

# THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued Quarterly--March, June, September, December--noting activities of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants; mailed free to members, to non-members, 25¢ yearly. Secretary: Mrs. Adelbert N. Potter, 25 Fifth Ave., N.Y. City.

March, 1943.

"Know Your Kindred Better"

Vol. IX, No. 36.

YOUR ANCESTORS--(Epoch III)--Any authentic, up-to-date map of Devonshire, England will show Wescote or Westacott, as it is modernly spelled on the map, in the parish of Hartland in the present easterly suburbs of ancient Barnstaple on the bay of the same name (G-1). Here in the closing years of the 13th century, St. Leger de Wescote lived in the splendor befitting the family in that period. It is stated on good authority that on the same site where the ancient manor-house stood, now stands a spacious house, the size of which may be visualized from the fact that according to recent information, it contains upward of 350 windows. St. Leger de Wescote was the second of three sons of John de Wescote (See Epoch II) and his wife, a daughter of Sir John St. Leger. The other sons were John and Thomas, John was Warden of John the Baptist Hospital and Canon of St. Peter's, Exeter, succeeding his father in 1307. Thomas was Abbot of the parish of Hartland in 1315. St. Leger de Wescote no doubt derived his Christian name from his mother's paternal family, the St. Legers Legers or Lode reverting in France to the year 678. Little more is known of him other than he was "of the fiede of Wescote" (G-1) in 1300, in which year he married a daughter of a line descending through the titled families of Wadham and Cantelupe (G-4), and had a son William, who flourished at "the Manor of Wescote" (A-2) in 1345-6, with a Danish lady for wife. Of their issue were two sons, Thomas and William, of whom more will be learned in "The Quarterly" for June. (THE READER DESIROUS OF KNOWING MORE OF THE FAMILY HISTORY, IS ADVISED TO CONSULT THE WESTCOTT GENEALOGIES OF 1932 AND 1939.)

R. I. CHAPTER HOLD USUAL FALL MEETING--The Rhode Island Chapter had a very interesting meeting Tuesday, Dec. 8th, in the John Brown Mansion (built in 1786), Providence, the new home of the R. I. Hist. Society. The meeting was arranged by Miss Susan Westcott Handy and Leslie P. Westcott. There were 24 present: Mrs. V. Stukely Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. David A. Westcott of Boston, Dr. and Mrs. Niles Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie P. Westcott, Chapter President William M. Westcott, Miss Susan W. Handy, Mr. Thomas Handy, Sr., Thomas Handy, Jr., Elmer Westcott and guest, Mr. and Mrs. Byron O. Dexter, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Dexter, Mr. and Mrs. Everett M. Salisbury and daughter Thelma, Mrs. Ethel W. H. Cargill, Miss Leone Cargill, and the speaker, William G. Roelker, director of the Hist. Society, also Mr. Pierce, guest. President Westcott opened the meeting with prayer and welcoming of the members and guests. Mr. Roelker gave a most interesting and comprehensive talk about the Brown brothers who had built, and formerly owned and lived in this mansion. The members enjoyed looking around the old house and at the many paintings and historical curios. Refreshments were served by Miss Susan W. Handy, assisted by Mrs. Leslie P. Westcott and Mrs. V. Stukely Westcott. Mrs. Byron O. Dexter and Mrs. Everett M. Salisbury were appointed to take charge of the Summer meeting.-- Contributed by Miss Leone Cargill, Secretary.

NINE-YEAR RECORD OF THE SOCIETY--Our Society is represented by members in 29 States and in Nova Scotia. Since it was organized Jan. 13, 1934, memberships have been issued to 297 descendants, of which one was transferred to associate membership, leaving 296 members and 16 associate members; total 312. This total membership has been reduced (Dec. 31, 1942) to 208 because of loss of 35 members by death of which five memberships have been retained by survivor-consorts, reducing number terminated to 30. Also 74 members have been lost (in the nine years the Society has been organized) by resignations and non-payment of dues, making a total of ex-members of 104 which taken from the total membership of 312, gave on Dec. 31, 1942, a total

membership of 208. However, on Jan. 31, 1943, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Society, nine members had to be dropped because of non-payment of 1942 dues, leaving a total of 199 members. When the 118 husbands or wives (consorts), as the case may be, are added to the 199 descendant-members, a total of 318 persons are found to be affiliated with the Society.--Drawn from the annual report of National Secretary Dorothy Potter (Mrs. Adelbert N.).

IN MEMORIAM--Helen Anderson Hatmaker Klein (A-97), charter member of our Society who was present at the dinner-meeting in New York Jan. 13, 1934, when the Society was organized, died at her home in Pleasantville, N. Y., Jan. 4th, 1943. She made numerous contributions to the Westcott genealogy, and was deeply interested in the family activities. When ill health did not prevent, she was present at the Chapter dinners in New York. The sympathy of the Society is extended to her family, a son, two daughters and eight grandchildren.

NO NATIONAL CELEBRATION IN 1943--The annual meeting of the Directors of our Society, held Jan. 9th, was attended by the following members: President F. Howard Westcott, Historian Rachel C. Wilkins, Registrar Roscoe L. Whitman, Secretary Dorothy Potter (Mrs. A. N.), and Treasurer Pliny K. Westcott. Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, showing the finances and membership to be very satisfactory, were received and approved. It was voted to postpone the 5th Biennial Celebration, scheduled for the coming Summer, until conditions of the country warrant holding it; also that the present officers continue until such time as an election can be held.

CENTRAL N. Y. CHAPTER ADDS TO ITS ENDOWMENT FUND--In 1938, this Chapter undertook the future care of the cemetery at Milford Center, N.Y., where the ancestors of its members are buried, by creating an endowment fund. In five years this endowment has been built up to \$1,345, the Chapter having recently added \$25. It is hoped to increase the fund to an even \$1,500 at least, at a not too-distant date.

GREATER N.Y. CHAPTER DINES--The customary anniversary observance of the death (Jan. 12, 1677) of Stukely Westcott, founder of the Westcott family in America, was held by the Greater N.Y. Chapter at the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York, Saturday evening, Jan. 9th last. Thirty-one were present, which was regarded as good attendance considering conditions brought on by the war, all auto-travel being excluded, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie P. Westcott of Providence, R.I., and Miss Rachel C. Wilkins of Hoosick Falls, N.Y., came by train and suburban trains, subways, buses and taxis furnished transportation for the following: Dr. and Mrs. F. Howard Westcott of Tenafly, N.J., Judson S. Bennett and daughter Grace, of Richmond Hill, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. William C. Driver of New Rochelle, N.Y., Mrs. J. Hobart Westcott and Mr. and Mrs. Chester W. DeMond of White Plains, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe L. Whitman of Westfield, N. J., Mrs. Eva K. Pomeroy (guest) of Elizabeth, N.J., Harry J. Westcott of Passaic, N. J., Mr. and Mrs. Edward R. Morroquin of Hackensack, N.J., James R. Morris of Roselle, N.J., Mr. and Mrs. Pliny K. Westcott of Brooklyn, and from N.Y. City: Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert N. Potter, Mrs. William C. Sharpe and daughter Priscilla M., Miss Ruth M. Havey, Miss Florence A. Westcott, Miss Ethel Clarke, Miss Florence Earll Clarke, Miss Helen Jackson Williams and Mrs. Edward Connelly (guest). Songs and short talks by various members, constituted the program. The fullest measure of credit is due Chapter Secretary Dorothy Westcott DeMond (Mrs. Chester W.) for the beautifully decorated tables and the selection of an excellent duck dinner. Mr. DeMond accompanied the singing at the piano. It was an evening which will long remain in the memory of those present. Pauline Westcott Sharpe (Mrs. William C.) was elected Chapter President, Miss Florence Earll Clarke was

re-elected Vice-President and Historian, and Dorothy Westcott DeMond (Mrs. Chester W.) 24 Soundview Circle, White Plains, N.Y., was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

CHICAGOLAND CHAPTER HAS A VALENTINE PARTY--Twenty-one members of Chicagoland Chapter enjoyed a "Valentine's Day Get-Together" on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 14, at the Medinah Club, Chicago. Those present were: Mrs. M.H.W. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fruh, Mr. and Mrs. Justin Ford of Kankakee, Mrs. Mary Louise Krause, Mrs. Myrtle Lull, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Stuckum, Miss Florence Stafford, Miss Mary Ella Stafford, Mr. North Storms, Mr. and Mrs. George Trainor, Mr. and Mrs. Mason E. Westcott, Dr. and Mrs. Randall L. Westcott, Miss Claire Westcott, Lt. and Mrs. Fred Trainor. Letters from Roscoe L. Whitman and Dr. Leo E. Westcott were read. The group was pleased with the invitation of Mr. Whitman to try to attend the annual dinner in New York in January, 1944. A resolution was passed to invite the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants to hold the next biennial celebration in Chicago. Plans were made to write frequently to members in the Armed Services. A picnic was planned for June 20 to be held in either Harms Woods or the home of Dr. Randall Westcott in Evanston. With Valentine decorations and flowers on the table, a delicious dinner was served, following which color pictures were shown of the picnic at the Randall Westcott home last June, and a travelog and color pictures of Hershey, Pa., the Grand Canyon, Bryce and Zion Canyon, Glacier Park, Monument Valley, Estes Park, Sun Valley. The pictures were shown by Mrs. Trainor and Mr. North Storms.

SHE IS NOW IN THE ARMY--The First Westcott descendant of record to enlist in the Army Nurses Corps is Mary Justine Ford (A-263) of the Harper Hospital, Detroit. She will sail soon with a unit of the Harper Hospital.

DIED OF WOUNDS--Raymond D. Baker (A-384) of Bennington, Vt., b-Aug. 30, 1921, d-Dec., 1942, of wounds received in the south Pacific. Sympathy of the Society is extended to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Waldon Baker, former members of this Society, and to his brother and sisters.

#### OUR MEMBER HONOR ROLL.

Major Carlton J. Cook, \*Base Headquarters, Ord. Sec., Africa.  
 Major Ira J. Emery, \*Chief Q-M Branch, Ft. Knox, Ky.  
 Captain Byron C. Bussey, \* U. S. Army.  
 Lieut. Verner U-Ramsing, Jr., \* U.S.S. Drum Fleet, Hawaii base.  
 Lieut. Edmund S. Morris, Jr., Signal Aircraft Warning, Africa.  
 Lieut. Chester W. Westcott, Gen. Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.  
 Private Robert William Westcott, in Officer-Training.  
 Dr. William LaVenture, Arial Coast Guard Patrol, Tampa.  
 Dr. Perthas C. Chendweth, \*F. A. Obsn. Bn., Sackets Harbor, N.Y.

\*Consort members.

WEDDING BELLS--Jane Craft (G-274), granddaughter of our member, Mrs. Ida E. Westcott Craft of Birmingham, Ala., and Milwaukee, Wis., was married Oct. 30, 1942, to John Fontaine of Birmingham and Virginia.

BORN--Herbert Nelson Wagner, b-Mar. 6, 1942, to our members Raymond Arthur and Gertrude Westcott (Fleisher) Wagner (A-261).

JUST MENTION--A little matter of 1943 dues some have not attended to. If you happen to be among them will you mail your dues today to the National Secretary?