

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.

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"Know Your Kindred Better"

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AN UNFORTUNATE MISTAKE

In the third line of the paper "Stukely Westcott in England in the 16th and 17th Centuries", as printed in the Genealogical Bulletin for March, it was made to read: "Ancient blood stains". There were no "stains" in the blood of the early Westcotts so far as has been learned. It should have read, according to the paper, "ancient blood STRAINS", which is something quite different.

"IN DAYS OF OLD"--Mention was made in "The Quarterly" for March of an interesting poem written and read by Mrs. Pauline Westcott Sharpe (Mrs. William C.), prepared after the old ballad, "In Days of Old." Promise was made that the poem would be published in "The Quarterly", and here it is--

In days of old when knights were bold
And barons held their sway,
A nobleman of Westcott clan
Sang merrily his lay.
"I love a lady fair,
Elizabeth de Littleton,
Oh, none with her compare.
So what care I, though death be nigh,
I live for love or die."

This noble knight in armor bright
Said, "Let us haste to wed."
"Oh, noble sir, I will not stir,"
The lovely lady said,
"Until you promise me,
Our first born he shall be
A Littleton, my little son,
No Westcott shall he be!
For what care I, though Westcotts die,
I live for Littleton."

This knight of old was not so bold,
For Lizzie finally won.
And one sad morn a son was born
To be a Littleton.
But Liz was not to blame,
For later Guido came.
Then sang our knight with all his might,
"I've saved the Westcott name!
Now what care I, we'll never die,
We'll live and multiply!"

The poem is reminiscent of the account of the marriage of Baron Thomas de Wescote to Elizabeth de Littleton as told in Vol. I of the Westcott Genealogy, page 6. Their first son was born in 1422 and was named for his two grandfathers, Thomas de Wescote and Thomas de Littleton, and in accordance with a pre-nuptial agreement of his parents, was baptised Thomas de Littleton. He became a distinguished barrister. He has living descendants. Three more sons were born, the first, Guido, in 1424. Guido married Alice de Granville, daughter of an old, distinguished family of Cornwall. The Coat of Arms granted to Guido in 1450--now the heraldic symbol of this Society--indicates he was either a baron or knight, and that he took decisive steps to protect the family name. From him, the Westcotts of America today descend; they do live and multiply!

OFF ON ANOTHER YEAR--With this June issue of "The Westcott Family Quarterly", it is off on the eleventh year of chronicling the activities of the members of the Society and extending the understanding of the yesterdayyears of Westcotts in America and in England. The aims and purposes of the Society, it is believed, have given it an outstanding place among the many family organizations.

APPROBATION--Rev. Arnold Harris Hord (A-240-1), a charter member of this Society since April, 1934, has engaged in genealogical research for the past forty-five years and has compiled several books on genealogy. Thus, he is eminently qualified to pass judgment on the contents of the paper published in the "Westcott Genealogical Bulletin" for March last entitled "Stukely Westcott in England in the 16th and 17th Centuries." He writes: "I am especially interested in what you have written for the Bulletin on the grandparents and parents of Stukely Westcott. I wrote to you several years ago stating that I have no doubt in my own mind that Edward Westcott and Damaris Stucley were grandparents of Stukely Westcott. Your recent article confirms this conclusion. 1--It is fair to assume that Stukely Westcott derived his unusual Christian name of 'Stukely' from a marriage of one of his Westcott ancestors with a lady of the Stucley family. The intimate association of Edward Westcott with the family of Christopher Stucley and the fact that the latter had a daughter, Damaris, seems to prove that it was from this marriage that Stukely Westcott derived his Christian name. It is highly improbable that two such marriages--the marriage of a member of the Westcott family into the Stucley family having a daughter Damaris--could have occurred in the years immediately preceding Stukely Westcott's birth. I think that all the evidence points to the descent of Stukely Westcott from Edward Westcott and Damaris Stucley, daughter of Christopher Stucley. 2--The name Damaris was a family name in the Stucley family of England. In the lineage of the Stucley family in "Westcott's View of Devonshire", the name Damaris occurs several times. It is not a name that appears in the Westcott family prior to the time of Stukely Westcott. This name has been perpetuated among the descendants of Stukely Westcott for many generations. It was evidently a cherished family name of which the descendants of Stukely Westcott were proud and in my opinion was derived from the marriage of Edward Westcott and Damaris Stucley. A genealogical problem very similar to this one confronted me many years ago--'way back in the 'Nineties'--when I was compiling the genealogy of a Rhode Island family. I wished to have the opinion of a competent genealogist on my conclusions and so I consulted Mr. John Osborn Austin, the author of the 'Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island'. His opinion agreed entirely with my conclusions and I believe if he were alive today, he would approve of your deductions, derived from reliable English data, that Stukely Westcott was grandson of Edward Westcott and Damaris Stucley. 3--In your statement that Guy Westcott and Mary Stucley might have been the parents of Stukely, I do not know upon what authority you have formed this opinion, but I do know from the genealogical work you have done, that your conclusion is to be trusted and accepted." (NOTE--While Guy and Mary Stucley Westcott 'might' have been the parents of Stukely, the evidence to this effect is not at all conclusive, and acceptance should be reserved. The writer wishes here to acknowledge with thanks, the comments of the Rev. Mr. Hord.--R.L.W.)

"WESTCOTT BEACH" WAS ICE-BOUND--A family reunion at "Westcott Beach" at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, where the clan has had so many enjoyable gatherings, would not have been so enjoyable last December 21 when it was jammed with pounding ice. George and Tillie Westcott, however, looked on unafraid from their home a quarter-mile away. The inner bay at Alexandria Bay was also ice-locked, but Allan and Elizabeth Westcott were away at Annapolis.

What greater inspiration can be derived than from reading from the pages of the Bible which Stukely Westcott brought to America with him in 1635! It is now safely preserved by the R. I. Historical Society.

A few members have not paid their 1944 dues. Will they please do so?

OUR SOLDIER BOYS

Dear soldier boys here and over the sea,
North, South, East, West, wherever you may be
I want you to know I am thinking strong
Of you all these days which to me are long.
For my busy life has come to a halt,
Which I hope and pray is not my own fault.

When a girl is well past seventy-seven,
They begin to feel they are near to Heaven.
But why worry you with an old age tale,
When so many young girls are on your trail?
Oh! that I might peel all your potatoes,
Onions, and all other fine foods that grow.

I'd like you to have time for reflection,
Omit things for which you have objection.
We'll have to lay aside each will and wish,
Wash everything clean down to the last dish.
I'll speak a good word for all mariners,
Who are majoring as the best cleaners.

Sympathize with me a bit, you rookies,
I have baked, I'm sure, two million cookies,
Wagon loads of biscuits, thousands of pies,
Cakes that might pile up as high as the skies.
But what matter, we like all these good things,
And pleasure, which a good appetite brings.

When war is over, bet your last dollar,
No soldier boys for dishcloths will holler.
Our sympathy goes to them, I am sure,
And from their duties we would not allure.
We pray God to bring them home safe again,
Where they may ever peacefully remain.

Us folks that are too old to do the work
(Although we do feel sometimes like a shirk)
Must buy war bonds, as many as we can,
To help save the life of many a man.
If we can't buy goodies and things so fine,
Just smile and keep at the end of the line.

Who could be braver than all these good boys,
To leave their home friends and all of their joys
They tell us victory is sure to come,
When bad countries are cleared of all their scum.
I once had a happy visit in Rome,
Fear and distress is felt in every home.

Boys! keep up your courage as you press on,
We'd like to boost you up the mountains yon.
Would we might help carry your heavy loads
Up those cold and steep rocky mountain roads.
Loving hearts at home think of you each day,
And pray ere long you can come home to stay.

This splendid poem of appreciation to "Our Soldier Boys" was written by Nora Ellena Westcott Studer (A-195) of Lyons, N.Y., wid. of the late Charles E. Studer. She is a charter member of the S.S.W.D., and with her husband, was present at the Tercentenary Celebration in Salem, Mass., and Providence, R. I., in 1935, and the Fourth Biennial Celebration at Alexandria Bay in 1941. She is also a charter member of the Northern N. Y. Chapter, attending all its gatherings at "Westcott Beach."

IN MEMORIAM--Luly Westcott Merriam (G-292) of Wallingford, Vt., wid. of the late William Kidder Merriam, died March 25, 1944. She was a charter member of the S.S.W.D. The sympathy of the Society is extended to her son, William Dyer Merriam, also a charter member, to the son Charles Townsend Merriam, and the daughter Jane Elizabeth Merriam Goodell (Mrs. Ernest H.). * * Mabel A. Marr (A-347), wife of William M. Westcott, National Chaplain of the Society, died April 14, 1944, at their home, Edgewood, R. I. The sympathy of the Society is extended to Deacon Westcott and their son Norman M. Westcott of Waterbury, Conn., also charter member.

WEDDING BELLS--Best of good wishes to the following newly-wed members: * * Emily Craven Westcott (G-196), dau. of Dr. Allan and Elizabeth Craven Westcott of Annapolis, Md., and Private William Francis Griffin, Jr., of the Army Air Corps, married Feb. 23, 1944. * * Mari Jane Moran, Dau. of Philip Edmund and Jeannette Massie Moran of Detroit, Mich., and James Radcliffe Morris (G-291) married April 22, 1944.

GOLDEN WEDDING--Charter members, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe L. Whitman (G-290) of Westfield, N.J., will quietly observe their 50th wedding anniversary on July 18, 1944, with a family gathering in the evening.

OUR MEMBER HONOR ROLL

A-370 Lt.-Col. Carlton J. Cook. *Base Headquarters, Ord. Sec., Africa.
 G-167 Major Chester W. Wescott, U.S.A., England.
 B12-41 Capt. Byron C. Bussey, *U. S. Army.
 G-296 Lieut. Verner U-Ramsing, *U. S. Sub. Drum.
 G-291 Lieut. Edmund S. Morris, Jr., Sig. A. W. Bn., North Africa.
 A-345 Private George Peck Westcott, U. S. Army.
 A-345 Private Robert Williams Westcott-in Officer-Training.
 A-365 Private Arthur James Westcott, U. S. Army.
 A-177 Lincoln Edward Wert, Ft., McClellan, Ala.
 A-147 Stanley M. Wescott, Spl. M., S.R.T.A., Mare Island, Calif.
 ** Dr. William L. LaVenture, U. S. Coast Guard, Alameda, Calif.
 B-3-43 Dr. Perthas C. Chendweth, *F. A. Obsn. Bn., North Africa.
 *Consort Member. **Main Fam., not recorded.

SOME DO, DO YOU?--Many members of this Society have one, two, three or more sons and daughters, some married, some single, who, if properly approached, would interest themselves in the Society and become influential members of the future. They are needed now because they are young and capable of contributing much to the aims and purposes of the Society. If they now profess a lack of interest in their ancestral family, in fore-bears who shared all the trials and hardships in making this a Nation in which they are assured liberty and freedom, they confess indifference to reasons for their being alive. Fifty years hence, their children and grandchildren will want to know something about those of their kin who lived and carried on before them. Then the question will arise and in your sense of guilt, you will ask, "Why didn't I learn more about my kindred when I had the opportunity?" The entire family of many of our members are now co-members of the Society. Why not make it 100% in your family? All descendants over twelve years of age are eligible to membership. Write today to the National Secretary for application blanks.

OUR NEW MEMBERS--National Secretary Dorothy Potter announces the following members enrolled in the Society since "The Quarterly" for March was issued, to whom a cordial welcome is extended:

	Membership
	Dated--
306 Mr. & *Mrs. Berthall Keith McCullough, Massena, N. Y.	March 20, 1944
307 Mr.*& Mrs. Ralph Westcott Dexter, Pawtucket, R. I.	March 15, 1944
308 Mr. & *Mrs. David Roger Wistar, So. Euclid, Ohio.	April 20, 1944
309 Mr. & *Mrs. Ralph Demarest Trismen, Closter, N. J.	May 3, 1944
310 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Horton Wescott, Hackensack, N. J.	May 16, 1944

SUMMER REUNIONS OF CHAPTERS--In so far as information has been received, only the Rhode Island and Chicagoland Chapters will defy the gasoline situation and hold reunions this Summer. And this information is gathered from previous issues of "The Quarterly". Those interested should communicate with Miss Leone Parmalee Cargill, Secretary R. I. Chapter, 173 Irving St., Providence, R. I., and Miss Claire Westcott, Secretary Chicagoland Chapter, 7334 South Lafayette Ave., Chicago, Ill. As usual, groups of the clan will get-together here and there.

FUTURE?--The kindly old lady who told the genealogist who was inquiring about ancestors, that he better be looking to the future and not the "dead past", was not without good reasoning.
 (May 18, 1944)