

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.

December, 1937.

"Know Your Kindred Better"

Vol. IV, No. 15

A MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY
NEW YEAR
TO ALL!

Notice of the fifth annual dinner of the Greater New York Chapter on Saturday evening, Jan. 15, appears later in this issue.

SORRY

ABOUT

THIS:

Those present from Massachusetts at the Celebration last August were inadvertently omitted from the list of participants published in the Quarterly for September -- Mr.* and Mrs. Milton Gregory Dexter of Belmont, Mass., and Mr. and Mrs. David A. Westcott of Dorchester, Mass. They are all happily recalled for the real contribution they made to the success of the Celebration. Ye Scribe offers his sincere apologies.

Some members have already remitted their dues for 1938. They will not of course, find the Secretary's notice accompanying this issue. If your notice is enclosed, won't you please send your check early to the Secretary and make it payable to the Treasurer?

THAT

BOOK OF

The matter of publishing the second edition or book of appendices to the Westcott Genealogy stands right where it was left at the Celebration last August. Perhaps further steps can be taken at the dinner in New York next month. Lulu Westcott Burgen, secretary-treasurer of the Northern New York Chapter, suggests in this connection as follows: "Just as times are with many of us, was wondering if some plan could be formulated whereby we could pay, say what would be the price of the book, in installments, perhaps when paying our national dues to save time for the secretary. Perhaps too, each Chapter might be willing to donate a given amount each year to help until such could be fully accomplished."

President Joseph R. Westcott has called a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society for January 15, 1938, at 4 P. M., at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York City, to transact certain business of importance. The fullest possible attendance is hoped for.

VERMONT

CHAPTER,

No. 5. The following members of the Society, having applied for a charter for a Chapter, the same was granted October 27, 1937, and will be known as "Vermont Chapter, No. 5, Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants": Nathan H. Wilkins, Rachel C. Wilkins, LeRoy D. Baker of Hoosick Falls, N. Y.; Leon D. Baker of North Hoosick, N. Y.; Amos Martin Wescott of North Bennington, Vt.; Frank Waldron Baker of Bennington, Vt.; Harold W. Wescott, Lucy Edna Wescott Jay of Poultney, Vt.; H. Phillip Wescott, Frances Belle Wescott Reed, Robert Nicholas Reed of East Poultney, Vt.; and Iola R. Whitney of Wells,

Vt. The officers of this new Chapter are: H. Phillip Wescott, President; Leon D. Baker, Vice-President; Frank W. Baker, Secretary; Nathan H. Wilkins, Treasurer; and Rachel C. Wilkins, Historian. The next annual reunion will be held at the same place where previous gatherings have been enjoyed -- in Idylwood Park on Lake St. Catherine, Vt., and the date is September 11, 1938. The credit for forming these descendants of Nicholas and Abigail Wescott of Vermont in the 18th century, into a family association and later, into a Chapter of this Society, is chiefly due Miss Rachel C. Wilkins, who, it will be recalled, was one of the busiest of the busy participants at the Celebration last Summer. These Wescotts without the middle "t", placed headstones last Summer at their ancestors' graves; ever a worthy deed of recognition and love. And they sing *Theodora Bates Cogswell's family song, "Bold Stukely Westcott," with real appreciation of the sentiment expressed in it. They surely inherit the vim of "The Vermont Boys of '76". Hearty welcome to Chapter, No. 5!

"Never mind yesterday; on with today!" This sage axiom emerged the other day from the correspondence of Ye Scribe, and somehow right away it suggested what must have been the working formula of our forebears. While their yesterdays must have had their disappointments, discouragements and heart-aches, it is certain that Westcotts of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries didn't mind for results show they were ever "on with today" and looking to the future. They fore-saw the possibilities; they labored to attain them, and what one generation left unfinished because of the limitations of life, the next generation carried on. So on down through the years, with their help a Nation was builded. Those living should be "on with today", mindful however, of their rich bequests, and prepared to leave to future generations, a better life, a better civilization.

WHY NOT

MORE

CHAPTERS?

There are a great many more than enough members of the Westcott family to form Chapters of this Society in Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, California, all living within comparatively easy traveling distance to a central point, also in Madison, Wayne and other counties in New York. There are at present, four members of this Society living in Philadelphia, three in Baltimore, one in Annapolis, and two in Washington -- just enough to form their own Chapter! All that seems to be lacking to bring about these organizations are LEADERS. Will YOU be one?

The Westcott Genealogy of 1932 is designed to be, and it is hoped you will make this volume of 435 pages, a family heirloom to be handed down from generation to generation. As such, it is the most far-reaching book investment that can be made for it will hold even greater value and interest to future generations than it holds for you today. And future generations will be under obligations to you for having possessed and preserved this book of family history and records for them. You can show your public spirit in no better way than by presenting this book to your local library.

THE JOY OF

GETTING

TOGETHER

Some "after-thoughts" of the Celebration last Summer have been communicated to Ye Scribe. "It seems like a long time to 1939; wish we might get together more frequently." "Had a wonderful time and will certainly be present at the next one." "Like Cooperstown; think I will locate there if a Westcott Celebration will be held there every Summer." "Never knew until last Summer I had so many delightful cousins; hope to see more of them." "I vote for New York City for the next Celebration." And there were others. The dinners in New York each January are the nearest substitutes for an annual Celebration. There the kin assemble from widely-separated localities -- from Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, up-state New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania,

Maryland and District of Columbia, in addition to those from Greater New York and vicinity. Hence, there is opportunity to meet the kin, get better acquainted and do some New York shopping, which is always popular with the ladies.

It is now Honorary Past-President Allan F. Westcott and Honorary Past-President V. Stukely Westcott of the Society.

CHAPTER

NO. 2 The Fall meeting of Rhode Island Chapter, No. 2, was held Saturday evening, November 6th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Marr Westcott in Pawtucket with 42 present. President Milton Gregory Dexter presided, and after the Secretary and Treasurer made their reports, Chapter Historian Ralph Westcott Dexter gave an interesting talk on Stukely Westcott, the pioneer, his family life in England and Rhode Island. Chapter President Dexter gave some of the high lights of the Celebration at Cooperstown, and Past-President V. Stukely Westcott also spoke on the same topic. Miss Susan W. Handy made a report of the committee on the grave of Governor Benedict Arnold in Newport, stating the property (ground of the old Arnold burying ground) will have to be bought before anything further can be accomplished. Miss Edith May Tilley, of the Newport Historical Society, gave an interesting talk on epitaphs. The group was then served with refreshments. An enjoyable evening was had. -- Reported by Norman Marr Westcott.

Miss Susan Westcott Handy, our member from Manville, R. I., has been nominated for Vice-Regent of the D. A. R. of Rhode Island.

DINNER IN

LITTLE OLD Hold everything...Postpone that appointment...Cancel that Bridge
NEW YORK Party, or that Bowling Contest...Let nothing interfere with your attending the FIFTH ANNUAL RECEPTION AND DINNER of the Westcott and allied families! As usual, it is the big night of the Greater New York Chapter of the Society. And just like its previous gatherings, it will be an event you will regret if you are not there. This year, the event is moved from the Lexington Hotel down to the Fifth Avenue Hotel, 24 Fifth Avenue at 9th Street, and the date is Saturday evening, Jan. 15, 1938. The "get-better-acquainted" gathering and reception is from 6 to 7 P. M., with a steam-lined dinner immediately following. President Joseph R. Westcott of the Society, will come down from Binghamton, and cousins will be present whom you perhaps have not met before. This is "the little national celebration", you know! The dinner is \$2.00, as usual. Please send in your reservation EARLY -- by Jan. 10 at the very latest! Send your reservation and check to Miss Florence A. Westcott, 157 West 12th St., N. Y. City, who is the secretary - treasurer of the Chapter. Come! COME!! The hotel will send you a booklet if you write the hotel.

From the Chapter's Secretary: "The Greater New York Chapter cordially invites all Cousins who can do so, to attend their next annual dinner to be held Saturday evening, Jan. 15, 1938, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York City. This hotel is on Fifth Avenue at 9th Street and can be easily reached. If you are at Grand Central Station, take a Lexington Avenue subway ^{local} to Astor Place, and then walk three blocks west, or take a Fifth Avenue bus which runs down past the hotel. If you are at the Pennsylvania Station, the 7th Avenue subway local takes you down to 8th Street, then a short walk east to Fifth Avenue. We will assemble as usual at 6 o'clock in the lounge, for one hour of renewal of old friendships and to greet new members, before going to dinner in the 'Washington Square Room' with its lovely murals of Old New York. It seems especially fitting to us, representing one of America's oldest families, to be entertained in this hotel, with its old traditions, and in this room with its atmosphere of long ago. Your chairman begs of you to send in your reservation EARLY! And now, let us say again, 'Renovato

nomine^t, and let us hope it will never die. Come along and do your bit to make it live." -- Miss Florence A. Westcott, 157 W. 12th St., N. Y. City.

A NOTE FROM THE FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL: "Pleasant accommodations can be reserved at the minimum rates (\$3.50 single, \$5.00 double; both with bath) if we receive notice at least two weeks prior to date of arrival". The hotel will send literature if requested.

This is YOUR PAPER. Won't you contribute information of your branch of the family to it -- especially dates of births, marriages and deaths. Let's keep the family record book up to date.

NORTHERN

NEW YORK

CHAPTER

At an executive meeting of the Northern N. Y. Chapter No. 4, held Nov. 14, in Hastings at the home of Mr. and Mrs.* Fred L. Burgen, it was tentatively decided to hold its next reunion at Westcott Beach on Tuesday, August 30, 1938. There was discussion of plans to help with the expense of publishing the appendices to the family genealogy, and further action is to be taken. Those present were: President and Mrs. John F. Westcott of N. Syracuse; Mr. and Mrs.* Floyd C. Coon and son Richard, of Syracuse; Mr.* and Mrs. Thomas B. Stool of Clayton; Mr. and Mrs. Frank N. Westcott of Watertown, besides Mr. and Mrs. Burgen, John H. Westcott of Oswego, has become a member of the Chapter, making three members in his immediate family.

LAST CALL for data of your family to be incorporated in the proposed Book of Appendices to the Westcott Genealogy. The research WILL END on December 31, 1937.

OUR NEW

MEMBERS

Secretary Clarke reports the following new members enrolled since the September issue of the Quarterly, and to our member, Miss Rachel C. Wilkins, goes the banner for securing the largest number of applications. The list:

205 Mr.* & Mrs. Frank W. Baker
 206 Mr. & Mrs. Phillips Wescott
 207 Harold Whitney Wescott
 208 Mr. & Mrs.* Hudson Reed
 209 Robert Nicholas Reed
 210 Mr. & Mrs.* Frank Jay
 211 Miss Cora Elisabeth Wescott
 212 Mr. & Mrs.* Dwight Whitney
 213 Mr.* & Mrs. LeRoy D. Baker
 214 Mr. & Mrs.* Robt. N. Griswold
 215 Miss Marion Edith Wescott

Bennington, Vt.
 East Poultney, Vt.
 Poultney, Vt.
 East Poultney, Vt.
 East Poultney, Vt.
 Poultney, Vt.
 Rochester, N. Y.
 Wells, Vt.
 Hoosick Falls, N. Y.
 N. Sacramento, Calif.
 Hackensack, N. J.

Presented By:
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Volunteered
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Rachel C. Wilkins
 Volunteered
 Mrs. E.R. Morroquin

The Society has members who spell their surname Westcott, Westcot, Wescott, Westcoat and then there are Wastcoats, Weskets, Westgates, etc., and in England, the earliest records spell the name Wescote. It might be asked what is there in the spelling of a name, but Ye Scribe thinks it not without importance for it is quite a job to keep the spelling correct in the family correspondence. * * Pictures taken at the 1937 Celebration, may still be had by writing Hayes Bigelow, Brattleboro, Vt. * * President Harry J. Westcott of the Greater N. Y. Chapter, writes "He is hopeful that we may again break the record in number at the dinner, and that we have an even more enjoyable get-together than we have ever had before". So say we all.