravity for forcing the water throughout the city mains. The pumps were first started for trial July 4, 1872, but it was several months later that the first water was put into the house of the president of the Water Board, Mr. Edward Storm. Prejudice against river water, which had been fostered by one of the newspapers, made the abandonment of wells and cisterns very slow. Mr. Davis remained in charge of the water and sewer systems until 1881 when he was succeeded as City Engineer by Charles E. Fowler. Of course, it was several years before the water mains could be placed through every street and even then there were whole streets where no one had connected for the use of city water.

In 1907, when an epidemic of typhoid fever broke out in a down town street and practically every family in the street was infected, I, as a physician, was called to attend several of these families. When asked whether she used the city water the first woman of whom I inquired, replied, "That old river water? Sure we don't. We have the finest well you can find." I found a big wooden pump near the street, used by everybody in the block. A specimen of the water was taken to my friend, Dr. David B. Ward, who was an able bacteriologist, "Teeming with typhoid germs," he reported. It did not take me long to get the Board of Health and the pump was torn down and the well filled to the top with

extinguishing fires. The water was pumped from the Fallkill by a large water-wheel. Water pipes were laid as far down town as Clover Street and in other locations where they were considered necessary.

When, in 1854, with a population approaching the 20,000 mark, Poughkeepsie became a city, with wells and cisterns for its only domestic water supply, and with these wells in practically every back yard, collecting waters from their surroundings, and when there were no sewers but a family privy vault in each back yard only a few feet from the well, what was there to prevent every well from becoming infected? I have been told by scientists that the water in the great reservoir at Hempstead, Long Island, comes from springs in northern Vermont, where it has to travel underground not only through the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut but also under the great Sound of salt water to reach the island.

Poughkeepsie was described as "A fine place to live, with fine schools and churches and railroad accommodations, and well governed, but, oh, so sickly." Meetings of citizens were held demanding a public water supply be furnished. In 1855 James Emott, Henry D. Varick and William H. Tallmadge were appointed a committee and favored bringing water from Morgan's pond (the present Vassar lake), which could furnish a daily per capita supply of thirty-five gallons of "pure spring water." A serious panic and the Civil War prevented this plan from going through.

In 1870, at an election to decide about a water supply, 544 votes were for and only 43 against a city water supply. A Water Board was formed, consisting of the following men: S. M. Buckingham, Edward Storm, Edward L. Beadle, E. M. Van Kleeck and James H. Weeks. Two engineers were employed, Theodore W. Davis and James P. Kirkwood, who had experience in sand filtration. Mayor George Morgan, who had purchased the College Hill property and had opened a hotel in the college building, had built Morgan Lake and expected to sell the water to the city. After a careful examination of many sources the Water Board, on the advice of their engineers, decided upon the water from the Fallkill.

When the Water Board and its engineers began a survey to find where they could build a reservoir on the Fallkill, where the water could supply the city by gravity, they found they must go away up in the Crum Elbow district and here the city must build a dam fifty feet high and do

## POUGHKEEPSIE'S WATER SUPPLY

When Poughkeepsie was first settled, the settlers found a good supply of fine water. There were several springs giving rise to streams, which streams for many years flowed down across the area of the present city into the Hudson River, and when the residents dug wells every well was filled with this excellent spring water. As time went on and the settlement became a village the first problem which came up was what to do in case of fire. It was not until 1799 that Poughkeepsie became a chartered village. Then the trustees began to discuss the subject of a water supply for extinguishing fires. A large well was dug at the Court House corner and, in 1803, a second public well on Main Street at a lane which is now Garden Street. In 1805 a third well was constructed near the corner of Main and South Hamilton Streets. Each householder was compelled to have five water buckets and male citizens were supposed to turn out and form bucket lines in case of a fire. About this time a fire engine was procured which was housed in the barn of James Emott on Market Street. A year or two later a second fire engine was housed near the Court House.

On March 1, 1833, at a meeting of trustees, freeholders and inhabitants the following resolution was passed: "Resolved that the trustees be authorized and empowered to purchase a Lot in their discretion for the purpose of Erecting a Cistern or fountain sufficient to supply the Village with Water from the Fallkill for the Extinguishment of fires and leading the same over the Village in pipes, if it shall be found expedient so to do. And the following Gentlemen shall be a committee associated with the Trustees for the purpose of determining as to the Expediency, Viz. James Hooker, Walter Cunningham, Mathew Vassar, Richard D. Davis and Rufus Potter."

The trustees however went ahead and chose a site for a reservoir on land on the hill since known as Cannon Street hill and purchased from Captain Joseph Harris for \$1,000. A meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants authorized an expenditure of \$15,000. Then followed a law suit over water-rights with men who were using the Fallkill for mills and manufacturing purposes. But, on May 19, 1834, Captain Harris delivered the deeds for the reservoir lots. The Poughkeepsie Eagle of November 5, 1835, rejoicing, says: "The reservoir has been completed at a cost of \$30,000.00 and all controversies settled." It was to be used only for

1 plain Tankard 36 & 5/8 ounces and 2 saucers	8
1 Chased milk pot 4 & 6/8 ounces and 1 Sugar Tongs 1 & 3/8	6 1/8
1 Gravy Spoon 3 & 3/8 ounces and 1 Mug 13 & 4/8	16 7/8
1 Bowl 14 & 2/8 ounces and 1 waiter 15 & 6/8	30
30 tea spoons 18 & 1/8 ounces and 3 Salt spoons 5/8	18 6/8
1 Small trunk 10 ounces and 1 pair Salt cellars 5	15
1 punch Ladle 3 & 7/8 ounces and 1 pair Sauce boats 20	23 7/8

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497 1/8

497 1/8 ounces @ 12/	\$745.69
Household Furniture	\$ 936.79
Wrought Silver	745.69
Inventory and appraisal total	<u>\$1682.48</u>

HELEN WILKINSON REYNOLDS.



2 pieces old floor oil cloth 50 cts and 1 cooking stove, boilers &c \$8	8.50
1 large Kitchen table & 1 small one and 3 kitchen chairs	.50
1 large and 1 Small Dutch oven \$1.25 and 6 Iron pots and 1 skillet \$6	7.25
1 Brass Kettle \$1.50 Griddle & frying pan \$1 and 2 Sad Irons 50 cts	3.00
1 pair Andirons, Tongs & Shovel \$1 & 2 pails & 1 wooden bread tray 25c	1.25
1 chopping table 50 cts & 1 Table 25 cts & 3 wash tubs & 1 pounding barrel \$1	1.75
1 dinner set blue Canton china	15.00
1 Remnant Liverpool china \$3 & 1 Set china tea cups & Saucers \$10	13.00
12 Jelly glasses \$2 10 Punch glasses \$1 & 2 doz wine glasses \$2	5.00
8 Glass decanters \$8 & 1 doz Cut glass tumblers \$2	10.00
1 doz blue \$1 and 1 doz pencilled china tea cups & saucers 75 cts	1.75
5 Glass plates \$1 and 2 cut glass salt cellars 50 cts	1.50
1 Set castors 50 cts and 2 Plated decanter Coasters \$2	2.50
2 Silver plated Mugs \$5 and 2 plated Goblets \$4	9.00
1 Plated Sugar dish & sugar tongs \$2 & 1 Plated milk pot \$3	5.00
1 Plated Wine Strainer \$1 and 1 Britania tea pot 25 cts	1.25
1 Wooden Mortar 25 cts and 2 Coffee mills 50 cts	.75
1 Tin pail and 1 Earthen pot 50 cts and 1 tin sugar trunnel \$2	2.50
6 tin Canisters \$3 and 1 yellow pitcher 50 cts	3.50
1½ doz. blk Ivory handle knives & forks \$4.50 and 1 doz. white do. \$3	7.50
Scales & weights, rolling pin and paste board \$1 & 1 bed-pan \$2.50	3.50
4 feather beds, 4 Bolsters and 8 Pillows	120.00
1 Hair Mattress and bedding	5.00
1 Husk bed 50 cts & 1 Straw bed, Bolster & 2 Pillows & 1 Comfortable \$3	3.50
4 large trunks \$5 and 3 Small trunks \$2.35	7.35
1 new black leather trunk \$4 and 1 white hair trunk \$3	7.00
2 Sets green bombasett \$1.50 & 1 odd set white muslin Curtains \$1	2.50
2 chair Cushions with dimity covers \$1 and 2 do. with green covers \$1	2.00
1 Eiderdown \$1, 3 Black waiters 50 cts & 1 little glass Lamp 13 cts	1.63
1 Card box & counters \$3 and 1 Japaned bread Basket 25 cts	3.25
8 Birdseye breakfast Cloths \$10 and 2 old damask do. 75 cts	10.75
5 damask table Cloths \$8 and 2 old damask napkins 50 cts	8.50
23 Linen Sheets \$39.50 and 8 muslin sheets \$5	44.50
4 Good Bolster Cases \$1.50 and 8 old and coarse ones \$1	2.50
1 Tow linen case for a mattress	1.00
18 fine birdseye towels \$6 and 2 small do. 50 cts	6.50
11 wash hand towels \$1 and 5 good muslin towels 63 cts	1.63
18 Brown Linen towels \$1.50 & 11 Common tea towels 68 cts	2.18
2 Ticking Pillow Covers and 1 old Bolster cover	.50
12 fine linen Pillow Cases \$8 and 5 Coarser do. \$2.50	10.50
10 Muslin Pillow Cases \$1.50 and 1 meat safe 50 cts	2.00
1 Leather to carry wood 75 cts and 1 hearth Brush & 1 pair andirons 75c	1.50
Madeira wine, 18 Gallons @ \$3	54.00
Port Wine, 60 quart & 20 Pint bottles, say 16 Gallons to the bottles	32.00

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\$936.79

WROUGHT SILVER

1 Large Bread Basket 58&4/8 ounces and 1 chased Sugar Pot 16&4/8	75
2 Plain tea Canisters 20&1/8 ounces & 2 chased Candlesticks 45&2/8	65 3/8
1 pair Snuffers & stand 14 & 5/8 ounces and 2 Tumblers 10	24 5/8
1 tea pot 22 ounces and 21 Table Spoons 50 & 1/8	72 1/8
12 dessert spoons 15 ounces and 1 tankard 31 & 5/8	46 5/8
1 mustard pot & spoon 3 & 7/8 ounces and 1 Large Soup Ladle 9 & 2/8	13 1/8
1 plain Sugar pot 10 ounces and 1 plain waiter 35	45

—in short, for a larger town. Let any man who has lived in Poughkeepsie during the past ten years and been conversant with the business transactions of the village during that time, recur to the condition of our Warehouses at the different Landings as they were ten years ago and compare them with the same establishments as they are now and say if their aggregate accommodations have not been fully doubled and yet they are still found barely sufficient. Let him cast his eye along Main-street and see what a different, what an improved aspect the several stores and shops have put on and ask himself what but the prosperous condition of the county and the increased business of the village has done all this. The number of buildings and population have fully doubled in the last fifteen years. The flourishing condition of the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the county amply justify the belief that our business will increase in a greater ratio for the ensuing than it did during the past fifteen years. We may therefore reasonably expect that the growth of our village will be much more rapid than it has been."

\* \* \* \* \*

#### INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF CATHARINE LIVINGSTON READE

Surrogate's Records, Poughkeepsie; File No. 3193, dated October 4, 1830. Inventory and appraisal of goods and chattels belonging to the estate of Mrs. Catharine Reade.

Inventory made by the executors of the estate, James Emott, James Hooker, and Robert L. Reade, and appraisal by Alfred Raymond and Daniel Hebard, appointed by the surrogate.

##### HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

4 Windsor Curtains, 8 Curtain pins and Cornices	\$ 20.00
1 Tea table with Claw feet \$15 and 12 Curled maple chairs \$40	55.00
1 Mahogany breakfast table and green baise cover	3.00
24 Green chairs \$20 and 1 Mahogany stand, Claw feet \$3	23.00
1 pair tongs and shovel \$2.50 & 1 set mantel flower pots \$5	7.50
1 Back Gammon board \$1.25 & 4 yellow waiters \$4.50	5.75
6 plated Candle sticks \$3 & 1 tin stove and crumb Cloth \$4	7.00
1 Tea urn \$5 and 1 old Secretary or writing desk \$1	6.00
1 field bedstead, Bed Curtains and Windsor Curtains \$10	10.00
1 Chest of Drawers \$4 and 2 cherry stands, Basin & Pitcher \$2.50	6.50
17 Yellow Wood chairs \$8 and 9 Blankets, 2 chintz Comfortables & 7 flannel sheets \$27.50	35.50
10 Marseilles and other Quilts or Counterpanes	30.50
17 Carpets, Stair Carpets and Strips of carpeting and 2 hearth Rugs	83.00
1 work table & Green baise cover	4.00
3 Mahogany Stands, Basins & Pitchers	3.25
6 Looking glasses and dressing glasses	36.50
5 Brown fancy chairs \$4 and 4 Bamboo chairs \$1.50	5.50
2 Sets of curtains and 2 Curtain pins	4.00
1 Large dining Table and 2 ends to it	10.00
1 Globe Lantern and fixtures	4.00
2 Maps \$1 and 1 double and 2 Single cots \$3.50	4.50
1 Cambrie Muslin Window Curtain \$1.50 and 1 Toilet Table \$1	2.50
1 Mahogany bedstead, Curtains and 4 Window Curtains	35.00
1 Satin wood dressing table	6.00
1 pair brass and irons, tongs and shovel and brass fender	8.00
1 Large easy chair and 3 Covers \$15 and 2 Toilet Tables 50 cents	15.50
2 high, plated Candlesticks \$1.50 and 3 low, plated blockers \$1	2.50
1 ward Robe \$20 and 2 wash hand stands (wood) 50 cents	20.50
1 Set yellow bed and window Curtains and bedstead	5.00
1 wooden Case \$2 and 1 cherry tea table and 2 Small looking glasses \$1	3.00

La Grange	2,084
Milan	1,886
Northeast	1,689
Pawlings	1,705
Pine Plains	1,503
Pleasant Valley	2,419
Poughkeepsie	7,222
Red Hook	2,983
Rhinebeck	2,938
Stanford	2,521
Union Vale	1,833
Washington	3,036

50,926

Commenting on the above census the Journal says: "We perceive there are in the county but five persons who have reached the advanced age of one-hundred years and that of these four are males and one a free, colored female. Between 90 and 100 years there are 21, of whom 10 are males and 11 females. The number of persons in the county who are blind is 21 and there are 22 who are deaf and dumb."

\* \* \* \* \*

*Poughkeepsie Journal*, August 24, 1831, p. 2, c. 6.

#### VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS

The first paragraph gives details of new sidewalks, pavements, new buildings, public market, &c.

"When the improvements now in progress shall have been completed we know of no village in or out of the state which can present so many attractions for the man of affluence who wishes to settle down for the purpose of enjoying the close of life in a quiet and comfortable retreat. It is delightfully situated midway between New York and Albany and with the facility of steamboat travelling only five or six hours removed from either. It is surrounded by the best cultivated, most fertile and wealthiest agricultural district in the state and as a healthy residence is certainly unsurpassed by any town in the union."

\* \* \* \* \*

*Poughkeepsie Journal*, August 31, 1831, p. 3, c. 1.

"Village Improvements.—We have at different times taken occasion to speak of the growth and prosperity of Poughkeepsie. It is a theme which we are pleased to revert to and on which we delight to dwell. Were this growth the result of headlong speculation, we should regard it with fear, instead of satisfaction, for then we could not refrain from contemplating the coming ruin and distress which rarely fail to follow speedily in the track of such speculations. But every one at all acquainted with the recent growth of Poughkeepsie knows that speculation has had little, we may say nothing, to do with it. And so far from being regarded with surprise by those who are intimately acquainted with the prosperous condition of the farming and manufacturing interests of the county, the augmented business and consequent growth of the village are considered quite as matters of course.

It is the opinion of well-informed men that the surplus products of the country which come to this village annually for a market have a good deal more than doubled in the last ten years. Our farmers generally compared with what they were ten years ago are not only disembarassed but prosperous and wealthy—of course in a condition to afford themselves and families much more liberally, not only all the comforts, but to add to these many of the luxuries of life.

All this calls for new stores, new mechanics, new freighting accommodations

direction it was constructed and ornamental to that section of the town.

The Board of Trustees for the current year deserves much praise for the improvements in our public streets and sidewalks, which have been set on foot and accomplished by their judicious and public spirited councils. Much has already been done in this way, more is now doing and much more is still preparing to be done.

A vote was last week carried by the owners of lots on Main street, between Academy street and Washington street, to take up the pavement the whole distance early next season and lay it down in an improved and more permanent form. This will lead, we are assured, to the taking up of the present inconvenient and unsightly flagging of the sidewalks of this our principal street and the substitution of a neat, smooth and substantial flagging the whole distance.

A project is also on foot to make similar improvements in Cannon street and we have no doubt they will be effected during the coming season.

The Cross-ways lately put down under the direction of the trustees at all the principal crossing places in our business streets will be found a very great convenience. In addition to the other improvements made or contemplated, we are pleased to have it in our power to say that it is now settled that early next season the walks on Main street from the junction of Washington street to the steamboat landing will be handsomely and substantially flagged.

That these numerous, extensive and costly improvements are not the effect of a mere temporary excitement, such as is frequently set on foot in villages and sometimes even in cities by wild speculation, but a natural consequence of the increasing business and substantial prosperity of the village is abundantly obvious to all observing men who have closely attended to the progress of things among us for the last few years. It is an undeniable truth that the farming interest of Dutchess is and has been for several years in a most prosperous condition. Our farmers have greatly improved their mode of farming and have thereby essentially increased the products of their farms. Poughkeepsie, although by no means the only market, is certainly the principal market, for the varied and rich productions of this great and wealthy agricultural county, as well as for a large district in Connecticut and for a considerable portion of Ulster County.

Distant readers may be enabled to form some idea of the farming operations of this county and of the business of the village when we inform them that one item sent to New York with our vessels last Saturday consisted of considerably rising 2,000 dead hogs. Mr. Conklin's Tow Boat alone carried 1,424 hogs, which it is estimated would weigh on an average of 250 lbs each. We presume it will be within bounds to say that the pork sent off on that day in the hog was 530,000 lbs., which at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents the lb. (the price generally paid) would be rising \$30,000.00 for the single article of Pork sent off in a single day. Besides this the vessels carried off a great number of fat cattle and sheep and large quantities of grain, butter, cheese, &c., &c.

Numerous other evidences might be adduced in proof of the extensive business and growing prosperity of our village but these must be deferred to a future occasion."

\* \* \* \* \*

*Poughkeepsie Journal*, December 8, 1830, p. 2, c. 6

Census of Dutchess County

Towns	Population
Amenia	2,389
Beekman	1,584
Clinton	2,130
Dover	2,198
Fishkill	8,292
Hyde Park	2,554

appears on other pages of this issue of the Year Book. She married John Reade, who, first at Tivoli and next at Poughkeepsie, owned and conducted typical river-landings with store houses and boats. River-traffic was the source of John Reade's income and his success in the same gave his widow (in addition to her inheritances in land) the comforts she continued to enjoy after his death.

The household goods of Mrs. Reade may therefore be assumed to represent what was in the best homes of Dutchess in 1830. From that point of view the reader will note the extent to which silver, china, linen, mahogany, wines, &c. were in use. The valuations put on household items in 1830 also are illuminating. Who, today, but would gladly pay fifteen dollars for one dinner set of blue Canton china? The highest appraisals on the list were for a dozen curled maple chairs and one claw-foot tea-table; for carpets; feather-beds, bolsters and pillows; and for wine; while the wrought silver was appraised for more than two-thirds the amount of all other items combined.

It is obvious from this inventory that the tiny house under the three giant trees was lived in with many luxuries and refinements but that, even so, the little house was rather sparsely furnished. And in these facts concerning one good home in Dutchess there is probably to be seen a reflection of the condition of others and a picture of the times is thus obtained.

*Poughkeepsie Journal*, December 8, 1830, p. 2, c. 5

"Village of Poughkeepsie.—By the politeness of Mr. Van Ness, the Deputy Marshall, we are enabled to lay before our readers the Census of the inhabitants of this village and county. The population of the village on the first day of last June was 5,023. In 1820 it was 3,401. In 1825 it was 3,809, showing an increase of 408 in the intervening five years. The present census shows an increase during the last five years of 1,214, or nearly 33 per cent. and an increase during the last ten years of 1,662, or nearly 48 per cent.

Within the last three years the indications of prosperity in our village have become more strikingly manifest than at any former period. New buildings have been at all times to be seen going up in the different streets, the number of stores and mechanics' shops have been steadily increasing and the town generally has put on a thrifty and prosperous appearance.

Within the last twelve months especially an unusual number of new buildings have been erected and other improvements made. During this period, we understand, it is ascertained that from fifty to sixty stores and dwellings have been erected. The long range of three-story Brick Stores put up by Mr. Brewster and others, at the corner of Main and Market streets, do much credit to the taste and enterprise of the owners and give that part of the village quite a city appearance.

The new Banking House erected by the Directors of the Poughkeepsie Bank is a neat substantial edifice, alike creditable to the taste of those under whose

## THE PROSPERITY OF DUTCHESS COUNTY ABOUT 1830

Although the Erie Canal was opened in 1825 and although ultimately the canal, combined with other factors, broke down the prosperity enjoyed by agriculture in Dutchess County in the early nineteenth century, still in 1830 the prosperity of the farms of this region was untouched. The farms were then producing for export very largely and the exports created a great volume of river-traffic. Freight was heavy. Warehouses and landings at the river-side, all along the frontage of Dutchess were profitable enterprises. Boats that went to New York, laden with food-stuffs, returned with manufactured goods for the stores throughout the county; and thus merchants were well-to-do.

One of the traditions handed down about those busy days was given the writer in 1928 by Miss Martha Akin Taber and Miss Alicia Taber of Pawling (both since deceased). As told to them by their father, George K. Taber (born in 1822), who had a farm at Pawling, the story ran that in his youth he used to drive from Pawling to the river every-other week-day, his wagon being loaded with farm-produce. He would drive from Pawling to Beekman and from Beekman to New Hackensack, between which points there would always be another team in sight ahead of him. From New Hackensack to Poughkeepsie a continuous procession occupied the road. And from Catharine street, Poughkeepsie, to the river, Main street would be so filled that a driver would sit in line, sometimes for three hours, waiting for a chance to unload and load again at the dock.

Not only does tradition tell of the great days of agriculture in Dutchess but there are vivid pictures of it in contemporary newspapers and, below, there are reprinted from the *Poughkeepsie Journal* several detailed accounts of the activity in the county and of the growth and development along certain lines induced by the well-being of the farms.

Still further to illustrate local life in 1930 there is sub-joined here a copy of the inventory of the estate of Mrs. John Reade of Poughkeepsie. Mrs. Reade was a widow. In the last years of her life she lived in a small house on (what is now) Market street, Poughkeepsie, a house that was shaded by three great sycamore trees. The house, only recently torn down, was on the land now held by the city as Hulme Park. Mrs. Reade was a daughter of Robert Gilbert Livingston of New York City and a cousin of Major Henry Livingston, Jr., about whom something

Marshall, Isaac P.  
Marshall, J. C.  
Marshall, Henry S.  
Merritt, George  
Merritt, Edward  
More, P. H.  
More, A. L.

Morey, George  
Morgan, Caleb  
Moshier, Alfred  
Moshier, Hiram  
Mott, S. S.  
McLean, S.

Bushnal, Alva  
Bloom, John  
Caldwell, G. B.  
Campbell, (Doct ?)  
Canfield, (Doct ?)  
Canfield, Leonard  
Carroll, L. B.  
Cheeseman, Filkins  
Clapp, Peter B.  
Clapp, Hicks  
Coffin, R. G.  
Coffin, G. W.  
Coffin, A. H.  
Cole, Ulysses  
Collins, C.  
Cornell, R. D.  
Cornell, Wm. H.  
Crisman, G. J.  
Culver, Beckus  
Cutler, Lorenzo  
Cutler, Theron  
Cooly, John  
Cookingham, Reuben  
Dakin, J. F.  
De Forest, Isaac N.  
De Garmo, Elias L.  
Doty, Elias  
Doty, S. S.  
Doty, John P.  
Doty, Isaac  
Doughty, Allen  
Du Bois, Cornelius  
Eno, William  
Flagler, S. E.  
Flint, Augustus  
Foster, Lewis W.  
Forman, George W.  
Fowler, Jacob C.  
Frost, Charles  
Fuller, Nathaniel J.  
Gildersleve, S. J.  
Gildersleve, H. B.  
Gildersleve, Philip  
Gill, J. R.  
Griffin, Elihu

Hagadon, Jacob  
Haight, D. B.  
Haight, D. B., Salt Point  
Haight, Clement  
Haight, Jacob C.  
Haight, Nelson  
Haight, Lewis  
Haight, Stephen  
Haight, George  
Hallock, Samuel W.  
Halsted, R. J.  
Halsted, Moses  
Ham, Johnathan  
Ham, Milton  
Ham, Madison  
Hastings, John  
Haviland, J. C. & E.  
Haviland, B.  
Haviland, James  
Haxton, E.  
Haxton, Wm. E.  
Hayt, Henry D.  
Hermans, John  
Herrick, Wm.  
Heustis, J. & S.  
Hicks, S. S.  
Hicks, Burtis  
Howard, James  
Howard, H. B.  
Hiserodt, Stanley  
Heart, Benjamin  
Hopkins, B.  
Humestan, Thomas  
Hazard, Wm.  
Haight, Isaac  
Haight, Elias  
Ingraham, George W.  
Jackson, David  
Justis, James  
Ketcham, John H.  
Knapp, Amos B.  
Lyon, John  
Losee, Velie  
Mabbett, James  
Mabbett, Titus

SOME OF THE MEMBERS  
OF THE  
DUTCHESS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
IN 1853

In 1853 Barclay Haviland of Hart's Village (now part of Millbrook) was the secretary of the Dutchess County Agricultural Society and, in 1942 in the attic of his house, his daughter, Miss Caroline Haviland, found in his hand-writing a partial list of the members of the Agricultural Society as of 1853, the list running alphabetically from A through M.

Accompanying the written list of names were two printed copies of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Agricultural Society.

The printed matter names Cornelius Du Bois as president of the society. He, presumably, was the man of that name who, in the mid-nineteenth century, lived on what is now Hooker Avenue, in Poughkeepsie. The house of Cornelius DuBois was, in recent years, made over and a row of stores was placed across its front. Disguised, but still standing, it is on the north side of the street, diagonally across from the Friends' Meeting House. In Cornelius Du Bois's time the house had a farm of some size attached to it.

Through the courtesy of Miss Haviland the list of names written by her father is reproduced in this Year Book of the Dutchess County Historical Society.

Abel, William W.	Barton, R. C.
Abel, John U.	Barrow, Lawrence
Ackerman, Isaac	Bates, Stephen D.
Adams, David M.	Beckwith, George
Adams, Job	Boice, Levi M.
Akin, Isaac	Bower, John
Angel, Stephen T.	Bower, Joseph
Arnold, Azariah	Briggs, Johnathan
Arnold, A. H. R.	Brundige, Edward
Bartlett, Joseph	Bull, Stephen
Barnes, Henry M.	Burton, Abraham
Barlow, E. L.	Butler, Allen
Barnes, Wm. C.	Butts, Wesly
Bartlett, Wm. S.	Bryan, David

much information for later generations regarding individual persons and their setting in life.

"For the duration" will not members and friends of the society join in a movement to find early portraits, wherever they may now be, of former residents of Dutchess and if possible ascertain the names of the artists?

Such activity "for the duration" would not call for travel or transportation but would serve the purpose of holding the membership together in work and interest while yielding valuable results for the benefit of county history. It would tax no one heavily for time or strength.

The editor of the *Year Book* would be happy to be notified of the location and ownership of portraits painted before 1840 of Dutchess County people.

(Miss) HELEN WILKINSON REYNOLDS,  
56 Grand Avenue,  
Poughkeepsie,  
New York.

## “FOR THE DURATION”

In September, 1942, it was necessary to omit the annual Pilgrimage of the Dutchess County Historical Society, an event which for twenty-four years had been enjoyed by large numbers of the members and friends of the organization. Those twenty-four Pilgrimages revealed to those who took part in them places and houses and scenes of historic happenings which previously had been known to comparatively few persons and through them was gained a better understanding of local history. Local background is more real now to many than before due to the Pilgrimages and local pride in good beginnings has been stimulated.

Regret at the omission of the Pilgrimage in 1942 was general. Also general however was the recognition and the acceptance of the fact that the omission was due to conditions caused by the great war the country is engaged in and that any sacrifice should be made which would aid final victory.

Deprived “for the duration” of the famed annual outdoor occasion and burdened with many cares incident to the war, members of the Dutchess County Historical Society face at present the need to render all the loyalty and devotion possible to the society and what it stands for. Unity and cooperation and steadfastness are needed from each member “for the duration”, in order that the ground gained in twenty-eight years of enthusiastic work may be held intact and that, when happier days come, it may be possible to carry on with renewed energy.

To offset the loss of the Pilgrimage “for the duration”, the *Year Book* has a suggestion to make. The editor would like to acquire for publication in the *Year Book* a list of portraits of residents of Dutchess County, which portraits were painted before 1840.

In the 1840's daguerreotypes were introduced and in the 1850's photographs were made so that after 1840 portraits were not the sole medium by which a record was preserved of the appearance of the residents of the county.

Early in the 19th century and to some extent in the 18th there were itinerant painters, men of more and less ability and training, who went from place to place in New England and New York and states southward painting portraits. Some of those men were always obscure, some became well known. But whatever the degree of merit of their work, they recorded features, coloring, costumes, etc., and in such details provided

Another phase of this program involves the collection of source materials of neither state nor federal origin which have a bearing on the history of the county. In this category are records of private schools, fraternal organizations, and all such institutions which are a part of community life. Of special interest is the history of the transfer of the energies of business from peacetime to wartime production. Individuals, groups and organizations engaged in war activity will be approached in an attempt to interest them in preserving the war record of this region.

Committee

James F. Baldwin, Ph.D.  
Historian of Dutchess County  
Vassar College  
Poughkeepsie, New York

Fanny Borden, Librarian  
Vassar College  
Poughkeepsie, New York

Dorothy Plum, Reference Librarian  
Vassar College  
Poughkeepsie, New York

Fred W. Shipman, Director  
Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
Hyde Park, New York

John J. Morrow, Librarian  
Adriance Memorial Library  
Poughkeepsie, New York



## THE COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

Members of the Dutchess County Historical Society know how much value is placed today upon letters, diaries, accounts, clothing, furniture, pictures, etc., which belonged to the period of the War of the Revolution or to the Civil War. They are therefore able to realize the importance that will be attached years hence to similar cultural material originating now, contemporaneously with the World War in which we are engaged.

And so it was appropriate that, at the autumn luncheon of the society, October 16, 1942, an appeal should be made to the society and to the general public for the collection and preservation of things of value in the local cultural field. A short address was made by Mr. Fred W. Shipman, chairman of the Committee on Conservation, and on each table in the dining room were copies of an open letter, which is reproduced here below. It is to be hoped that active cooperation will be accorded the committee in its far-sighted and needed endeavors.

October 16, 1942.

### AN OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERS OF THE DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In an attempt to safeguard Dutchess County's valuable historical and art treasures from danger in wartime, the Mid-Hudson Committee on Conservation of Cultural Resources is planning to divide the county into several regions, each of which will be under the supervision of a delegate appointed to keep in touch with owners of collections of fine paintings, furniture, art objects, and books, and to serve as liaison for the Committee. Dr. Felix Hirsch of Bard College has consented to serve for the towns of Red Hook and Rhinebeck, and others will soon be appointed in the various sections of the county. Representatives of the Vassar, Adriaance, and Franklin D. Roosevelt Libraries are serving as a steering committee of the Mid-Hudson group. If you know of valuable materials which are now in danger of loss or destruction you are requested to notify this committee and if necessary it will arrange for the provision of free storage space. Unfortunately, the committee has no funds with which to pay the expenses incident to packing and shipping of materials.

Iroquois Nations occupying the land bridge between British New York and the Great Lakes. As long as the Iroquois held to their covenant with the British, the French could not win the war despite their victories. But Iroquois favor was difficult to retain through those disappointing years and Johnson kept the Iroquois in line as no other leader of his time could have done.

In the second phase, after 1760, Johnson's objective was to save the fruits of victory, forestall French efforts to recover their lost domains and restrain the Indians from throwing off the British yoke. It is to Johnson's everlasting credit that he endeavored to do this, not by the ruthless use of power, but by means of open covenants and honest dealing.

A bloody Indian war did come to pass in 1763, through causes in the main beyond Johnson's control but it was he who brought peace again to the western borders. Through ten more years of tumult, while the storm clouds of the American Revolution were gathering, Johnson held the balance between conflicting forces amid difficulties utterly beyond peaceful solution.

Then, quite suddenly, the great man collapsed on the last day of a three-day Indian council in the grove at Johnson Hall—July 11, 1774.

So died, on the eve of the struggle for independence, an Irish-born pro-consul of the British Empire in America, Sir William Johnson, a leader whose life work is as yet but dimly understood and whose services still remain to be estimated at their real worth. He helped to win the West and to hold the West until an independent America could take over for democracy a territory imperial in extent; a territory here dedicated, not to empire, but to the increasing welfare of the human race.

ARTHUR POUND.



General of the northern department. From 1751 on he was appointed for a member of the council of the Crown Colony.

Already I have told you of Johnson's campaigns against the French. His first success at Lake George brought him as reward the honor of baronet, a considerable grant in cash and a commission as Colonel, sole agent and superintendent of the Six Nations and other northern Indians. Five years later, after the surrender of Canada, his powers were widened and his field of work enlarged. Until his death in 1774, Sir William, whether at home in Johnson Hall or elsewhere on duty, remained the foremost personage and the chief civilizing force over the whole interior of America from the Tennessee river to the Arctic circle.

Truly a magnificent field for the operations of an empire-builder! As their empire grew throughout the world, the British borrowed from the Romans a word to describe those who ruled subject peoples in distant scenes—the word "pro-consul," as typified by men like Clive in India, Cecil Rhodes in South Africa, Lugard in West Africa, Sir Stamford Raffles in the Malay States and Lord Cromer in Egypt. Each of these men had wide territorial scope for their talents in rulership and diplomacy, but here in America the British colonial domain was divided into thirteen colonies, each independent of the other and as yet incapable of the mutual sacrifices and accommodations necessary to union. A second influence in restraint of royal appointees was the power of the purse held by vigilant colonial assemblies.

Beyond the settlements, a quite different situation prevailed. In the wilderness and on the frontier, resolutions of provincial Congresses could not prevail. Small British garrisons were thinly scattered over a tremendous area. At these posts trade went forward with native peoples not subject to the Crown as yet but rather free and independent allies amenable to shrewd diplomacy under treaty and subsidy. Through his agents, Johnson sought to regulate Indian trade fairly and to keep Indian land transactions untainted. From his Mohawk valley headquarters Johnson's control swept out in a broad arc to northwest, west and southwest—from Hudson's Bay and Lake Superior, through the Mississippi and the Illinois country, down to the great bend of the Tennessee.

Johnson's public career divides into two almost equal periods. From 1744 to 1760, as military leader and as treaty maker, he strove to drive the French from the interior of America. His unique contribution lay in his personal hold on the Mohawks and through them upon the other

puted territory. Let those who grow faint hearted now, think of the never-give-up spirit, the consistent fortitude which saw our people through so long a period of adversity.

Who was this man Johnson and how did he become New York's chief contributor to the history of those fateful years? In his own lifetime he grew to be almost a legendary figure, so great was the power he exerted over grateful but superstitious Indian peoples. It is only recently, through publication of nine fat volumes of his letters and papers by the State of New York, with three more volumes to come, that historians have realized his full stature. Those letters and reports reveal his mighty exertions, his wearisome marches as a militia officer, and his long struggle to win fair play for Indians and a decent respect for their rights.

Johnson emigrated from Ireland to the Mohawk valley in 1738 at age 23. His famous sailor-uncle, Sir Peter Warren, owned some cheap land on the south side of the Mohawk near present Amsterdam, and thither went the young Irishman to make his fortune. His best stock-in-trade was a friendly nature which won Indian favor at once. Taken into the Mohawks as a blood-brother, he gained immense influence in the councils of that leading Iroquois nation.

Within a few years Johnson moved across the river to the north side of the Mohawk. His second house at the new location, Fort Johnson, is now a famous historic shrine containing the notable collections of the Montgomery County Historical Society. For many years it was a busy trading post between Albany and Oswego, an important station on a main route for furs. On this site Johnson laid the foundation of a fortune which, with his grants of land from the Indians, made him the richest American of his time.

In America it is commonplace for business men to turn from trade to public affairs. King George's war, 1744-48, brought that change to William Johnson. With a British garrison at Oswego to supply, Johnson's ability to get supplies through to that post became an important military asset. Quite naturally he became Commisary for Indian Affairs and a little later Colonel of the Warriors of Six Nations and white volunteers, a force of scouts and border guards. In the last year of the war he was commissioned Colonel of fourteen companies of militia. Thus began a career in the militia which brought upon him responsibility for the safety of the Mohawk, Susquehanna and Cherry Valley frontiers as well as for occasional distant campaigns. Eventually he became Major

## JOHNSON OF THE MOHAWKS A BRITISH PRO-CONSUL IN AMERICA\*

Impatiently the American people now await a military victory over a distant foe. A good many of us think that ten months is long enough to wait, but it will brace our souls and build up our sticking power if you will travel back with me two centuries or so to the days of William Johnson and the part he played in two wars against the French, wars which settled basic language and institutions of this continent.

In one of those conflicts, the French and Indian war of seven years duration, our side waited for victory, any kind of a victory, not ten months but, literally, four years. The war began near the Forks of the Ohio at present Pittsburg, in the year 1754 when a young Virginia commander named George Washington surrendered Fort Necessity to the French. The next year Braddock's brave redcoat army was crushed on the Monongahela. Shirley of Massachusetts also failed at Oswego, and the only bright spot for that year was a drawn battle fought by Yorker and Yankee militia at Lake George under the command of an amateur soldier from the Mohawk valley, a forty year old fur-trader named William Johnson. '56 was another black year, as the French General Montcalm captured Oswego, sole outlet of the British and Americans on the Great Lakes. In '57 our Northern forts were lost and in '58 came the crushing defeat at Ticonderoga. Count the sad years again—'54, '55, '56, '57, '58. Desperately New York's sons fought on New York soil, while famine and misery spread behind the lines. Yet our people held steadfast.

Then came the turn. After four and a half weary years. General Forbes pushed an army through Pennsylvania to capture the Forks of the Ohio. Then within another year General Wolfe won the decisive battle of Quebec. And William Johnson, Sir William since his feat of arms at Lake George four years earlier, commanded a victorious siege of the French fortress at Old Fort Niagara. A year later, "our side" swept down the St. Lawrence to capture Montreal. Four years and more of almost unrelieved defeat, two years of success, and then absolute victory marked by the complete surrender of the enemy and cession of all dis-

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\*Paper read before the Dutchess County Historical Society, October 16, 1942, by Arthur Pound, L.H.D., State Historian and author of: *Johnson of the Mohawks*.

of her father's old homestead (then the property of Ransford Goodwin) in order that she might be buried near a rock where she played when a child.

A stock company was formed of the following gentlemen: John S. Stoutenburgh, Orin Travis, John Cramer Radcliff, Jacob Tilston, Charles J. Todd and Ransford Goodwin. It was incorporated in 1863. Mrs. Travis, dying in 1864, was the first to be buried in the new ground. One after another of the stockholders passed on until Charles J. Todd became the sole owner. Ownership passed to his son, Stephen, and in settling his estate five men advanced one hundred dollars each. They purchased the unoccupied ground and it became an incorporated cemetery under the State law in 1925. It has been much improved, more land added, and today there is a surplus of \$14,000.00 for perpetual upkeep. There are eight flags, showing the graves of veterans of the Civil War, by the name of Manning. And many others for whom the cemetery was primarily dedicated.

BENJAMIN H. HAVILAND.



Wigg married Jane Gay, who was, presumably, a descendant of John Gay, he having settled on the river-frontage of Water-Lot number 1 before 1740. The hill between the present property of the Hudson River State Hospital and the land of Miss Ellen C. Roosevelt was known as Gay's Hill. Two of Nathan Wigg's sons, John and William, married daughters of Charles Manning. One daughter married Peter Schryver, before mentioned. One of John's daughters married George W. Allen and lived in the brick house for about thirty years and, being a granddaughter of Mehitable Myer Manning, furnished much of interest for this local narrative.

There was a survey made in 1801, altering the road from Nathan Wigg's land to John G. Van Wagner's (now known as the Stoutenburgh or Pendell place); through the Van Wagner land to the northeast corner of Widow Tappen's land; thence to Poughkeepsie.

Dorsey Lane was the home of the early Ostrom family.

There are probably many more things of interest but no one knows it all, so *finis*.

BENJAMIN H. HAVILAND.

[EDITOR'S NOTE. As a supplement to the foregoing account of roads and farms in the town of Hyde Park at an early day, Mr. Haviland supplied the following memorandum.]

This is an account of Union Cemetery at East Park. In 1858 Stephen Felter owned what is now known as the Pitkin-Marshall farm. It was formerly the Stoutenburgh-Woodworth property. Mr. Felter was interested in the breeding of horses of the celebrated Hambletonian stock. Not having a suitable site for a training track he laid one out on the John S. Stoutenburgh farm, which is the track shown in the mural by Mr. Dows in the Hyde Park post office.

At the time of the Civil War the churchyards and family burying grounds were becoming inadequate and much attention was given to the locating of a rural cemetery. Like all new projects there was much difference of sentiment and headway was slow.

A very pathetic incident occurred that gave to the cemetery its present location. One Susan Caroline, the daughter of John S. Stoutenburgh and wife of Colonel Orin Travis, being in delicate health and realizing that her time on earth was short, suggested that they manipulate part of the race-track which had ceased to function and what was part

part in the first June Commencement, 1878. One of them (Frederick Hughson) spoke: Marcobozarious; another (David S. Van de Water) Barbara Fritchie; and the third (Benjamin H. Haviland) Sheridan's Ride and he was also to write a valedictory poem. Marco won the prize for the best declamation. He recently celebrated his eightieth birthday. "Barbara Fritchie's work is o'er." "Phil" still drives a black horse but not much of a military charger. The valedictory poem is long forgotten, except the first and last lines:

How pleasant are the schooldays, passing swift away,  
While youth is beaming brightly, shedding its morning ray.  
If we improve our talents we'll not regret our fate,  
We too once were scholars of District Number Eight.

The same interest by the mothers with afternoon gowns and starched sunbonnets, the same fragrance of the June rose, prevailed at the first commencement in '78 as did on the one of 1942, with its class of fifty-six.

I wish to note three of the graduates of 1942, namely Evelyn Elizabeth Eastwood, Doris Jean Golden and Joanne Mary Downes. The valedictorian was the descendant of three men who lived within one mile of the High School site one hundred and fifty years ago. The latter, Miss Downes descended from all three, that is: from William Todd, Charles Manning and John P. Schryver.

The site of the school was the last field to be improved, lying in commons until about 1830. It had been used as an Indian cornfield and was grown to scrub-oaks. Many Indian relics have been picked up by the writer and are now in the Roosevelt Library.

All the main roads in Hyde Park have now been covered except one, Violet Avenue proper, extending from the Creek Road at Tompkins Corner (on the line of the 4th and 5th Water-Lots) to the town line. This was the first State road in the county, the abutting property-owners paying fifteen per cent of the cost. It was built of macadam in 1903 and extended to East Park in 1907. It was rebuilt with concrete in 1931.

The first property on this road was known as a Wood farm early in the last century. The house on it was demolished by road construction. The next was a stone house, the interior of which was destroyed by fire about 1866. It was known as the Hustis property.

Thence, running along the west line of the Tompkins purchase, to the house standing in a lane back of the Villa Roma roadhouse, which was built by Nathan Wigg, a veteran of the Revolutionary war. Nathan

first marriage and the second to Molyneaux. They moved to Columbia County.

The seven former families and the Manning family, with their several connections, form the foundation of most of southern-central Hyde Park.

The Schryver home, at the deaths of John P. and Eleanor, passed to their grandson, Evert G. Van Wagner, about 1834, who lived there until his death in 1844. Two of his sons lived on the road for many years. One great-grandson still remains on the Van Wagner Road.

The John Lawless property was deeded to him by David and Jacob Johnson before the Revolutionary War. He was listed as a soldier and from deeds given by him and his wife it would appear that he bought from a point where now is the Roosevelt High School to the end of the 7th Water-Lot.

I will mention something about schools. At the division of townships and roads in 1821 this was road district number 19 and it commenced at Cream Street by an old school house, the only one mentioned by tradition or otherwise. I have never heard of a school house being located at this point. In 1877 there were several children some three miles from the school located on this road. A new district was organized by order of the State Superintendent, the Hon. Neal Gilmore. There being much opposition the interested ones were obliged to build the school house and give the land to the district so long as used for school purposes. Six men built the building, Evert G. Van Wagner bearing the major part of the expense, which approximated \$750.00. The school was opened on the first Monday of October, 1877, lacking two days of 63 years to the dedication of the Franklin D. Roosevelt High School on October 5, 1940. It ran twenty-five years as an independent district and a few more by the Chapel Corners District. It had approximately \$50,000.00 taxable property. The centralized district has nine million; the receipts for 1941-1942 were \$222,797.86, disbursements \$210,738.60. There is a faculty of fifteen teachers, three janitors, approximately 540 scholars and 56 graduates.

The budget for the Van Wagner school was \$150.00,—public money \$75.00; the teacher, a Normal graduate, was paid \$6.00 per week; her cousin, Catherine Van Wagner (commonly called Aunt Kate), boarded her gratis. There were eleven scholars. Three dropped out in the spring when farm work began. Those three were invited to take

lived to within a few months of one hundred years. James B. was the eighth generation from William, who came from Gloucester, England, in 1636. James B. settled on the farm in Hyde Park in 1867 and lived to the advanced age of ninety-four.

To the southeast of this road, crossing the southeast corner of the town, is about one mile of the Van Wagner Station Road, where settled in 1763 John Conklin, a brother to Isaac, before mentioned. This farm is the corner boundary of the town in Water Lot number one of the Great Nine Partners Patent. It is occupied today by Leland and Carlton Conklin, of the fifth generation from John, and is eligible to the Century Farmer Society of New York. It was from this point in 1821 that the division of Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley was surveyed to the north. In 1821 Abraham Conklin, son of John, owned the property.

Water-Lot number 2 was owned by Sylvanus Wilbur; Lot 3 Ostrum, now Copeman; number 4 by Manning; number 5 Whyley; number 6 Seaman; number 7 Henry S. Marshall; number 8 Kip Lamgree, afterward Stephen D. Marshall (a brother of Henry S.).

On the opposite side of the road is a lane leading to the Briggs homestead, which has been owned by the Briggs family since 1811. This farm and the Conklin farm are the only Century-Farms in the town.

Lot number 9, Culver and De Garmo, heirs of James Culver, before mentioned.

Having covered the ground from Crum Elbow, Four Corners to Cream Street, we will now take the Van Wagner Road from this intersection. A survey of 1795 shows it passed between the lands of William Stoutenburgh and William Powell, thence between Harmon Van Benschoten, before mentioned, on the East Park Road and John P. Schryver; thence across the two fields of Schryver to the lands of Tunis Clearwater; thence past said Schryver's house to said Clearwater's garden; thence to Lawless barn; to the property of Evert Pells (near his hay barn) and thence between said Pells and Isaac Conklin to what is now the State Road.

I will mention first John P. Schryver and his wife Helen or Eleanor Van Benschoten (which is recorded both ways). He was a native of Rhinebeck and brother of Alburdis and Jacob. He came from Rhinebeck in 1785, had ten girls and one boy, named Peter. Two girls died young. Two married Van Wagners and two Tompkins, one James Budd, one Isaac Stoutenburgh, one Sylvanus Wilbur, Jr.; one married Sorels the

and on this part of the Tompkins estate is where Caleb settled his grandson, Michael. There is a family burying ground on this farm where Michael and Rachel Schryver Tompkins are buried with some of their children. Peter Rohan now owns the whole of Michael Tompkins' estate, keeping the credit of Cream Street good with a family of eleven children and one hundred cows.

The next is the Ring-Schryver farm, mentioned before, the west end of it on the Creek Road. The old house was built partly by Ring and partly by Alburdis P. Schryver. It was torn down a few years ago, as well as the Michael Tompkins house. Alburdis married a Fraleigh and moved from Rhinebeck. His son, Peter Alburdis, kept the homestead. He married the daughter of Nathan and Jane Gay Wigg. Peter and his wife are buried on the farm near the barn. Alburdis served as deacon and elder of the First Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie. He was buried in the churchyard where is now Little Market Street, Poughkeepsie, and was removed to the Rural Cemetery.

The next farm was that of John Todd, Jr., a native of New Hampshire, who married Mary Schryver, the widow of Gilbert Tompkins (who was the son of Joseph and grandson of Caleb).

The lower end of Cream street is the Fitchett neighborhood. The Fitchett family were also refugees from the Wyoming Valley and ancestors of the Fitchett brothers, dairymen. The first one to retail milk in Poughkeepsie was Peter Fitchett, a great-uncle of the Fitchett brothers from Cream street.

The east branch of Cream street is where Isaac Wood settled, coming from Little Compton, R. I., with Philip Irish and Sylvanus Wilbur. The latter two settled on the Salt Point Road. They came by sloop through Long Island Sound and up the Hudson to Hyde Park.

Excepting the land on the Post Road near the river, the southeastern part of the town is by far the most fertile section of the town. There is approximately two miles of the Salt Point Road in the town and in the early seventies there were five farmers (excepting one in Poughkeepsie town) that represented fifty thousand dollars apiece.

The Myron J. Smith farm is the only one now occupied by the same name and family from Salt Point to Poughkeepsie. James B. Smith, the grandfather, a native of this section, was the son of Benjamin and Abigail Baker Smith, who lived on the first farm in the town of Pleasant Valley. Benjamin was killed by being gored by an animal, while his wife, Abigail,

one of the younger. William married Mary Gildersleeve. Thus two brothers married mother and daughter. Richard and Mary Herrick Seaman had thirteen children. William and Mary Gildersleeve Seaman had ten. I have the thirty-eight names of the three Seaman families. They ran very similar. Richard having a handicap of four on William gave him four extra names,—Sally, Charity, Freelove and Julianna.

The next farm was settled between 1790 and 1795 by Abram Kip. The two last farms are the width of the 8th Water-Lot of the Great Nine Partners Patent. Abram Kip married Catherine Quimby of Westchester, a sister to Jane Quimby, the third wife of Zacheus Marshall and the mother of Isaac Powell Marshall who lived a short distance in the township of Pleasant Valley. Jane was an eye-witness to the battle of White Plains, at eight years of age,— a story she never tired of telling her grandchildren when she fed them warm biscuits and honey. She was the great-grandmother of my wife, Nellie Marshall Haviland.

As you pass south across Water-Lots 7 and 6, there are records that show that John Lawless of the 7th lot gave deeds to land that was bounded in the east by the Crum Elbow Road, northwest by Abram Kip and south by the John Ray lot, number 6. One deed was given by John and Sarah to Joseph Lawless. Joseph Lawless and Cornelia, his wife, conveyed to Simeon Wood, Sylvanus Wilbur and James Fitchett.

We are now to the 5th lot of the Great Nine Partners.

The fork of the road is debatable, as Crum Elbow and Cream street. In early times this was the Simeon Wood farm, now owned by Mr. Roosevelt.

Evidently Charles Mannig, Sr., occupied land in this immediate section. It was on this farm, near a rock back of the President's cottage, that Charles, Jr., hid the silver and valuables from a marauding party in the Revolution. His father was in the service at the time that Kingston was burned. They searched the house, ran a bayonet through a bed where there was a sleeping child—fortunately the child was uninjured. It was here that the Mannings entertained William and Eunice Cooley Todd, refugees from the Wyoming massacre. Their son, John, married Manning's daughter, Martha, and son, David, married the daughter of Harmon Van Benschoten. They were the ancestors of the Todd families of Hyde Park.

The next farm on the west fork is the eastern part of the Caleb Tompkins purchase. It crosses this road and runs to the eastern branch

in 1755 and about that time purchased a tract the width of the two Water Lots, which was bounded on the west by what is now Violet Avenue and on the east by the east fork of Cream Street. A little break in the abstract of the Emott lot makes the connection a little indefinite.

It is not known whether Caleb Tompkins or his son, Joseph, built the house that is now owned by the President but it is known that from this house Joseph enlisted in the Revolutionary War. He was killed at the battle of White Plains. It makes the Tompkins house nearly, if not quite, as old as the stone house at East Park. The children of Joseph were Gilbert, Michael, James and one daughter who married a Horton. Gilbert and Michael married sisters, Mary and Rachel Schryver, daughters of John and Eleanor Van Benschoten Schryver.

We now cross the Colonel Barber lot. The Colonel lived on the Post Road and this is now the Roosevelt estate. Water-lot 5 was owned by John Aertson in 1699. Then we are at the William Creed lot, number 6 of the Great Nine Partners. On the Creek Road it was known in 1795 as the John Ray lot, this being the home of Charles Manning, now the property of the President. The present dwelling was built by Mr. Manning. The north half of the lot was, at a very early date, the property of Evert Pells, who was one of the founders of the Union Church at Hyde Park.

This is where I closed my talk at the Library.

I neglected to mention some other roads in the southeast part of the town. I will mention briefly Cream Street and the origin of the name. There are two traditions. One was of the pretty girls who lived there. The other of the time when butter was shipped to New York in wooden tubs by barge or boat from Poughkeepsie, when this section became known for its superior quality. Cream Street begins at the Crum Elbow-East Park Road, at what was known as the Stoutenburgh mill, now the Russell Meuth place. This mill has gone but a beautiful pond remains to mark the spot. The first farm was owned by Issac Powell in 1795 and, early in the next century, by William Seaman.

I will now refer again to Stephen Herrick of the Nelson purchase, Stephen and Mary Lyon Herrick. Herrick's eldest daughter, Mary, married John Gildersleeve. One daughter was born to them, Mary Gildersleeve. The mother married second Richard, son of Nathaniel Seaman of Lithgow, Dutchess County. There were fourteen children in Nathaniel's family. Richard was one of the older ones and William was

grandmother when a child was a somnambulist and was taken from the scaffold in her sleep. It has been said that this house was Pride's tavern (referred to by the Marquis de Chastellux in his diary) but it is more likely that Pride's tavern was on the Post Road near the river. The Callow house was owned for many years by the Van Valkenburghs and was demolished by the state in 1938. Mehitable died in 1802, aged thirty-nine years, and was buried at Pleasant Valley.

"Aunt Eliza", as she was commonly called, said further that her grandfather, Charles Manning, married second Mary Myer, sister of Mehitable, the fourteen children being by the first wife. She then referred me to her niece, Martha Schryver Ward, who was commonly called "Aunt Suky", who was a bed-ridden invalid but whose mind was alert. Aunt Suky could explain better than Aunt Eliza. It seems hardly worth while to insert in this connection the anecdote I told at the library but it has been requested so I make no apology. In referring to Aunt Eliza having said that the fourteen children of Charles Manning were all by his first wife, Mrs. Ward said: I can't agree with her and I will tell you a story to prove I am right. After my great-grandfather married the second time, the children came to the house one cold March morning after quite a deep snow and told their step-mother there were twelve little pigs in the pen and wanted her to go and look at them. On their return to the house in single file through the snow, the mother turned as they approached the kitchen door and said: Twelve little pigs in the pen, thirteen little pigs out, and the fourteenth little pig says que, que, can't find the barn doorsill. And that fourteenth little pig was my grandmother, said Aunt Suky.

After examining dates on a headstone, I find Eliza Manning Had-den Ryder was born in 1806, four years after the death of Mehitable. Charles and Mary Myer Manning are buried in the Reformed Church yard at Hyde Park.

We come now to the David Ring place, known as the Alburdis Schryver farm. The survey shows that the road crossed the Fallkill and followed the east bank of the creek. The Schryver farm lies in the 3rd Water Lot and corners in the Tompkins purchase. Whether it was a part of the purchase I don't know. The Tompkins property is located in the 3rd and 4th Water Lots of the Great Nine Partners, belonging to Augustine Graham and James Emott. The exact date of the purchase is not known but it is known that Caleb Tompkins sold in Westchester

James Winans, who sold to Isaac Concklin in 1763. Today, this is the Walter Gilbert farm. A part of the house is the original house, moved to its present site from near the creek and rebuilt about 1850.

From north of the creek the road ran to the northwest to what is now the Pine Wood road and thence to the Post Road near Fuller Lane. A cellar and a spring near Gilbert's ice-pond mark the spot where a log cabin stood, inhabited in 1816 by an Indian, on said road. In 1795 a survey was ordered by Richard De Cantillon and Cornelius Lawrence, commissioners, beginning at a pine bush near Isaac Concklin's lane. My farm was sold at that time to Isaac Concklin by Jacob and David Johnson. The survey ran to John Ray's lot, crossing Colonel Barber's to Gilbert Tompkins' lot. The three last mentioned properties now belong to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The survey continued through a portion of James Tompkins' land to David Ring's, and from said Ring's to a stake in front of the brick house. Thence through the lands of John Burnett to the town of Poughkeepsie.

I will now turn back and describe the properties as best I can.

The Burnett farm, the last one south in Hyde Park town, is now flooded in large part by the pond of the Hudson River State Hospital. It was known for many years, before being sold to the state, as the Noah Wixon farm. Next to the brick house. When the book called *Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley before 1776* was published I tried to have this house entered but could not, having no proof of when it was built. There was a stake on the east side of the house and the marble window sills and the bricking up of the front door show plainly that the east side was the original front. Across the road is a graveyard. In digging a drain human bones were exhumed. When assisting in getting a description of the Stoutenburgh houses, I contacted an elderly lady by the name of Eliza Ryder Schryver, who lived in a Stoutenburgh house when a child. She gave a very good description of the same but was much more interested in the Manning family, of which her mother was the youngest of fourteen. Her mother was Eliza Manning, who married first Samuel Hadden, Jr. (mentioned in connection with the Nelson purchase), and second, Philip Ryder, who was the old lady's father. She said her grandmother was Mehitable Myer, a niece of Stephen and Gerard Callow (pronounced Calhue) who built the brick house at the Eelpt, afterwards Chapel Corners. When her grandmother was eight years old (she was born in 1763) the brick were brought from Holland as ballast. The

their names somewhat changed. Their descendants still remain. Among them were veterans of the Mexican and Civil War, men of honor and respectability.

As so many of the early names have become extinct I will say a word about the name Van Wagner. In Poughkeepsie, about 1730, settled Evert, son of Jacob Aertson, from Ulster County, the name being changed about that time. Evert's son, Nicholas, married Hester DeGraaf, daughter of Jan De Graaf, and built the stone house that is now standing and used as a garage in the town of Pleasant Valley. Nicholas had a son, Evert, who bought the Jesse Bell farm in about 1803 for his son, Gilbert. Gilbert married Catherine Schryver and Abraham, a cousin of Gilbert's, married Hannah Schryver, a sister of Catherine. They were daughters of John P. and Eleanor Van Benschoten Schryver. These were the ancestors of the numerous Van Wagner families of Hyde Park.

At the time of the inception of Rural Free Delivery there were about twenty-five families getting mail from the Hyde Park post office.

I cannot mention as many illustrious men from Hyde Park as did Mr. Van Vliet from Clinton but will give a few. I must head the list with the President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Then John Hackett, the Hon. Joseph Morschauser, Henry T. Hackett, John M. Hackett, the Reverend Harvey I. Todd, Dr. Wallace Todd, Samuel Tompkins (the inventor of cement, called smooth for mending iron and metals), the Hon. Edgar A. Briggs, George Schryver, Jr. (now chairman of the Republican State Committee of Massachusetts), John B. Vandewater (present Attorney for Dutchess County), Attorney Arthur S. Halpin, the Reverend Lewis Lansing, the Reverend Edward Tompkins, the Hon. O. D. M. Baker and Tobias L. Stoutenburgh, who all were prominent men of the town.

I will now start from East Park and go along Violet Avenue, more properly called the Creek Road. We cross the 9th Water-Lot of the Great Nine Partners (which fell to Jarvis Marshall) to the 8th Water-Lot, which fell to Caleb Heathcote, President of the Company, in the First Division in 1699. It was afterward held in three rights, namely Creed, Weber and Van Schaick. In 1716 Minthorne sold to Richard Sackett. In 1729 Richard Sackett sold to Jan De Graaf one-half of one-half-part in lot 8. Jan De Graaf owned one-fourth of one-ninth in the Great Nine Partners Patent.

Jan De Graaf had a granddaughter, born in 1747, who married

to the latter place the road was changed in 1869, passing the Charles J. Todd farm and coming out by the Red School-house. However, there is a recent development of several houses on the old road and undoubtedly it will soon be opened.

At this junction of the road was located the first school house.

There is an amusing story told of Mr. Burroughs. He was a man of strong religious convictions and a staunch patriot. He assisted in building the Union Church and objected to the selling of seats or pews. His objections were overruled and he took the seat from his wagon, sat through the service and never returned. He died soon after 1800, leaving a good record. Three of his grandsons, by name John, Benjamin and Henry, served valiantly during the Civil War, himself a veteran of the Revolution. His nephew, Peter K. Du Bois was an executor to his will.

A word concerning the hamlet of Union Corner, now East Park. The old blacksmith and wagon-shop on the corner is supposed to have been built by the Stoutenburghs. The first store stood about where Craft and White's store now stands. It had a hall upstairs for public meetings and it was burned some years ago, probably about 1852. That was about the time the store of Horn and Crispell was built. The Reverend William Bancroft Hill tells a story about the meetings held in the hall over the store while he was attending the theological seminary at New Brunswick, N. J. There was an old man by the name of Dr. Ten Eyck, a professor holding one of the chairs in the seminary, who preached in Hyde Park about 1850 (according to the church records). He was asked to speak in this hall at East Park. A man in the audience, under the influence of licquor, was so troublesome he had to be put out. He became nauseated, whereupon he said that: "such preaching would make a dog sick."

Previous to this time the Baptists held a series of meetings that were very fruitful. An elderly man, Mr. R. E. Lansing of Poughkeepsie, informed me that these meetings were the nucleus of the Baptist Church of Hyde Park. Among those professing the Baptist faith were the Lansings; Susan Van Wagner; Lewis Lansing and the Reverend E. Tompkins.

Perhaps it would be well to mention something of Mud City, located north from the Jesse Bell farm (familiarily known as the James G. Van Wagner and later Winnie farm), which is the site of several old cellars that were part of the houses of Tories in the Revolutionary days,

In the third division of the Great Nine Partners Patent a lot of 720 acres fell to David Johnson, one of 762 to Ten Eyck and one to Aertson of 750 acres. The last was the Van Dyck-Traver property. Who were first to settle on the former two is not definitely known but the following families were here at a very early date:—Culver, Briggs and Mosher to the Meeting House.

A word concerning the Meeting House, the date of building is a much debated subject. The meeting records were burned. A diary or journal of a ministering Friend preacher mentions holding a meeting in a barn in 1785, the Meeting House being nearly completed. The Meeting House was built in two sections, which can be plainly seen in the attic. The east part was built in about 1810. Job Briggs, born in 1800, the grandfather of Harry T. Briggs, remembered playing on the lumber when his father, John Briggs, was building the east part. He thought himself to be about ten years old at the time. This agrees with the monthly meeting records of Stanford and Oswego, where they speak of raising their quota to assist Crum Elbow to complete their Meeting House.

The most important event in the history of the Crum Elbow Meeting was the separation between the Orthodox and Hicksites in 1828. There was but one family who went with the Orthodox, the family of James Baker, whose wife was a ministering Friend, settling in the community in 1795. The ministering Friends of this Society for nearly one-hundred years of its existence were Thomas C. Stringham, John and James Stringham, Thomas, Jr., a nephew of Thomas C. Stringham and the son of David and Lydia Barmore Stringham. The regular services were discontinued about 1890. Since that time a service once a year is held by the Representative Committee of the New York Yearly Meeting.

The early families to the north of the Meeting House were the Sheldons, Dotys, Powells, Frosts, Hewletts and Wilburs. Thomas Vail lived on Mud City Road before 1800.

On the 29th of December, 1784, Cornelius Humphrey and Benjamin De La Vergne, being Commissioners of Highways for Charlotte Precinct, laid out what is now called Knob street. The road ran through the north part of John Culver's farm, past the house of Henry Marshall, to Jesse Bell's land, through the lands of David Johnson, turning southwest to the main road leading from Moses DeGross's to DeCantillon's Landing near a cleared field of Benjamin Burrough's. From Bell's land

side of the 9th Water-Lot, known as the Jarvis Marshall lot, then Crooke and Rollegom and finally as the Jacobus Stoutenburgh lot. In 1795 this road was between the Nelson and Burrough land on the north and William Stoutenburgh on the south as far as the Burrough land which was of the Nelson purchase.

From this point on Stoutenburgh sold or gave to his daughter and her husband, Harmon Van Benschoten, the land as far east as the west line of William Stoutenburgh, Jr., known as the Stoutenburgh mill-property. A part of the Van Benschoten house still stands and is occupied by Thomas Glover. Van Benschoten did valiant service in the cause of the colonies and was one of the founders of the Union Church at Hyde Park.

The north side of the road, from this point as far east as to about the town line was the property of David Johnson after the third division of the Great Nine Partners Patent. Those who settled on the north side of the road about this time were the Degroffs and the Sorrels. Henry Marshall owned through from Knob Street.

Peter DeGarmo, who was born September 2, 1751, settled on the next farm east when a young man. He was the grandfather of Professor James DeGarmo, who was born here on December 22, 1838, and whose father was born on March 4, 1798. They were tanners and curriers, of French Huguenot descent but affiliated with the Friends or Quakers at Crum Elbow.

Land east of De Garmo and at the east end of Water-Lot 9 was purchased by John and James Culver. They bought about 300 acres. The brothers were John, James and Jacob. The sister married a Fox. John married Hester Allen of Salt Point. James married Adrietta Du Bois, daughter of Peter of Fishkill, who came from the Du Bois family of New Paltz. Jacob married a Lamoree. He was a carpenter and at the close of the War moved to western New York. They signed the colonist Association. John and James were listed as Revolutionary soldiers. John belonged to the 4th Dutchess County Regiment. He built the small dwelling on the hill. The barn recently fell down on what is now known as the Spelman place or Camp Wytika.

The town-line to the north, after leaving the 9th Water-Lot, followed the same direction along Pleasant Valley and Clinton, but was not used particularly as a farm line. So the names mentioned in the division survey of 1821 were not all residents of Hyde Park.

and two boys. The girls married into prominent Dutchess County families. Several members of the Daughters of the American Revolution trace their membership through Sarah Bell Skidmore to Captain Jesse Bell.

Across the creek at this place is the Armstrong property. Asahel Armstrong married a Nelson. The house is still standing but in a dilapidated condition, uninhabited.

The Halstead farm was sold by Joshua Nelson to Samuel Bard in 1786. Samuel Bard sold to Ebenezer Harrington in 1796, Ebenezer Harrington to Benjamin Delamater in 1800. Benjamin Delamater was married to Almira Rowe of Columbia County on October 9, 1808. The house was built in 1820. Mr. Delamater took over the Bard mill and operated it for many years.

We are now down to East Park, formerly Union Corner.

There seems to be no early survey of the Nelson Road or the building of the school-house. The school-house stood at first near the line of Hadden and Delamater and was removed to the site where it stood when torn down. I taught there in 1888 and 1889. At that time an old lady, Rebecca Bishop Thurston, said she taught there when a girl and that it was an old building then.

West of East Park the road ran southwesterly, through the 9th Water-Lot, to the river. The road from East Park to Hyde Park as it now runs was surveyed in 1803. The road called the King's Highway, the Highland Turnpike, the Post Road, was built during the French and Indian War about 1758 as a military road and built practically the same width and has been changed but very little. This road is a through road to the North and South. The other roads ran from the river back, practically wood-roads. And the north and south roads were cross roads, afterwards straightened or discontinued. These surveys were made from 1785 on and copied by Reuben Spencer, first Town Clerk in 1821 at the forming of Hyde Park township.

South of East Park the Creek Road, or Violet Avenue as frequently called, was originally a lane leading to the stone house of William Stoutenburgh. To the north, the Nelson Road was a road before the one to the south. Hence the jog in front of the old hotel at East Park. The jog was straightened and the hotel torn down at the recent building of the state road.

Going east from East Park the road was laid out along the north

after poor Old Sol. Sol said: "Dear Lawd, if you just as soon, Old Sol would like to stay a spell longer."

Joel Nelson owned the home-farm of the Nelsons in 1844. He had one son, James. His father, Hiram, was son of Reuben; who was son of Theophilus, the son of Francis, a brother of Polycarpus, who was the original owner. Francis Nelson married Sarah Lyon and Stephen Herrick married Mary Lyon, the daughters of Jonathan Lyon. The heirs of Francis R. Nelson sold to Stephen Herrick in 1821 the farm known as the Tompkins farm, on which is a joint burying ground. The families of Nelsons have been taken to the Rhinebeck Cemetery. The families of Herricks, Velies, Haddens, etc., remain.

The next two farms were one of the two hundred-acre lots. Reuben Nelson sold to Walter Skidmore 97 acres and Reuben to Theophilus 94 acres in 1795. The Radcliff (now the Anthus) farm Marmon Nelson sold to Wephsdoreh Nelson, to Samuel Hadden, Sr., 200 acres in 1795. The Halstead farm of 396 acres was sold to Samuel Bard by Joshua Nelson. Bard evidently bought to get water rights for his mill-pond. What are now the Hogan Brower and Dickinson farms were sold to Josiah Austin by Thomas Nelson in 1780. It was undoubtedly Thomas Nelson or Austin who built the old hotel (at East Park), although there is no record.

The stone house on the Tompkins farm was built by Stephen Herrick about 1820 and came to his son-in-law, Harry Velie. I will mention Herrick later.

Walter Skidmore belonged to one of the Quaker families of Union Vale or Beekman. Skidmore married Sarah Bell, the fifth daughter of Captain Jesse Bell by his second wife. Jesse Bell had four children by his first wife and seven by his second. He was an officer in the Revolutionary War, serving with the Connecticut Army. He settled at the close of the war on the Mud City Road, adjoining the Nelson purchase on the east. He was a Presbyterian in faith, one of the founders of the Union Church at Hyde Park in 1789. The Church was organized as Dutch Reformed in 1793. At the passing of Charlotte Precinct and the forming of Clinton Township Mr. Bell served as assessor on the first board. Walter Skidmore became a Presbyterian. It is said that he walked from his home to Pleasant Valley on snowshoes to attend church. He was my wife's great-grandfather and I have his picture, an old fashioned daguerreotype. Walter and Sarah had twelve children, ten girls

and established the neighboring place at the north (now Mr. Morgan's, called Bellfield, the site of the Crooke family burying ground).

I will say a word in passing regarding the trees along the Post Road. They were set out by Crooke under the supervision of John Rapelyea, who today would be styled a forester. He broke steers in good weather and made ox-yokes when stormy, my informant on these points being his grandson.

I will now endeavor to give a brief history of the interior southern and eastern parts of the town, beginning with the Nelson purchase instead of with Isaac Concklin's lane, but will take that up later.

The tract of 1,304 acres on the east side of the Crum Elbow Creek; known as the Nelson purchase, was purchased from the attorneys of the Great Nine Partners on May 10th, 1736, by Polycarpus Nelson and by his will (proved March 23rd, 1739) was bequeathed to one brother, Francis, and four sons. It commenced at the Smith Shultz farm (now occupied by Sylvester Bedell) and came south to East Park, to the sharp bend in the creek back of the old blacksmith's shop. The east line of the farms on the Creek Road is the east boundary of the Nelson purchase until you come to the Halstead farm; there, the creek bearing to the southwest leaves land on Mud City Road that was included in the Nelson purchase. One-hundred acres were sold to John Todd by Benjamin Delamater about 1830.

The west side of the Crum Elbow Creek to the river is part of the Pawling-Fauconier Patent (see *Year Book* for 1939, vol. 24, article by Henry Hackett). I would just allude to Mr. Hackett's description of the colored people near Hyde Park village. When I was a boy there lived an old colored man near what is called Guinny Bridge by the name of Solomon Deal, who had been a slave. When he died, his widow (the fourth wife) worked for my mother and, from reminiscences of the Revolutionary War that she had heard her husband relate, it was quite evident that he must have been 114 years of age at the time of his death. One amusing story is told of Old Sol, as he was called. It had become his habit, as he was of a religious turn of mind, to pray long and fervently for the good "Lawd" to come and get poor Old Sol. One night some mischievous boys climbed the roof of his cabin and began to make noises as if they were tearing the roof off. When Old Sol asked them who they were and what they wanted, they replied that the good "Lawd" had come

## AN ACCOUNT OF THE EASTERN AND SOUTHEASTERN PORTIONS OF THE TOWN OF HYDE PARK

*At the annual meeting of the Dutchess County Historical Society, held on May 11, 1942, in the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, Mr. Benjamin H. Haviland, a life-long resident of the town of Hyde Park, spoke extemporaneously, from subject-head notes, on the ownership of the land in parts of the town back from the river and on the early roads of the same vicinity. Later, Mr. Haviland was requested to write down what he had said at the meeting and the following paper resulted:*

I have been asked to write down from my headings for my talk at the Roosevelt Library last spring. Mr. Guernsey, the President of the Society, said in introducing me that I would begin where Mr. Van Vliet left off\* but that would be impossible in a way as Mr. Van Vliet is an authority on historical matters. As for me, well, I have always been fascinated by local history, have played close to the edge, have frequently slipped, sometimes stuck fast. I presume what Mr. Guernsey referred to was the locality in the east part of the town, adjoining the Van Dyck purchase, which is the Nelson purchase, joining the Van Dyck to the south.

The Polycarpus Nelson purchase is some four or five miles farther north than the point at which I started my talk last spring. I said, if I remember correctly, that I would get away from the river-front, as that has been dealt with so copiously, belonging to the favored class from the Nine Partners down. I would refer to it only as a starting point.

The Roosevelt Library where we assembled in May is located in the sixth water-lot of the Great Nine Partners Patent of 1697, which lot was owned by William Creed in 1699. Next was the seventh lot, owned by David Jamison. That lot is the location of my home. There is a stone monument in the line next to Mr. Roosevelt's marked 6 on one side and 7 on the other side with D. J. 1787. The D. J. stands for David Johnson, the grandson of David Jamison. He was the father of John Johnson, who married Susanna Bard, daughter of Samuel Bard,

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\*At the meeting of the Society in June, 1941, at Pleasant Plains, Mr. George S. Van Vliet spoke on the land and roads of the town of Clinton.

I feel it a rare privilege as a member of this society to talk to my fellow members and to be able to say publicly these things which I firmly believe. I hope that these beliefs and this feeling show through the paint on the walls of your post office.

Like any work done to-day the murals form part of the active side of History. However we in this Society are really more concerned with the preservative side. I would like to see our Historical Society adopt a more aggressive policy, keep more closely in touch with the individual communities, and particularly with those irreplaceable landmarks which from time to time are in danger of being destroyed. This applies to Victorian landmarks as well as Colonial monuments, to what John Jay Chapman called Pig Sty Gothic, as well as Dutch stone work, or Classic Revival. Every time Dutchess County loses a home or a church by Stephen McCarthy, our whole community is poorer. And I mean poorer. Outstanding native quality of design like his is a commercial asset. It is an asset now, it will become increasingly so in the future. One of the most important functions we as a society can perform for the community, is to take the leadership in such questions, publicize our opinions, and force people to listen and to pay attention. For the waste of our historic resources is like the waste of our natural resources. It is due to carelessness and it is just stupid.

There is a cultural Renaissance under way in the United States, which will blossom at the end of this war. We are coming of age, not only in our forced position of world leadership, a leadership many Americans are reluctant to undertake, but in an awareness of our own culture, in a certainty of its quality. We no longer look to Paris and London for artistic and literary fashions and models. To be aware of our strength we must be aware of our inheritance. We must know from what we come. History makes our roots. We must cultivate them. This society is the local guardian and gardener of these national roots in Dutchess County. Like good gardeners we must cultivate our garden.

OLIN DOWS.



The cartoons are transferred to canvas, specially prepared with a semi-absorbent pinkish paint. All the panels are underpainted in an olive green, and then in full color, but sufficiently thinly so that much of the green shows through. When finished it took Mr. Crittenden and me about two days to install them.

Finally the small panels had to be painted on the walls. While doing this from a scaffold in the post office, I learned much about the Town of Hyde Park in more ways than one. I wish I'd heard some of it before I'd started the mural. The last step was a cool glaze given the woodwork by Mr. Clay. As you see there is a lot of cookery to making a mural.

This job is one small item in the very important program of the Section of Fine Arts, directed by Edward Bruce. I believe that in future years the results of the Government Art Programs will be generally recognized as having been among the most important activities of the last ten years. Under the leadership of President Roosevelt the Government has awarded mural contracts through the fair and democratic machinery of open competition. Apart from the artistic merit of any individual job, the fact that we can see pictures on our walls showing our own community's past and present life, adds to our sense of history. I may be prejudiced since it is my profession to use my eyes but I find that a picture is more easily remembered than a learned fact.

These activities are over for the time being. Most artists are working either in the Army, in war production plants, or in various administrative and educational jobs. There are not many who can concentrate sufficiently to paint pictures. These activities are, however, of the greatest importance to our civilization. They are an essential part of that way of life we believe worth defending. Our knowledge of history comes largely through art. Great art is a living record. It galvanizes cold facts. It has a life of its own which becomes an integral part of our pleasure in it. Most important it helps form and shape our beliefs.

We in Dutchess County have lived through much history. Few can boast of more. It is fitting and proper that we are meeting here today in a building whose walls enclose the record of one of the greatest and most constructive periods in our history or in that of any other country. Our world is beset with social and international problems. We are fortunate in having a man who, coming from this land of ours and imbued with its spirit has the toughness of mind and will to lead us now.

cussions, I read what literature was available in the Roosevelt and Adriance Libraries, where Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Ver Nooy, Mr. Shipman and Miss Traver assisted me greatly. As usual I found the Dutchess County Historical Society's Year Books a gold mine very often, thanks to Miss Reynolds.

Some other literature too I found particularly interesting. "The Domestic Narrative", a biography of Samuel Bard by his son-in-law, John McVickar, rector of St. James, is a book well worth reading. It gives you a sense of the greatness of the two Bards, both as men of the world and as citizens of this community. There is an uprightness, a decency and fineness in this book that make the father and son humanly memorable. It is the tale of an accomplishment which is one of the outstanding ones of our country. The example of these two doctors should not be forgotten by us or our children.

Like the Bards, the Roosevelts have touched the community in many simple ways. It is quite fitting that the President should be shown chopping trees, iceboating, talking over school problems and acting as host. Like the great Americans of the 18th Century he has affected his community continuously. His touch is visibly constructive. We have schools, libraries, trees, a richer soil. The social consciousness that made the Livingstons and the Bards improve local breeds of cattle and experiment with fertilizers, the community sense of these men, working with other men, have become in our larger world, the Reforestation and Soil Conservation Programs, the Agricultural Experimental Stations, and the other Social Programs initiated and pushed by the President. Social programs, that some find so new, are really a continuation of our country's greatest traditions. They are visible and concrete examples of traditional American Democracy.

Excursions into history like this are part of the preliminary study. After the reading and the talking, the proposed subjects are jotted down chronologically then sketched in pencil, and later developed in color on the inch scale model which you can see in the Library here.

Next they are placed in a magic lantern which enlarges them on paper the size of the actual mural. These studies are known as cartoons. Detailed landscape, figure, and costume drawings are used to develop the cartoons. There wasn't sufficient room for all the details that might have made a part of the pictures. I found it very difficult to leave things out. I wish the post office walls had been at least twice as big.

foot to horse to steam and to gasoline on land and now in the air, the change from letter to telegraph, wireless and radio.

In Rhinebeck and Hyde Park the Industrial Revolution through these means (rarely by local mechanized production) transforms the rural 18th Century economy to our highly complex one of today, speeding its pace, flooding us with the machines and luxuries we now take for granted. Large and small landowners have acquired securities, in a few cases controlling great enterprises. Several of the few fine reserved 18th Century country houses were destroyed to give way to enormous creations of the mid 19th Century. Many of the equally large but more tasteful architectural borrowings at the end of the century have in turn been changing hands or are being taken over by the State or semi-public institutions. In my lifetime the State road has broadened, straightened out, armored its surface with concrete, collected a retinue of signs, hot dog stands and gasoline stations. The winding Kings Highway has become Route 9, artery of heavy luxury and business traffic, traffic that has an influence on us all both directly and indirectly. Some of these ideas are pictorial—even when they aren't they form the skeleton of both murals. Yet these epoch making changes are subordinate to the landscape and to our rural activities. There is a hopeful and healthy continuity of faith and living that controls the innovations.

This continuity of the simple things, the permanent things, make the background of our system of life as the Hudson River landscape makes a background to our own living. They give the Democracy of our country and this particular part of it, its special flavor.

The mural tells this story through pictures, arrangements in line, form and color that fit shapes left by the architect of the Hyde Park post office. Many individuals have helped me in this undertaking. The President suggested a number of subjects, something on the Bard and Stoutenburg families, sturgeon fishing, iceboating, the East Park race track, and the Quaker Church, as well as very pertinent, specific criticism of the model and of the nearly completed panels. Miss Helen Myers, too, gave me an exceptionally large number of helpful pictorial suggestions, as well as many small and entertaining details, details that you will find throughout the mural, like the bottle of Daniel Wigg's whirlbone liniment, "Equally good for man and beast". Miss Helen W. Reynolds, Mr. Benjamin Haviland, Mr. Sterling Bird, Mr. Henry Billings, Mr. Harry Briggs, and many others have helped me materially. Besides dis-

M U R A L S  
IN THE POST OFFICES AT RHINEBECK AND HYDE PARK  
DUTCHESS COUNTY\*

When Mr. Reese asked me to talk about the Rhinebeck and Hyde Park post office murals some months ago, I little realized that meeting would be our last. His loss is a personal one to all of us. He had that capacity for quick sympathy and enthusiasm which one felt even if one knew him but slightly as I did. We will miss him very much.

I shall do as he asked and tell you about the murals, although I am well aware, that it is you who should be talking to me instead. For my knowledge of history is rudimentary. Much that I've acquired and used in these murals has come from conversations with members of this society.

First I'll explain what I tried to do, the intellectual and emotional background of the conception. Second how that conception was executed, the ways and means, the plumbing and carpentry of the pictures. Finally I will say a word about the Program of which these two murals are a small and unimportant part and of their relation to our history and to this society in particular.

In both murals I have tried to tell the story of the towns—past and present—against the background of the land we all know and love. In a sense they supplement each other, one Rhinebeck emphasizing the 18th Century and the other Hyde Park the 19th and 20th. Both start with Henry Hudson's "Half Moon". In both I've drawn on those simple activities that bind our lives to the past and to each other; tilling and clearing our fields; growing, catching and preparing our food; building our houses, losing and leaving them; eating, drinking, exchanging goods and services; working, playing, singing, talking, and worshiping.

Running parallel with this basic theme, sometimes punctuating it with a specific occurrence, are the trends which we share with our whole country; the discovery of land; its acquisition and distribution; immigrations from abroad—and from East to West; the development of transportation and communication from sail to steam to oil on water, from

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\*Paper read by Mr. Olin Dows at the annual meeting of the Dutchess County Historical Society held in the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, May 11, 1942.

## THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

In February, 1942, the trustees of the Dutchess County Historical Society approved an interesting program for the Pilgrimage which they hoped then it would be possible to hold in September. However, when the time for the usual notice came, there had to be sent out, instead of the familiar program with route, information and so on, a card announcing that the Pilgrimage must be given up this year for reasons all would understand.

There can be no doubt that the Society now faces a period of restricted activity, one in which loyalty on the part of all will be needed for the good of the whole. If each member feels responsibility and will do all he or she can individually to promote the interest of the spring and autumn meetings and to support the production of the *Year Book* as usual, the organization will come through the emergency and continue good work and enjoyable September Pilgrim-

ages in less troubled days than these.

The card sent out in regard to the omission of the Pilgrimage of 1942 read as follows:

DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

SPECIAL NOTICE

August 31, 1942.

To the Members:

After due enquiry and consideration, the officers and trustees of the society have regretfully decided that it would not be practical to hold a Pilgrimage this September, nor patriotic to attempt to do so. They feel sure the decision will be understood and endorsed, although to all it brings disappointment.

It is hoped that the meeting in October will be one of special interest and that the attendance will be large. Loyal support and cooperation are necessary to the welfare of the society in these troubled and anxious times.

J. WILSON POUCHER,  
Secretary.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT  
 TREASURER  
 DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 OCTOBER 16, 1942

PERMANENT ACCOUNT

Balance on hand May 11th, 1942.....	\$ 902.03	
Interest to July 1st, 1942.....	4.51	
	\$ 906.54	

CHECKING ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand May 11, 1942.....	\$1,604.51	
Received from dues and sale of Year Books.....	129.25	
	\$1,733.76	

DISBURSEMENTS

Payment of share for Glebe House.....	\$ 120.00	
Amy Ver Nooy, postage and postals .....	8.67	
Lansing-Broas Co., printing cards, May meeting....	2.50	
Lansing-Broas Co., 500 letter heads.....	7.15	
Amy Ver Nooy, honorarium as Assistant Secretary..	50.00	
Allen Frost, honorarium as Curator.....	25.00	
Katherine B. Waterman, honorarium as treasurer...	50.00	
Lansing-Broas Co., 1000 envelopes.....	5.65	
Dutchess County Art Association.....	25.00	
Lansing-Broas Co., 1000 dues bills .....	6.25	
	\$ 300.22	

Balance on hand October 16, 1942.....\$1,433.54

Respectfully submitted,

KATHERINE B. WATERMAN,  
 Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT  
 TREASURER  
 DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAY 11, 1942

PERMANENT ACCOUNT

Balance on hand October 17, 1941.....	\$ 895.32	
Interest to January 1, 1942 .....	6.71	
	\$ 902.03	

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on hand October 17, 1941.....	\$1,489.85	
Received from dues and sale of Year Books.....	1,037.50	
	\$2,527.35	

DISBURSEMENTS

Margaret DeM. Brown, two photographs.....	\$ 5.00	
Nelson House, guest tickets .....	6.60	
Amy Ver Nooy, postage and notices.....	24.75	
Lansing & Broas, 700 programs and postals.....	18.25	
Helen W. Reynolds, editing Year Book.....	200.00	
Amy Ver Nooy, a credit to President Roosevelt's account (for Collections, Vol. 7).....	10.00	
Lansing and Broas, 100 sheets gummed labels.....	3.00	
Katherine B. Waterman, labeling and packing Year Book .....	14.00	
U. S. Post Office, postage on Year Books.....	20.64	
Lansing & Broas, half-tone plates and binding Year Books .....	118.48	
Rhinebeck Gazette, printing 700 Year Books .....	364.12	
N. Y. State Historical Ass'n, dues.....	3.00	
Amy Ver Nooy, honorarium as Assistant Secretary.	50.00	
Allen Frost, honorarium as Curator .....	25.00	
Katherine B. Waterman, honorarium as Treasurer..	50.00	
Helen W. Reynolds, postage .....	5.00	
Katherine B. Waterman, postage .....	5.00	
	\$ 922.84	

Balance on hand.....	\$1,604.51	
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Respectfully submitted,  
 KATHERINE B. WATERMAN,  
 Treasurer.

stage and hoped that when some definite working plans had been evolved the committee would have the interested cooperation of the members of the Dutchess County Historical Society.

Mr. Guernsey then presented Mr. Arthur Pound, State Historian, who gave the very interesting

account of Sir William Johnson, a British Pro-Consul in America, which appears as one of the articles in this issue of the Year Book.

The meeting closed with a rising vote of thanks to the speakers.

J. WILSON POUCHER,  
Secretary.

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brouck, Mrs. Robert P. Huntington and Mrs. Edward A. Underhill.

Mrs. Waterman gave the report of the treasurer which was accepted as read and follows these minutes.

Miss Reynolds, for the Year Book Committee, said that the greater part of the book was already set in type and that it would very soon go to press. She anticipated that the completed volume would be issued about the same time as usual, early in the month of December.

Miss Reynolds reported also for the Pilgrimage Committee. She said that she knew that all of the members were disappointed not to have had the pilgrimage this year and that she felt that every-one understood the reasons for this action. She said that there were still in prospect some very interesting tours which might be taken and that she was sure that the members all hoped with her that the opportunity would come again soon.

Mr. Franklin Poucher, for the Nominating Committee, presented the name of Mr. Willis Livingston Mesier Reese, as a trustee to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Guernsey. This term expires with the spring meeting of 1945. Dr. Baldwin moved that Mr. Reese be elected to fill out this term. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

The assistant secretary reported that a letter had been received from Mr. Clifford Lord, Director of the New York State Historical Museum at Cooperstown, in which

Mr. Lord quoted a letter he had received from Governor Lehman. Governor Lehman said that he considered it very necessary to carry on a salvage campaign in order to conserve waste materials . . . but that it would be most unfortunate if historical documents and other useful information were destroyed in the process. He hoped that the people of New York State would preserve valuable documentary material by giving it to the local historical society, local library or other cultural or educational organization.

Miss Reynolds spoke, asking the members to do anything they could to keep alive the society during this period of difficulty and urged that the members stand shoulder to shoulder and keep the society going even if they could not for a while have the pilgrimages which were always so important a part of the life of the organization.

The following new members were proposed and elected: Mrs. Charles T. Brose, Miss C. Marguerite Drennen, Miss Edna Haver, Mr. William R. H. Todd, Mrs. William R. H. Todd and Miss Jennie Van Wyck.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned to the dining room where lunch was served to 76 members. After luncheon the president presented Mr. Fred Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, who explained what the Mid-Hudson Committee on the Conservation of Cultural Resources was planning to do. He told his audience that the committee was still in the planning

## SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 16, 1942

The semi-annual meeting of the Dutchess County Historical Society was held on Friday, October 16, at 11.30 a. m. at the Nelson House, Poughkeepsie. There was an attendance of 38 members at the business meeting.

The meeting was called to order by the president.

The minutes of the annual meeting, held May 11, were read and approved.

The report of the secretary was given by the assistant secretary and listed the following accessions:

New York History, the quarterly of the New York State Historical Association for July.

Bulletins of the New York State Historical Association for June and September.

The Bulletin of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum for July.

The Yorker, a publication for schools, issued by the New York Historical Association.

New-York Historical Society Quarterly Bulletin for July and October.

Two pamphlets published by the New-York Historical Society: The Thompson Homestead Memorial; New York, Then and Now.

The Quarterly Bulletin of the Westchester County Historical Society for July.

A war map, the gift of Mr. J. A. Miller, Colonial Beacon Oil Company.

A Short History of the Western

Reserve Historical Society, 1867-1942.

A Brief History of the Property of the Millbrook School, by Davis Spencer.

Vanderbilt Mansion, National Historic Site; a pamphlet issued by the National Park Service.

Two volumes prepared by the Historical Records Survey: Inventory of the County Archives of the City of New York; The Earliest Volume of Staten Island Records, 1678-1813.

Historic Houses of the Hudson Valley, by Harold D. Eberlin and Cortlandt V. Hubbard, the gift of Mrs. W. Willis Reese.

Several copies of an article on Henry Winthrop Sargent by J. E. Spingarn, the gift of Mrs. Spingarn.

A reproduction of the Stuart Coat of Arms, the gift of Mrs. Myles Standish.

Manuscript of Capt. Richard Titus of the 150th Regiment, N.Y. V., 1862-1865; the gift of the Misses Florence and Marion Titus of Hyde Park.

Army equipment (12 pieces), also the gift of the Misses Titus.

The secretary also reported that the society had lost three members by resignation and the following members by death: Captain Moses W. Collyer, Mrs. Clarence Harris, The Hon. Gilbert D. B. Has-

*This society has been honored by his years of association with it and to him the society and the county owe deep gratitude for the much that he did to promote a knowledge of local history and increase local pride therein.*

*With a copy of this minute, the members of the society desire to transmit to Mr. Reese's family assurance of the sympathy that is felt for them in the grievous loss that has befallen them, and to add that Mr. Reese will long be remembered with respect and affection for what he was and what he did.*

*"To live in hearts we leave behind  
Is not to die."*

*Helen Wilkinson Reynolds  
Baltus B. Van Kleeck  
J. Wilson Poucher*

*Committee.*

In response to Mr. Guernsey's suggestion the members of the society stood for a moment as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Reese.

Mr. Guernsey announced that as this was the annual meeting nominations for the various offices were in order. Mr. Van Wyck, chairman of the nominating committee appointed April 11, was called upon and reported that his committee offered the name of Mr. Raymond G. Guernsey as nominee for president of the society and the names of Mr. George S. Van Vliet, Mr. Frank V. Mylod, Miss Helen Wilkinson Reynolds and Mr. Franklyn J. Poucher as nominees for election as trustees of the class of 1946. The Assistant Secretary offered as an amendment to the report of the nominating committee

the suggestion that the names of Dr. Charles J. Slocum and Mrs. Seward T. Green be included in the report as nominees for vice-presidents for the city of Beacon and the town of Pawling, respectively. As amended, the report was on motion approved by the meeting and the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the nominees as listed.

The following new members were proposed and elected: Mrs. R. W. K. Anderson, Mr. Victor J. McQuade, Mrs. J. Hunting Otis, Mrs. Robert F. Ridgeway and Miss Mildred D. Southwick.

Mr. Guernsey introduced Mr. Benjamin Haviland who gave an interesting account of some of the owners of the land in and about Hyde Park. Mr. Olin Dows then told of the mural paintings which he had recently installed in the Hyde Park post office. These two addresses will appear as articles in the Year Book.

Following Mr. Dows' address the meeting adjourned for lunch with a rising vote of thanks to the speakers.

After lunch, which the members enjoyed out-of-doors, scattered in groups about the building and on the terrace, Mr. Allen Frost led the procession through the village of Hyde Park to the President's cottage on the hilltop where the visitors were permitted to inspect the house and grounds and to admire the view. From the hilltop cottage the members dispersed at their own convenience.

J. WILSON POUCHER,  
Secretary.

Willis Reese, Dr. William S. Thomas and Mr. William S. Verplanck.

Miss Reynolds reported for the Year Book Committee that the material for the 1942 issue was arranged for and that she believed the book would be forthcoming at the usual time and would be up to the standard that had been maintained for some years.

Miss Reynolds also reported for the Pilgrimage Committee that tentative plans had been discussed and outlined a short pilgrimage which would cover only a few miles in the center of the county and asked for some expression of opinion from the members present as to whether it would be feasible to plan for a pilgrimage this year. Some of the members suggested that conditions with regard to tires and gasoline might change before September and, after some discussion, Mr. Harry T. Briggs made the motion, which was seconded and carried, that the question be left with the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Guernsey spoke of the loss suffered by the society in the death of its president, Mr. Willis Reese, and asked if Miss Reynolds would read the resolution of regret which had been prepared by the committee of which she was chairman. Miss Reynolds read the following resolution:

*WHEREAS: The sudden death by tragic accident of the President of the Dutchess County Historical Society, William Willis Reese, has shocked the membership of the society and this community at large*

*and is looked upon by all as an irreparable loss:*

*Be it RESOLVED: that this society place on record a statement of the profound regret and sorrow universally felt and at the same time pay tribute to the quality of the service rendered the cause of history by Mr. Reese.*

*Mr. Reese joined the Dutchess County Historical Society in 1915-1916; was elected Vice-President for the Town of Wappinger on May 18, 1922; was elected a Trustee on May 16, 1924; and on October 19, 1928, became President. At his death on March 28, 1942, he had belonged to the society for 26 years and was in the fourteenth year of his service as President.*

*In his family connections Mr. Reese went back to the beginnings of Dutchess County. He was descended from the Livingstons and the Beekmans and the Kips of the earliest provincial days and from the Mesiers and Schencks of the period of the Revolution. The house he lived in was the mid-nineteenth century home of his grandfather, William Henry Willis. But, setting aside these ties with Dutchess, it was primarily Mr. Reese's own active interest in the history of the county, combined with his sterling character and high standards, that made him outstanding in our midst. He ever sought truth in history and exemplified the love of truth in his conduct. Of him it has been said sadly since he went: he was one of the last survivors of courtly, old-time gentlemen.*

ed a notice which had been received from the office of the surrogate with reference to the probate of the will of Mr. Reese and Dr. Baldwin announced that the society would receive \$5,000 under the will of Mr. Reese. The apprecia-

tion of the trustees present was expressed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

AMY VER NOOY,  
Assistant Secretary.

## ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 11, 1942

The annual meeting of the Dutchess County Historical Society was held on Monday, May 11, 1942, at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park. There was an attendance of 110 at the business meeting.

Mr. Guernsey opened the meeting and stated that the members of the society were pleased to accept the invitation of the Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library to hold their meeting in such pleasant surroundings.

The minutes of the semi-annual meeting, held October 17, 1941, and of two meetings of the Board of Trustees, held February 28 and April 15, 1942, were read by the assistant secretary. The report of the secretary was also given by the assistant secretary and reported the acquisition of the following items: New York History, the quarterly of the New York State Historical Association, for January and April, 1942.

Bulletin of the New York State Historical Association for February, 1942.

The Bulletin of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum, January, 1942.

The New York Historical Society Quarterly Bulletin for January and April, 1942.

The year book of the Dutch Settlers Society of Albany, 1941-1942.

The Long Island Historical Society Quarterly for October 1941 and January 1942.

Publication Number XXVII of the Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands (Report of the annual meeting held September 20, 1940, List of officers and members).

The Quarterly Bulletin of the Westchester County Historical Society for October 1941 and January 1942.

Mounted Souvenir United States Postage Stamp, issued in honor of Susan Brownell Anthony; the gift of Mr. E. E. Brownell of Philadelphia.

Harry Edgar Meeks (a biographical sketch); the gift of Mrs. Harry Edgar Meeks.

The Secretary's report also mentioned that the society had lost a few members by resignation and the following members by death: Mr. Emmet P. Coughlan, the Hon. Daniel J. Gleason, Mr. W.

passed, that no change be made at present.

The following new members were proposed and elected: Mr. Benson R. Frost, Mr. Robert

Monell and Mr. James E. Whitehead.

Upon motion, the meeting adjourned.

J. WILSON POUCHER,  
Secretary.

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

APRIL 15, 1942

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Dutchess County Historical Society was held on Wednesday afternoon, April 15, at four o'clock in the local history room of the Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie.

Present: Vice-President-at-large Baldwin, Mr. Guernsey, Mr. Mylod, Mr. Otis, Mr. Poucher, Mr. Van Kleeck, Mr. Van Wyck and the Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Baldwin who stated that the meeting had been called to consider resolutions on the death of the president of the society, Mr. Reese.

On motion, it was agreed to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting of the Board of Trustees, held February 28, 1942.

It was moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to draw up suitable resolutions expressing the regret of the society in the death of Mr. Reese. After discussion, Miss Reynolds, Dr. Poucher and Mr. Baltus Van Kleeck were appointed a committee for this purpose.

Dr. Baldwin spoke of the necessity of electing a president to fill

the office made vacant in the death of Mr. Reese. He recommended that the trustees make no hasty decision at this time and that they appoint a nominating committee to propose a candidate at the annual meeting to be held in May.

Mr. Poucher made a motion that Mr. Guernsey be appointed at this time to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Reese. Mr. Mylod seconded the motion and Mr. Guernsey was elected to fill the office of president until the annual meeting in May.

Mr. Mylod moved that the President appoint a nominating committee to present a candidate for president and four trustees to succeed those whose terms expire with the May meeting. Mr. Van Kleeck seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

The Assistant Secretary reported that the Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library had suggested May 11 as a suitable date for the spring meeting to be held at that library. It was unanimously agreed that this date be accepted and the Assistant Secretary was instructed to send out the necessary notices to the members of the society.

The Assistant Secretary present-

# SECRETARY'S MINUTES

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FEBRUARY 28, 1942

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Dutchess County Historical Society was held on Saturday afternoon, February 28, in the local history room of the Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie.

Present: President Reese, Mrs. Anderson, Dr. Baldwin, Mr. Dows, Mr. Guernsey, Mr. Otis, Mr. F. J. Poucher, Miss Reynolds and the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary.

After the meeting had come to order, Mr. Reese announced that the meeting had been called to discuss the program for the year's activities. He read a letter which he had received from Mr. Fred Shipman, Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, inviting the society to hold its spring meeting at that library. Mr. Reese recommended that the invitation be accepted and the trustees agreed with him unanimously.

The matter of obtaining speakers for the occasion was discussed and it was suggested that Mr. Dows might be willing to address the meeting and tell the story of the mural paintings which he had recently installed in the new Hyde Park Post Office. Mr. Dows entered the room just after the suggestion had been made and expressed his willingness to address the meeting. It was stated that many people had enjoyed the account of the town of Clinton, given by Mr.

Van Vliet at the spring meeting in 1941, and the suggestion was made that Mr. Benjamin Haviland might be willing to give a similar account of the town of Hyde Park. Miss Reynolds was appointed to confer with Mr. Haviland.

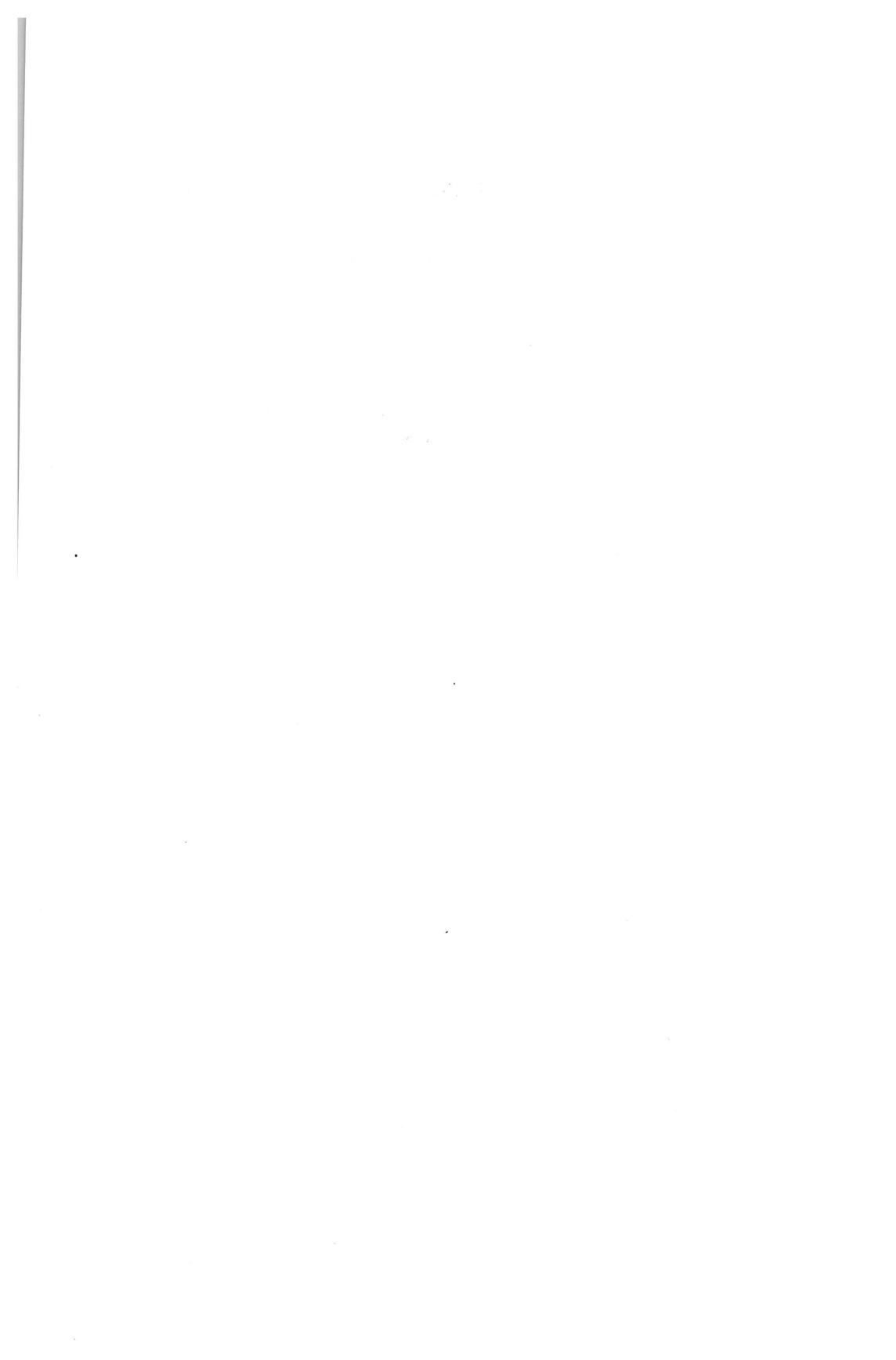
Miss Reynolds suggested that the spring meeting might be scheduled for a Monday since the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library is closed to the public on that day and it was agreed that a Monday early in May would be suitable.

Tentative plans for the fall pilgrimage were discussed. It was decided that a pilgrimage which did not include a long automobile tour might be undertaken if conditions were favorable. Further arrangements were left to the Pilgrimage Committee.

It was decided to hold the fall meeting in Poughkeepsie as usual and Dr. Baldwin was appointed to arrange for a speaker.

The matter of sustaining or contributing memberships, in addition to the annual and life memberships, was considered but no action was taken.

Mr. Otis suggested that it might be easier to collect the annual dues if the fiscal year of the society were changed to begin either the first of July or the first of October. After discussion, Mr. Guernsey moved, and the motion was accordingly



## RAYMOND G. GUERNSEY

PRESIDENT

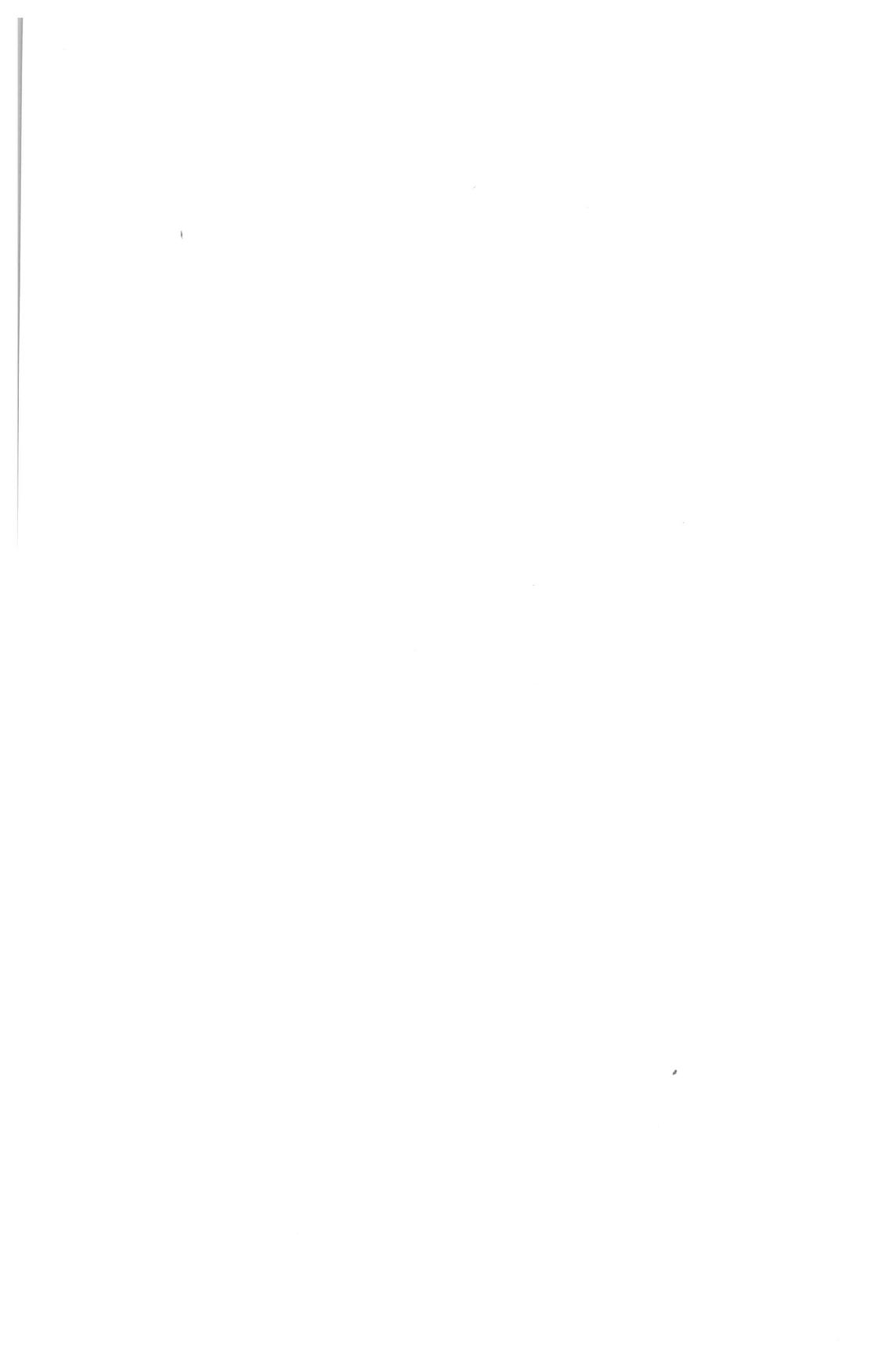
DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On May 11, 1942, Mr. Raymond Gano Guernsey of Poughkeepsie, New York, was elected President of the Dutchess County Historical Society. Mr. Guernsey is so well known throughout the county that he needs no introduction here. Except for the years 1903-1910 he has been a life-long resident of the city of Poughkeepsie and his family ties with the county are rooted in the eighteenth century. Through his father, the late Stephen Gano Guernsey, he is descended from the first settlers of the town of Amenia, while through his mother, Marianna Hicks Guernsey, he traces to one of the oldest and most widely known families of the Society of Friends, Mrs. Guernsey's branch of the Hicks family having come from Long Island to the town of Clinton before the War of the Revolution.

Briefly to summarize biographical facts, the *Year Book* puts on record that Mr. Guernsey was born in Poughkeepsie; prepared for college there and at Phillips Exeter Academy; and graduated in 1902 from Yale University, where he was a member of the junior fraternity of Alpha Delta Phi and of the senior society of Skull and Bones. After graduation from the New York Law School he was admitted to the bar in 1905. For five years he practised in New York city. Returning to Poughkeepsie in 1910, Mr. Guernsey went into partnership with his father in the firm of Guernsey and Guernsey, the partnership lasting until his father's death in 1930 and he continuing individually in practise thereafter.

To his profession Mr. Guernsey has added activity in the community in several ways. He has served a number of terms as a deacon of the First Congregational Church; from 1910 to 1914 was a member of the Board of Education; from 1923 to 1940 he was a trustee of Vassar College and treasurer of the college for much of that period; since 1925 he has been a trustee of the Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie. His personal pleasures include the study of ornithology and the game of tennis.

In 1922 Mr. Guernsey was elected to membership in the Dutchess County Historical Society and in 1937 was made a trustee of the society.





IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM WILLIS REESE

DIED MARCH 28, 1942

PRESIDENT OF THE DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1928 — 1942



OCCASIONAL PUBLICATIONS  
OF THE  
DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- 1916—PAMPHLET: *Troutbeck, A Dutchess County Homestead*; by Charles E. Benton. Out of print.
- 1924—COLLECTIONS: VOL. I; *Poughkeepsie, The Origin and Meaning of the Word*; by Helen Wilkinson Reynolds.
- 1924—COLLECTIONS, VOL. II; *Old Gravestones of Dutchess County, New York*; collected and edited by J. Wilson Poucher, M. D., and Helen Wilkinson Reynolds.
- 1928—COLLECTIONS, VOL. III; *Records of the Town of Hyde Park, Dutchess County, New York*; edited by Franklin D. Roosevelt. Edition exhausted.
- 1930—COLLECTIONS, VOL. IV; *Notices of Marriages and Deaths in Newspapers printed at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1778-1825*; compiled and edited by Helen Wilkinson Reynolds.
- 1932—COLLECTIONS. VOL. V; *Records of the Reformed Dutch Church of New Hackensack, Dutchess County, New York*; edited by Maria Bockè Carpenter Tower.
- 1938—COLLECTIONS, VOL. VI; *Eighteenth Century Records of the portion of Dutchess County, New York, that was included in Rombout Precinct and the original Town of Fishkill*. Collected by William Willis Reese. Edited by Helen Wilkinson Reynolds.
- 1940—COLLECTIONS, VOL. VII. *Records of Crum Elbow Precinct, Dutchess County*. Edited by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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For information in regard to any of the above publications address: Mrs. Amy Ver Nooy, Assistant Secretary, Dutchess County Historical Society, Adriaance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

ILLUSTRATION

View of West Point at the Close of the Revolution - Opp. p. 100  
From a Sketch by Henry Livingston, Jr.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The Vice-President at Large, ex-officio

The Secretary, ex-officio

The Treasurer, ex-officio

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1942

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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

Copyright, 1942

By the Dutchess County Historical Society

DUTCHESS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Incorporated under the laws of the  
State of New York  
December 21, 1918  
Certificate of Incorporation filed in the office of the  
Clerk of Dutchess County  
Book 10 of Corporations, page 153

# Year Book

Dutchess County Historical Society

Volume 27

1942

