

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., New York 3, N.Y.

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"Know Your Kindred Better"

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7th BIENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATION OF THE SOCIETY OF STUKELY WESTCOTT DESCENDANTS OF AMERICA --

CORRECT DATES: Friday P. M., Saturday and Sunday,
July 23, 24 and 25, 1948 (NOT July 19, 20 and 21).

PLACE: HISTORIC JOHNSTOWN, N. Y., AND ADJACENT MOHAWK VALLEY.

HEADQUARTERS: Johnstown Community Hotel, with Kingsbury Hotel
at Gloversville (4 miles away) supplementing.

Not more than 70 people can be seated at the banquet due to the limited facilities of the hotel at Johnstown.

As stated in The Quarterly for December, 1947, RESERVATIONS must be limited to 70 people (first reservations received, will be first registered), and reservations may be made now by writing R. L. Whitman, 109 W. Dudley Ave., Westfield, N.J. Nineteen members have already registered, including members from Iowa, Chicago, Michigan, (western) New York, Maryland and Rhode Island. If YOU haven't registered it might be well to be safe by registering now.

At the banquet Saturday evening, it is hoped Mr. John T. Morrison, President of the Johnstown Historical Society, will be the guest speaker. It is understood that he is an interesting speaker with all the historical facts of Johnstown at his command. Our member Dr. Allan F. Westcott of Annapolis, will be another speaker to eagerly await.

Room accommodations are assured for everybody either at the Johnstown Hotel or the Kingsbury Hotel at Gloversville, four miles away. Other accommodations may be made available. Do NOT register direct with the hotels, but through Mr. Whitman, the same as when registering for the banquet.

National Registrar Roscoe L. Whitman and Mrs. Whitman will be at the Johnstown Hotel for one week, beginning Monday afternoon previous to the Celebration. He can be communicated with there during that period.

Program: Members will arrive in Johnstown on the afternoon and evening of the first day--Friday--for an informal reception from 5 to 9 P.M. and to complete registrations. The forenoon of the following day--Saturday--will be occupied by a tour of historic Johnstown, where there are some noteworthy historical relics, the most interesting being Johnson Hall, built by Sir William Johnson (who built Fort William

Henry at Lake George as a defense against the French). It is one of the two baronial homes still standing in America (the other being nine miles away at Fort Johnson which will be visited at the close of the Celebration on Sunday). Here Sir William lived with his Indian wife, Molly Brant, who was a popular mistress of the hall. Near the house, which was built in 1762, is an old stone block-house, the only one of its kind standing in the Mohawk Valley. There is also a fine collection of relics of Sir William. The baronial hall, where the Johnsons entertained the red and white men alike, is now State property. The Court House and jail built in 1772, and other places dating back to 1760, will be visited. The family memorial service Saturday afternoon will be followed by the business meeting when officers will be chosen for 1948-9-50. In the evening a banquet will be enjoyed at the Johnstown Hotel, a community hostelry famous for years. The final day--Sunday-- will be ushered in by attending church services either in Johnstown or the Dutch Reformed Church in nearby Stone Arabia, founded in 1720. The motorcade will go from the church to Canajoharie for dinner at the hotel owned and operated by the Beechnut Packing Company and then visited the old Van Alstyne house, built in 1749. While in the hotel note the famous paintings, particularly the full-size copy of Rembrandt's "Night Watch." From Canajoharie the Westcotts travel down the south shore of the Mohawk River to Fonda with its Century-old stone Court House and thence to the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs at Auriesville. This Shrine marks the martyrdom (1646) of the Jesuits SS. Isaac Jogues, Rene Goupil and Jean Lelande. From here the motorcade continues to Fort Hunter, where by command of Queen Ann in 1712, a church was built, and then crosses to the north shore of the Mohawk to Tribes Hill, replete with Indian lore. (In 1792, Tribes Hill was the western limits of a 400-acre farm of William Kline, Sr., great-grandfather of Susan Kline Whitman). From Tribes Hill the motorcade descends a sharp hill to almost the river-edge of the Mohawk and on to Fort Johnson, where stands the stone baronial manor (1744) of Sir William Johnson, built by him before settling in Johnstown. With the visit to this more than two-century old house, with its marvelously interesting appointments, the Celebration of 1948 comes to an end. Now, be safe, register now, and be prepared to attend a family gathering of much more than ordinary interest.

OUR NEW MEMBERS--National Secretary Mrs. Dorothy Potter reports the following new members received since the December issue of "The Quarterly". A hearty welcome is extended to them.

370 Mr. and *Mrs. Wilbur Fisk Havens, Newark, N. Y.
 371 Mrs.* Lena L. Kibby Munson, Canandaigua, N. Y.

MAJOR EMERY PROMOTED--It is now Lt. Col. Ira Joseph Emery, husband of our member Nettie Evelyn Westcott Emery of Cleveland, Ohio, he having been promoted to that rank in the Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army of the United States by virtue of services during W.W. I and II. Hearty congratulations.

WINTER MEETING--Notice has been received announcing the Winter meeting of Rhode Island Chapter, No. 2, S.S.W.D., at the Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence, on January 28, 1948. The activity of this Chapter is something of a pattern for other Chapters.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS--On and after April 1st, the address of National Secretary Dorothy Potter will be 109 West Dudley Avenue, Westfield, N. J. It is suggested that all members of the Society make a note of this new address.

THEY LIKE COOL AND HEAT--Our members Mr. and Mrs Coulman C. Westcott of Mechanicville, N. Y., pass their Summers at Lake Bomesen, Vermont, and this Winter are with the northern colony in Florida. They are expected to attend the Celebration in July.

WHY IT IS SO--Due to the limited space available in each issue of The Quarterly only the activities of members of the Westcott Society can be mentioned. This will explain to those who send news of non-members why their contributions do not appear in The Quarterly. This situation is regretted.

JOHNSTOWN--The beautiful city of Johnstown, in the business world, is best known for its manufacture of gloves and the tanning of leather, but the historian recognizes it as the place where some of the outstanding early settling of the Nation was made.

FROM KOHNSTOWN TO WHERE IN 1950--At Providence in 1946, Johnstown in 1948 seemed to the Westcotts present like a long time to wait for another gathering of the clan. Well, how about 1950? It too, is a long way off, but while Westcotts will be assembled in numbers at Johnstown, it might be well to obtain expressions or suggestions for a place to hold the Celebration two years hence. "The Quarterly" submits as its suggestion, the city of Trenton, New Jersey. It has much of historical interest, including Battle Monument marking the position of Washington's artillery when his troops on Dec. 26, 1776 took Trenton, the historic Barracks, now a museum containing many Colonial relics, and a splendid hotel, the Tracy Trent. A tour of some 25 miles would cross the Delaware River, as Gen. Washington did under vastly different circumstances Washington Park and on to Princeton with its Nassau Hall and other famous buildings of learning, and back to Trenton through Lawrenceville.

ONE THING MORE--It will not be known before the first of June, the price of the banquet dinner, but probably will not be more than \$2.50. But it is known that whatever the price the dinner will be good for no better dinners at a price can be had anywhere. This is the way they do things at the Johnstown Hotel.

--and so, the Westcott Family Quarterly begins another year, its fifteenth. May it have renewed interest, live long and visit not only all its present member-readers but many new members of the Westcott Society.