

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued Quarterly--March, June, September and December--noting activities of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants, and mailed to members free; to non-members, 25¢ yearly. Secretary: Miss Ethel Clarke, 603 W. 139th St., N.Y.C.

March, 1936.

"Know Your Kindred Better"

Number 8.

"MEMBER-GET-A-MEMBER" CAMPAIGN

The feeling of the members concerning the Society is that for a two-year-old youngster it is quite robust, lusty and worthy of further encouragement and perpetuation. A Westcott descendant who has in his or her heart some of the red blood which was so abundantly evinced by the pioneers of the family, cannot read the OBJECT of the Society, as set forth in the "Articles of Organization", without realizing that to be worthy of our rich heritage, there are certain responsibilities. That we may better assume these responsibilities, it is suggested that we begin a "Member-Get-a-Member" campaign NOW and build up the membership so strongly that all the objectives of the Society may be achieved. There are upward of 500 known family associations in the United States, some of them numbering as many as 2,000 members and many with a membership of over 500. Westcotts do not deserve a minority classification, so let's climb out and give our President a big boost in his desire for a larger membership. The Society now has upward of 170 members in good standing. If each will get a member, the number will be increased to nearly 350. Let's not only try it -- let's do it! Who will be first? Write to our Secretary, Miss Ethel Clarke, 603 West 139th St., New York City, for application blanks. It is not necessary that the applicant fill all spaces in the application form; the filling of only such records as the applicant may have available is necessary; the Historian of the Society will endeavor to find and enter the missing records. Mail the application to the Secretary after it has been properly signed, enclosing check or money-order for \$2.00 made payable to Dr. Niles Westcott, Treasurer, and in due time the applicant will receive his or her certificate of membership.

CELEBRATION IN 1937 AT COOPERSTOWN

It will be pleasing news to the members of the Society and other Westcott descendants (Who should be members), to learn that at a meeting of the Directors on January 11th, Cooperstown on Lake Otsego, in Otsego County, N. Y., was decided upon for the second biennial celebration and reunion in 1937. August was named as the month which would probably be the most acceptable, but the actual date was left for a committee to confer with a like committee of the Milford Township Chapter, No. 1, of which Joseph P. Westcott of Binghamton, N. Y., is President. It will be recalled that at the business meeting during the celebration last June, Mrs. Grace Davenport Roberts of Cooperstown, a member of both the National Society and Chapter No. 1, extended the invitation of her Chapter to hold the 1937 gathering in Cooperstown, an invitation which was very happily received at that time and announcement at the dinner of Chapter No. 3 on January 11th, of its acceptance brought out unanimous approval. The letter of Mrs. Roberts in this "Quarterly", will be read with interest. President Westcott, on Feb. 10th, appointed the following committee to confer with Chapter No. 1: Dr. Allan F. Westcott, chairman; Dr. F. Howard Westcott and William Mar Westcott. The committee to represent Chapter No. 1 is Roscoe L. Whitman, chairman; Mrs. Grace Davenport Roberts, Harris L. Cooke and Reuben H. Westcott. Cooperstown, being a popular Summer resort, has numerous good rooming and eating houses so that those who do not desire the more expensive hotels may find splendid accommodations. Thruout central New York within 150 miles of Cooperstown, are the homes of more than 2,000 members of the Westcott family.

COME TO
COOPERS-
TOWN

Cooperstown, in the heart of the country made famous by Cooper's Leatherstocking tales, is located in the south-central part of New York State on the southern shore of Otsego Lake. It is an historic village, containing fine old residences and well shaded streets. The population is about 3,000. The altitude at lake level is 1,200 feet. Cooperstown may be reached from either the East or West by following Federal route 20, to Springfield Four-Corners, then a 9-mile drive along the western shore of Otsego Lake, a trip which for sheer beauty can scarcely be paralleled. From the South, Cooperstown may be reached by the way of Oneonta and the Susquehanna Valley. Among points of interest near the village, are Leatherstocking Falls, Fairy Spring, Natty Bumppo's Cave, Three-Mile-Point (where the Westcotts of Milford, held their first reunion). Along the lake shore, one finds an excellent golf course and the Country Club, also the Blue Anchor Tea House. Within the village, are the Village Club and Library, the Clark's Gymnasium, historic old Christ Church, where James Fenimore Cooper worshipped and where he is buried in the Cooper plot in the church yard. Near this church stands the still older Presbyterian Church of beautiful Colonial design. Occupying the center of the village is the famous Doubleday Field, a baseball park, where the National game originated in 1839. Through the generosity of the Clark estates, the village has many beautiful institutions, among them being the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital and Pathological Laboratory, the Gymnasium, Knox School for Girls, Beasley School for Boys, and the Library which houses valuable collections of the museum of the Otsego County Historical Society and the National Baseball Museum. The Clark's Estates have recently contracted with the Treadwell Service Corporation of New York City, to operate a new hotel project in Cooperstown to be known as the "Cooper Inn and Cottages", to be conducted on the cottage plan. These new hotels will replace the old Fenimore which has served for the past sixty years. The Cooper Inn was a beautiful Colonial mansion. It has already been restored so that it will offer the quiet charm and at the same time, the accommodations of a modern hotel. The other units of this excellent system are being made ready. The "Cooper Inn" will open in the Spring of 1936.-- Grace Davenport Roberts, Member, of Cooperstown.

ACTION
BY THE
DIRECTORS

At a meeting of the Directors of the Society, held in New York on January 11th last, the following were present: Vice-President F. Howard Westcott, who presided in the absence of President V. Stukely Westcott whose presence was prevented by illness; Past-President Allan F. Westcott, Vice-President Harry J. Westcott, William Mar Westcott, Roscoe L. Whitman, Miss Ethel Clarke and Mrs. Chester W. DeMond. Beside accepting the invitation to hold the 1937 celebration at Cooperstown, the Directors voted to continue the "Quarterly" as the official organ of the Society; to meet the deficit of \$78.15 occasioned by the 1935 celebration by soliciting contributions from the members and to investigate the possibility of preserving in some permanent form, the genealogical and historical data of the family which has been compiled by the Historian since the Westcott Genealogy was published in 1932. President Westcott later appointed the following committee to confer with the Historian: Miss Ethel Clarke and Harry J. Westcott.

A DINNER
LONG TO BE
REMEMBERED

Too much credit cannot be given the committee, which had for its chairman, Miss Florence A. Westcott, assisted by her sister, Mrs. Sharpe and Mrs. DeMond and Dr. F. Howard Westcott, for the planning and execution of the dinner-meeting of the Greater New York Chapter, No. 3, held in New York on January 11th, Despite regrets from fourteen members who were unable to be present due to illness, including our National President, our Chaplain and our Treasurer, fifty were present. It was one of the most enjoyable events of "organized Westcotts" during the last five years. Dr. F. Howard Westcott, president of the Chapter, presided, and on the table at his place, was a miniature sailing vessel of a character such as might have brought our Family Founder and his family to America in 1635. It was the handiwork of Miss Florence Westcott and Mrs. Sharpe, and a great credit to them. Its sails, full of the east winds, indicated that the

vessel was headed due westward, ever the course of the pioneering spirit of the early Westcotts. The occasion was enlivened by the music of an orchestra. The speakers were Mrs. James H. Stansfield of Cambridge, Mass., past-registrar general of the D. A. R. and our member: Past-President Allan F. Westcott of Annapolis, Md., and Historian Roscoe L. Whitman of Westfield, N. J. Mr. Thomas Booth, a guest of Mr. Whitman, gave a dramatic recitation of "The Old Grey Horse", which took many of those present back to their faithful "Old Dobbins" of yesteryears. At the business meeting of the Chapter, Dr. F. Howard Westcott was re-elected President, and Miss Florence A. Westcott, whose address is 157 West 12th Street, New York City was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Those desiring to join the Greater New York Chapter should write Miss Westcott. The annual dues are 50 cents.

OUR

APOLOGIES

Our newly-elected Editor of the "Quarterly" wishes at this time to extend his apologies to Mrs. Chester W. DeMond and Mrs. John T. Wilde, for the confusion he created by reporting that the latter was elected to the office of National Recording-Secretary when, as will be recalled by all who were present at the business meeting last June, it was Mrs. DeMond who was so selected. His sorrow for the error is as great as is his gratification that both members have expressed their forgiveness.

COMING

EVENTS

Rhode Island Chapter, No. 2, will hold its third annual reunion in June, probably on the 27th, and tho not all of us will be present we will be with them in spirit as they gather in the oldest Westcott homeland. * * A special basket picnic and reunion will be held by the Milford Township (N. Y.) Chapter No. 1, probably at Goodyear Lake (near Oneonta, N. Y.), on Saturday, August 8th, at which time the Chapter will inaugurate preliminary plans for the entertainment of the National Society at its second biennial celebration and reunion in August, 1937. * * The third annual basket picnic and reunion of the Northern New York Chapter, No. 4, will be held at Westcott Beach, near Sackett Harbor, N. Y., on Monday, August 10th, when, it is expected, this kecnly-alive and up-and-doing Chapter will have many new cousins to welcome. * * The fourth annual dinner-meeting of the Greater New York Chapter, No. 3, on Saturday, January 9th, 1937, will be eagerly awaited. * * The second biennial celebration and reunion of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America, to be held at beautiful Cooperstown on Lake Otsego, N. Y., in August, 1937, is an event and date which all Westcott descendants will now want to reserve on their calendars. * * To all these gatherings, all Westcott descendants, whether members or not, are cordially invited.

More anon!

LEST YOU

FORGET!

There appears to be some confusion as to what embraces a membership in our National Society. The following may be timely. Husband and wife, one of whom is the descendant, constitutes a single membership, and any single person over twelve years of age, if a descendant, may become a member. As previously stated in this "Quarterly", the initiation fee of \$1.00 is paid only once, at the time of filing the application, and the dues are \$1.00 annually, payable for the first year at the time of filing application and in each January thereafter so long as membership is continued. The Secretary will furnish an application blank to those desiring to become a member. The applicant is to fill out the blank as completely as he or she has the records available, but it must show a Westcott ancestor. The application should be mailed to Miss Ethel Clarke, Secretary, 603 West 139th Street, New York City, accompanied by a remittance of \$2.00 made payable to Dr. Niles Westcott, Treasurer. Present members who will "Get-a-Member" or members, should write to the Secretary for blanks and assist the proposed member or members to fill out the application. "This is the time for all good members to come to the assistance of their family society."

FROM OUR
TREASURER

Dear Cousins: Following our recent celebration, the committee in charge found there was a deficit of \$113.15. This, I understand, is fitting and proper to all good and well-run celebrations. To meet this deficit, \$35.00 was paid from the treasury and the balance, \$78.15, was met by loans from those present. At the recent meeting of the Directors in New York it was voted that the Treasurer ask for contributions to meet this balance. Now, the members of the Society who contributed are willing to cancel their loan, provided the sum can be raised and turned over to the treasury to apply to the expenses of the Society. Accordingly, the Treasurer will be pleased to receive through the Secretary, contributions to this fund--preferably small amounts from a large number. Sincerely yours, Niles Westcott, Treasurer. (See the accompanying notice.)

MORE NEW
MEMBERS

A hearty welcome is extended to the following cousins who by their becoming members of the Society, indicate their wish to help perpetuate the spirit and the memory of the pioneers of this old-stock family. They are members enrolled since the last report in the December quarterly--

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 172 | Reuben H. Westcott | Oneonta, N. Y. |
| 173 | Lieutenant & *Mrs. James B. McPherson | Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. |
| 174 | Walter VanT. Westcott | Hackensack, N. J. |
| 175 | Chester W. Westcott | Paterson, N. J. |

| | | |
|---|-----|-------------|
| Total Members to date 175, Associate Members 6-- | 181 | Net Member- |
| Deaths 3, Resigned 1, Dropt for Arrears in Dues 8-- | 12 | ship-- 169 |

PASSING
NOTES

Members desiring a copy of the "Articles of Organization" of the Society, as amended, should write the Secretary, enclosing 3¢ postage. It might be well that every member have a copy of the "Articles" so as to be better informed. * * It has been suggested that the graves of the ancestors of some of our members be given attention this coming Spring, if to no greater extent than the cutting away of wild shrubs and grass. * * In the matter of neglected graves, our President reports that effort is to be made to get proper recognition for the grave of Damaris Westcott (wife of Benedict Arnold, first Governor of Rhode Island). This is the grave of the eldest child of our Family Founder, and with that of her distinguished husband, has remained long neglected in rear of an ordinary frame house in Newport. Rhode Island will have its tercentenary celebration this year, and it surely cannot be said that its effort to perpetuate its outstanding history will be fully qualified unless it makes permanent provision for the graves of its First Governor and its First Lady of the Colony. * * The Westcott Genealogy of 1932, \$10.00, post-paid; Westcott Coat of Arms in colors on plate paper, 35¢. Order from the Secretary or the Historian. * * Have you your 1936 membership certificate? * * The Historian has decided to continue compiling genealogical records of the descendants of Stukely Westcott thruout the coming Summer and Autumn. This decision was reached because of the old-fashioned Winter from which we are just emerging, making it impossible for many to obtain important data from head-stone inscriptions in cemeteries, and also in order that further consideration may be given at the several reunions this Summer. The records when compiled in final manuscript form, will not duplicate records found in the Westcott Genealogy of 1932, but will comprise a series of appendices thereto. * * An announcement accompanies this Quarterly to which you will probably want to give your attention. Give a helping hand, if you can. * * Pictures of the 1935 celebration still may be obtained by writing the photographer, Hayes Bigelow, Brattleboro, Vt.