

# THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

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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

193

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"Know Your Kindred Better"

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## THE OLD WESTCOTT HOMESTEAD IN ENGLAND.

"Prior to (the year) 1243, the Manor of Wescote or West Marwood (Devonshire, England), was "held" (leased) by the Marwood family for many generations, and no Wescotes had been there." (Cole) This old record suggests that about this year, John de Wescote, 1182-1272, son of Furbert de Wescote, first of the Westcott family of which definite record has been found, "held" West Marwood and it came to be known and still is known as "Wescote" or "Wescott." Here the manor was built. Seven generations of Wescotes--John, St. Leger, William, Guy, Thomas, Guido and Thomas--"held" Wescote until about the end of the 15th century when "it appears also that about this period, Wescote was owned ("held") by the Stuokeys" (G-7). Research in the Stuokey family indicates that Sir Hugh Stuokey and his wife, Katherine Affeton, daughter of Sir John and --- (Bratton) Affeton of Affeton in Devonshire, "held" Wescote at this time. Sir Hugh was a knight and sheriff of Devonshire and Katherine was the sole heiress of Affeton. Two of their three sons--Sir Hugh, Jr. and Nicholas--were probably ancestors of Stukely Westcott, the emigrant and founder of the family in America. The latter son Nicholas, married Alice Wadham, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Stuokey) Wadham, and their granddaughter, Damaris, (daughter of Christopher), married Edward Westcott. This Edward and Damaris were the grandparents of Stukely Westcott. Sir Hugh Stuokey, Jr., 1496-1559, married Jane Pollard, daughter of Sir Lewis Pollard, and through their son Sir Lewis Stuokey, 1529-1589, whose wife was Dorothy Hill, descended, according to statements made by some Westcott descendants, Mary Stuokey. This daughter Mary is said to have married Guy Westcott, who, it is said, was the son of Edward and Damaris Stuokey Westcott. They were the parents of Stukely Westcott, so stated. Thus it appears quite understandable, why Westcott was given the unusual Christian name of Stuokey--Anglicised, Stukely.

R. I. CHAPTER SUMMER REUNION--The annual Summer reunion and meeting of the Rhode Island Chapter, S.S.W.D., was held Saturday, June 17th, at 2:30, business meeting at 3 P. M., at "The Breezes", home of Miss Susan Westcott Handy in Manville, R. I. The meeting opened with greetings from President Ralph Westcott Dexter and a short prayer led by National Chaplain William M. Westcott. One minute of silence was observed in memory of deceased members: Mrs. William M. Westcott, Edwin T. Westcott and Lester M. Colwell. Officers as follows were re-elected: President, Ralph Westcott Dexter; Vice-President, Miss Thelma M. Salisbury; Treasurer, George P. Westcott; Secretary, Miss Leone P. Cargill. Ralph Westcott Dexter was also elected Historian. It was unanimously decided to invite the National Society to Rhode Island on Saturday, June 23, and Sunday, June 24, 1945. The following were asked to serve on the committee to plan the reunion: Miss Susan Westcott Handy, William M. Westcott, Leslie P. Westcott and Ralph W. Dexter. Plans were made to again have the Fall meeting at the R. I. Historical Society. Mrs. Everett M. Salisbury was appointed to consult with William G. Roelker, Director of the Historical Society. It was voted to have at each meeting voluntary contributions for a flower fund in order to accumulate a reserve. The following members were present: Miss Susan Westcott Handy, Thomas H. Handy, Sr., Thomas H. Handy, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Westcott Dexter and daughter, Caroline Dexter, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie P. Westcott and daughter, Mrs. Ansel Shippee, and granddaughter, Carolyn Westcott Shippee (aged four months), Mr. and Mrs. Byron O. Dexter, Mr. and Mrs. David A. Westcott, Miss Dolly Stone and sister,

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob B. W. Wilder, Mrs. Lester M. Colwell, Mrs. Sarah Killam, William M. Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Westcott and daughter, Elizabeth Louise Westcott (aged sixteen months), Mrs. Ethel W. H. Cargill and Miss Leone P. Cargill.--Reported by Miss Cargill, Secretary.

NATIONAL SOCIETY BACK TO RHODE ISLAND IN 1945--The Rhode Island Chapter at its reunion and meeting, invited the National Society to Rhode Island in June, 1945 for its 6th biennial commemorative celebration. The following members of the Chapter who are also members of the National Society, will comprise a committee to make the plans: Miss Susan Westcott Handy, William M. Westcott, Leslie P. Westcott and Ralph Westcott Dexter. The dates will be Saturday, June 23, and Sunday, June 24. It is hoped to complete some of the plans so that further information can be given in "The Quarterly" for December. The first celebration of the National Society was held in Salem, Mass., and Providence and Warwick, R. I., in June 1935. The proposed celebration in 1945 will not only mark the 10th anniversary of that long-to-be-remembered occasion, but June 24, 1945, the second day selected, will mark the arrival in New England 310 years ago on June 24, 1635, of our distinguished emigrant ancestor Stukely Westcott and his family, founding in America of the Westcott family. This gathering will undoubtedly be largely attended as many who were not present ten years ago have lived to regret it and many more will not want to miss it.

PERSONAL--"The Westfield (N.J.) Leader" of July 20th, contained the following: "Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe L. Whitman of 109 West Dudley Avenue, observed their 50th wedding anniversary Tuesday evening (July 18th) with a family dinner at the Park Hotel, Plainfield. They were married at Amsterdam, N. Y., July 18, 1894, and have lived in Westfield since 1921. Those present from out of town were: Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Niles Potter of New York City, Mr. and Mrs. James Radcliffe Morris of Buffalo, N.Y., Lieut. and Mrs. Edmund Whitman Morris of Roselle, the former having recently returned on leave from Italy, Mrs. Eva M. Pomeroy and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kline Pomeroy of Elizabeth, N. J." (The Whitmans wish to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of congratulations from relatives and friends.)

EACH YEAR NEAR JANUARY 12TH--Annually for eleven years, the Saturday evening nearest Jan. 12th, the Greater New York Chapter has observed the death of the founder in America of the Westcott family, Stukely Westcott. He died on Jan. 12th, 1677. The next gathering will be on Saturday evening, Jan. 13th, 1945, and as usual, a dinner-meeting will take place in New York City. Miss Florence Earll Clarke is President of the Chapter, and the Secretary-Treasurer is Miss Ethel Clarke, the former National Secretary of the Society, 603 West 139th St., N. Y. City. You will encourage the officers by filing your reservations early. Further information will be printed in "The Quarterly" for December.

A REUNION UNRECORDED--From a newspaper clipping, recently received, "about fifty members of the Westcott family and friends attended a reunion and picnic at Cayuga Lake Park (western central N.Y.), Sunday, Sept. 12, 1943. Among those who attended were Mr. and Mrs. Archie Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Courtney and children, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Westcott and family, Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Coon and family, Mrs. Howard Gay, Miss Helen Gay, Mrs. Thelma Lopez, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Posey, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Hadden, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Hadden and family, I. B. Wilsey, all of Savannah; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Westcott and family of Weedsport; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Westcott and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Westcott and son of Syracuse, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Westcott and Mr. and Mrs. Anson Westcott and family of Manlius; Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Gillispie and Mr. and Mrs. Lee King of Adams. Officers elected: President, Mrs. Ray Westcott; vice-president, Mrs. Anson Rowe, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Mervin Coons." (NOTE--The National Society would like to know more of these cousins.)

NOVA SCOTIA TO TEXAS--Our only member resident of Canada, Mrs. Eleanor Havey Timpany of Digby, Nova Scotia (A-270), is sojourning with her niece, Miss Helen G. Havey (A-270), in San Antonio, Texas, also a member, with whom she will spend the coming winter. Enroute to Texas, she and her niece were entertained at dinner in New York by another niece, Miss Ruth M. Havey (A-270). National Secretary, Mrs. Adelbert N. Potter and her husband, were also guests at the dinner. "Aunt Nellie", as Mrs. Timpany is called by her nieces, finds the weather in Canada during the cold months too severe for a person who passed many years in India.

BACK FROM "OVER THERE "--Lt.-Col. Carlton J. Cook (A-370), who was attached to Base Headquarters, Ordnance Section, in Africa, has been returned and is now commanding officer of the 8,000-acre Ordnance Depot at Williamsport, Pa., formerly the Susquehanna Ordnance Station in White River Valley. \* \* Lt. Edmund Stites Morris (G-291) has returned from Naples, Italy, where he was in command of a Signal Air-Warning Battalion, now disbanded. He is now stationed at Robbins Field, Macon, Ga.

CHRISTIAN NAMES THAT GUIDE--While the tracing of ancestors on the basis of Christian names is not infallible, it frequently leads to a correct solution of the problem in hand. The first information of Gardiner Westcott, 1744-1808, the pioneer at Deerfield and Sacket's Harbor, N. Y. (G-188), and his family, was received about 1930 from the late Haydn B. Westcott (G-197) who had in his possession a family chart by the late Amy C. Westcott Allen (Mrs. Joseph, G-197) compiled some years before her death in 1908. According to the chart, Gardiner Westcott and his wife, Mary Knight, had eleven children: Abigail, Sarah, Caleb, Gardiner, Mary, Palmer, John, Henry, Hannah, Shubal and Daniel. Of course, Gardiner and Mary were named for their parents, leaving the names of nine of the children to check. Their first son was named Caleb and this was considered by the genealogist to be a promising lead. In the old Bullcock collection, a line was found traced down to Caleb Westcott, b-1716, and his wife Hannah Gardiner. Gardiner and Mary had named their first son Caleb for his grandfather Caleb and a younger daughter Hannah for her grandmother Hannah. All this seemed such a promising tie-up of family ancestry that Haydn Westcott and Dr. Allan F. Westcott, descendants, were consulted. Both agreed that Caleb and Hannah were probably the parents of Gardiner, b-1744. Ten years later, a verification of the deduction was received and was published in the Westcott Genealogical Bulletin for June, 1941. The name Palmer was found in the ancestry of Hannah Gardiner. Caleb and Hannah had Hannah, Abigail, Gardiner, Nicholas, Ruth, Mary, Elizabeth, and probably Oliver and Nathan. Thus, the probable derivation of the names Abigail, Caleb, Gardiner, Mary, Palmer and Hannah, all names Gardiner and Mary gave to their children. Numerous other like "deductions" have proven correct.

IT WAS AN OLD WESTCOTT HOSTELRY--The historically-famous, more-than-a century old United States Hotel at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., is no more. It was sold for unpaid taxes and the luxurious furnishings in its huge lounge, ball-room, dining-room and 800 bed-rooms were sold at auction last month. The hotel was built in 1825 and for more than a hundred years, was a favorite Summer rendezvous for the political and social leaders of the country. In 1833, eight years after the hotel was first opened, Joseph Randall Westcott (G-90) and his cousin Joseph Westcott, together with John C. Dillon, a noted horseman of the period, were its managers. While in his 'teens, Joseph Randall Westcott worked in a printing office at Cooperstown, N. Y., but seeking greater opportunity, went to the Spa where he became an influential citizen. He was a son of James Westcott who settled in Milford Center, N. Y., in 1794.

196

OUR MEMBER HONOR ROLL

- A-370 Lt.-Col. Carlton J. Cook. \*U.S. Army.
  - G-167 Major Chester W. Westcott, U.S. Army.
  - B12-41 Capt. Byron C. Bussey, \*U.S. Army.
  - G-296 Lieut. Verner U-Ramsing, \*U.S. Sub.
  - G-291 Lieut. Edmund S. Morris, Jr., Sig. A. W.
  - A-345 Private George Peck Westcott, U.S. Army.
  - A-345 Private Robert Williams Westcott. U.S. Army.
  - A-365 Private Arthur James Westcott, U.S. Army.
  - A-177 Lincoln Edward Wert, U.S. Army,
  - A-147 Stanley M. Westcott, Spl. M., S.R.T.A.
  - \*\* Dr. William L. LaVenture, U. S. Coast Guard.
  - B-3-43 Dr. Perthas C. Chendweth, \*F. A. Obsn. Bn.
  - B-9-44 Private Harry V. Asher, \*U.S. Army.
- \* Consort Member.                   \*\*Main Fam., not recorded.

NEW RELATIVES--Julianna, named after the wife of Stukely Westcott, was born July 23rd to National President and Mrs. F. Howard Westcott, and to his sister, National Recording-Secretary Dorothy Zimmerman (Mrs. Robert) was born July 19th, Frederic Zimmerman. Congratulations to the brother and sister and their consorts.

NEW MEMBERS--National Secretary Dorothy Potter reports the following new members since the last issue of "The Quarterly", to whom a hearty welcome is extended--

	Membership Dated--
311 Mr. and Mrs.* George A. Rouse, Mayfield Heights, Ohio.	June 17, 1944
312 Mr. and Mrs. Reuel Rufus Westcott, St. Louis, Mo.	Aug. 14, 1944
313 Mr. and Mrs.* Harry V. Asher, St. Louis, Mo.	Aug. 14, 1944
314 Mr* and Mrs. Howland Fay Atwood, Hartland 4-Cors., Vt.	Aug. 16, 1944

WESTCOTT HORSEMEN--In the last third of the 19th century, a Westcott without a fast horse was regarded as not keeping up the traditions of the family. Among these Westcotts the most noted horseman was Orville D. Westcott of Milford, N.Y., whose race-horses were known to every county fair in central New York. David Potter Westcott and Hamilton Westcott, both of Fair Haven, Vt., owned fast horses for their own amusement. Many is the tale of how "Potter" Westcott and "Ham" Westcott would quietly slip out of town on a Sunday afternoon and have a "brush" on the highway or the village track. Amos Westcott, the mayor of Syracuse, N.Y., during the Civil War, had trotting horses at Homer, N.Y.. He was an inveterate trader of horses, and it is supposed that his son, Edward Noyes Westcott, derived his inspiration to write the book, "David Harum", largely from the experiences of his father.

PASSING MENTION--Members of our family Society established a record last month (August) when all of the more than two hundred members except three, had shown their interest in the Westcott history and activities by paying their dues for 1944. \* \* Your copy of "The Quarterly" this month is a little late due to a needed vacation taken by our mimeographer, Mrs. Esther Bishop Burd. \* \* Remember, "The Quarterly" reports only the activities of the Society and its members; limited space necessarily eliminates reporting activities of non-members. \* \* LAST MINUTE--14 of the 15 Directors of the S.S.W.D. have just voted by mail to accept the R. I. Chapter's invitation to hold its Celebration in 1945 in Rhode Island.

September 8, 1944.