

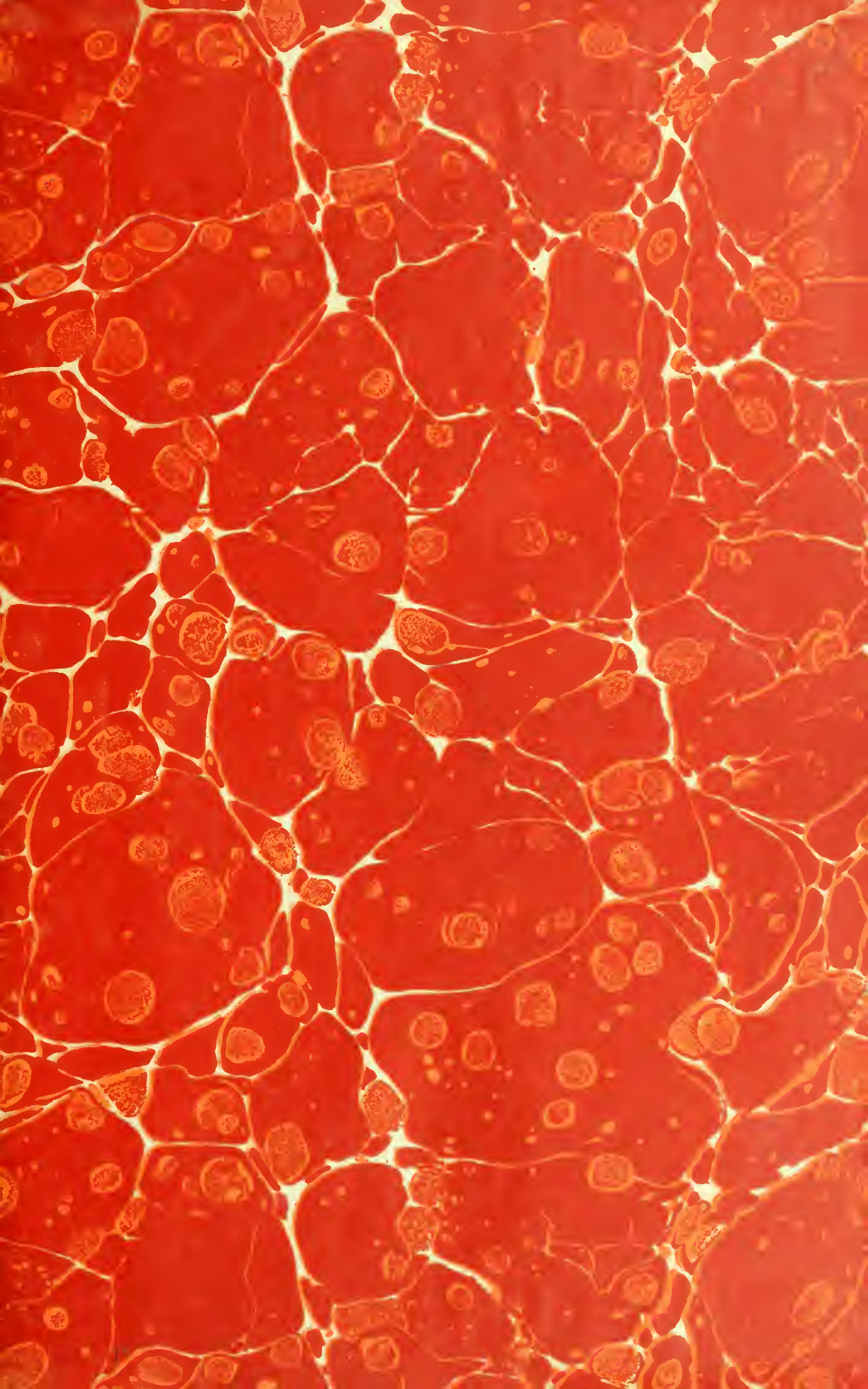




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17

**Papers  
and  
Proceedings**

**1914--1915  
NUMBER TEN**

**Bergen County  
Historical Society**

102

F142

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31



## CORRECTIONS TO BE MADE IN YEAR BOOK 1915.

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*First*—On page 7 date of the erection of the Andre Prison should be 1755 instead of 1775.

*Second*—On page 40, fifth line from bottom, for the year 1628 should be substituted the year 1682.

*Third*—The following criticism by Mrs. Frances A. Westervelt has been made on Mr. Christie's paper. On page 46 he is in error when he states that David Demarest, who he found was an elder in the Old Dutch Church at Hackensack, June, 1750, was a son of the French pioneer. It is a long way as far as human life is concerned between 1677 and 1750. From manuscript volume of Debaun's records from original notes, Yost Debaun married Elizabeth Drabba, came to this country 1680. Their daughter Matie married David Demarest, son of Samuel Demarest, one of the original settlers (son of David, the pioneer), November 10th, 1705. Was read in church membership Hackensack, April 6th, 1706, and Matie, his wife, the same date. The David Demarest mentioned as an elder in the Hackensack Church, June, 1750, was a son of Samuel and grandson of David, Sr., of 1677. This is from original document in the possession of the Bergen County Historical Society.



2  
1715  
Part 10

1

Papers and Proceedings  
OF  
The Bergen County Historical Society  
1914-1915  
NUMBER TEN.

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- List of Officers. - - - - - 1914-1915.  
The André Prison House at Tappan, N. Y.  
WILLIAM ALEXANDER LINN.  
Petition from Bergen Co., to the New Jersey  
Provincial Assembly of 1755.  
Church Days in Old Schraalenburgh.  
MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT.  
Early History of Bergenfield - - - WALTER CHRISTIE.  
An Incident of Bergen County - REV. JOHN C. VOORHIS.  
Report of Archive and Property Committee.  
Supplement to 1914 Catalogue.  
The Amended Constitution and By-laws.  
List of Ex-Presidents.  
List of Members.
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ILLUSTRATIONS.

- The Old South Church, Schraalenburg, N. J.  
André Prison House, After Restoration.  
André Prison House, Before Restoration.  
The Old Stone Church of Saddle River, N. J.

1875

DEC 21 1875

## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR.

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### PRESIDENT.

MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT, - - Hackensack.

### VICE-PRESIDENTS.

WILLIAM O. ALLISON, - - - - Englewood.

R. A. ADAMS, - - - - Saddle River.

H. I. COGGESHALL, - - - - Wortendyke.

M. W. JACOBUS, - - - - Ridgefield.

F. H. CRUM, - - - - River Edge.

EDWARD STAGG, - - - - Leonia.

CORNELIUS DOREMUS, - - - - Ridgewood.

ABRAM DEBAUN, - - - - Hackensack.

W. A. LINN, - - - - Hackensack.

BYRON G. VAN HORNE, - - - - Englewood.

### SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

C. V. R. BOGERT, - 167 Main Street, Hackensack.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

ROBERT T. WILSON, - - - - Saddle River.

EVERETT L. ZABRISKIE, - - - - Ridgewood.

HOWARD B. GOETSCHIUS, - - - - Little Ferry.

MATT. J. BOGERT - - - - Demarest

### ARCHIVE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE.

MRS. F. A. WESTERVELT, - - - - Hackensack.

HON. WM. M. JOHNSON, - - - - Hackensack.

JOHN L. MARINUS, - - - - Rochelle Park.

ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK, - - - - Hackensack.

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Official Photographer, - - - - CHARLES CURTIS.

The Publication Committee, after deliberating with the Executive Committee, was authorized to draw on the fund given to the society by Mr. William O. Allison, of Englewood, for the expense of the publication of this book, otherwise there would have been no year book this year. Acknowledgment is hereby made of the generosity of Mr. Allison.

The Executive Committee also advised that the book be not published until some time after the annual dinner.

It had been thought that the publication of an orderly book of General Green, of the Revolutionary War, for the midsummer of 1776 would be a valuable addition to the year book. The book had been recently purchased by the society and all the members would thus have a better opportunity of knowing the contents of it. But on investigation it was found that it was not a history of events that transpired in Bergen County, nor of contiguous territory, but of Brooklyn; therefore, it was deemed inadvisable to incorporate it in the year book. As there were several pages that had become quite faded and some words that had become almost illegible, a typewritten copy of the old manuscript was made, consisting of thirty-nine pages of closely written legal cap, and filed away with the original in the society's rooms in the Johnson Library in Hackensack.

## ANNUAL REPORT.

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By C. V. R. BOGERT, Secretary and Treasurer.

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During the past year seven new members were elected into the Society, making the total enrollment 110 regular, 9 life, and 3 honorary.

The Treasurer's report was as follows:

Balance on hand, Special Account ...	\$1,030.20
Balance on hand, General Account ...	125.15
Outstanding Dues .....	166.00

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Total Assets ..... \$1,321.35

The thirteenth annual meeting and dinner of the Society was held at the Union League Club, Hacknesack, on Saturday evening, April 17th, 1915. Ninety-five members and guests sat down to dinner, after which reports from the various Committees were read.

The President introduced Mr. P. C. Staib, of Hacknesack, who delivered an interesting and entertaining address, after which he acted as master of ceremonies.

Judge William H. Speer, of Jersey City, was the principal speaker of the evening and delighted his audience with a very scholarly address upon the importance of a knowledge of history.









André Prison House, After Restoration.

## THE ANDRE PRISON HOUSE AT TAPPAN, N. Y.

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BY WILLIAM A. LINN.

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Any one passing north through the main street of the village of Tappan, N. Y., will notice on the left, just south of the road branching east to Piermont, an old stone building, bearing on its front a signboard with this plain but conspicuous inscription:

ANDRÉ PRISON  
76 HOUSE.  
Erected 1775.  
Restored 1897.

This old house was the place of imprisonment of Major John André during his trial as a spy by the Court of Inquiry, and from this house he was conducted to the place of execution, a short distance west of the village.

From the time of its erection to this day, except for some years after 1857, when it was out of repair, the building has been used as a tavern, Casparus Mabie having been the original tavern keeper. About the year 1857 it gave evidence of its age, the moss-covered roof partly caved in, and it was closed until 1897, when the present owner, R. T. Collignon, gave it a new roof, made some enlargement of the front piazza, and added a bowling alley in the rear. The house stands practically, however, as it was erected, even the bar in use today being unchanged.

Architecturally unattractive, it is a plain stone building of the Dutch design of the day, one story in height. The bar room occupies the south front, and a hall extends part way through to the rear. In André's day a ball room, be-

hind the bar, extended back of the hall, to a small room which André used as a bedroom, and in front of this was a larger room which he used as a reception room. The bedroom has since been thrown into the ball room. "No other building," says William Abbatt, in his "The Crisis of the Revolution," "can boast of more historic interest for the same period than can this plain, heavy Dutch tavern. Almost, if not quite, every general officer of the left wing of the army (and possibly Washington also) was a visitor to it, when it was Greene's headquarters during the autumn of 1780." It is a matter of regret that no means have been found to rescue this building from private ownership, and make sure of its preservation.

John André was born in London, England, in 1751. His father was a native of Switzerland, and his mother was French. The boy had every educational advantage, spoke several languages, and had a knowledge of military science, as well as of literature, music and art. When a lad he entered his father's counting room in London, and when his father died, he took charge of the business. Mercantile pursuits were not, however, to his taste, and in 1772 he was commissioned a lieutenant in the British army. In 1774 he joined his regiment, the Royal English Fusiliers, in Canada, making the journey for some reason by way of Philadelphia. It has been suggested that he took this route at the suggestion of Gen. Carleton, Governor of Canada, in order that he might pick up useful information on the way. When Montgomery captured the fort at St. Johns André was made prisoner and with the other captives was removed to Pennsylvania. His pleasing manners and his accomplishments enabled him to make friends with the best people of Lancaster and Carlisle, and he enjoyed many social privileges. Exchanged in 1776, he joined Gen. Howe's army in New York City, where his good address

soon obtained for him the rank of captain as aide to Gen. Gray. He was in Philadelphia with the British in 1778 and easily secured there the position of a leader in social affairs. His pen was always busy with verse and with art sketches. After the evacuation of Philadelphia by Clinton, André accompanied Gen. Gray on an expedition to New Bedford. When Gray returned to England in 1778, André became aide to Gen. Clinton, and in 1779 he was promoted to the position of Deputy Adjutant General of the British Forces in America. In New York City at that time he wrote his well-known poem, "The Cow Chase," and a prose composition, "A Dream." Accompanying Gen. Clinton, he assisted in the capture of Stoney Point and Fort Lafayette, on Verplank's Point, in 1779. It was in that year that the anonymous correspondence between Arnold and Clinton began.

Gen. Benedict Arnold, his natural disposition excited by what he considered unjust treatment and unfounded charges, including the refusal of Congress to act on a report exonerating him from some of these charges, sent a letter, signed "Gustavus," to Gen. Clinton, who succeeded Gen. Howe as Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in America, saying that the writer, an army officer of rank, might, through disgust with the American alliance with France, "and other proceedings of Congress," transfer his services to the British for a consideration. This correspondence was continued for some time, the replies to Arnold's letters being written by Major André over the signature "John Anderson."

To carry out his plan as matured, Arnold obtained from Gen. Washington the command of West Point, where, after Burgoyne's defeat, strong fortifications had been erected. Clinton had not at first known the real name of his correspondent, but now Arnold grew more definite in his sug-

gestions, and Clinton embarked troops on the Hudson to be prepared to take over the West Point defenses when Arnold was ready to deliver them. To bring these negotiations to a head, arrangements were made for an interview between Arnold and André while Washington was making a trip to Connecticut. The two conspirators met, on the night of September 20, 1780, in a piece of woods about four miles below Stoney Point. André was sent up the river by Clinton on the sloop-of-war *Vulcan*, and Arnold sent his own boat to convey him to the place of meeting.

Now the happenings began which led to André's capture and to the undoing of Arnold. Their interview was so prolonged that dawn was breaking when André was ready to return to his vessel and the American boatmen refused to row him back to the *Vulcan*. He and Arnold therefore walked up the river some two miles to the house of one Joshua Smith, about whose exact sympathies in the war there is some uncertainty. They were to pass the day there and André was to have been sent back to the *Vulcan* at night. The American commander of a fort on the opposite side of the river interrupted this plan by opening fire on the British vessel and compelled her to drop down stream. André, however, did not think there would be much difficulty in boarding her at the place where she would anchor, and Arnold supplied him with the following pass:

"Permit Mr. John Anderson to pass the guards to the White Plains, or below, if he chooses, he being on public business by my directions.

B. ARNOLD, M. Gen."

Then Smith, who was to accompany André, interfered with the programme, declaring himself unwilling to run the risk of being fired on in attempting to board the *Vulcan*, but offering to accompany André in an all night ride by land to the British lines. He, too, was provided with

passes. André, it is stated, with reluctance accepted this proposition.

And here mistakes began. André borrowed some of Smith's clothes as a disguise, and he disregarded the advice received from Clinton not to carry any compromising papers. He accepted from Arnold descriptions of the West Point fortresses and forces, in Arnold's handwriting, and before starting on his ride concealed these papers between his stockings and his feet.

Smith and André crossed the river at King's Ferry and rode south until they reached White Plains, where Smith turned back, André riding on alone toward Tarrytown.

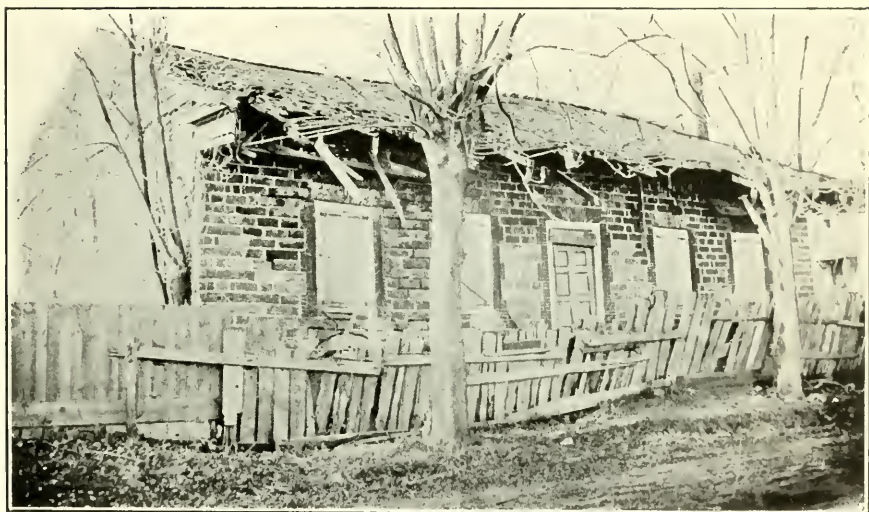
What was called "the neutral ground," extending north from King's Bridge almost to the Croton River, was overrun by bands of men who preyed rather indiscriminately on the country. The so-called Cow Boys and Skinners paid little regard to property rights, the Cow Boys making a special business of driving cattle into the British lines. On Friday, September 23, seven young men belonging to the American militia obtained leave of absence and set out from Salem (which lay about nine miles west of Peekskill) on an independent scouting expedition. Arriving at Tarrytown the next morning, they obtained breakfast at a private house and then continued their march to a place where two roads led to New York City. Three of the party—John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Wart—were stationed on one of these roads, above Tarrytown. Toward them rode André. When Paulding presented his musket and brought the rider to a stop, a few questions led André to believe that his captors were British sympathizers, and he said, "I am a British officer; have been up the country on particular business and would not wish to be detained a minute." He showed Arnold's pass. There seemed to the militiamen to be some contradiction in his declaration

that he was a British officer and the possessor of a pass from Arnold. Paulding has been quoted as saying, "I would have let him go had he shown his pass first." His captors thought it best to search him, and, taking him into the shelter of a wayside thicket, they found Arnold's papers concealed in his stockings. This discovery convinced Paulding that the man was a spy, and they set out with him at once for the nearest outpost.

They kept off the main road, André going along quietly, but seemingly much depressed. Lieut.-Col. John Jameson was in command of Sheldon's dragoons at the time, and they found him at Sand's Mill, in the town of Armonk. Jameson accepted Arnold's pass as entitling the bearer to proceed "on public business," and when André requested him to inform Arnold of his detention, Jameson wrote a note to Arnold, explaining the circumstances of the capture, detailing Lieut. Allen and four men to conduct the prisoner to Arnold, but sending a messenger to Gen. Washington, who was returning from Connecticut, with the papers found in André's stocking. André's hopes rose again. Soon after his departure, however, Major B. Talmage returned to the headquarters, and, on being told of the capture, at once declared his belief that Arnold was a traitor and André a spy, and he took the responsibility of ordering André's return. A messenger, riding at top speed, overtook Lieut. Allen near Peekskill, and by nine o'clock that evening, when he was within an hour of safety, André was brought back to Sand's Hill and thence sent to Sheldon's headquarters at South Salem.

Jameson, who seems to have been of a very unsuspecting disposition, while consenting to André's recall, deemed it proper to inform Arnold of André's capture and of the documents found on him, sending his dispatch by a messenger. This letter was handed to Arnold at the Robinson





André Prison House, Before Restoration.



House, opposite West Point, as he was breakfasting with Hamilton and others of Washington's party, all of whom were to have met Arnold that morning on their way from Connecticut. As soon as Arnold acquainted himself with the contents of Jameson's letter, he placed it in his pocket, and remarking that he was suddenly recalled to West Point, he went up to his bedroom, where he told his wife that he was ruined, and, entering his barge, was rowed rapidly down the river some eighteen miles to the Vulture, which conveyed him to New York. But for Jameson's letter he, too, would have been a captive.

From his place of confinement at Salem, André wrote a letter to Washington, "to rescue myself from an imputation of having assumed a mean character for treacherous purposes or self interest." He confessed to his correspondence with an American commander, his meeting with this officer and the events which led to his own capture. Hamilton, after reading this letter, Jameson's communication and the papers found on André, had no doubt of Arnold's treachery, and it was from Hamilton that Washington learned of the conspiracy and of Arnold's flight.

From the Robinson House, to which he was conducted on the morning of Monday, September 26, André was taken under a strong guard to West Point, and thence by boat to Stoney Point and by land to Tappan, where he arrived on Thursday, September 28.

Washington, who reached Tappan on the same day, ordered a Court of Inquiry, consisting of five major-generals, including Lafayette and Steuben, and eight brigadier-generals, to "report a precise statement of his case, together with your opinion of the light in which he ought to be considered, and the penalty which ought to be inflicted." The verdict was that André "ought to be considered a spy from the enemy. . . and to suffer death."

The report was approved by Washington on September 30, and André's execution was ordered to take place the next day at 5 p. m. The execution was postponed to October 2 in order that a communication from Clinton might give Washington "a true state of facts." But all efforts to save André's life were in vain.

At noon on the appointed day a large number of people ("many hundreds, if not thousands") assembled in Tappan to witness the execution. Some five hundred troops filled the street on which the prison house stands, and Gen. Greene and all the other generals concerned in the trial (with the exception of Washington and his staff) were drawn up along the road. André, dressed in a British officer's uniform, was escorted from the building and the procession took up its march. Turning to the west at the first road to the north, they proceeded about a quarter of a mile, and then turning south reached the appointed place. It is a sightly spot, with the village, as it was then, lying below, and a long extent of the west face of the Palisades visible to the east across an intervening valley. At the head of the procession was an army baggage wagon containing the coffin.

André had requested that he be shot, and is said to have exclaimed, on seeing the gallows: "This is too degrading," adding that the method of his death would be a mortification to his mother and sisters.

I follow now Abbatt's account of the execution:

"The gallows had been made by setting up two forked trees, with a third laid across. It was unusually high, and under it stood the cart, or two-horse army baggage wagon, in which was the coffin. André waited a moment. His first attempt (to get on the wagon) failing, he said a few words to his servant who was standing by, overcome with grief, and then, putting one hand on the wagon body, made a

determined spring and succeeded. Stepping on his coffin, he deliberately surveyed the scene, surrounded by the five hundred and fifty infantry on guard and a great number of additional soldier and civilian spectators, including, unfortunately, women and children.

“Col. Scammell, as adjutant, read the order for execution in a loud voice. Then the commanding officer—Glover—said: ‘Major André, if you have anything to say you can speak, for you have but a short time to live.’ Standing with hands on hips, the prisoner bowed to him and replied in clear, unfaltering tone: ‘I have nothing more to say, gentlemen, than this—I pray you to bear witness that I meet my fate like a brave man.’

“The hangman, a Tory named Strickland, who was under arrest and had been promised liberty for performing the odious office, had disguised himself by smearing his face with stuff like shoeblacking, producing a hideous effect. Some of the stuff probably adhered to his hands, for on approaching André he was repulsed with the sharp command, ‘Take off your black hands.’ Removing his gold-laced cocked hat and handing it and his watch to his servant, who stood by the wagon, he next took off his white neck-cloth and put it in his coat pocket, unbuttoned his shirt collar and turned it down. Taking the noose from Strickland’s hands he put it over his head and drew it close around his throat; then, taking a handkerchief from his pocket, he bandaged his eyes and stood awaiting death. The hangman fastened the rope to the cross-beam, when the commanding officer suddenly ordered André’s hands to be tied. André immediately pushed the handkerchief from his eyes, took a second one from a pocket and handed it to Strickland, first replacing the one over his eyes. The hangman, having bound his arms behind him with the handkerchief, for an instant the slight figure, attired with coat of bright

scarlet, faced with green, waistcoat and breeches of buff, and top boots, stood bareheaded, sharply outlined against the clear sky and the forest covering the distant hills. The multitude was perfectly silent, overcome with emotion. Then Col. Scammell signalled the wagoner, by dropping the point of his sword, the horses were led forward, and the pinioned figure swung violently at the end of the rope."

The body was wrapped in a shroud and buried near the gallows. As late as 1818 stones without any inscription marked the head and foot of the grave. When in 1821 Governor De Witt Clinton, of New York State, gave the British authorities permission to remove the remains to England, a party, led by James Buchanon, the British consul at New York City, found the grave in a cultivated field, marked only by loose stones, two cedars and a peach tree, the latter, it is said, planted by some lady. Buchanon's report of the removal of the remains says:

"As soon as the stones were cleared away not a tongue moved among the multitude—breathless anxiety was depicted on every countenance. The earth was removed with the hands, as we soon discovered the coffin lid was broken in the center. With great care this was removed, and there lay the bones in perfect order. The roots of the peach tree had completely surrounded the skull, like a net. After allowing all to pass round and view the remains as they lay, which very many did, with unfeigned tears and lamentations, the bones were carefully removed and placed in the sarcophagus of mahogany lined with crimson velvet (which had been provided by the Duke of York). I did not find a single button, nor any article, save a leather string that had tied the hair, in perfect preservation, coiled and tied as it had been on his hair at the time. This I forwarded to his sisters in England. The sarcophagus was borne amid the

silent and unbought regret of the numerous assemblage, to Mr. Demarest's house."

The remains were conveyed to England on the frigate *Phaeton*, and interred in Westminster Abbey.

The grave was refilled and later a small boulder, marked "André—Executed Oct. 2, 1780," was placed on the spot. This in time disappeared. In 1879 Cyrus W. Field, at the suggestion of Dean Stanley, erected a monument on the place of execution. Some local objection was made to the erection of this monument to "a British spy," and soon afterward an attempt was made by two men, perhaps inspired by others, to blow it up with dynamite. Little damage was done by this explosion, but two years later a much larger charge was exploded under it, which blew it to pieces, except the upper stone of the pedestal, with the inscription. This was replaced on the foundation, and it rests there to-day, surrounded by a high iron fence of circular shape.

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The Two Spies, Nathan Hale and John André.—*Lossing*

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Andréana.—*Smith*.

Vindication of the Capture of Major André.—*Benson*.

History and Capture of Major André.—*Bolton*.

Minutes of a Council of Inquiry Upon the Case of Major John André.

Last Twelve Days of Major John André.—*Oglesby*.

David William and the Capture of André.—*Raymond*.

Authentic Narrative of the Causes Which Led to the Death of Major André.—*Smith*

A very full bibliography of André will be found in *Abbatt's "Crisis of the Revolution."*





PETITION FROM BERGEN CO., TO  
THE NEW JERSEY PROVINCIAL  
ASSEMBLY OF 1755

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Introduction by H. B. GOETSCHUIS

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In the course of the researches made by Gen'l Sadler and Chancellor Walker, for the purpose of properly restoring the Barracks at Trenton to their original state, the subjoined petition was found and brought to the attention of Senator Hennessy of Bergen County. Recognizing its historical interest, he requested the writer to transmit it to the Bergen County Historical Society for publication, along with the other matter finding place in the Year-Book of their transactions. This petition, addressed to the Provincial Assembly of New Jersey, was received April 8th, 1755, and by that body "committed to a committee of the whole House."

While papers of this sort seem often to be more interesting than valuable, consideration of them frequently serves to throw new light on the life and conditions of a vanished time, and to clear away the obscurities in the general story of a given period. In this petition, for example, we find 177 names representing many of the most important people of the County. The signers declare their intense loyalty to the English Crown and gratitude for the "inestimable privileges of Englishmen which they have enjoyed." Yet these names are, for the most part, Dutch. They are the names of those whose fathers were conquered by a foreign power and who might be supposed to cherish

a bitter enmity. Yet this and other documents all go to show that there was comparatively nothing of this sentiment. These thrifty New Netherlanders, who were wont to part with money only after fasting and prayer, cheerfully recommended a levy of many thousand pounds, in aid of a power that had subjected them; and this, as may be seen, with many complimentary allusions to the government at London. And this was no politic attitude on the part of the Dutch, but a real sentiment of esteem for a government which they had gradually come to look upon as a barrier in Europe against what they considered dangerous enemies of civil and religious liberty. Moreover, English rule had proven profitable, and these careful traders and farmers were ever prone to give the golden calf an honorable place beside the tables of the law. Besides, over three-quarters of a century had now passed by, with ever increasing shipping beside the docks; and of this the descendants of the Holland settlers had received their share, being at the same time set free from the domination of the Dutch West India Company, and the annoyances of government under a trading trust. The English rule had, in general, not been unfavorable to the original settlers. Inter-marriage between those of the two nationalities was not infrequent, and all these circumstances working together had helped to form a Dutch aristocracy in New York whose influence extended throughout the New Netherlands.

It is curious to notice that while the English were growing more and more restless under government from London, the Dutch, faithful to their conservative instincts and influenced by the causes already noticed, were largely indifferent to the agitation. This state of mind might have continued, and might have become a serious menace to Revolutionary success, if a disturbance which arose among themselves about ten years before the date of this petition

and culminated about the same time as the rebellion of the colonies, had not influenced many of them to throw in their lot with the patriots.

This dispute concerned with the right claimed by the Synod of North Holland, to govern the Dutch Reformed churches in America without representation (so to speak) and therefore, without effective information as to the needs of the people here, led to the formation of an American Classis known as the Coetus, and to a violent strife within the congregations, which was adjudicated by the Classis of Amsterdam just prior to the Revolution. But no controversy can go on for a generation as violently as did this one, without every question, remotely or directly connected with it, being brought out into the light; and as a result it was seen that the rights of self-government in the church and in the state were one, and that in the great movement for separation from England, and its demand for the power to solve our own problems in our own way was included the only real and lasting settlement for their own difficulties. So when the great day of cleavage came those who had fought the fight for freedom within the church were found later outside in the field of war, fighting the same battle for the freedom of the state.

Nevertheless, this change of sentiment had not been universal, and considerable numbers of the Dutch continued loyal to Britain, some remaining here, but many joining the English tories in Nova Scotia, as related in the interesting article by Dr. Byron G. Van Horne in a previous Year Book.

This petition, therefore, showing as it does that those of Dutch descent had, contrary to common opinion, become at least as English as the English, has a unique value in appraising the state of mind existing in the colonies as the revolutionary movement took form.

The general anxiety concerning the state of the militia

is reflected in it, also. The Indians had been fairly quiet on our borders for many years, and to the great bulk of colonists had ceased to be a menace, but this war roused them to activity and revived memories of what had been both sleeping and waking, an ever-present fear of the earlier times. Stories were circulated of atrocities committed, and along with these others of the inefficiency and unpreparedness of the colonial militia. So poor were they that Washington, who had abundant experience with them, declared later that they were next to useless as a dependable arm in either defensive or offensive operations. The document, illuminative of this posture of affairs, speaks of the insufficient drilling and so on, and prays for additional legislation as a corrective, unaware then, as each generation that has followed, that legislation by itself accomplishes little. Finally the receipt of this and other petitions of a like tenor caused the Provincial Assembly to take some action, and one result was the erection of the Trenton Barracks, the restoration of which at the present time led to the resurrection of these and other ancient records. After the French and Indian War had become more than a dispute of the Colony of Virginia with French fur traders, and had grown into a contest between the two great nations of the world for supremacy in Septentrionale America, troops had been sent hither and quartered on the inhabitants, and this was complained of by the citizens of Trent Town, who found the practice "very annoying," and the "habits and morals of the soldiery undesirable." The Colonial Assembly was in consequence, requested to build barracks for the housing of the forces, and eventually a portion of the monies raised, according to the recommendation of this and other petitions, was used in the erection of the Barracks, which were completed in 1758 under the

authority of the Hon. Jno. Reading, President and Commander-in-Chief of the New Jersey Colony.

The letter following is from the Adjutant-General of the State, setting forth the circumstances under which the restoration of the Barracks and other historical buildings was undertaken.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Office of the Adjutant-General.

Trenton, March 19, 1915.

About six years ago, while I was President of the Chamber of Commerce of this City, I decided to attempt to get the City and the State to buy the forty-five acres of swamp land lying in the rear of the State House and between it and the Delaware River, fill it and make it into a park.

It struck me that we could gain a splendid entrance to the park by restoring the Old Barracks, which was built in 1758, by purchasing the old Masonic Temple, which was built in 1793 and which stood directly across the alley from the Barracks, and moving it to the entrance to the park, and purchasing the Douglass House, which was the building in which Washington held his famous conference the night before the Battle of Princeton.

I managed to get the Legislature to provide money for the purchase of the property on Delaware Street, and after these purchases were made called on Chancellor Walker to get him to assist me in preparing a resolution to present to the Daughters of the American Revolution, who were holding their annual meeting at Morristown. When I took up the subject with the Chancellor, I found that he had, a few weeks before and unknown to me, had a resolution passed by the Sons of the American Revolution to

the effect that the Barracks should be restored, and we at once joined hands on the project and have been working together since that time. Forty buildings surrounded the Barracks, all of which have been bought and removed. The streets have been closed and the restoration is almost complete, and to no one do we owe more thanks than to Senator Hennessy for his earnest and hearty co-operation in the matter, because, as Chairman of the Appropriation Committee, he went out of his way to assist in this very laudable undertaking.

I don't know whom to name as the man who has been most helpful in moving the Masonic Temple and the Douglass House, as many have been of great service.

Nelson B. Gaskill, the ex-Assistant Attorney-General, has conducted all of the legal proceedings without charge.

When the Douglass House is moved it will be turned over to the State, and the Masonic Temple will be turned over to the Grand Lodge, and the Barracks will be run by the patriotic women from all sections of the State, who bought that part of the building which stood on the south side of Front Street, in 1902, when it was about to pass into the hands of contractors, who expected to erect a row of brick dwellings and use the stone of the historic old structure for foundations.

Very truly yours,

W. F. SADLER, JR.

To the Hon'ble the Representatives

for the Colony of New-Jersey in General Assembly conven'd

The Petition of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the County of Bergen in Behalf of themselves and the rest of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the said County  
Humbly Sheweth

That Whereas Your Petitioners are informed that the French and Indians in their Alliance have for some time past made Encroachments on several of his Majesty's Territories in America and particularly have invaded and Erected several Forts upon his Land within or near the Governments of Virginia and Pensilvania and have actually in open violation of the most Solmn Treaties committed Hostilities agains his Majestys Subjects sent from Virginia with commission to check their Insolent progress and disposes them of their Lands so taken into their possession by means of which Lawless and Hostile proceedings Your Petitioners know not what Bounds so treacherous and perfidious an Enemy intends to prescribe to their Invasions and Hostilities or how soon they may presume to extend their Arms & Incursions into this his Majesty's province of New Jersey.

And Whereas Your Petitioners do humbly conceive that his Majesty's approbation of the Bill, lately agreed upon by this Honourable House for providing the Sum of Ten thousand pound for his Majesty's use (which may probable be presumed to Supercede the Necessity of any other Supplies) cannot be depended upon with sufficient certainty to create an Objection against making farther provision for the good ends thereby proposed But are furthermore apprehensive (considering the great Activity of the French & their restless indefatigable Zeal in defiance of plighted faith & the Laws of Nations to Enlarge the Territories of the Rapacious Monarch) even was there the utmost certainty of the said Bill receiving the Royal approbation that the Monies thereby proposed to be raised would come too late to answer the present Exigencies of this Colony which at this Critical & precarious Juncture require the most speedy and expeditious provision

And Whereas Your Petitioners observe by his Excel-

lency's last speech to the Council and Assembly of this province that our Militia is greatly deficient in the Military Art (which must Necessarily afford our well disciplined Enimies an Infinite advantage) partly arising from the want of more frequent musters and partly from the lowness of the fines for non appearance by means whereof the Militia act as it now stands is found insufficient either to enable the Officers to instruct the Men in martial discipline or to compell Delinquents to their duty, Whence Your Petitioners Humbly infer that this Hon'ble House will conceive it Necessary for his Most Sacred Majesty's service and the safety & defence of the Inhabitants of this province, to revive & amend the said Act in the particulars Above mentioned

And Whereas our most Vigilant Sovreign (whose righteous designs against the Enemies of his Imperial Diadem and the tranquillity of his American Dominions may the King of Kings abundantly prosper) hath been graciously pleas'd out of his Royal Bounty and paternal Affection to order Several Regiments to the assistance of his Colonies & therefore undoubtedly expects their opposing themselves vigorously in maintaining the Honour of his Crown by raising Men & money, as he has been pleased to shew himself in protecting their lives liberties and properties without which dutifull Junction & concurrence there is great reason to fear that his generous & Salutary measures may prove ineffectual to the completion of his great and princely purposes.

And Whereas Your Petitioners out of Zeal for his most Sacred Majesty's Intrest, and from Hearts inspired with Loyalty & gratitude to the best of Kings as well for the Service of their most gracious Sovreign & the Honour and dignity of his Crown as the preservation of their own lives and Fortunes & the inestimable priviledge of English Men



uninterruptedly enjoy'd under his glorious and Auspicious Reign are willing to the utmost of their power to contribute towards all Necessary preparations to repel any Invasions that may be made by the said French or Indians against his Majesty's Colonies and to drive them from our Frontiers, for what is Life in Slavery? or property under a Popish arbitrary Prince?

We therefore Humbly pray this Hon'ble House that they would be pleased to pass such Bill or Bills as will be Effectual for the purposes aforesaid in such full proportion as this Colony ought to bear in the expence with the Neighbouring Colonies and in such manner as to this Hon'ble House shall seem meet and Reasonable

And Your Petitioners shall ever pray

Peter Bourdett	David Jacobus Demerest	
?Yanter Huyn	John Allen, Senier	
Ryer Ryerson, Ju.	David L. Ackerman	
Jacobus Bargin	{ Judges of the Court of C Pleas and Quater Sessions for the County of Bergen.	George Ryerson
Hendrick Boesch		Jacobus Peek
Harman Lucan		Samuel More, Junier
John Van Houten		Lowrance Van Boshert
David Hennion	Johannis Van Boshert	
John Vreeland	Egbert Ackerman	
Jacob Hoppe	Cornalus Ackerman	
John Fr. Ryarson	Abraham Van Boshert	
Robbert van Houten	Johnnis Cadmiss	
Cornelus Bogert	Gerrebrant Van Houte	
Arent Schuyler	?Johannis Van Rijsejse	
Jorys Vrelant	Cornalus Van Deen	
Stephen Rauldwin	Joarge Everse	
Waling Van Winkle	Rain Simmense	
Yan Durie	Theunis Dey	
Roelef Westerhelt	Joost Beam	

Helmigh Post	Lowrence Egbert Acker-
Yacob Toers	man
George Ryersa, Jr.	?Jacob Von Venken
William van Blarcom	Stephen Bourdett, Sinior
Hessel Van Wagenen	Fauconnear Volleau
Abraham Toers	Lucas Lozier
Jon Dorremus	John van Boskerck
Helmigh Van Houten	Job Smith
Hessel Dorremus	Isaac Schuyler
Jacobus Post	Par Parmyter
John V : Houten, Leutt.	Jost Van Boskerk
Gilyeen Bertolf	Thomas - - - - -
Joseph Woolcox	Nicholas Kip
John Rattan	James Board
Albert V. Voorheese	Peter Schulyer
Casparus Schuyler	John Burden
John Range	Samuel Sidham
Dou'as Rattan	John Rush
- -an'r Ratten	Andris Debow
John Anderson	John Myer
Sam'el Smith	Peiter Wannemaker
Chris'r Tice	William Ginkins
Elias Crowfoot	John Parliment, Sen'r
Joseph Board	Mattey Barberly
Ab'm Bean	David Harris
Joost Beam	John Bartolf
Chris Trickey	John Berry
Josep Hagan	Phillip Berry
John V : Voorhees	Samuel Berry
Elis'r Franssisco	Abraham Berry
John Kerrest	William Berry
Edward Martin	Nathanel Earl
Herry Ridner	Thomas Rardon
Jacob Franscisco	John Freeland

Peter Stott	Arye Boos	
Jacob Roelfse V : Houte	Charles Kingsland	
John Iinheus	John Schuyler	
John Mangle	William Kingsland	
Wm. Belsher	Josiah Hornblower	
Paul Rattan	Roger Kingsland	
Andries Hennyon	Stephen BourDett, June'r	
Cornelis Westervelt	David'n Provoost	
Gerrit Van Houten	Theodore Valleaüz	
Yan Van der Beck	Isaac Kingsland	} The Grand Jurors for the County of Bergen
Harmanus Van Bosse	Egbert Van Emburgh	
Johannis Van Winkle	John Oldwater	
Staets Degrootd	William Ennis	
Hartman Blinkerhoef	Hendrick Rys	
William Day	Hessel Brower	
Johannes Waldron	?Semion Orelant	
Rorlof Westervelt	Lendert Degrauw	
Casparus Teindus	Isaac Kingsland, Sene'r	
Jacobus Bartholf, Jun'r	?Gerebrandt - - - - -	
Dirrick Terheunen	Jacobus Boogaert	
Samuel Degroot	Guelyan Bertholf	
Lowrence Ackerman	John Williams	
Jacob Oldwater	Morris Earle	
Jacobus Bartholf	Jacobus Huysman	
Jacob Roomer	Isaac Concklin	
Ab'm Brower	David Damarast	
Tobias Rykman	Abraham Gouvernear	
Enoch Sealand	William Provoost	
Thomash Vanboscarh	?Jacob - - sort	
Albert Banta	Johannes Reyerse	
Steven Zabriskie	William Earle	
Peter Post	Abraham Ackerman	
Tomas Vanriper	Peter Van Deburgh	
Jacobus Bartolf	Jacob Van Piese	
Cornalus Gerretse Vanvoost	Jacobus Jan Bogert	
Peter Demeray	Gerret Post	

## — Endorsements —

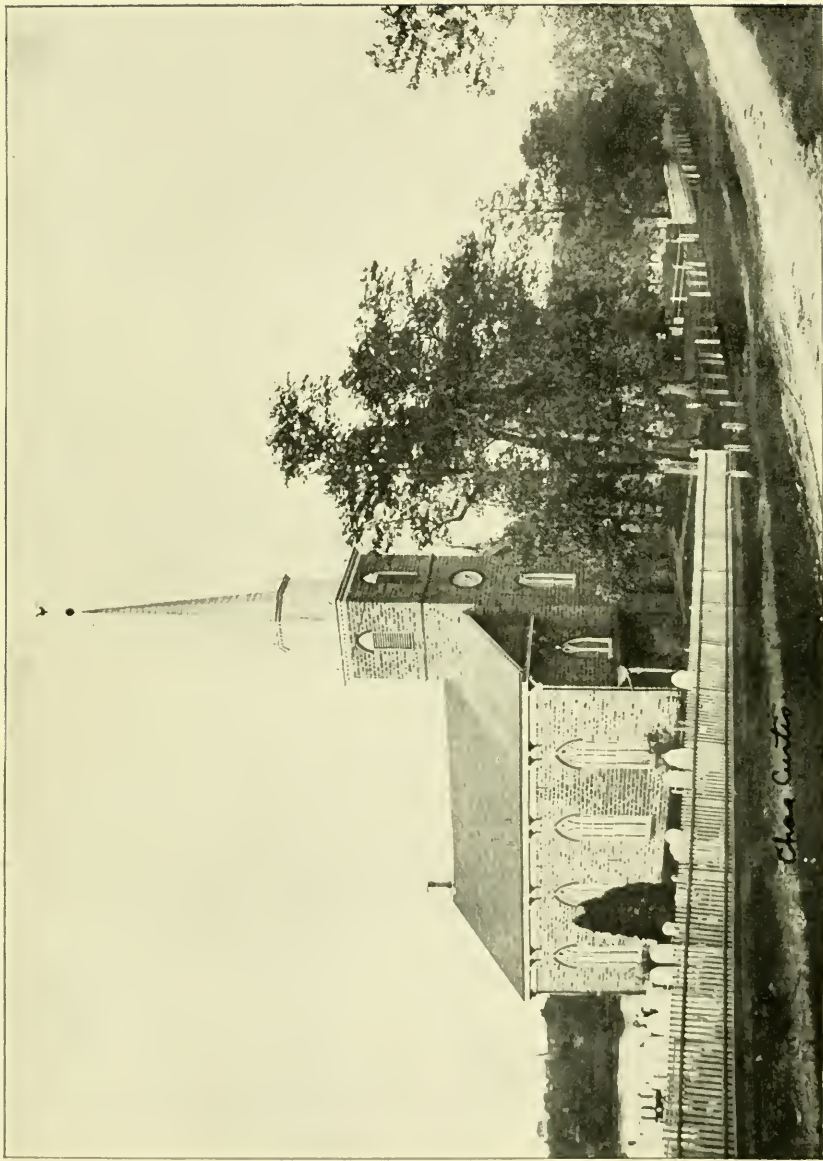
From Bergen County  
One Hundred & Seventy Seven Names  
are Annexes to the within petition  
177

Bergen County  
Petition's  
for Raising Forces.  
read & Considered



The illustration on the opposite page is a recent one and shows the church as it is today, 1915. It was re-modelled in the year 1866 at a cost of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000). The re-modelling consisted of extending the rear end of the church northward thirty feet. A slate roof replaced the shingle one, a gallery was put in on the east, south and west side. Prior to that time the church had no gallery. An arch was sprung in the south end over the gallery and under the steeple. The space under this arch was allotted to the colored people of the congregation. The old pulpit was discarded and a modern one erected in the new extension. The large windows which had extended to the ground in the south, or road, end were reduced in size by having the lower portions made into doors, so that the present church has three doors on the south side instead of one in the center, as in the old church.





*Chas. Curtis*

(South) Schraalenburgh Dutch Reformed Church,

Erected 1779.

Remodeled and Extended, 1866



## CHURCH DAYS IN OLD SCHRAALENBURGH.

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(Courtesy of Dumont High School Booklet Association.)

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BY F. A. WESTERVELT.

There was an organization, South Dutch Reformed Church, in 1724.

First church built in 1725, a few rods east of present site.

Second church built in 1728.

First marriage records, 1724.

First baptismal records, 1724.

In 1730 the original congregation of 83 members were seeking a regular pastor and teacher. He was to preach the word of the Lord in its purity, and to take charge of the catechetical exercises; to administer the Lord's Supper four times a year and visit the members twice a year, etc., and was to receive a yearly salary of sixty pounds (\$300) of current New Jersey money—thirty pounds from each congregation (Schraalenburgh and Peremis), payable every half year. He was to have a good, substantial parsonage, built with a stable for horse and cow, attached, to be built at Schraalenburgh or Peremis. They wrote: "We wish with all our hearts that we were able to promise your Reverence a higher salary, but our poverty prevents us. Nay, only our love towards your Reverence has made the salary as much as it is."

The Rev. G. W. Manicus accepted the call in 1731.

The church was very small, built of stone, with one en-

trance. The pulpit had spiral stairs leading up to the Pastor's seat and Bible desk. There was a high canopy of wood covering the speaker and desk. There were no seats in the building. Each person carried his own chair, and those who went by wagon used their chairs as wagon seats. There was no stove. In cold weather the ladies carried foot stoves. They were tin boxes, seven inches long, five inches high and six inches wide, the sides, top and door being perforated. Inside was a small tin box, in which the hot coals of hickory wood were placed. The box was fastened in a frame of wood-work, with a wire handle. The feet were placed on the frame and were kept very warm for a long time. These were home-made and a very popular gift to a sweetheart or bride, as their initials could be combined with the favorite designs of hearts and rings, shown in the perforations.

For lap robes they used the beautiful, and now, highly-prized blue and white homespun bed blankets, called in "Jersey Dutch" Batte Clates. These were carried in the church and placed on the chairs.

"It was an old-time habit to reach church early. The horses having been hitched, the worshippers collected in groups under the trees or about the church doors, when greetings all around were in order and inquiries made about absent relatives and acquaintances. It cannot be denied that the state of crops, the condition of the market, and the aspect of politics were occasional features of these peculiar gatherings."

The services began at ten o'clock. The "Voorleser," or "head reader" (also schoolmaster), stood on the floor below the pulpit and opened the services by reading the Scripture selection. The chorister, or "fore singer," lined out the verses of the hymn; then, with the use of a tuning fork, started the singing, the entire service being in Dutch.

The sermons were long and doctrinal, the prayers fervent and loud.

The collection was taken up with a bag fastened on a long stick. Sometimes it had a bell on the bottom of the bag to "awaken the sleepers." At twelve o'clock the services closed. As the dinner was always taken along, it was then eaten and a general visiting time was indulged in. The horses were fed where they were lined up on each side of the Schraalenburgh Road, in front of the church and around the corner on the River Edge Road. There would be one hundred or more wagons. At one o'clock the services began again, the Pastor expounding the catechismal text according to the order of the Heidelberg Catechism. At four o'clock they disbanded.

The girls, in winter, wore homespun woolen undergarments, dresses, coats and hoods; home-knit mittens and stockings, hand-made leather shoes with leather laces and copper toes. Their pantalets were made of nankeen, fastened at the knee and hung to their shoe tops. In the summer they wore the homespun linen undergarments, calico dresses and pantalets, also sun bonnets.

It was a progressive age and we next learn of the building of another church in 1728, the stones from the old building being incorporated in the new. We learn of pews with high backs and no cushions, each having a little door. Holland's color was in evidence in the paint on them, yellow with orange rails.

The first stove was just inside the door and was a long, high iron box with a door at each end, with the pipe extending across the church, entering a chimney behind the pulpit. There was a "wood box" well filled with large sticks. There were circular seats at each end of the stove, where the people sat to get warm before going to their pews.

When there was a death among their members the Sexton went far and near over the church district to notify the people of the event and time of funeral and inviting those who were to act as pall-bearers.

At each funeral the Pastor and Doctor, side by side, preceded the corpse to the grave, each wearing a homespun white linen sash, three yards long, across the body from the right shoulder to the left hip, the ends hanging loose. On the shoulder and hip was a large black rosette made of lute string, three inches wide. The sashes were the gift of the family, and the richer the family the finer the linen. The families of the Pastor and Doctor used the linen for special clothing. The son of one of the Pastors, when married over fifty years ago, wore a shirt made from a funeral sash. The shirt, beautifully made, with a tucked bosom, was a fine specimen of hand sewing. It is in perfect condition and is to be loaned to the Bergen County Historical Society.

One of the chairs, 150 years old, that was carried to this church in the early days, is still in use by a grand-daughter of the first owner.

The Revolutionary Period stirred the hearts of the people in those days, in church as well as home affairs, and it was not unusual for the early ministers to wear cocked hats and swords, which they took off and laid behind them in the pulpit.

A five-inch cannon ball that was ploughed up on the farm of David Kipp, of Schraalenburgh, has been loaned to the Bergen County Historical Society.

NOTE.—To Mrs. Margaret Demarest Westervelt, 112 Sussex Street, Hackensack, N. J., credit is given for much of the data in the foregoing article. Mrs. Westervelt is now seventy-nine years of age and is a daughter of the

Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Demarest. Mrs. C. T. Demarest was Margaret Lydecker, daughter of the old Cornelius Lydecker, whose homestead is at Englewood, N. J. Her parents attended the South Church. The early history given by Mrs. Westervelt is from her mother and grandmother's stories of its early days. The history of the linen scarfs was given Mrs. Westervelt by her father, and she has a piece of the last scarf given him in Bergen County, as in New York City it was not the custom.

Much of the early church customs was given to Mrs. Westervelt by her father, Rev. C. T. Demarest, her mother, Margaret Lydecker, and her grandmother, Cornelia Brinkerhoff, and their ancestors, all of them attendants at the South Church, Schraalenburgh.



## EARLY HISTORY OF BERGENFIELD

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BY WALTER CHRISTIE

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The name of Bergenfield was given to this place in the year 1872, not by popular choice nor by approval of its citizens, but by the order of the leading officials of the Jersey City and Albany Railway Co., the details of which I will give you later in this article. The first municipality within the limits of New Jersey was erected by order of the Director General Stuyvesant and his council of New Amsterdam on September 5th, 1661, and christened "The Village of Bergen." The exact location of the original village of Bergen was a point mid-way between where the Marion depot of the Pennsylvania R. R. is located and the Hudson River on a line directly east of Marion. The origin of the name "Bergen" rests in some doubt. Some writers claim it to have been derived from "Bergen," the capital of Norway prior to the year 1815, while others as confidently assert it to have been derived from "Bergen op zoom," an important town in Holland. I am of the opinion Bergen was named after the latter town, as Hollanders and their descendants predominated in the early settlement of this county, and it is not likely Dutchmen, with memories of the fatherland, would name any of their new settlements in honor of a city of a country foreign to the fatherland. You will notice that the erection of the "Village of Bergen" by Stuyvesant was in 1661, which was towards the end of his administration as Director General of New Amsterdam, or Manhattan Island, and I have wondered what impelled him

to act, and am led to believe he intended at least that the "Village of Bergen" should forever be controlled by the influence of New Amsterdam, if not annexed to it and made a part of it. During the seven years following the christening of the "Village of Bergen" new settlers rapidly purchased and located on lands outside the Village, and it also should be noted that the control of New Amsterdam had been wrested from the Hollanders by the English, and that in 1665 Stuyvesant returned to Holland. It is also interesting to note that with the change from Dutch to English control of New Amsterdam, Jersey remained under control of New York, not having a complete separate Government of her own until the year of 1738. The many families who had settled outside "The Village of Bergen," desiring better protection from the ravages of the Indians and wishing to be in closer touch with the authorities, induced Governor Philip Carteret, an Englishman, and his council, on April 7th, 1668, to incorporate the Town and Corporation of Bergen. This new town comprised all the territory, now a part of Hudson County, lying between the Hudson and Hackensack Rivers, and extending from Bellmans Creek, on the North, and to Constable Hook, on the South.

As time went on and the population increased, courts became necessary; and as all the Colonial officials were Englishmen and many English immigrants had settled in the community, it was but natural that they should desire the adoption of the English system of County Government; therefore, on the seventh of March, 1628, the provincial Legislature passed, and Deputy Governor Rudyard approved, an act under which New Jersey was divided into four counties, viz., Bergen, Essex, Middlesex and Monmouth.

You will notice that the names given to the counties



upon their erection were all English except Bergen, and I presume the name "Bergen" given to our County was due to Dutch influence solely, and that had the Dutch not made their influence felt at that time, the English rulers would have given our County another and an English name.

The County, as erected in 1682, comprised all the lands lying between the Hudson River and the Hackensack River, extending from Constable Hook to the North most bounds of the province, which was the New York State line, which line was then in dispute. Bergen was the smallest in area of the four original counties, and later a part of Essex was annexed to it, and again later Passaic County and Hudson County were erected out of Bergen's territory.

All of the earlier records were recorded and filed in New Amsterdam, and the oldest record I have been able to locate in our County is written in English, is dated 1715, and contains information regarding County Government and transactions relating to the building of a Court House.

As the court was established under English procedure, in 1715, it may interest you to know how the same was constituted.

The records of our County from that date are in English and all crimes were tried before Justices of the Peace, whose judicial acts were all in the name of the King of England. The office of the justice is very old and is an office borrowed from English custom and law, and while still a constitutional office, has lost much of its former importance and dignity.

In 1716 the inhabitants elected five Justices of Peace, viz., David Provoost, Thomas Lawrence, George Ryerson, John Berdan and Martin Powlson, the first-named being the presiding Justice.

The following persons were elected Freeholders: John Stagg, Ryer Ryerson, Rutt Van Horne, Cornelius Blincker-

hoff, Nicholas Lozier and John Bogart. These two bodies, acting jointly, constituted the Court, the Freeholders acting as lay Judges.

The small cases, such as petty thieving and assault, were tried before any single Justice, but grave crimes such as arson, atrocious assault, murder, etc., were tried at the Court House before the full bench of Justices and the Freeholders.

Scarcely fifteen years after a comprehensive County Judicial system had been established, they were called to try a murder case, which was held December 13th, 1731. The accused was a negro, named Harry, a slave of one Garret Hoppe, who supposedly had killed another negro slave named Sepeo by treating him to a drink of poisoned whiskey. Sepeo was the chattel of one Col. William Provoost. There was a full attendance of the Court sitting at the trial. The verdict being that Harry was guilty, the Court ordered the Sheriff to hang him by the neck till dead, on December 14th, 1731.

You will notice that the date set for his execution was the very next day following the trial and conviction.

On April 26th, 1732, the Court met again to make awards and pay the bills incurred for the trial and execution.

The records show that they awarded Garret Hoppe, the owner of Harry, the slave, 30 pounds sterling for his loss, that being the current price of a healthy young male slave. Paulus Van Derbeek, who was Sheriff, was awarded 5 pounds for his services as hangman. The Court awarded themselves 5 pounds for their services, and 5 pounds was paid in constable and other fees, making a total cost of 45 pounds sterling, or \$219 in our coin.

For meeting this extraordinary expenditure a special assessment was ordered to be levied on the taxpayers of

the County, to be paid within 30 days from date of sitting of the Court.

Having given you a brief historical outline of the geography and government of our County, I will now give you the early history of Bergenfield. Prior to and after the Revolutionary War and up to the year of 1872, this locality was known as Schraalenburgh.

Schraalenburgh was known as all that territory lying west of the Tenakill Brook and extending to the settlements on the east side of the Hackensack River and extending from the village of Harrington Park on the north to Teaneck, which then included West Englewood on the south, and originally embraced lands given in the year of 1669 under patents by Governor Carteret, numbered 17, 18, 19 and 20, also part of patent No. 16. Each one of these patents, or grants, contained an area of approximately 2,000 acres, and each patent or grant was bounded on the east by Tenakill Brook and on the west by the Hackensack River. What is now Bergenfield was in patent grant No. 17, and its boundary was the New Bridge Road on the south, River Edge Road and Hickory Avenue on the north, through to Tenafly. This section, or grant, was given to one Matthew Nicols, in the year of 1669.

These grants contained a stipulation that the patentee should settle on his patent a certain number of families within six years. All the patentees failed to comply with the stipulations and their lands were forfeited.

In the month of June, 1677, or eight years later, and just two years after forfeiture, David De Marest, Sr., a French Huguenot, appeared upon the scene as a landed proprietor. The four patents having been forfeited, Demarest did not attempt to secure patents from the Governor for them, but quietly bought up approximately 6,000 acres of land from the Hackensack and Tappan Indians.

This was a shrewd move, as it at once put him in a peaceful relationship with the Indians, who were a factor to be reckoned with; also, it put him in undisputed possession at once, and as the patentees had failed to comply with all the requirements, nevertheless, it was undoubtedly a question in Demarest's mind whether by a partial compliance the patentees did not have some equity in these lands, for it is a matter of record that, after having purchased and paid the Indians for these lands, he sought to complete his title by patent grant, and did succeed in getting grants for sections 18 and 19.

The four original grantees, or patentees, under Governor Carteret were all Englishmen, and I know of few instances where Englishmen have been outdone by the French, but this is one of them.

The area of Schraalenburgh was co-extensive with the area of Demarest's lands, but as Demarest's lands were sometimes known as Old Hackensack and sometimes as Schraalenburgh, it is difficult to determine when or how the name became applied. My own notion is that when it was originally conveyed it was known as Old Hackensack, and that after the death of the original owner (David Demarest) his children and grandchildren, having nearly all of them married Holland descendants, they renamed it Schraalenburgh.

The name is Dutch, and means a barren knoll or hill. The first church erected in Schraalenburgh, as then comprised, was built by this pioneer, and was located on the southeast corner of New Bridge and River Roads and north of it on lands on the east bank of the Hackensack River, between River Edge and New Bridge their cemetery was located and still can be seen from the wagon roads along the Hackensack River, and is known as the French Cemetery.

Having now given you early history which I can corroborate from various sources, I will pass along to the Revolutionary Period and paint a picture in your mind of what this place contained in the way of roads, railroads, schools, churches and dwellings and industries during that time, and will take them up in this order.

#### ROADS.

Bergenfield, as its boundaries are laid out today (and they have never been changed since the date of incorporation, 1894), in revolutionary days had only six roads, as follows:

- (1). The Schraalenburgh Road, now known as Washington Avenue.
- (2). West Clinton Avenue, running from the east side of Washington Avenue to Tenafly.
- (3). Church Street.
- (4). Prospect Street, from Church Street, north to Madison Avenue in Dumont.
- (5). Old Bridge Road, from Prospect Street to River Edge.
- (6). New Bridge Road, from Washington Avenue to Cherry Hill.

#### RAILROADS.

There were no railroads.

#### SCHOOLS.

There were no schools. What is now Dumont contained the school site for generations. My parents and myself attended schools that were located at the junction of Madison and Washington Avenues.

#### CHURCHES.

There was one church—the old South Church. This building stood about 250 feet east of the present structure

in what is known as the old burying ground, and its erection was completed in the year 1725. This building was used continuously until the year of 1799, when the present building was erected.

David Demarest had erected a church probably not later than 1680, and of which little is known historically. I am of the opinion that both the French and Holland Dutch language was used by its pastors, for the following reasons: First, that Demarest, being a Frenchman, naturally surrounded himself with French helpers as well as neighbors, which is evident from the fact that numerous graves are to this day visible in that old burying ground, and, secondly, that he himself spent some time in Holland to escape religious persecution, and had acquired a mastery of the Dutch language, and as his children and grandchildren nearly all married Holland-Dutch descendants, it is reasonable to suppose that they insisted that the services should at least be alternately held in the French and Dutch language.

It is also reasonable to suppose that with the erection of the old South Church in the year of 1725, and fifty years after the establishment of the French Church and practically the entire population being Dutch, that it filled a popular need, and I was not surprised in searching the old records at the County seat to find that on June 1st, 1750, the Elders were David Demarest, Garret De Baun, Jacobus Peek and Cornelius Lydecker; the deacons were Abraham Lydecker, William Bogert, Arrie Banta and David Christie, the David Demarest above mentioned being the son of the French pioneer.

Of the Consistory, as constituted at that time, nationalities were divided as follows: French (2), Demarest and De Baun; English (1), Peek; Holland-Dutch (4), Bogert, Banta and the two Lydeckers; Scotch (1), Christie.

In 1730 the old South Church congregation secured the services of a minister direct from Holland, and again in 1768 sent to Holland for a pastor.

Its pastor during the Revolutionary War was one Dirck Romaine.

The Dutch language was used exclusively until about the year 1827, and from that date the English language was used, although not exclusively until a later date, which I am not able to fix.

As the North Church at Dumont was not built until after 1799, and as the French Church had long since decayed and crumbled, it is a fact established beyond dispute that the old South Church was the only church building within not only the boundaries of Bergenfield as comprised today, but of the vast territory known as Schraalenburgh in Revolutionary days.

#### DWELLINGS.

The only dwellings that I can be sure of having been located in the Borough are the following: The South Church parsonage, which was a brown stone building, many of the stones of which were used in the construction of the foundation and the south wall of the present parsonage; a stone house which stood on the hill about 400 feet north of Church Street, about 100 feet west of Ann Street; a stone house on the east side of Washington Avenue, just north of the present residence of Ex-Mayor E. Howard Foster; the stone house which stood at the head of West Clinton Avenue on the west side of Washington Avenue, owned by Mr. Hough. This house was built by a great uncle of mine for hotel purposes and was occupied as an inn and tavern for many years, and it is said that George Washington stopped there at various times. A stone house stood

on the very spot on which Councilman Head's house is located.

I do not know whether the frame house which stood opposite the South Church parsonage was built before the Revolution or not, but am inclined to think it was. I am quite sure that the house now occupied by old Mr. Derfuss is the oldest house in the borough, and that perhaps its erection antedates the revolutionary period.

#### INDUSTRIES.

The oldest industrial sites were located on the two streams in the central part of the town, one of them being on the south side of Church Street.

Doubtless you have noticed that just south of the southerly side of Main Street there starts what to the casual observer might appear to be a ditch. This ditch or canal parallels the brook all the way from south of Main Street northward to the bridge on Church Street, and as you follow the canal northward from its source, you will notice the canal becomes deeper and the embankment between the canal and brook grows higher and heavier. As you stand on the bridge on Church Street and you look south you will notice an opening through the embankment; to the east of this opening directly south of my old homestead stood a mill operated by water power, and the water wheel which furnished the power was located in that opening in the bank, and the water used to furnish the power was gotten by shutting off the water in the stream south of Main Street and sending it through the canal. I suppose there are many persons who have walked down the stream passing under the railroad by Ex-Mayor Stumpp's place and at a point about 400 feet west of the railroad on the property of Mr. Umenhofer who have noticed on each side of the stream two high mounds. This



also was a mill site and extending from these mounds on either side was a dam long since levelled by time. When I consider the sparsely settled condition of this neighborhood, I am convinced in my own mind these were gigantic operations for their day, as a large portion of the base of the canal's west bank is of stone, and I feel sure their erection was by the help of slave labor in vogue and legalized at that time.

I have been told that the mill on Church Street was a flour and feed mill, while the mill on the Umenhofer property was used for wood working. The erection of these mills antedated the revolutionary period.

I will now pass along to the time when I came upon the scene. The first event of which I have any recollection, outside of daily home affairs, was the reconstruction and enlargement of the South Church in the year of 1866, the details of which are too lengthy to recite.

At the age of seven I was sent to school. As this whole section was under Township government, the school districts were erected out of Townships without any regard to Township or any other lines, and the Schraalenburgh District, known officially as District No. 11, extended from the southerly line of Haworth south to the southerly line of what is now the Oser farm, and from what is now the westerly line of the Borough, to a line about 500 feet east of the Knickerbocker Road, and as I have previously stated, the school was located opposite the North Church on Madison Avenue in Dumont.

To trudge this distance winter and summer was no light task, and was a lonely trudge as well, for there were only 17 houses in all the distance from my old home at the bridge to the school. There were no streets intersecting Church Street nor Washington Avenue except Hickory Avenue and Maple Street, consequently no houses were in sight except

my own house on Church Street and the houses along Washington Avenue. I traveled over that same route lately and found 49 houses, to say nothing of more than 150 new dwellings that I counted in sight along side streets intersecting Church Street and Washington Avenue.

School opened then, as now, at 9 A. M., but we were all kept at work till 4 P. M. The building was one story in height with but two rooms, built without a cellar, with a large cylinder stove to heat it during the winter—quite a contrast to modern methods of heating. This stove was located in one end of the building, and on very cold days was entirely inadequate. The teacher on such days would fill it with fuel and start up the draught until the stove became red hot, and then shift the scholars around the room from time to time so that they alternately froze and thawed.

Just before I entered school the district furnished the building with a janitor, but during the school days of my sisters and a brother, who were older than I, the girls were obliged to do the cleaning and the boys to cut and bring in the fuel. Not only did I, with other children, have to walk to Dumont to school five days in the week, but six days as well, for I have already told you there was no post office in Bergenfield; it was necessary to make the trip on Saturday to get the mail, the nearest post office being at Dumont. There being no railroad through this section, the mail reached us by being brought over the Erie Railroad to Tenafly, and from thence it was brought to Dumont by a postman.

Nobody in country or rural districts read daily papers those days, but nearly every family was a subscriber to a New York weekly and a weekly county paper, and they were all published on Fridays, arriving in Saturday's mail,

so you can imagine how important it was to make the trip to Dumont on Saturday.

The building of a railroad through this locality was agitated immediately after the close of the Civil War. The fact that local capital and enterprise had succeeded in accomplishing the construction of the Northern Railroad of New Jersey through the Northern Valley, also New Jersey and New York Railroad through Hackensack Valley, the leading citizens and property owners of this section, by persistently keeping at it, finally succeeded in raising a large amount of money by sale or by popular subscription of bonds and stock in a corporation known as the Ridgefield Park Railroad Company, which had secured a charter from the New Jersey Legislature to build a line of railway from Ridgefield Park to the New York State Line.

The road opened in 1873 with great ceremonies. The day before the road was opened for regular traffic a train consisting of a locomotive and three cars started from Ridgefield Park with a brass band aboard, and all the railroad officials and such persons only as were holders of stocks and bonds. The train stopped at every station along the line to take on bond and stockholders, and as my father was one of them, he saw to it that I was taken aboard, and I believe I am the only person alive in Bergenfield today who rode on that train, and I am sorry I am unable to remember who besides my father and I boarded the train at this place. Arriving at Tappan we found the place in gala dress. The band headed the parade, followed by the reception committee of citizens of Tappan.

The line of march was from the station at Tappan down to the open space on the west side of the Reformed Church there. A platform had been erected and from it speeches were made, and after the conclusion of speech-making we were all invited to inspect the old '76 house,

and from thence return was made to the train and we started homeward.

Two trains a day were run over the road, the passenger coaches being switched at the Ridgefield Park junction of the Susquehanna Railroad and attached to the Susquehanna trains and hauled into the Pennsylvania Railroad depot at Jersey City.

The enterprise was a failure and no dividend was ever paid on the stock nor interest on the bonds, but the men back of it had faith, and they went back to the legislatures of New Jersey and New York and secured a charter for a corporation known as the Jersey City and Albany Railroad, under promise that they intended ultimately to build the line to Albany, and through the influence and liberality of the late Governor Samuel J. Tilden and Ex-Treasurer Conrad N. Jordan, both of whom had acquired lands along the line, money was again poured into the enterprise and the road was extended to Haverstraw, the mountain at Haverstraw being crossed by a switchback instead of by a tunnel as at the present time.

This was to be the first link in the line to Albany to be constructed by local capital. When Haverstraw was reached, however, the railroad people encountered a new experience, the townspeople being hostile to the project.

The New Jersey and New York Railroad had already tapped it, and as several freight and passenger steamboat lines touched at this point and river traffic had already suffered by the entry of one line of railroad, they at once started a systematic campaign against the entry in their territory of a second railway, and, of course, the influence of the New Jersey Railway people was exerted against further railway encroachment.

The switchback had been surveyed and the building of the road completed to the foot of the mountain at a point

about 50 feet below the north entrance of the present tunnel and from that point they had started to build the roadbed up to the village line about 2,000 feet north of the tunnel, and reached a narrow stretch of land crossing the line of the road and belonging to a party having large steamboat interests.

This man believed he could stop the Company from crossing his land and thus block entrance into the town, and in order to accomplish his purpose dug a ditch about 30 feet wide and 15 feet deep across the roadbed.

The Railroad Company laid their tracks on their roadbed right up to the ditch, then brought up several old racks of cars, and one evening, when everybody had quieted down, hitched an engine to the cars and sent them bowling down the tracks into the ditch, levelled off the debris and built their tracks over the wreckage before he had time to get an injunction.

Upon the completion of the road to Harrison all the Bond and Stockholders again had an outing, and it was my good fortune to be taken along on that trip by my father and to ride in the first passenger train that passed over the Haverstraw mountain switchback.

The reception given the railroad officials and their backers at Haverstraw was tame in comparison with the reception given them at Tappan a few years before. The owners of the road were sober and grave on the return trip, and, as a financial crisis was upon the country, they spoke of the enterprise as one likely to fail—quite in contrast to their former demeanor.

Several trains were put on the schedule, but the schedule was shortlived and the second failure was worse than the first.

The rolling stock, consisting of two engines and five passenger coaches and a few freight cars, were sold to pay

pressing debts of the Company. A third attempt was made by inducing the Ontario and Western Road to operate it with their rolling stock.

This they would not consider unless a certain sum of money was subscribed and paid into their treasury to save them from a financial loss, as they were willing to give the use of an engine and a few cars, but they did not want to lose actual cash. Accordingly a meeting was called at Dumont in a building used as a private school and owned by Isaac Dixon.

As the owners of the road had all lost their money, only such persons as were commuters or shippers, as well as stockholders and a few commuters who were not stockholders, attended this meeting.

Mr. Isaac Dixon and Mr. William P. Tyson, both of them commuters, who, by the withdrawal of train service from the road, were obliged to drive over to the Erie Railroad morning and night, led the movement and subscribed liberally toward a fund for the Ontario and Western Management, and they again opened up the train service between Loudon and Ridgefield Park.

As no money was subscribed by persons living north of Dumont, and as the country north of the north line of Dumont was sparsely settled, it was not thought wise to open up train service beyond Loudon. No doubt Loudon is a new name to many of you, so I will tell you all about it.

A man by the name of Mr. John Sloat, who lived in and owned the house in which Captain Fessenden now resides, sunk every dollar he had in the world in the railroad, and as a partial reward for his enterprise the company established a depot in the deep cut or pit just west of Captain Fessenden's place. Here, also, the original Railroad Company built a pumping station and a water tank, and therefore, in this last desperate effort, those people who were

willing to make further attempt to open the road once more for traffic, decided that Loudon should be the terminus of the road. The rolling stock furnished by the Ontario & Western Railway consisted of one engine, two passenger coaches and two box freight cars, and the service consisted of an early morning train down from Loudon to Ridgefield Park, where the passengers were unloaded, or, rather, unloaded themselves, as it was too expensive to pay the other roads to haul in the coaches.

A return trip was made back to Loudon, and at about 8 o'clock the second train departed southward to Ridgefield Park; then a freight train was made up, consisting of such carload lots as might have been brought over the Susquehanna, together with such parcel freight as had been transferred from the Susquehanna road into the two box cars before mentioned.

The only car load lots of freight that passed over the road those days was the manure for the farmers and coal for the coal yards of J. Z. Demarest & Co. at Bergenfield and for the yard of David Demarest at Dumont. In the afternoon the schedule was reversed, the freight train leaving Loudon at 2 P. M., and at 5 P. M. we had a train northward; at 5:30 P. M. a passenger train southward, and at 6:30 P. M. a train again, and the last for the day from New York or Ridgefield Park junction northward.

This service lasted as long as the fund raised by subscription and such revenue as was collected from traffic held out, and then the road closed down. Many people thought it would never open again.

The Bondholders foreclosed and the entire line from Ridgefield Park to Haverstraw, including roadbed, rails, depots and rights of every sort, was sold for \$19,000.00. As near as I can judge the road was sold in 1876.

In 1877 a panic had overtaken the country, due largely

to land speculation. Industries were paralyzed, mechanics were out of work, and so general was stagnation that my father hired journeymen carpenters to do farm work at \$1.00 per day, and we hired darkey farm laborers at 75 cents per day, and under such conditions during the year the railroad was sold under foreclosure, and for several years after when any enthusiast spoke of the rehabilitation of the railroad he was looked upon as a joker; and when in 1880 it began to be noised about that the road might be pushed through to Albany, people who took stock in the talk were regarded as fit subjects for an insane asylum. I need not here recite the fight which took place between Pullman and the Vanderbilts which led Pullman with his friends to build the West Shore Railroad. But in 1883 the road was again opened under the auspices and management of the West Shore Railroad, only to fail, and while there was no interruption in traffic the road passed into control of the Vanderbilt or Central Railway system, and I want to say it has been my belief that had not the early settlers along the line started the little old Ridgefield Park Railway the West Shore would never have existed, for this line with its franchise was an inducement for Pullman to carry out his vindictiveness, which has proven a distinct benefit to this section.

The first and only man who served as agent or depot master during the early struggles of the road was John J. Christie, who donated the land to the company for a depot site.

He served from the opening of the original road till it was sold under foreclosure, and in 1883 Harry B. Sugden was placed in charge as agent, serving several years and graduating as a full-fledged United States Government employee.

During the period just prior to the completion of the



first railway, the inhabitants of this neighborhood began to realize that we could no longer be known as Schraalenburgh, as what is now Dumont was destined to hold the old name Schraalenburgh, in consequence of the old post office being located there, and naturally the people did not want to give up the old name, and, of course, the United States Government would not change the name of the post office without some action of the people in that immediate section.

Many of the people in this section wished to name this place South Schraalenburgh, while others opposed it through prejudice and some others opposed it because the name was too lengthy.

No agreement could be reached, and with the opening of the railroad for traffic the company issued a time table designating this depot by the name of Bergenfield and sent a ticket stamp here with the die cast Bergenfield. When the West Shore was about to begin to operate the road early in 1883 an attempt was made to change the name to Avon, but no action was taken by the railroad and very shortly after the post office was established in the store of J. Z. Demarest & Co., in the same building now occupied by Mr. Demarest as a general grocery store.

With the establishment of the post office under the name of Bergenfield all agitation for changing the name ceased.

In concluding the railroad history I pay a tribute in honor and in memory of the foresight, public spirit and liberality of the following men: George Foster, Samuel S. Demarest, Major Samuel D. Demarest, Cornelius J. Westervelt (familiarily known as "Tony"), Albert A. Terhune, Tunis R. Cooper, Andrew D. Westervelt, John D. Westervelt, James Kipp, Cornelius Christie and William P. Tyson. Some of these men contributed liberally toward the building of the road, while others contributed toward the erection

of the first and finest depot along the line of the road and presented it to the Railroad Company, and a few contributed to both projects. Of the list here given Mr. Tyson is the sole survivor.

Having concluded the railroad history, I must relate an incident of a somewhat personal nature and connected with railroad matters. The assurance that a railroad was to be built through this section boosted land values every week, if not oftener. A neighbor who owned the farm to the east of my father's saw a strong probability of the road being built, and approached my father with a proposition that as the road might be surveyed and laid out on a line on one side of the dividing line between the farms and, in that case one or the other of them would be shut off from the railroad by a narrow strip of land, that they agree upon a certain price per acre, at which the one so shut off by the strip could purchase from the other, and they agree upon a price at the rate of \$500.00 per acre. This neighbor was not a contributor to the railroad enterprise and feared my father would have influence enough with the railroad and its surveyors to have the railroad bed entirely on his property, and therefore desired a low value placed on the land. This agreement was not placed in writing and was purely a gentleman's agreement. After the survey had been made it was found that the west line of the right of way of the railroad was two feet east of the line of my father's farm on the south end of the farm and about 20 feet east on the north end of the farm, leaving a strip containing about one-quarter of an acre of our neighbor's land between my father's east farm line and the railroad line. Immediately after the road was completed my father requested him to deliver his deed for the strip and receive his money. There was delay and after waiting several weeks my father called on the neighbor to ascertain why the deed had not been de-

livered as requested. His answer was that he thought he had been very hasty in agreeing to fix a value of \$500.00 per acre; that as land had steadily risen in value he thought he should get at the rate of \$1,000.00 per acre, and, moreover, he had just discovered that there was a very valuable shell-bark hickory tree standing on the strip.

My father replied, saying that he did not think the tree was a very heavy bearer, and reminded him of their previous understanding and agreement. To this the reply was that the tree was good and would bear for many years to come, which should be taken into consideration, and finally my father, seeing he had a hard nut to crack, paid nearly \$300.00 for a narrow strip of swamp land, and at the rate of \$1,000.00 per acre, in order to have a railroad frontage. Many were the time during the twenty years he owned that tree that he reminded me of what sweet nuts it bore, and jokingly remarked that he hoped that the tree would furnish hickory nuts for the Christies for ever. I am sorry to inform you that while that tree looks as healthy as it did forty years ago, it does not bear as well, and I fear my father's wish will not be fulfilled.

I believe I have wearied you with too long an article, but I have not told you one half the interesting things I know about Bergenfield, and at some later date I will favor you with another chapter.



## AN INCIDENT OF BERGEN COUNTY

BY REV. JOHN C. VOORHIS

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Suppose one of the worthy burghers of our good County of Bergen some ninety years ago had decided that he wished "to shake the Schraalenburg dust from his feet" and move to the then expanding metropolis of New York, do you think he would have called to his chauffeur and say to him: "Charles, get my family limousine ready to take the children, and see that my automobile trucks are packed with my furniture and other effects, as we intend to move to New York today."

Oh, no. He would have called his hired men (or perhaps his slaves) and instructed them to load these same effects on his old hay wagon and see that the oxen were properly hitched to it so that they might safely be taken to the dock either at the Old Bridge or New Bridge and there stowed on the sloop which he had hired for the purpose of their transportation.

Such was the case with one of the old "Christies" of Schraalenburgh (William by name). Born in this County May 6th, 1776, living the quiet farmer life of those days, working as those farmers did, from daybreak to *very late* candle light, rearing a family of eight sturdy children (four boys and four girls), he decided in March, 1827, about four months after the death of his wife, Catherine Westervelt, that he would go South, to New York—(Horace Greeley had not as yet given that advice of his to "go West")—and we can imagine him calling his little flock around the old open fireside, and impressing on their minds the necessity of leaving the old farm so that they might have in the

then great City of New York opportunities for their advancement and well-being that they could not in "old Schraalenburgh."

After due consultation and many tears shed on account of the severing of the old ties, they consent; and in our mind's eye we see them bundling together the treasures so dear to them by life associations and packing them on the sloop awaiting that purpose.

Their journey starts auspiciously and they sail down the then majestic Hackensack, speeded on by the Spring breezes (their motive power) until they reach the turn in the river at Hackensack opposite "Bogert's Dock," from which some of us have caught crabs and also fine fish (when the river was not polluted by sewage as it now is), when all of a sudden a strong gust of wind comes, swings the boom of the sloop around, striking the father of this family in his back and knocking him overboard, and, although he was celebrated as an expert swimmer, yet his injuries were so severe that his expertness was of no avail. The waters of the river claimed him and he was drowned in the presence of all his sorrowing children.

Thus, the untimely ending of one of Bergen's Christies in the prime of life. Every day that we now scan our papers we read of numerous accidents from the speedy automobile. The above shows that accidents can (and do) also happen from the slow-moving sloop.

This ancestor had made a grand determination for the future welfare of his growing family. He decided that benefits they could not receive in the old "burg" should be theirs in the new home, yet God, in His Providence, disposed otherwise.

As a matter of history connected with this subject of our sketch, let us here name his children:

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Isabella (Balcha) ; born August 4th, 1798; married John Demarest.

Margaret (Peggy) ; born September 12th, 1800; married John Christie.

Deborah (Debby) ; born January 15th, 1803; married Daniel Cole.

John Christie ; born January 5th, 1805.

Peter Christie ; born September 5th, 1807.

Henry W. Christie ; born January 19th, 1811.

Cornelius W. Christie ; born February 20th, 1814.

Maria Christie ; born August 6th, 1818; married Blanch Smith.

“A.”







Old Stone Church, Saddle River, N. J.

Built 1789. Re-built 1812



# ARCHIVE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

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## REPORT AND ACTIVITIES

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The value of this committee is so vital it can be called the heart of the Society. To it flow gifts, purchases and the tangible results of the work of the standing committees. From it is diffused the real essence of its valuable properties, in the form of exhibitions, historical information, use of books, manuscripts, photographs and antiques, to those doing historical research work, not only from Bergen County, but many other places.

It is very encouraging to receive the many letters of appreciation and praise of our valuable collection from those who have been assisted by information given and having had access to our archives.

That it may keep alive to the fast-growing demands being made upon it, it is very necessary that every member and friend of the Society help sustain it by gifts.

Our Year Books have been presented to our members and are on file at the Congressional Library, and exchanges have been made with many Historical Societies and Libraries.

To Miss Bogan, the Librarian of the Johnson Public Library, and her assistants, the Misses Labagh and Shotwell, a vote of appreciation is given for the courtesy and attention shown to our visitors.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES A. WESTERVELT.

WM. M. JOHNSON.

JOHN A. MARINUS.

ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK.

On June 17th, 1914, Hackensack had a "big day," entertaining 500 Exempt Firemen of the State, in connection with the local firemen's annual parade.

By invitation there were a number of floats in line. Our Society was represented by one, in three sections, the main one bearing in an historical setting descendants of the Bergen County Indian and slave, first white settler, early minister, Revolutionary War Captain, War of 1812, Judge, Sheriff and a G. A. R. Officer 82 years of age; also the historic Court House bell, 1792-1912, which was rung en route by a veteran court officer.

In August, 1914, by invitation from the managers of the Bergen County Fair Association of Hohokus, for five days this Society had an exhibition of one hundred antiques. This exhibition was the means of interesting many young persons and brought forth many reminiscences of the early days, by the elderly grandsons and granddaughters of those who had lived in the period of the antiques.

At Thanksgiving time was given a two-day exhibit, with talks on Early Hearth Stone Doings. Around the fireplace in the children's room in the Johnson Library on tables were many articles relating to the oven and fireplace cookery—a Dutch roasting oven containing a chicken; waffle irons and waffles; wafer irons and wafers made from a recipe one hundred years old that forms the modern ice cream cone; earthen pie dishes holding pumpkin pie; fireplace toaster and bread toasted on it. There was a pie filler made by the slaves of the Kipp family more than one hundred years ago. It was a one-quart wooden bowl with a handle six feet long, and was used to fill the pie dishes containing the bottom or lower crust that had been placed in the large brick oven (a dozen at a time), with the equally long-handled shovel.

In the large room, decorated with home-spun coverlets, etc., occupying the center of the room on a rag carpet, were antique chairs around a Colonial table. It was covered with a home-spun linen table cloth, set with historic china, pewter, glass, silver and early cutlery.

On sideboards were coppers, brasses, glassware, an historic New Jersey pottery hound-handled cider jug and tobies.

The talks related to the history and usages of the fire-place articles and the story of the evolution of a board and its furnishings from Colonial days to the modern table and its furnishing. The fact was brought out that very few forks were in use before the Revolutionary period, fingers being used instead—hence the use of napkins was an absolute necessity. Over 500 attended this exhibit.

The Newark Museum Association issued a call for loans for exhibit of New Jersey pottery, to be held in the Newark Library during February and March. A special request was made for "historic" pieces made prior to 1876. Our Society, through its possessions and loans, exhibited the work of nine historic potters and a large collection of Bergen County Indian pottery fragments. Of special interest to us were the articles and histories of the early local clay industries. On lower Hudson Street Jacques Mirgot had a pottery bake shop, 1869-72. Four flour pots from his shop have been given us. Near River Edge, 1830-50, George Wolfkill had a pottery bake shop. Two of his earthen pie dishes that never had been used were exhibited. These are such fine specimens of early slip decoration the association wants to purchase one. An historical article on Bergen County clay industries on the Hackensack River, 1835-1915, was asked for by the association and given.

Jersey City is called the cradle of New Jersey pottery, and it is very interesting to know that Hackensack had

quite an active part in rocking that cradle, through a colored woman who owned land on lower Hudson Street. She sold clay from 1847-69, that was carried by boats to the Jersey City Pottery and other places. It is said she paid \$1,500 for her land and sold for \$15,000.

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

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AS AMENDED TO FEBRUARY 25, 1915

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## ARTICLE I

This Society shall be known as the Bergen County Historical Society.

## ARTICLE II

Its object shall be the collection of natural history; papers incident to the civil, political, military and general history of Bergen County and adjoining counties in New Jersey and Rockland County, N. Y.; genealogical, biographical, and topographical information, and the diffusion of a sound historical taste and the encouragement of a patriotic sentiment.

## ARTICLE III

The Society shall be made up of resident and corresponding members. Resident members shall be persons residing in Bergen County; corresponding members those residing elsewhere; and both classes shall be chosen by open nomination and election at any regular or special meeting by the Society or by the Executive Committee at any meeting thereof. If a ballot be demanded, a majority of votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. Any corresponding member may become a resident member upon filing with the Secretary a written request therefor.

## ARTICLE IV

The Society shall hold the annual meeting on the Saturday nearest the 19th of April, at which a general election of officers by ballot shall be had wherein a majority of the votes cast shall constitute a choice; and immediately thereafter proceed to some suitable place and dine together. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President, and at all meetings nine members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

## ARTICLE V

Each member shall pay on or before the twenty-second day of February two dollars each year, or in satisfaction thereof a life membership fee of twenty dollars; and members in arrears for dues two years or more, after notice in writing from the Treasurer, shall cease to be members.

## ARTICLE VI

The officers of the Society shall be a President, ten Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person. These officers, with the ex-Presidents and the chairmen of the standing committees, shall compose the Executive Committee. The officers shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting, and shall hold their offices for one year, dating from the day after the annual meeting, or until their successors shall be chosen. Any vacancy in the list of officers may be filled by the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE VII

The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the President, to hold office for one year: Archives and Property; Publication; Historic Sites and Events; Ancient



Cemeteries; Wars and Revolutionary Soldiers' Graves; Topographical and Historical Geography; Genealogical and Biographical Subjects; Colonial Household Furnishings and Belongings; Membership. The person first named on a committee shall be its chairman unless the committee votes otherwise.

#### ARTICLE VIII

The President, or in his absence a Vice-President, or in their absence, a chairman, shall preside and have the casting vote. He shall preserve order, decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Society, and appoint all committees unless otherwise ordered.

#### ARTICLE IX

The Secretary shall keep minutes and records of the Society, make and furnish certificates of membership, and have the custody of papers and documents deposited with the Society, subject to the authority and oversight of the Executive Committee, and discharge such other duties as may be required of him by the Society or the Executive Committee; shall make a report of the transactions of the Society at the annual meeting, and shall conduct such correspondence as may be entrusted especially to him by the Society or the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE X

The Treasurer shall collect, receive, keep and pay out such funds as may come to the Society, subject to the control of the Executive Committee, keep an account of the receipts and disbursements, rendering a statement thereof to the annual meeting, and shall give a bond with approved security for the faithful performance of his duty.

## ARTICLE XI

The Executive Committee are charged with the duty of soliciting and receiving donations for the Society, recommending plans for promoting its objects, digesting and preparing business, authorizing the disbursement of the Society's funds, and generally superintending and guarding the interests of the Society. At all meetings of the Executive Committee five members shall be a quorum. The Executive Committee shall be convened by notice from the Secretary.

## ARTICLE XII

In case of the dissolution of the Society, its books, papers and collections of every sort shall belong to and be delivered to the Johnson Free Public Library of Hackensack for the use and benefit of that association, if not contrary to the stipulation of the donor.

## ARTICLE XIII

At the regular meeting of the Society the following order of business shall be observed:

1. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
2. Reports and communications from officers.
3. Reports of Executive and other committees.
4. Nomination and election of members.
5. Miscellaneous business.
6. Papers read and addresses delivered.

## ARTICLE XIV

Alterations or amendments of this Constitution and By-laws may be made by the Society or by the Executive Committee on a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that notice of the proposed alteration or amendment shall have been given at a previous meeting.

# BERGEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## LIST OF PRESIDENTS

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1902—1915

Hon. W. M. Johnson .....	1902-03
Cornelius Christie .....	1903-04
T. N. Glover .....	1904-05
Hon. Cornelius Doremus .....	1905-06
B. H. Allbee .....	1906-07
Byron G. Van Horne, M. D. ....	1907-08
W. D. Snow .....	1908-09
Hon. D. D. Zabriskie .....	1909-10
F. L. Zabriskie .....	1910-11
H. B. Goetschius .....	1911-12
M. J. Bogert .....	1912-13
Robert T. Wilson .....	1913-14
Mrs. Frances A. Westervelt .....	1914-15

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## LIFE MEMBERS

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Allbee, Burton H. ....	Paterson
Allison, William O. ....	Englewood
Cameron, Alpin J. ....	Ridgewood
Foster, W. Edward .....	Hackensack
Green, Allister .....	New York
Preston, Veryl .....	New York
Voorhis, Charles C. ....	New York
Zabriskie, A. C. ....	New York

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 HONORARY MEMBERS
 

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Bogert, Isaac D. ....	Westwood
Vroom, Rev. William .....	Ridgewood
Demarest, Milton .....	Hackensack

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 MEMBERSHIP LIST
 

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Abbott, John C. ....	Fort Lee
Ackerman, Daniel D. ....	Closter
Adams, Dr. Charles F. ....	Hackensack
Adams, Robert A. ....	Saddle River
Asmus, Grover E. ....	West Hoboken
Bennett, Henry N. ....	Hackensack
Bierbrier, Edward .....	Saddle River
Bird, Eugene K. ....	Hackensack
Blauvelt, J. H. ....	Paramus
Bogert, Andrew .....	Englewood
Bogert, Matt J. ....	Demarest
Bogert, Daniel G. ....	Englewood
Bogert, Albert Z. ....	River Edge
Bogert, Cornelius V. R. ....	Bogota
Boyd, John T., Jr. ....	Hackensack
Brinkerhoff, Charles V. ....	Hackensack
Britton, William R. ....	East Orange
Cafferty, Charles .....	Hackensack
Cane, Fred W. ....	Bogota
Coggeshall, H. Ingersoll .....	Midland Park
Cooper, Richard W. ....	New Milford
Cosse, Edwin F. ....	Paterson
Criss, Hugo F. ....	Hohokus

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Crum, Fred H. ....	River Edge
Crum, Mrs. Fred H. ....	River Edge
Cubberly, Nelson A. ....	GlenRock
Curtis, Grover D. ....	51 East 58th St., New York
Curtis, Charles ....	Hackensack
Dalrymple, C. M. ....	Hackensack
De Baun, Abram ....	Hackensack
De Baun, Mrs. Abram ....	Hackensack
Delemater, P. G. ....	Ridgewood
Demarest, Jacob R. ....	Englewood
Demarest, James E. ....	Westwood
De Ronde, Philip ....	New York
Diaz, Jose M. ....	Hackensack
Doremus, Cornelius ....	Ridgewood
Eckert, George M. ....	Saddle River
Englehart, Charles ....	Ridgefield
Esler, John G. ....	Saddle River
Goetschius, Howard B. ....	Little Ferry
Goetschius, D. M. ....	Little Ferry
Grunow, Julius S. ....	Hackensack
Haggerty, M. L. ....	Hackensack
Haring, Tunis A. ....	Hackensack
Hay, Clyde B. ....	Hackensack
Hester, Earl L. D. ....	Hasbrouck Heights
Howell, Mrs. Henrietta D. ....	Hackensack
Jacobus, M. R. ....	Ridgefield
Jeffers, Daniel G. ....	Hackensack
Jeffers, Mrs. Daniel G. ....	Hackensack
Johnson, William M. ....	Hackensack
Johnson, James Le Baron ....	Hackensack
Kelder, Rev. Edward ....	Englewood Cliffs
Kipp, James ....	Tenafly
Keiser, Isaac B. ....	Hohokus
Lang, Dr. E. A. ....	Palisade

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Liddle, Joseph G. ....	New York
Linkroum, Courtland .....	Hackensack
Linn, William A. ....	Hackensack
Mabie, Clarence .....	Hackensack
Mabon, John S. ....	Hackensack
Marinus, John A. ....	Rochelle Park
Metz, A. Russell, Jr. ....	Hackensack
Meyer, Francis E. ....	Closter
Morrison, William J., Jr. ....	Ridgefield Park
Morrow, Dwight W. ....	Englewood
Packer, J. E. ....	Hohokus
Parigot, George W. ....	Allendale
Platt, Daniel F. ....	Englewood
Potter, George M. ....	Allendale
Ramsey, John R. ....	Hackensack
Richardson, Myron T. ....	Ridgewood
Riker, Theo .....	Paterson
Rogers, Henry M. ....	Tenafly
Sage, L. H. ....	Hackensack
Sloat, B. F. ....	Ridgewood
Spear, William M. ....	Leonia
Snyder, George J. ....	Ridgewood
Stagg, Edward .....	Leonia
Stewart, Dr. H. S. ....	Hackensack
Staib, P. C. ....	Hackensack
Staib, Mrs. P. C. ....	Hackensack
St. John, Dr. David .....	Hackensack
Tallman, William .....	Englewood
Terhune, C. W. ....	Hackensack
Terhune, P. Christie .....	Hackensack
Terhune, Mrs. P. Christie .....	Hackensack
Thompson, Robert W., Jr. ....	Ridgefield
Vail, Carl M. ....	Ridgewood
Vail, William L. ....	Fairview

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Van Buskirk, Arthur .....	Hackensack
Van Horne, Dr. Byron G. ....	Englewood
Van Nest, Rev. J. A. ....	Ridgewood
Van Winkle, Arthur W. ....	Rutherford
Van Wagoner, Jacob .....	Ridgewood
Voorhis, Rev. John C. ....	Bogota
Wakelee, Edmund W. ....	New York
Wandell, Francis Livingston .....	Saddle River
Wandell, Mrs. Francis Livingston .....	Saddle River
Watt, Salina F. ....	Hackensack
Wells, Benjamin B. ....	Hackensack
Wells, George E. ....	Hackensack
Westervelt, Mrs. F. A. ....	Hackensack
Wilson, Richard T. ....	Ridgewood
Wilson, Robert T. ....	Saddle River
Wood, Robert J. G. ....	Leonia
Woodman, Charles .....	Ridgewood
Wright, Wendell J. ....	Hackensack
Zabriskie, David D. ....	Ridgewood
Zabriskie, Everett L. ....	Ridgewood

Bogart, Peter B., Jr. ....	Bogota
Brinkerhoff, A. H. ....	Rutherford
Christie, Cornelius ....	Leonia
Clark, Edwin ....	Ridgewood
Currie, Dr. Daniel A. ....	Englewood
Demarest, A. S. D. ....	Hackensack
Demarest, Isaac I. ....	Hackensack
Dutton, George R. ....	Englewood
Easton, E. D. ....	Arcola
Edsall, Samuel S. ....	Palisade
Haggin, Mrs. L. T. ....	_____
Hales, Henry ....	Ridgewood
Holdrum, A. C. ....	Westwood
Labagh, William O. ....	Hackensack
Lane, Jesse ....	New Milford
Lane, Mrs. Jesse ....	New Milford
Lawton, I. Parker ....	Ridgewood
Nelson, William ....	Paterson
Romaine, Christie ....	Hackensack
Sanford, Rev. Ezra T. ....	New York
Shanks, William ....	Hackensack
Snow, William D. ....	Hackensack
Terhune, Peter O. ....	Ridgewood
Van Buskirk, Jacob ....	New Milford



## SUPPLEMENT TO 1914 CATALOGUE

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Gift of the entire publication of Volume No. Ten: 250 Copies, Year 1915, of the Papers and Proceedings of the Bergen County Historical Society.

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### BOOKS

- Two Vols., Officers and Men in the Civil War.—Gift of Mrs. H. E. Hamilton.
- Four Vols., Johnson's Dictionary, Published 1804.—Gift of A. S. D. Demarest.
- The Van Winkle Record. Genealogical.—Gift of W. O. Allison.
- Three Vols., Holland Society Year Books, 1904-5-6.—Gift of J. G. Ackerman.
- The Star Spangled Banner. Sonneck.—Gift of Library of Congress.
- Bureau of Statistics of New Jersey, 1913.
- Three Vols., Architectural Record, containing article, illustrated, Some Early Dutch Houses in N. J.—Gift of John Boyd, Jr., the author.
- Atlas of Bergen County, N. J., 1776-1876. A. H. Walker. Revolutionary.—Gift of Mr. Cruett.
- New Jersey Historical Collections. Barber.—Purchased.
- One Hundred B. C. H. S. Year Books. Catalogue.
- The Chas. G. King Collection of Books on Customs, 1914. Index.—Gift of the Western Reserve Historical Society.
- Accounts of General Washington with the United States, June, 1775-1783.—Gift of W. A. Linn.

- The Tribute Book. A record of the Munificence, Self-sacrifice and Patriotism of the American People during the War for the Union. Frank B. Goodrich, 1865.—Gift of Mr. Cruett.
- Almanac and Year Book, First National Bank, Woodstown, N. J., 1915. Historical.
- Two Vols., Journal Continental Congress, vols. 22, 23, 1782.—Gift of Library Congress.
- History of the Colony of Nova-Caesaria, or New Jersey. Samuel Smith.—Gift of W. O. Allison.
- The John Bogart Letters, 1776-1782. Revolutionary.—Compliments of the Pres. of Rutgers College.
- Three Vols., Proceedings of New Jersey Historical Society, 1908-09-09. Van Buskirk Genealogy.—Exchange.
- Bound Vol., Christian Advocate and Journal, Aug. 1825-1837.—Gift.

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#### HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES

- Dutch, or Roasting Oven.—Brinkerhoff, Polifly Road.
- Kitchen Candle Stick.—Brinkerhoff, Polifly Road.
- Foot Stove.—Brinkerhoff, Polifly Road.
- Deed Box, decorated tin.—Brinkerhoff, Polifly Road.
- Wafer Iron, with Initials "J. B." and "E. B."—John Berry and Elizabeth Terhune.
- Four Hand-made Strawberry Baskets.—J. Berry.
- Waffle Iron.—J. Berry.
- Six Hand-made Baking Tins.—J. Berry.
- Indian Hammer, found on Brinkerhoff Farm, Woodridge.—Gift of Mrs. Margretta Berry Conant.
- German Silver Ladle.—Gift of Mrs. Margretta Berry Conant.
- Framed Picture of the Brinkerhoff Family Reunion.—Gift of Mrs. Margretta Berry Conant.
- Colonial Lock, with Brass Knobs.—Gift of the Misses Kipp.

Four Home-made Wooden Articles—Dipper, Butter Ladle, Butter Stamp and Scoop.—Gift of the Misses Kipp.

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## COLONIAL HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES

Soup Tureen and Platter, "Willow" design.—Gift of Miss Margretta Westervelt.

Sugar Bowl, early glass.—Gift of Miss Margretta Westervelt.

Earthen Pie Dish, with slip decoration (never used). Made at George Wolfkill's Pottery Bake Shop, 1840, below River Edge, on the bend of the river.—Gift of W. O. Allison.

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## MISCELLANEOUS

Large Wooden Shoe, bought in Holland.—Gift of Mrs. Catherine Van Buskirk.

Section of a Deer's Horn, used to splice rope.—Loaned by Mr. J. C. Blauvelt.

Cannon Ball, five inches. Plowed up on the Kipp Farm, Schraalenburgh, after the Revolution.—Loaned by Mr. J. C. Blauvelt.

Collection of Bergen County Indian Potsherds and Four Arrow Heads.—Gift of Prof. Frank G. Speck.

Bricks, from site of first yard in Hackensack, 1853.—Gift.

Collection of "Dolls of All Nations."—Loaned by Miss Florence Angle St. John.

Small Trunk, brass studded, 100 years old.—Loaned by Mrs. Francis C. Howell.

Sand Shaker; containing sand for drying ink when writing. Is very crude in workmanship, and old.—Loaned by Mrs. Francis C. Howell.

One Pair of old Hand-painted Button Screws, used to hold back curtain.—Loaned by Mrs. Francis C. Howell.  
Sugar Tongs; silver, hand-made, about 1790.—Loaned by Mrs. Francis C. Howell.

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#### REVOLUTIONARY

- Hand-made Bayonet and Crude Leather Case.—Gift of Miss Margrette Westervelt.  
Powder Horn; crude leather.—Gift of Miss Margrette Westervelt.  
Knapsack; crude leather; marked "T. R. U STATES."  
Used by T. Ralphson in Revolutionary War.—Gift of Miss Margrette Westervelt.  
Home-spun and Hand-made Linen Shirt, made from a funeral Scarf.—Loaned.  
Large Collection of Samples of "Home-spun" Linens and Woolens.—Gift of F. A. Westervelt.  
Home-spun Linen, from Berdan Home, that stood on the site of the Johnson Library.—Gift of Mrs. J. W. Bogert.  
Specimens of Fine Flax, Bleached Linen Thread, Unbleached Linen Thread, and a piece of Home-spun Linen.—Grown and spun on Haring Farm at Closter.  
Flax Hetchel.—Gift of F. A. Westervelt.  
Trammel and Hooks from fireplace.—Gift of F. A. Westervelt.  
Four Sleys, for linen weaving.—Gift of Mrs. Henry C. Smith.  
Embroidered Cape.—Gift of Mrs. M. L. Lutes.  
White Marseilles Wedding Vest (1830), embroidered with cooing doves and flowers; hand-made.—Gift.  
China Tea Pot, over 100 years old; Lustre decoration.—Loaned by Mrs. C. E. Loper.

- Antique China Plate.—Loaned by Mrs. W. E. Harper.
- Two Brass Candle Sticks.—Loaned by Mrs. T. E. Van Stone.
- Brass, Three-jointed Swinging Candle Stick, over 100 years old; formerly fastened between the oven and fireplace, and could be turned to light the oven or pots over the fire.
- Steel Candle Snuffers, 75 years old—Loaned by C. D. Haring.
- Old Two-tined Fork.—Loaned by C. D. Haring.
- Dutch "Double Door" Latch, from the Baron Steuben house, built 1752.—Gift.
- Brass Door Knob, Ames house, 1800.—Gift.
- Hand-wrought Sad Iron Stand; used in Peter Bourdette's home during the Revolutionary period.—Loaned by Mrs. Allair.
- Four Small Flower Pots, made by a potter—Jacques Mirgot—on Hudson Street, Hackensack, 1867-73.—Gift of Nicholas Shafer.

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#### PHOTOGRAPHS AND PICTURES

- Photograph of the Three Sections of the Bergen County Historical Society's Float in the parade on June 17, 1914.—Gift of Charles Curtis.
- Frame for Above.—Gift of W. O. Allison.
- Pictures of Historical Buildings Now (1914) Standing in New York erected prior to 1800.—Gift of Manhattan Banking Company.
- Photograph of Rev. Cornelius Blauvelt, of the True Reformed Church.—Gift.
- Copy of a Rare Print of Old New York, the earliest picture of original New York, 1717.—Gift.
- Picture of Hoboken.—1830.—Gift.

- Framed Photograph, taken from an oil painting, of Rev. David Marinus, pastor of churches: Acquackanonck, Totowa and Pompton, 1752-1773.—Gift of John A. Marinus, great grandson.
- Framed Copy of Declaration of Independence, with Coats of Arms of 13 States.—Gift of A. R. Metz, Jr.
- Large Photograph of (South) Church, Schraalenburgh, erected 1799.—Gift of Mr. Chas. Curtis.
- Cut of (South) Church, Schraalenburgh.—B. C. H. S.
- Large Photograph of the Baron Steuben house, with insert of photograph of the tablet that was on the house.—Gift of Mr. Chas. Curtis.
- Some Early Dutch Houses in New Jersey. Illustrations of doorways, stairs, mantles and interiors. Published in Architectural Record.—Gift of John Boyd, Jr., the author.
- Historical Engravings of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Hamilton, Franklin, Marshall.—Gift of John Mabon.
- Frames for Above.—Gift of W. O. Allison.
- Six Half-tone Plates of Appalachian Indian Pottery.—Gift of Christopher Wren, Curator of Archeology of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.
- Photograph of the "76" Stone House, Tappan.—Gift of Mrs. Bacon.
- Half-tone Cut of Original "76 House" at Tappan.—Gift of W. A. Linn.
- Half-tone Cut of the Re-constructed "76 House" at Tappan.—Gift of W. A. Linn.
- Six Small Half-tone Cuts of Saddle River Houses.—Gift of Robert T. Wilson.
- Large Half-tone Cut of Paramus Church.—Gift of Robert T. Wilson.

- The First National Bank of Woodstown, N. J.; 50th Anniversary Pictorial Souvenir, 1864-1914.  
Photographs of ex-Presidents of the Society: Hon. W. M. Johnson and Byron G. Van Horne, M. D.  
Illustrated Souvenir of Hackensack Dramatic Association, May, 1894, fifth season.—Gift of W. A. Linn.
- 

## PAMPHLETS AND NEWSPAPERS

- Parable of the Prodigal Son, in the Jersey Dutch—Written and presented by Hon. John D. Prince.  
The Bergen County Watchman, Hackensack and Englewood, February 22, 1873; L. D. Hay, editor.—Gift of Miss F. Kipp.  
The Daily Citizen, Vicksburg, Miss., July 2, 1863; printed on wall paper.—Gift of Miss Isabel Shotwell.  
List of Stockholders of Hackensack Hall and Armory Association, December 21, 1887.—Gift of W. A. Linn.  
Song, Tribute to Old Glory. (Gettysburg, 50 years after.)—Composed and presented by John A. Marinus, Sergeant Co. D, 22nd Reg., N. J. Vol. Inf.
- 

## PAMPHLETS

- The Pottery and Porcelain of New Jersey; prior to 1876.—Gift of Newark Museum Association.  
The Clay Products of New Jersey; at the present time.—Gift of Newark Museum Association.  
Ships and Shipping of Old New York.—Gift of the Bank of Manhattan Company.
- 

## WITHDRAWN, 1914

- Revolutionary Gun and Doll's Cradle.—By Chas. Curtis.





**Papers  
and  
Proceedings**

**1915 - 1916**

**NUMBER ELEVEN**

**Bergen County  
Historical Society**

F142

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Papers and Proceedings  
OF THE  
Bergen County Historical Society  
1915-1916  
NUMBER ELEVEN

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List of Officers	- - - - -	1915-1916
Wind-Jammers of the Hackensack	- -	EUGENE K. BIRD
“Facts and Figures” from Manuscripts		MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT
The Lutherans of Hackensack	-	DAVID D. DEMAREST, D. D.
Address Made in Presenting to Leonia the Washington Commemorative Tablet		GEORGE HEBER JONES, D. D.

- A Bibliography of Publications.
- Reports of Committees and Officers.
- List of Ex-Presidents.
- List of Members.
- In Memoriam.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

- Wind-Jammers of the Hackensack.
- An Early Demarest Homestead.
- Cane of Peter P. Demarest.
- Signatures to Deed.
- Home of Jacobus Demarest at New Bridge.
- White Blanket of 1800.
- Indian Blanket.
- Blue and White Blanket.
- Strawberry Baskets.
- Home of Abraham DeVoe.
- Certificate of Loyalty.
- Homespun Blanket.

## CORRECTIONS TO BE MADE IN YEAR BOOK 1915.

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*First*—On page 7 date of the erection of the Andre Prison should be 1755 instead of 1775.

*Second*—On page 40, fifth line from bottom, for the year 1628 should be substituted the year 1682.

*Third*—The following criticism by Mrs. Frances A. Westervelt has been made on Mr. Christie's paper. On page 46 he is in error when he states that David Demarest, who he found was an elder in the Old Dutch Church at Hackensack, June, 1750, was a son of the French pioneer. It is a long way as far as human life is concerned between 1677 and 1750. From manuscript volume of Debaun's records from original notes, Yost Debaun married Elizabeth Drabba, came to this country 1680. Their daughter Matie married David Demarest, son of Samuel Demarest, one of the original settlers (son of David, the pioneer), November 10th, 1705. Was read in church membership Hackensack, April 6th, 1706, and Matie, his wife, the same date. The David Demarest mentioned as an elder in the Hackensack Church, June, 1750, was a son of Samuel and grandson of David, Sr., of 1677. This is from original document in the possession of the Bergen County Historical Society.



# *Bergen County Historical Society.*

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Hackensack, N. J., September 11, 1916.

My Dear Fellow Member :

The Publication Committee takes pleasure in presenting to you the Society's Year Book of research work done during the past year. This is a record of interesting and valuable historical facts. We trust you will carefully examine its contents and be stimulated with a desire to assist in making this year's efforts of the Society equally successful.

Now is the time to collect and record Bergen County History. The loss of documents and the passing away of the older residents makes it harder each year to supply the missing links in the chain of historical events. Planning for the future comes more natural to us than trying to recall the past, but a knowledge of the past is a valuable asset in future undertakings.

Can you not personally assist in bringing to the notice of the executive committee some historical facts relating to Bergen County? Can you not recommend for membership into the Society residents who would like to see a more complete history of Bergen County?

This is the fifteenth year that the Society has been organized and we trust that you will help make it the best we have ever had. The executive committee is planning to have a meeting of the Society in our new quarters at the Library in the Fall at which time the Allison prizes will be awarded. Further notice of this will be given and we trust you will be present.

With kind regards and again soliciting your interest in an active year for the Society, I beg to remain

Faithfully yours,

C. V. R. BOGERT,

President.

## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1915-16.

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### PRESIDENT

MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT.....Hackensack

### VICE-PRESIDENTS

WILLIAM O. ALLISON.....Englewood  
ROBERT A. ADAMS.....Saddle River  
M. R. JACOBUS.....Ridgefield  
FRED H. CRUM.....River Edge  
EDWARD STAGG.....Leonia  
FRANCIS L. WANDELL.....Saddle River  
REV. EDWARD KELDER.....Coytesville  
DAVID D. ACKERMAN.....Closter  
EUGENE K. BIRD.....Hackensack

### SECRETARY AND TREASURER

CORNELIUS V. R. BOGERT.....167 Main Street, Hackensack

THE OFFICERS, EX-PRESIDENTS AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS  
COMPOSE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WILLIAM A. LINN.....Hackensack  
REV. JOHN C. VOORHIS.....Bogota  
MISS SALINA F. WATT.....Hackensack  
ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK.....Hackensack

### ARCHIVES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT.....Hackensack  
HON. WILLIAM M. JOHNSON.....Hackensack  
JOHN A. MARINUS.....Rochelle Park  
ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK.....Hackensack

### PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

BYRON G. VAN HORNE, M. D., Chairman.....Englewood  
WILLIAM O. ALLISON.....Englewood  
ROBERT T. WILSON.....Saddle River  
HON WILLIAM M. JOHNSON.....Hackensack  
Official Photographer.....CHARLES CURTIS

The Publication Committee of the Bergen County Historical Society will be pleased to receive any authentic historical data or any historical article relating to Bergen County.

The Committee takes it for granted that each contributor in presenting data or papers will consider it of sufficient value to have it published in the year book.

To be of historical value, it is absolutely necessary that the facts stated shall be accurate and the dates correct. While the Committee will use every care to eliminate any mistake that they may find, nevertheless they will assume no responsibility for any of the statements or accuracy of dates made by the contributors.

The Committee would appreciate it very much if any one detecting errors or, if any one can give additional information in regard to any paper contributed, he would communicate the same to the Committee. It will add much to the historic value of any article to tell whence the information was derived and, if from a manuscript or book, the title and page be given.





A "Wind-Jammer" of the Hackensack



## WIND-JAMMERS OF THE HACKENSACK.

By EUGENE K. BIRD,

Editor of The Hackensack Republican.

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“Wind-Jammer” is a derisive term applied to sailing vessels, and men employed on them, by those who claim the greater dignity of association with steam craft. The title goes as well with the meanest Japanese junk as with stately clippers, majestic full-rigged ships in the Far East and Atlantic trade that jammed on all possible sail to make quick voyages and thereby gain bonuses offered by consignees or owners who profited by getting goods on the market ahead of rivals.

Wind-jammers of the Hackensack were far different vessels—they were piraguas, sloops and schooners—unpretentious craft, which nevertheless filled quite as important a place in their humble sphere as did the great argosies with towering masts and wonderful spread of canvas braving every stress of weather on the seven seas; even the uncouth piragua (Spanish, piragua; French, pirogue; English periauger; a dugout canoe; the same widened by cutting in two and inserting planks in the bottom and at the ends; also, a two-masted flat-bottomed boat, undecked except sometimes at the ends,) had its legitimate mission in former days, when it was frequently an object of interest moving sluggishly with the tide and such wind as could be induced to fill sail or sails. A full-rigged ship under all canvas is said to be one of the most inspiring sights that can greet the eye at sea, and when to the picture is added the flag of one’s country floating free in the wind, he is a stolid and unpatriotic elod who does not feel a sensation of enthusiasm akin to that of meeting friends after long absence. Such a man would be as Peter Bell—

A primrose by a river’s brim  
A yellow primrose was to him,  
And it was nothing more.

So, with all its unromantic lines and general unattractiveness, the periauger was a picturesque object when seen across the meadows as it moved upon the water with only mast and sail in view. The broad stretches of our swampland with thousands of acres of tall grass billowing in the summer breeze, and the ravishing color schemes of fall flowers that

set the borderland aflame, have been a theme for many descriptive and poetic pens. Thus Owen Terry writes of "The Marshlands":

Oh, the marshlands of New Jersey:  
 Oh, the broad moors near the sea,  
 Where the salt winds off the ocean  
 Wander far and fast and free!

Oh, the tides in winding channels  
 Hidden in the meadow grass,  
 Where with hulls unseen, ghost vessels,  
 Gliding schooners bayward pass;

And the nodding and the lispings  
 Of the zephyr-haunted sedge,  
 And the mallow's flaming petals  
 On the sluggish ditch's edge;

And the meadow lark, sky scaler,  
 Mounting up on tiny wings,  
 Flooding upper space with music  
 Largesse, free, but fit for kings;

And the fleecy flocks of cloudland,  
 Browsing o'er their sunny leas,  
 And the flitting of their shadows,  
 Playing with each vagrom breeze!

Oh, the brave life of the marshes,  
 Jersey's moorlands, green and wide;  
 And the brotherhood that crowns it,  
 Blowing wind and flowing tide!

Between these marshlands the Red Man paddled his birch-bark or dugout canoe centuries before the wind-jammers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries sailed the waters of the crooked Hackensack. And those who came in (chiefly from Holland) to occupy the lands of the disappearing Indians found the river their most convenient channel for travel and transportation, even as they and their forbears had utilized the rivers and canals of the homeland. It may be interesting to note that the disreputable looking old dugout, found buried in the mud of the river's bank some years ago and now preserved among the Historical Society's relics, is a ship; for the etymology of the word shows that, in its origin, "ship" was something shaped—as the trunk of a tree scooped out and shaped to glide safely and smoothly through the water.

But to the "Wind-Jammers of the Hackensack," the periaugers, sloops and schooners that connected trade of the

Hackensack Valley with city and other marts. The men who manned the craft were a rugged class, some of them braving dangers of the deep, even to shipwreck and destruction, while others pursued the safer courses in the bays and rivers around Manhattan, and as far north as Albany on the Hudson; the last a trip barbarously monotonous in seasons of baffling winds.

The old-time boats were general freighters, especially on the return voyage, when they carried all manner of merchandise for individuals and stores as far up the Hackensack as the head of navigation at New Milford. There Jacob and Henry Van Buskirk had a noted grist mill, where grain was ground for individuals, and flour as well as animal feed were shipped in large quantities. In addition to groceries, muslins, boots, shoes, hardware, farming implements, etc., liberal supplies of "fire-water" were shown on the manifests of a century and more ago, indicating that the people of that period were not concerned about prohibition even though they may have been temperate in using the cup that could cheer and inebriate—could fill the mind with rainbow dreams, visions of houris and peris, drive out carking cares of life and bring in beams of brilliant sunshine; for all of which Nature had her compensation: when the veil was rent by the morning's glow ten thousand devils reigned in the brain cells, drove out the kaleidoscopic visions turning the inflamed grey matter with redhot forks and tapping the walls with fiery hammers. Glancing at an old account book of 1797 it is seen that one sloop carried in six months eight hogsheads spirits, two tierces spirits, four tierces porter, barrels and "cags" of spirits, many pipes of wine; two hogsheads, six tierces and five barrels of "mathiglen." But there is nothing surprising in this; nearly everybody drank some form of liquor, and down to a much later date farm hands had their "little brown jug" of rum or applejack for companionship in hay and grainfield. Not all the strong drink came up the river, however: large consignments of applejack (the real article) were shipped from Bergen County distilleries to New York and the South, for it was then a famous beverage.

River Edge, where Captain Stephen Lozier had a general store, was one of the important "ports" of the Hackensack. Tradition tells us that two substantial sloops were launched from a "shipyard" below the bridge early in the last century. Here, in the winter and early spring, long lines of woodsleds awaited their turn to unload, and by the time navigation opened thousands of cords of wood in great rows were ready for shipment to the city and the South.

James Blair, a gentleman whose years carry his memory far in retrospection, tells of the schooner *Charity*, which ran

on the river in the thirties of eighteen hundred; and he had a bill, dated March 24, 1842, for making mainsail, foresail, gafftopsail and jib for the schooner A. C. Zabriskie, who was owner and captain of the boat. Mr. Blair's father was the sailmaker; he and a partner had their sail lofts on West Street, New York, where they fitted out many clippers and other full-rigged ships that won fame on the Atlantic and Pacific.

And this brings us to the vehicles of carriage of merchandise. One of the best known up-river boats of earlier days was the Kate Lawrence, owned by the Van Buskirks of New Milford. She was first commanded by Captain Joe Whitehead, and then by Captain "Bob," a colored man whose surname, if it ever existed, does not appear on the tablets of time. The Kate Lawrence was caught in the ice near the Peter I. Aekerman place (north of Captain Phelps' Red Towers) and destroyed by fire. Another early boat was the Stewart, a lumber and coal schooner of which Diek Hawkey, one of the most fearless men on the river, was captain. The Jasper, owned by the Demarests of Old Bridge, was a noted freighter that afterward became the John Lovett in the brick trade. The Farmer, Captain David A. Zabriskie of New Bridge, owner and master, plowed the raging river for several years and then laid her hull to rest on the jagged rocks of Bergen Point, her cargo of potatoes going to feed the mermaids of Newark Bay and the Kills.

Captain David A. Bogert, a brother of Andrew, also ran a schooner, in the coast and Long Island Sound trade. He was known as the most fastidious captain who walked the deck of a Haekensaek sailing craft. It is told of him that when he saw a vessel approaching which would pass near, he called for his frock coat and "stovepipe" hat (marks of dignity and distinction), and thus attired would salute with the grace of an admiral on quarterdeck parade. But in stress of weather, when winds raved and sang through the rigging, Dandy Dave Bogert was in his element, as cool and masterful as the captain of a seventy-four frigate maneuvering to pour a broadside into an enemy. He carried every thread of canvas the masts would stand under, and caused the foam to fly from the bows in wide-rolling waves.

A large and staunch schooner was Christian Cole's Henry Brown of New Bridge, in the Albany and coast trade but doing general freighting; a fast sailer that maintained the lead of a steam freighter from New York to near the flats south of Albany. Barney Cole's Onward carried coal, wood and lime. So did the Caleb Wood, Captain Tom Banta, her name being changed to that of her owner, Ira W. Hoover; she was subsequently sailed in Chesapeake Bay trade by

Captain Joseph Kinzley, who became a noted veteran of the brick fleet on the river, and is now a "land lubber" basking in the gathering shadows of time, enjoying well-earned peace as an employe of the county.

The Two Sisters was commanded by Captain Henry Berry. And the A. O. Zabriskie was run by Captain Dave Parcels, succeeded by Captain Henry Lozier, two of the most celebrated men on the Hackensack.

Among some noted sailing craft of the sixties and seventies were the John Anderson, commanded by Captain Berry and later by Captain Patrick Brown, father of "Strong-arm Bill" of the Hackensack police force; the boat was in the Carolina trade, bringing north many cargoes of lumber, and shingles that were split and trimmed here. The Mary B. Kimball; the Dr. Hasbrouck, named after the noted physician who was contemporaneous with Dr. "Hen." Hopper; the Tradesman, the Fashion, the John Lawrence, the Sunrise; the Mary B. Jewitt, owned and commanded by Captain Kinzley; the Mary McCabe—all came, had their day and passed to that "haven under the hill" where bleach the keels of triremes of old, stately ships, luggers and other craft of high and low degree. To many sailormen their ships were sentient entities, and their loss was occasion for sorrow.

In later years a considerable fleet of brick schooners came into being and ran its destined course. The John Schmults, Fancy, Ophelia, Magie, William Low, Joseph Hammond, Elizabeth Washburn, Robert Blair, Samuel Cunningham, Albert G. Lawson, Philip Mehrhof; Stephen Underbill, changed to Annie Mehrhof; Nicholas Mehrhof, Wm. S. Peck, Peter Mehrhof. Most prominent of the captains was Joe Kinzley, Sr., who by seniority of service was the admiral of the fleet and retired from the quarterdeck a year ago (1915); Captains Fred and John Christie, two rugged sea dogs and able navigators; Captain Mike Brown, Captain Hank Money, Captain Louis Bradbury; Captain George Mehrhof, one of the youngest but most competent sailors of his day, who did not live to attain great age, but had the esteem of all rivermen; Captain Jack Fitzpatrick, Captains Patrick and Peter Fagan, Captain John Orth, Captain Walter Kinzley, and a few others not recalled.

Five and six men constituted a crew, and naturally a number of those in the service were not crowned with sainthood, for the life was not conducive to the development of high moral or social ideals. Many are the wild and roystering incidents related regarding them. One of these stories concerns the disregard for matters religious manifested by mischievous before-the-mast men who foregathered with certain bibulous chairmakers of Cherry Hill (North Hackensack,

since the great cyclone). Instigated by the Devil, who was assisted by his insidious ally Apple Jack, these rakehellies attended a Sunday service where "Mart" Vreeland, a local preacher, expounded the text, "Look not upon the wine when it is red." Familiar with the special wickedness of some of his congregation and the general worldliness of most of them, the preacher seemed inspired on that bright Sabbath afternoon, with the world bathed in the smile of God. He denounced sin in all its hideousness, telling the unregenerate what port they were steering for, and how some of them would be engulfed in the lake of fire that never cools unless they took a true course for the harbor of salvation. Just then a fuddled wind-jammer cried out, "That's a damn lie." This interruption was passed by with a rebuke and cautionary admonition, but when another disturber repeated the impolite and emphatic contradiction the whole party was summarily compelled to walk the plank out of the holy temple. They returned to their cups while the "dominie" issued more vigorous fulminations against the sons of Belial and the "three-cent hell fire" that was "turning them into swine." Billy Sunday could not have given the incident a more lusty and waspish turn than did "Mart" Vreeland, who made no pretensions to sensational evangelism, counting himself but a meek follower of the Master.

Wind-jammers continue to carry brick from the several yards of Schmults, the Mehrhofs, the Gardners, and others; but the glory of the old days ended with the passing of those who were actors in the old-time comedies and dramas of river life. The men who sailed out on their last voyage to the haven of the blessed are remembered by relatives and shipmates who expect to greet them when their own craft shall beach upon the shining sands of eternity.

Few serious disasters befell the Hackensack River sailormen; but Captain Andrew Bogert, brother of Captain David A., and father of Cornelius A. Bogert, now a resident of Hackensack, was overtaken by the fate of so many who "go down to the sea in ships." Captain Andrew was master of the 300-ton schooner Judge Baker. He sailed from Sandy Hook on a Saturday morning in November, 1855, in tow by a sea tug that had another schooner, and he hoped to get to Philadelphia in time for church on Sunday. A terrific storm came up after they were outside Sandy Hook headed south; during the night the Judge Baker was lost by her tow and went ashore near Long Branch, proving a total loss with her valuable cargo of dyestuffs. On Sunday morning the bodies of Captain Bogert and his wife were washed ashore and recovered; no member of the crew was found. Instead of hearing worldly chimes on that Sunday morning, the devout



captain and his faithful helpmeet were listening to the music of the choir invisible that sings praise to the Lamb.

While a steam-propelled vessel is not a wind-jammer, it is proper that reference should be made to such craft as played a part in Hackensack River trade. First of these on record was the *Thomas Swan*, owned by Schmults & Dungen, but she was found to draw too much water for the shallow channel.

Next came the *Hackensack*, built at Belleville for Judge Huyler, John H. T. Banta and John S. Lozier. She was of 175 tons, 110 feet long, 23 feet beam, and was commanded by Captain Henry Lozier, then a young man. Intended for the coal and lumber trade between Philadelphia, Albany and the Hackensack River, the boat was soon diverted to the more important and profitable service of carrying suttlers' supplies from Philadelphia, New York and Washington to City Point, Va. The *Hackensack* was at City Point in April, 1865, while the last great battle of the Rebellion was being fought at Petersburg, Va. Captain Lozier tells us that the boom of the big guns could be distinctly heard when the wind was right, and at night the sky was illumined by the flash. It was a trying time for the Union men. General Fitzpatrick, provost marshal at City Point, ordered Captain Lozier to have his boat, the only steamer there, ready to tow away a fleet of sloops and schooners in case of disaster. This was unnecessary, as word came the following day that the rebels were defeated and in retreat for Richmond.

The last steamboat to be owned and run by Hackensack River men was the tug *Wesley Stoney*, also built at Belleville; she was the property of Captain D. Anderson Zabriskie, who was pilot, and Captain Henry Lozier, engineer. The *Stoney*, named in honor of a gentleman then of Cherry Hill, became known to all rivermen within the waters connecting with New York harbor. She towed hundreds of scows and sailing vessels up and down the river. After being sold by Captains Zabriskie and Lozier the tug was burned; rebuilt and called *Elsie K.*, she continued in service until 1915, when she was sunk and her then captain drowned with her.

There is prospect that the silent sail of wind-jammers of the Hackensack will eventually disappear—give way to electricity, the propelling power of the future. Then will romance and adventure have ceased to lure men to go down to the sea in ships; the broad reaches of the stream will no more see spreading canvas stretched abroad to catch the favoring wind. River life will be void of interest—a mournful monotony.

No more will be heard the sympathetic exclamation of the old tar in a howling gale:

“A strong nor’wester’s blowing, Bill;  
 Hark! don’t you hear it roar, now?  
 Lord help ’em, how I pities them  
 Unhappy folks on shore now!”

Having exploited the wind-jammers proper, it may be appropriate to pay tribute to another, more dainty style of craft, designed for pleasure rather than to forward the interests of money-grubbers. This refers to the yacht class, those beautifully modeled boats that “walked the water like things of life.” With tackle trim, sails filled and streamers waving, they were courted by the winds as a frolicsome flirt alluringly attired drew in her train susceptible gallants. Of the modern yacht there need be no mention, but going back more than half a century, here is a local item from *The Journal*, a Hackensack weekly, of the summer of 1858:

“The nautical spirit was strong upon some of the young men of the day, one of the leading spirits being John J. Anderson—in fact Unele John was always one of the boys, ready for any legitimate diversion. Thus we find him commander of the yacht *Ino*, largest in the fleet on the river, sailing against the other tars of the town. Christian Miller sailed the *Rebecca*, George Ackerman the *Mary R.*, R. R. Hawkey the *Ripple*, C. Huyler the *Flirt*. The *Ino*, being the largest boat, had to give her competitors a handicap. The course was from Hackensack to Secaucus, but variable winds made it impossible to meet time requirements. So there was no race, and the beautiful silver cake basket was put away in its case.”

Let these vagrant lines pass on to their mission with a brief appreciation of a woman who was as much at home on or in the water as in the social circle. To man or woman his or her loved one never grows old. When sunset days crown the beauty of serene age, and the bride of the once beardless youth can say she has still “lost the husband in the lover,” there is compensation in life of unspeakable value. So the friends of Mrs. John W. Schmults see in her smiling face and laughing eyes the “Kittie” Miller of earlier days: a woman with a remarkable record as a Diana of the chase, adventurous traveler, crack shot with the rifle, expert rower, swimmer and all-around athlete; and the first woman to ride a bicycle in Hackensack. As Kittie Miller, daughter of Captain Chris. Miller, she took part in a sailing race on the river. Her little craft, which skimmed the water like the flash of a swallow, was painted black on one side and gold on the other, thus

proving a great puzzle to the judges, who failed to recognize the "flicker" as it returned after rounding the stakeboat. Mrs. Schmults is a familiar figure in Hackensack today, and delights to recount the merry days of the La Favorita Boat Club, when there was real life on the then clean waters of our river.

Acknowledgement is made to Joseph Kinzley, Jr., son of Captain Kinzley, for valued material supplied for this paper.

HACKENSACK TOWNSHIP,  
BERGEN COUNTY,  
PROVINCE OF EAST NEW JERSEY,  
1693.

Facts and Figures from Eight Hundred Manuscripts, the  
Gift of Abraham R. Collins.

Compiled by Frances A. Westervelt.

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These manuscripts, pertaining to the Township of Hackensack, date from 1742 (and by inference to almost a century earlier) to 1835 and touch on the lives of a people during three periods: Colonial, Revolutionary and the beginning of a government "By the People."

The paper used (the writing being mostly in English) possibly suggests the scarcity and value of paper. Many pieces bear two or three documents dated several years apart.

They are written in ink, some still dark while others are faded. The spelling and penmanship in some cases are good and in many very poor.

The signatures to the instruments are also interesting for while many are simply "his mark" some have signed their names and then affixed their "thumb mark" (as shown by cut).

The deeds, some of which are on parchment, alone make an interesting collection and the close study of their contents required for this compilation, produces the impression that a personal acquaintance has been made of these worthy people of long ago.

On the following pages will be found extracts from these manuscripts and it is the intention of the compiler to give to the Society a review of these important papers and to so arrange it that the interest of the reader will be retained.

"Dutehland, beloved! Dear old New Jersey!  
Where the true hearted come forth as of yore;  
Winding thy rivers, fertile thy lowlands,  
Upward thy Palisades loom evermore."

INTRODUCTION OF BERGEN COUNTY.

1682.

"The first session of the Colonial Assembly was held at Elizabeth Town March 1st, 1682. An act dividing the ter-

ritory into four counties—Bergen, Essex, etc., was approved. For the first time commissioners were appointed to lay out roads, provide ferries and bridges; the militia was established upon a sound basis and jails and pounds were authorized in all counties.”

## INTRODUCTION OF HAACKENSACK TOWNSHIP.

1692-3.

The first division of the counties into townships was made pursuant to two acts of the Colonial Assembly, one approved in September 1692 and the other in October, 1693. The reason for this division was set forth in the preamble to the second of the above mentioned acts as follows:

“Whereas, several things is to be done by the inhabitants of towns, hamlets, tribes, or divisions within each county, as choosing of deputies, constables, &c., taxing and collecting of several rates for publick uses and making orders amongst themselves respectively about swine, fenees, &c.”

“Whereas, a great many settlements are not reckoned within any such town or division, nor the bounds of the reputed towns ascertained by means thereof the respective constables know not their districts, and many other inconveniences arising from them, and fore as much as the act made in September, 1692, for dividing the several counties and townships the time for the returns of the said divisions, being too short and the method of dividing by county meeting inconvenient. Therefore, be it enacted, &c.”

“It appears from this act that the Township of Haackensack (this does not refer to the village of Haackensack, which was in the County of Essex and Township of New Barbadoes until 1709) was bounded on the north by the province line of New York, on the east by the Hudson River, on the south by corporation line of Bergen, and on the west by the Haackensack River.” It was ten miles long and from three to five miles wide. It covered nearly the whole tableland of the Palisade Mountains, and the beautiful valley of the Haackensack. The scenery of this region, including the Palisades and the views of the Hudson and its valleys from their summits, is picturesque and romantic. Here the Indians loved to roam before the advent of the white man and their bark canoes glided down the smooth waters of the Haackensack and Overpeck to their summer resorts on Staten Island. This was their avenue from Tappan to the Kill von Kull and out among the inlets and bays around New York.”

PERSONAL HISTORY OF THE DEMARESTS APPEAR-  
ING IN THESE PAPERS.

David des Marie, whose date of landing in America is taken from an entry in emigrant's account-book, is as follows:

“David des Marie from Picardie for passage and board, when he came here on board the Bonte Koe—Spotted Cow—the 16th of April, 1663.....£39  
For his wife..... 39  
& four children of 18—11—6—&—1 y.....£175—10—0.”

This David was the pioneer of the French Demarest families who settled in this township, 1677.

A LETTER RELATING TO THE ANCESTRAL PLACE  
OF THE NEW JERSEY FAMILY IN PICARDY.

As you probably count among your readers many hundreds of Demarests in Hackensack and Schraalenburgh, you will, I hope, accord a welcome in your columns to an account of my visit to the ancestral village of Beauchamps, in Picardy, from which Jean Demarest, the father of them all, set forth about 300 years ago. Last week, finding myself about to travel from Paris to London, I determined to see with my own eyes the village which I had so often painted in fancy. The journey is quite simple and may be accomplished by one day's detour on branch lines. My tickets allowing stop-over privileges at Abbeville, I left the fast express here and transferred to the local trains, spending an hour's interval in wandering through the picturesque streets and churches of this ancient city. Here I came upon the name over a shop “Demarest.” A ride of three hours in the local train with the loquacious commercial traveler and the silent priest, buried in his tiny Testament, brought me after dark to the town of En, in Normandy. Here I spent the night at the excellent provincial Hotel du Commerce, which stands on the market place in the shadow of En's famous church. Here already I began to feel on my native heath, for as the intelligent bookseller of whom I bought my guide informed me, the town is swarming with Demarests, and its towers overlook the plains where, about four miles away, lies Beauchamps. An early morning train brought me in about twenty minutes to Incheville, and upon debarking I could see the red-tiled roofs of Beauchamps not ten minutes' walk away.

The village is well named, for it lies snugly in beautiful meadows, surrounded by high hills. The tiny river Bresle curves in and out along its borders in the shade of willows



B. H. Allbee

An Early Demarest House (builder and date unknown)  
East of River Edge





and poplars, and on crossing its bridge I stepped from Normandy into Picardy, and found myself at last in the village of my ancestors. As I walked through the narrow streets past the old stone cottages people came out to stare in wonder, little guessing the strange nature of my visit. Many houses seemed old enough to have been standing when our emigrant Jean Demarest left the place to found a family in the New World. It is a dull and sleepy village today, but as I walked my imagination was busy picturing the excitement of the old days with their fierce quarrels or their narrow escapes. Passing the cafe, where one or two market wagons had halted, I followed the road up the hill to the church. This, except for a very new slate roof, is evidently the identical old structure where undoubtedly Jean and his fellows refused to worship, a simple, unornate building of ancient date. As we approached, a flock of school children came out, followed by the *cure*, who disappeared into the milliner's shop opposite. Thinking he would be as intelligent as any one, I modestly knocked at the door and was shown into the milliner's parlors, where were the *cure* and several women. They were very much interested in our story and to learn that their village had thousands of descendants in the New World, and even a village named after one of its families. The *cure*, however, evidently loved old wine better than old facts—called history—and could give no information on either church or village archives. If any records still exist they would be found at Amiens.

The milliner pointed out to me the house, four doors below hers, which he called "la maison Demarest." In it lives Madame Alphonse Poigny, whose maiden name was Augustine Demarest. Upon knocking, the door was opened by a woman of sixty—Madame Poigny herself. I endeavored to explain to her the strange nature of my visit. As I put it, she and I were undoubtedly cousins 300 years ago! "And you are still young!" exclaimed her husband to me, his village mind not being able at once to stretch three centuries and to comprehend at a flash so extraordinary a reason as mine for calling. When they really understood who I was the old lady was much interested. I asked her to write her name, which I only heard pronounced in the French, like Demare, and to my surprise she wrote "Demarest"—just as we spell it today in our new home. This is undoubtedly the correct spelling. The most astonishing fact about the old lady was that she had never heard of the Huguenots. However, she was apparently very intelligent and well educated. She had light brown hair and large blue eyes, with a rarely sweet smile, and was evidently of an ingenuous and unworldly nature. I felt towards her the greatest interest. She

offered me the frigid hospitality of her "salon," but I preferred to remain in the living-room. Here was a fireplace so big that we could sit in it and look up to the sky. Over the logs hung a kettle containing, I suppose, the family dinner. There was a tall clock and old copper and brass utensils shining like mirrors.

This Augustine Demarest-Poigny is the last to bear the name, her daughters bearing just the name of Poigny, then of their husbands. As this house had been built by her father, Pierre Demarest, madame directed us to a much older one, where her grandfather, Pierre, had lived. On descending from the church I turned to the left on the high road to Gamaches. The house is some distance along on the right-hand, opposite the Cafe Le Paul. It is a very ancient stone building, with hedge-bordered gardens running down to the river Bresle, and numerous old stone barns. It is at present rented to a man named Flamaud. Whether our Jean, 300 years ago, lived in this house on this site we will probably never know, but the present structure bears evidence of being several centuries old. Bidding good-bye to madame, my cousin, I recrossed the bridge and walked over the "beautiful meadows" to the station, where I caught my last glimpse of Beauchamps, nestled in the trees. The visit had been full of interest, knowing as I did that I was treading the very roads of my ancestors—men of whom we have every reason to be proud, for they loved home and country and suffered persecution rather than prove false to their consciences.

Comparatively few of our old American families have preserved the memory of the names of their native villages, and few old settlements have, I fancy, changed less in 300 years than the sleepy little hamlet of Beauchamps in Picardy.

CARO LLOYD WITHINGTON,  
of Nutley, N. J.

London, April 19, 1900.

(Courtesy of Bergen County Democrat.)

III Peter (Jean<sup>2</sup>-David<sup>1</sup>)' youngest child and fifth son of Jean and Jacomina (De Ruine) Demarest, was b. at Hackensack, N. J., in 1683; died at New Bridge, Aug. 31st, 1763. Buried in French Cemetery.

He was a man of marked ability and wealth and possessed large tracts of land in and about Schraalenburgh. His will, a quaint document dated April 1st, 1763, can be seen in the archives of the State at Trenton, N. J.

His eldest son, Peter P., seems to have been the most favored of all the children. He gave him his walking cane (marked P. M. M. R., 1724) and silver buckles for his birthright and twenty pounds New



The cane bequeathed to Peter P. Demarest in 1763, who willed it to his son-in-law Abraham Ely, from whom it has descended through four generations to William Ely, 1916. It is of malacca and has an ivory top and silver band.





as sayors what, bever in witness here unto we  
 set our hands and seals the Day and Date above  
 said.

Signed sealed and  
 delivered in presence of  
 of his witnesses

Peter J. Demoree  
 Mark  
 J. Sen Demoree  
 Jacobus Demoree  
 Samuel Demoree

of words according to our direction  
 between of sixteenth and fiveteenth  
 1768 line from of this was interlined  
 before signing and, along  
 Jacobus van Ruyck  
 Jan Jarmyfel

“Hands and Seals” on the Article of Agreement

York currency because he had no trade. (He was the only son that made "his mark.")

He also received a part of the woodland and clear land where he lives, bonding on the wood edge and on the road which leads to Sehraalenburgh, also gives him forty acres and his seat in the "meeting-house." Jacobus receives land "where he now lives," also shares in real estate; carpenter tools, wearing apparel and farm implements. To his twelve daughters he left all his movable estate.

He married 1st Marritje Meet, May 14, 1709, at Hackensack—he a young man and she a young daughter. They had many children, one, Petrus (P.), b. Mareh 30th, 1715, and by second wife Maria—dau. of Jack and Margaret (Sans) Batton, b. Mareh 6th, 1704; d. Jan., 1794 (she married 2d Barant Cole)—They had John, b. December, 1732 (a Revolutionary soldier), and Jacobus, b. Apr. 21, 1735; d. 1807; collector and justice of peace.

**Article of Agreement**, made and concluded this sixteenth day of April, one thousand, seven hundred and sixty-eight, between Petter (Peter) Demarest, John Demarest (Rev. soldier), Jacobus Demarest (Esqr.), David Demarest and Samuel Demarest, all of Hackensack, in ye county of Bargin and provence of East Jersey, are as followeth namely where as we have made a division of all ye lands that was our Honored Father Peter Demarest, dec'd, which land lieth in ye Township of Hackensack, we for our selves and our heirs, executors, covenant promise engage to each other and their heirs, executors & admintrators in ye Penal sum of one thousand pounds procklamation money that we and our heirs, executors and administrators shall & will from time to time and at all time here after pay our equal proportion (according to our division) of costs and charges to defend our said land against all ye lawful claims and demands of any person or persons whatever, in witness hereunto we set our Hands & Seals the day and date above said.

#### COPY OF JACOBUS DEMAREST, ESQ.'S, FAMILY RECORD, WRITTEN IN DUTCH BY HIMSELF.

Ik. Jacobus Demarest ben Gebooven April Den 21n 1735  
Myn Vrouw Maria Smith is gebooven April Den 1st 1741 Wy  
Syn Getrouw February De 26st 1758 (marriage) onji soon  
Peter is Gerbooven January 13 1759 onje soon Phillip is  
Gebooven May 26st 1761 onje soon Jacobus is Gerbooven  
December 31st 1766 onji sou David is Gerbooven June 10d  
1769 onji Doghter Rebecka is Gebooven September 26th 1771

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the Day and Date above said.

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of us witnesses

Peter J. Demoree  
 Mark  
 John Demoree  
 Jacobus Demoree

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the Day and Date above said.

1768  
 In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the Day and Date above said.

Jacobus Van Rensselaer  
 Jan Harmyckel  
 Samuel Demoree

“Hands and Seals” on the Article of Agreement



York currency because he had no trade. (He was the only son that made "his mark.")

He also received a part of the woodland and clear land where he lives, bonding on the wood edge and on the road which leads to Sehraalenburgh, also gives him forty acres and his seat in the "meeting-house." Jacobus receives land "where he now lives," also shares in real estate; carpenter tools, wearing apparel and farm implements. To his twelve daughters he left all his movable estate.

He married 1st Marritje Meet, May 14, 1709, at Haekensack—he a young man and she a young daughter. They had many children, one, Petrus (P.), b. March 30th, 1715, and by second wife Maria—dau. of Jaek and Margaret (Sans) Batton, b. March 6th, 1704; d. Jan., 1794 (she married 2d Barant Cole)—They had John, b. December, 1732 (a Revolutionary soldier), and Jacobus, b. Apr. 21, 1735; d. 1807; collector and justice of peace.

**Article of Agreement,** made and concluded this sixteenth day of April, one thousand, seven hundred and sixty-eight, between Petter (Peter) Demarest, John Demarest (Rev. soldier), Jacobus Demarest (Esqr.), David Demarest and Samuel Demarest, all of Haekensack, in ye county of Bargin and provence of East Jersey, are as followeth namely where as we have made a division of all ye lands that was our Honored Father Peter Demarest, dec'd, which land lieth in ye Township of Haekensack, we for our selves and our heirs, executors, covenant promise engage to each other and their heirs, executors & adminintrators in ye Penal sum of one thousand pounds proclmation money that we and our heirs, executors and administrators shall & will from time to time and at all time here after pay our equal proportion (according to our division) of eosts and charges to defend our said land against all ye lawful claims and demands of any person or persons whatever, in witness hereunto we set our Hands & Seals the day and date above said.

#### COPY OF JACOBUS DEMAREST, ESQ.'S, FAMILY RECORD, WRITTEN IN DUTCH BY HIMSELF.

Ik. Jacobus Demarest ben Gebooven April Den 21n 1735  
 Myn Vrow Maria Smith is gebooven April Den 1st 1741 Wy  
 Syn Getrout February De 26st 1758 (marriage) onji soon  
 Peter is Gerbooven January 13 1759 onje soon Phillip is  
 Gebooven May 26st 1761 onje soon Jacobus is Gerbooven  
 December 31st 1766 onji sou David is Gerbooven June 10d  
 1769 onji Doghter Rebecka is Gebooven September 26th 1771

onji Doghter \*Maria is Gebooven January 18d 1776 onji  
Doghter Margretie is Gebooven December 11d 1778.

(\*Maria married William Ely.)

(Deaths.)

Myn Vaeder Peter Demarest is overleden den 31st Augustus 1763 out Zyde 80 yaer onje Doghter Rebecka is overleeden Augustus 12 1780 Myn Suster Margretie is overleden November 18 1790 Myn moeder Demarest is overleden Den January 6th 1794 onje soon David Demarest is overleden Den 10th September 1803

“DEMAREST” AND THE VARIOUS SPELLINGS  
FOUND.

1663—des marie.

1722—On a document signed is David de marest.

1724—P. D. M. R.—Peter De Ma Ra.

1732—Mares.

1754—de Marry.

1755—piter De More St.

1768—Demaree.

Domorie.

Mrs. De Wedue Mareest.

Demera.

Demorest.

De Marest.

Marest.

De Maretz.

Dumorist.

Demarest.

1807—Demamerest.

1807           Death of Jacobus Demarest, Esq.,  
                  Oct. 21, 1807.

                  Death of Maria Smith, wife of Jacobus Demarest,  
                  Oct. 12, 1829.

Peter Demarest Bought of Lucas Van Boswerek  
For the funeral of Esqr. Demarest

Oct. 22, 1807

5 Gallons of wine.....	£2.15.0
½ Do of Spirits.....	. 5.0
6 Doz. of pipes.....	0. 2.9
3 half pound papers of Tobacco.....	0. 1.6

Rec'd payment

LUCAS VAN BOSKERCK.



**Home of Jacobus Demarest, New Bridge**

S. Bennett



1807

November 21th 1807

Received of Mary Demamerest the sum of three Dollars and twelve Cents for tending the funeral of Jacobus Demarest Decease.

ALBERT N. VAN VOORHIS.

1807

Rec'd October 27 1807 of Mary Demarest Executrix of the Last will of Jacobus Demarest Deceased four Dollars fees for proving, Engrosing Probating Recording & filing the will of said Deceased including proof to be taken on inventory.

\$4.00

JOHN A. BOYD Surogate.

1807

Rec. Nov. 1807 of Mary Demarest Executrix Peter Demarest & William Ely Executors of the last will of Jacobus Demarest Deceased Ninty six cents for Recording and Filing Inventory of the personal estate of said Deceased.

\$0.96.

JOHN A. BOYD Surogate..

1807

Received December 4th 1807 of William Ely the sum of two dollars in full for serving as auctioneer of effects of Jacobus Demarest Esq—Per JOH. JOHNSON

\$0.96.

JOHN A. BOYD Surrogate.

Received Dec. 4, 1807 of William Ely the sum of one shilling for serving as Clerk at Vandue of effects of Jacobus Demarest Esq dececeased.

(There were 128 sales.)

JAMES HEATON.

1829

Nov 4, 1829 Paid John Andersen for Sundrys for Mother's (in law) funeral.....	\$8.88
Pade Albert Van Vorhis (undertaker).....	3.00
Pade Dr. Hopper.....	1.50
“ Cornelus Herring for the Coffin.....	0.75
“ Black Wooman for washing.....	.50

7)\$14.63

\$) 2.9

## SLAVE PAPERS.

From a fragment of the 1783 tax list the following is taken: "In 1783 there are 55 slaves." The names of only 9 of those being taxed for slaves is found:

Peter Degrot, Charity Etsell (2), Cornelious Vreeland, Hartman Brinkerhoff, John Brinkerhoff, Abraham Montanga (2), Hendrick Brinkerhoff, Jacob Demott (2), John Benson, Esq.

From the complete tax list of 1784 the names of those taxed for slaves is given:

John G. Benson, Peter Degrote, Aury Westervelt, Lisabeth Banta, Johannes Brinkerhoff, Marte Roelfse (2), Sibe Banta, Roelef Westervelt (2), John Westervelt, Hendrick Brinkerhoff, J. M. Goetschius, Eve Banta (widow), Peter D. Demarest, Daniel J. Demarest, Daniel Demarest, John Christie, John Buskirk (2), Jacob Lozier (2), Johannes Van Wagne (2), Jacobus Brinkerhoff, Albert Zabriskie, Hendrick H. Brinkerhoff, Casparis Westervelt, Cornelius Bogert, John Powlese (2), Dirk Banta, Johnis Bogert, Jacobus Bogert, David Demare, John Buskirk, Bakeman Van Buren, Rachel Demare, Isaac Nicoll, Jacobus Demarest.

## DAVID ACKERMAN'S SLAVE PAPER.

Know all men by these presents that I David Johanas Ackerman of Tapan this Government of New York Miller for and in consideration of the sum of twenty pounds current money to me in hand pade or secured to be pade by Petter Petterse Demary of Hackensack in the County of Bergen, Yeoman whereof I do here by acknowledge and my self fully sattisfied and pade, Have barganed sold and let over and delivered unto the said Petter Petterse Demoray one negro boy about three years of age named Less In plain and open market according to the due form of the law provided for that purpose, to have and to hold the said Bargened premises unto the said Petter Petterse Demoray his heirs executers administraters and assigns to the only proper youse benefit and behoof of him the said Petter Petterse Demoray and I the said David Johanas Ackerman for my self my heirs executers and administraters the barganed primises unto the said Petter Petterse Demory his heirs exrs. and adminirs. and assigns against all and every person or persons what so ever and will warrant and for ever defend and by these presents in witness hereof to gather with the delivery of the barganed primisis I have here unto set my hand and seal

this thirteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven & in the thirtieth year of the reign of our Soveran Lord George King Defender of the Faith

DAVID ACKERMAN

(The seal of black wax bears a coat-of-arms.)

Signed sealed & delivered  
in the presents of us

JOHN HEATON. RICHARD HEATON

### THE PERRY SLAVE PAPER.

Know all men by these presents that we John Perry Peter Perry Isaae Perry Jacobus Perry and Daniel Perry for and in consideration of the sum of thirty five pounds current lawfull money of the Colony on New York, to us in hand paid by Peter Demarest of Hack Hensack in the County of bargin and the provence of East new Jersey where of we do hereby acknowledge the riecept and our selves thare with fully satisfied have bargained sold setover and delivered and by these presents do bargain setover and deliver unto the said Peter Demarest a negro wench named Henn. aged about forty jears to have and to hold the said bargained premises unto the said Peter Demarest his executors administrators and assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said Peter Demarest his executors, administrators, and assigns forever and we the said John Perry, Peter Perry, Isaae Perry, Jacobus Perry and Daniel Perry for our selves our heirs executors and administrators the said bargained premises unto the said Peter Demarest his executors administrators and assigns shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness whereof we have hereonto sett our hands and seals the Fourth day of October In the eight jear of his Majesties Reign and in the jear of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and sixty eight.

JOHN PERRY X ISAAC PERRY X  
PERRR his PERRY  
PP  
mark  
JACOBUS PERRY X

Sealed & delivered in  
the presence of us

JOHN PERRY JUNIER  
JARMINIS ? VAN BOSSUM

(John Perry was of Orange Co., New York.)

## PIETER PIETERSE DEMAREST.

## SLAVE PAPER.

Know all men By these Presents that I Pieter Pieterse Demarest of the Pricent of Hackensack in the county of Bergen in the province of East Newjersey, farmer for in the consaderation of the sum of Nyninty pounds to me in Hand paid by Direk Terhuen of the Pricent of Sadel Rievr in the county and provence afore said before insealing and delivery of these pryents the Recept whereof I do acknowledge have bergained and sold and delivered and by these Prisents do bergain and sell into the said Direk terhium a Nigro boy Named Cezor about seventeen years of age to Have and to Hold the said Nigro boy named Cezor by these Presents Have bergained and sold unto the said Direk terhium his heirs excutors administrators and assigns for ever and I the said Pieter pieterse Demorest for myself my Heirs Exucitors and administrators all and singular the said Negro boy unto the said direk terhium his heirs executors administrators and assigns against me the said pieter pieterse Demarest my ex cutors administrators and assigns and against all and every person or persons what so ever I shall and will warrent and for ever defend by these present the seal of the said nigro boy. sound and in good Haelth at the delivery of these presents. In witness whereof I Have sett my Hand and fixed my seal this fifth day of march 1771.

## ANNE VENTON'S SLAVE PAPER.

From fragments of the paper it is shown that Anne Venton, Bergen County, Provence of East New Jersey, for the sum of Forty Pounds sold & delivered a certain Negro wench named Dinah to Abraham Ely &c. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty fifth of September seven hundred and seventy six.

ANNE VENTON (Seal)

Signed, scaled & delivered  
in the presents of us

ELENOR MAGLOCMLY  
her X mark.

## SIR JAMES JAY'S SLAVE PAPER.

Whereas Claus, a negro man, for the purchase of whom I have agreed with Richard Ryerson of Pompton, has lived with me four weeks on Trial, and is so well satisfied with the usage he has received, that he declares that were he sure to be always treated in the same way, he would like to live with



me all his life. Now as the usage he has received is no other than I have always held, and will ever hold to an honest and industrious Slave who behaves well, as he has during the above Trial: and as it appears to me that the fears he has of being ever afterwards liable to be treated with unmerited severity, have been infused into his mind by mischievous people, I am induced from a desire of removing such fears, and quieting the mind of the said Slave, to promise, that if the said Claus shall within a year from the date hereof show just and sufficient cause to complain of ill usage, I will sell him within six months after such complaint, for the money I am to give him and the expenses I may be at on his account.

JAMES JAY.

August 20 1790

The sum to be paid for the above Claus is £81.17.4.

#### THE JAY FAMILY.

“In 1688 Col. Jacobus Van Courtlandt of New York had a grant of 2120 acres, in Hackensack Percint. In 1738 he conveyed it to Abraham De Peyster & Margaret his wife, John Chambers and Anna his wife, and Peter Jay and Mary his wife all of New York City. The wives of these three men were daughters of Van Courtlandt. Mrs. De Peysters third included the present village of Tenafly. Mrs. Chambers devised her share to her nephew, Sir James Jay, who by his father’s will also received the latter’s third.

Sir James devised the north third to his son, Peter Jay, and the other third to his daughter, Mary O Kill.”

1784

Seacaucus May 14 1784

Dear Brother

I understand by your accounts that you like the country very much and that you have seen my negro France and that you can with a Bill of Sale from me get him and dispose of him, which I trust that you will sell him to the best advantage and for that reason I have herein enclosed you a sufficient Bill of Sale, and if you should sell him I desire that you will give a sufficient order upon your brother George Van Gesen for the sum you sell him for and he will pay me. If you can hear anything of Daniel Smiths negro Jack I desire that you will send word by your next letter and let know if you can with an order from him sell his negro so no more at present but that we all remain in good health at present except your sister Onchy and she is very ill—I hope these lines will find you well so I Remain your affectionate

Brother

ISAAC VAN GESEN.

P. S. I will satisfy you for your trouble and defend to you the property of the said Negro. What money you get for him you can dispose of at your pleasure only give me an order upon your brother George.

1794

## PAYMENT ON SLAVE.

Reed. New Bridge August 8th 1794 of Jacobus Demarest the third and last payment for negro Benn the sum of twenty shillings in full of all demands til this day pr. me

MORRES ACKERMAN.

## DOCTORS' BILLS FOR ATTENDANCE ON SLAVES.

1799 July 15. Mr. William Ely Dr  
to Doctor Beekman Van Buren  
to medicine for mothers winch £11

Reed. the ful contents in full per mee

BEEKMAN VAN BUREN.

Received of Peter Demarest the sum of twenty shillings for medicines for a negro child.

GARRET J. VAN WAGNER.

1782

## ELIAS ROMINE'S SLAVE PAPER.

Know all persons whom it may concern that I Elias Romine of the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey for and in consideration of the sum of seventy six pounds ten shillings New York Curreney in gold and silver to me in hand paid by Abraham Ely. The receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge have bargained sold and released and by these presents do according to the due form of law, grant bargain sell and release unto the said Abraham Ely a Negro man named Tom and a wench named Dinah with her two children named Sam and Luee. To have and to hold the same Slaves unto the said Abraham Ely his executors assigns and administrators against all persons. Shall and will warrant and forever Defend by these presents, provided nevertheless that if the said Elias Romain my executors administrators and assigns or any of us do and Shall Will and Truly Pay or cause to be paid unto the said Abram. Ely his executors administrators assigns the sum of seventy six pounds ten shillings with interest for the same both principal and interest in Gold or Silver on the first day of May next ensuing the date hereof for redemption of the said slaves, there this present bill of sale to be void. But if default be made in payment of the said sum of seventy six pounds ten shillings in part or in the whole contrary to the manner and form

aforesaid that then the obligation shall remain in full power and virtue. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Twenty second day of May one thousand seven hundred and eighty two.

ELIAS ROMAIN (Seal)  
(Captain in the Revolutionary war.)

Signed sealed & delivered  
in presence of

MARIA WESSELLS  
WESSEL F. WESSELS

1801

SLAVE PAPER.

Be it remembered that on the tenth day of August Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and one, a Negro man slave named Sam aged about thirty three years belonging to and residing with Peter Christie of the Township of Hackensack in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey came and appeared before me Jacobus Demarest Esquire one of the Justices of the peace in and for the said County of Bergen and being privately examined by me declared his consent and desire to have his residence or place of abode changed to the City of New York, in the State of New York and assigned as reasons, first because his wife resides there and secondly because an opportunity will thereby be afforded him of obtaining his Freedom after eight years servitude.

JACOBUS DEMAREST Justice.

## DEEDS AND MAPS, ETC.

1687.

“The oldest deed on record in the County Clerk’s office at Hackensack is one from John Berry to Zuarian Westervelt, dated January 13, 1687, conveying a portion of his estate in the Old Township of Hackensack, March 6, 1687.” (NELSON)

peter peterse De Marest  
of County Bergen and  
province of East New Jersey  
and

Isaac Ver Veelen of  
tappan in County of Orange  
in the Province of New York.

Bond—1756

the sum of twenty pounds  
current Lawpful Money of  
the province of New York,  
etc., etc., Sealed with my seal  
dated the fifteenth Day of  
May in the twenty-ninth  
year of his Majesties Reign  
and anno Domini one Thou-  
sand Seven Hundred and  
fifty-six

his

Peter Pieterea X DeMarest.  
mark

Witness (Seal)  
Petries Haring,  
John Haring.

Jost Van Buskirk, Gentle-  
men, County of Bergen  
Province East New Jersey  
to

Peter P. Demarest Youmen  
of County of Bergen  
& Provence aforesaid

Deed

June 6, 1766

Land situated next to  
Lourense L. Van Buskirk  
5 acres  
£18.50

Peter P. Demarest, Tavern-  
keeper, County of Bergen  
Provence of East New Jersey  
to

Abraham Ely of the  
same place ( a son in law).

Deed

July 21, 1767

Two lots of land—Pre-  
cent of Hackensack, Begin-  
ning on South side of the  
New Road or highway which  
leads from the New Bridge  
Easterly to Teaneck contain-  
ing Twenty one acres and  
Ffty five hundredths.

£178.13.9.

Peter Demorest  
to  
Abraham Accorman  
both of Hackensaek Precinct

A Note  
May 1s 1767  
£36. currant  
Money of New York-  
Interest 6 per cent one year.

Abraham Ely, Yeoman  
and  
Peter P. Demorest, Farmer  
to  
John Masseles, Weaver  
all of Hackensaek Precinct.

A Note  
May 6, 1767  
£45.

Peter Pr. Domorie  
“of the New Bridge”  
to  
John Perry  
Orange Co. N. Y.

A Note  
October 3d in the eight  
year of his Present Majesties  
Reign Anno Dom. 1768 £35.

Abraham Ely  
of Hackensaek  
County of Bergen  
Provence of East New Jersey  
to  
Jacobus Van Buskirk  
of County and Provence  
aforesaid

Deed  
Oct. 23-1767.  
The certains lots of land  
herein on the other side men-  
tion. (Two deed on one  
paper, refers to deed Peter  
P. Demarest to Abraham  
Ely— preceding—  
£193.13.8.

Peter P. Demorest, Tavern-  
keeper  
Hackensaek Precinct  
County of Bergen  
Provenco of East New Jersey  
to  
Isaac Vroomen, Esq.  
Schonectedy Albuny Co  
Provence of New York.

Mortgage Deed 1767  
To all Christian People to  
whom these Presents Shall  
Come Send Greeting, July  
2, 1767.  
Land lying & being in the  
Preecnet of Hackensik Be-  
ing part of the farm late be-  
longing to Lourans P. Van  
Buskirk Deceased. 82. acres  
more or less.  
£425.2.6.

Abraham Ely  
to  
Peter P. Demoree  
Both of Hackensaek Precinct

Deed  
May 1st 1774  
Land near New Bridge.

Sebe Hen Banta and his wife Layer of English Neighborhood to John Williams of Hackensack in Precienet of New Barbadoes.	Deed 1775 Land in English Neighborhood
John Williams & wife Onte to William Lazier blacksmith all of Hackensack Precinct.	Deed March 17, 1783, in the 8th year of American Independence Land in English Neighborhod
These two deeds preceding are on the same paper.	
William Ely of Newark to Abraham Ely (his son) of New York (formerly of Hackensack Precenct)	Deed January 15 1785 Land in Newark on the Peiassaig (Passaic) River.
Walter Clendene of Bergen to Hendrich Van Der hoof	Deed July 16 1792 Land in Bergen Township.
John Campbell & Jane his wife of Hackensack Precienct to William Charlton of City of New York.	Deed March 15 1799 House & lots near the New Bridge. £350.
Pietor Christee, Sadler & Elizabeth his wife to William Ely Yeoman All of Hackensack Precinct.	Deed May 2d 1800 Property situated between the New & Old Bridge in the Precenct of Hackensack. £528.10.0
William Ely Precinct of Hackensack to Catherine Ely—widow of Abraham Ely. City of New York	Bond May 14, 1800 Twenty fourth year of the Independence of United States. \$760.00

James Kearney & Rachel his wife to Jacob Powles, All of Harrington Township.	Mortgage May 15 1824 Land Harrington township "a place commonly called and Known as Closter Old Dock.
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John Durie & Eliza his wife of County of Bergen & Township of Hackensack to David S. Demarest of same place	Deed January 1838 Land in Hackensack Pre- cinct—\$175.00
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## Map—1864

Map of the property late of Barant De Klyn deed. Situated in the township of Hackensack Bergen Co N. J. Containing a description of the shares and to whom allotted to the respective original tenants in common

Surveyed and drawn by  
Simeon Zabriskie A. D. 1864  
Joseph B. Miller, Alexander Cass,  
Maurice Fitzgerald Commissioners.

Map of Samuel Demarest. Lot of meadow and woodland  
No date.

1787

My house (Jacobus Demarest Esq.) New Bridge, September 11th 1787 appeared before me for trial the following persons, viz.:

Selvester Yong Plaintiff } they agreed among themselves.  
Beekman Van Buren Defd. }

Justice Fee to 1 Summons..... £0-0-6 to 3 Supeanas..... 0-1-6 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 2-0		Constables fees to Serving a Summons £-2-0 " Ditto 3 Supeanas 0-6-0 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 0-8-0
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The above Cost paid to  
the Constable P. DEMAREST.

1787

Bergen County State of New Jersey. "My house," &  
(A paper similar to above.)

1788

John Van Sice Plaintiff Isreal Passel Def.d

The plaintiff appear before me the 29th Day of December 1788 and made oath that Isreal Passel was indebted to him in the Sum of one Pound Sixteen Shillings & that he verily believes that the said passels is or will be absconded so that he is afraid to lose his just Due, therefore gave Judgment for the Plaintiff

£1-16-0

Cost 5.1

JACOBUS DEMAREST.

1790

This Day personally appeared before me Sir James Jay who being duly sworn deposeth & saith, that in the month of March last he hired Henry Valentine for nine months from that time to work for him; and that the said Henry Valentine this day positively & repeatedly refused to do the work which he the said Sir James Jay ordered him to perform, & that the said Henry Valentine moreover behaved in a most insolent and profane manner swearing————that he would not do the work & stretching out his arm & fist in a threatening posture toward the said Sir James Jay, said to him.—

JAMES JAY

September 3d 1790 sworn this day before me

JACOB DEMAREST

Justice of ye P-

## IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

1790

New Jersey State, Bergen County.

To any constable of said county Gr. tr. Whereas Jacob Smith hath recovered before me against William Hammel the sum of five pounds six shillings Debt & seven shilling & one penny cost, these are therefore to require you in the name of the said State upon sight hereof to levy the above sum with costs on the goods & chattles of said William and for want of sufficient Goods & Chattles whereon to levy you are to take the body of said William Hammel and him safely keep & Deliver to the Gaolkeeper of said County which Gaoller is hereby required to keep him in Close Costedy until the Debt & Costs is paid or till he be therefrom Dilevered by due Course of Law. hereof fail not at your perel Given under my hand & seal this 22 Day of March 1790

JACOBUS DEMAREST (Seal)

Justice of ye p-

You are to return this money  
within twenty days from Date.



1792

State of New Jersey, County of Bergen

Personally came and appeared before me Jacobus Demarest Esq one of the Justices of the Peace for said County James Thompson of the said County Esq., and deposeth on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty god that on the Eleventh day of — September Margret, wife of John Ryersen of Plaanty yoeman, assaulted him, the said Thompson & threw a peice of timber at him which struck him between the shoulders & threatened him much injury and ill usage both in her actions and with her tongue, in bad Language which she used toward him with provoking indeceency on many occasions at sundry times.

JAMES THOMPSON

Sept 13- 1792

JACOBUS DEMAREST

Justice of ye p.

1792

We the Judge of Elections, Assessor and Collector of the Precinct of Hackensack in the county of Bergen do hereby certify that having proceeded to receive the votes of the electors of the said Precinct of Hackensack the following is a list of all the persons voted for, of the appointments proposed for them and of the number of votes for each.

## FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## Number of Votes

Peter Manning Esq.—Fourty Three

Isaac Nicall Esq.—Thirty three

John Outwater Esq.—One

John Benson Esq.—One

## FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Henry Berry Esq—Forty Seven

John Terhune Esq—Forty Six

William Kingsland Esq—Thirty

Richard Day Esq—Four

Peter Ward Esq.—Four

Benjamin Blackledge Esq.—Forty eight

## FOR SHERIFF

## Number of Votes

William M. Bell Esq.—Fifty Eight

## FOR CORONER—Number of Votes

Adonja Schuyler—Seven

Alexander P. Waldron—Two

John Van Horn—Six  
 Dower R. Westervelt—Thirty Three  
 John Earle—three  
 Caspaus Pryor—Four  
 Elias—Bervoort—Fourteen

The whole Number Received

In Testemony whereof we have hereunto Subscribed our names and affixed our seals the tenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two.

CORNELIUS LYDECKER, Collector (Seal)

ALBERT C. ZABRISKLE, Assessor (Seal)

JOHN POULISON Judge  
 of the Election (Seal).

1792

We the Judge of Election, Inspector, and Clerk of the Township of Harington in the County of Bergen, do hereby certify that having proceeded to receive the votes of the Election of said Township, the following is a list of all persons voted for as Representatives to Represent the State of New Jersey in Congress of the United States.

Elias Boudinot—Twenty Six  
 Abraham Clark—Thirty two  
 Jonathan Dayton—Twenty Three  
 Aaron Ketchel—Twenty Six  
 John Haring—Sixty Seven  
 Lambert Cadwallader—One  
 John Chetwood—One  
 Thomas Henderson—Two

In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our Names and affixed our Seals this Fifteenth Day of October. In the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Two

ABRAHAM HARING Judge (Seal)

ABRAHAM DEMAREST Inspectors (Seal)

THOMAS BLACK (Seal)

ISAAC MORRIS Clerk (Seal)

## MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.

1801

I do hereby certify that on the 10th day of March in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and one I have joined in the marriage relation John Pettit and Elizabeth Brower affirming herself to be widow of Peter Demarest.

(Jane Hardenbroeck Witness)

Given under my hand at New York this ninth day of June eighteen hundred and one.

Signed)

JNO. N. ABEEL one of the ministers of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church in the City of New York.

1808

## ARTICLES OF SEPARATION.

(Sequel to Above Marriage.)

Between Peter J. Demarest of Township of Haekensaek—of the one part—Elizabeth Brower formerly the wife of Peter J. Demarest & John Pettet. of City. County or State of New York of the other part.

Where as some unhappy difference having arisen between the said Piter Demarest and Elizabeth his former wife she the said Elizabeth having Eloped the bed & board of the said Peter Demarest about seven years past. & joined her self in marriage with the said John Pettet in consequence of said Elopement and many other considerations they have mutually consented and agreed to live seperate and apart from each other & do by these presents mutually covenant and agree from henceforth for & during their respective natural lives to live separate and apart——

It goes on to say Peter Demarest shall not frequent her company or conversation at any time or times hereafter with out her consent. He also permits her the said Elizabeth from time to time to live apart from him and to go, reside and be at or in such place or places, family and families and with such relations and friends as she shall from time to time at her will and pleasure. Notwithstanding her coverture with the said Peter Demarest and as if she was a *femme sole*.

He is not to claim at her death plate, rings, clothes, goods, chattles, land tenements or other estates which she shall hereafter get, acquire, or be possessed of, or be devised or given to her.

And Further that the said John Pettet & the said Elizabeth, their heirs, executors or administrators shall & will from

time to time and at all times hereafter well & sufficiently save defend and keep harmless, and indemnify as well the said Peter Demarest

She was to have no claim on Peter or his estate since her elopement & separation.

In witness whereof the parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands & seals the day & year first above written

PETER J. DEMAREST (Seal)

ELIZABETH PETTIT (Seal)

his

JOHN X PETTIT (Seal)

mark

In presence of

WILLIAM ELY

JOSIAH JOHNSON

SAM. L. PAGE J. R.

1826

MR. WILLIAM ELY

Sir—I summon you to attend at the Court House at New barbadoes on the 24th day of this instant at 10 o'clock A. M. to serve as Grand Juror.

ANDREW H. HOPPER Sheriff.

Signed

Jan 9th 1826

1827

A subpoena to William Ely—to appear before me in your proper person at Albert P. Alyeas Inn, in the Township of Saddle River to testify in case between Josiah Johnson & Catherine Collins (of New Bridge)—fail not under the penalty of \$20.

GARRET P. HOPPER J. P.

1829

Sir

You are hereby notified to meet in conjunction with your colleagues and a chosen free holder of the Township of Herington on Saturday the 4th Day of July at the house of Samuel P. Demarest in the Township of Hackensack. three o'clock P. M. for the purpose of granting a Priviledge of Driving and riding to my lands across the lands of John Anderson and Land of Jacob Vershe (Forshay). In witness where of I have preents set my hand this 29 Day of June In the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and Twenty Nine.

SAMUEL P. DEMAREST

Mr. William Ely—

1831

To William Ely—one of the chosen freeholders of the township of Haekensack You are hereby requested to meet in conjunction with two other freeholders. of the County of Bergen at the house of Richard Ver Valen in Closter on Monday the seventh day of this instant at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day—on purpose to open and lay out an old by Road which I & others have used for many years back. laying over the Land of Henry Montanye in Closter till by my Lots of Land which the said Henry Montanye has partly shut up, and refused me to ride through said by road which puts me to an immediate inconvenience and difficulty, therefore apply to you as freeholder to open the same agreeable to the Law.

Signed

JACOB JORDAN

February 5 1831

## LIST OF OFFICIALS.

AS FOUND ON THE DOCUMENTS, COURT DOCUMENTS, ELECTLON RETURNS, ETC.

1688—"At the house of Lawrence Andries (Van Buskirk) of New Haekensack was to be held the court of small causes."

1717—"Ordered that there be raised the sum of ten pounds proclamation money for defraying the charges of killing wolves, panthers and red foxes for ensuing year."—1715 Book of Records, Freeholders and Justices.

## JUDGE OF COMMON PLEAS,

1768—Lourance T. Van Buskirk.

## CLERK,

1763—William Provost.

1766— " "

1767— " "

1768— " "

## COLLECTORS.

1758-93—Cornelius Lydeeker.

1779—Isaac Van der Beek.

1779—Abraham Westervelt.

1779-1783-1784—Jacobus Demarest.

1793—Cornelius L. Coe.

1795—John G. Benson.

Geder Comes (no date, but early names).

John H. Anderson (four years; no dates).

## DEPT. COLLECTOR.

1816—John Westervelt.

## SHERIFFS.

1744—"Procalus Parmeton."

1760—Isaac Kingsland.

1826—Andrew H. Hopper.

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

1682-3—"First appointed" after county organization.

Hendrick Joris Brinkerhoff  
and

Albert Zabriskie.

1685—Samuel Ettsal.

No date—Barant Naugle.

1738-48—David Jacobus Demarest.

1742—Lourens Van Buskirk.

1756—Samuel Moore.

1786—Garrett Lydecker.

1786-87-88-89-90-92-95-97-1801—Jacobus Demarest, Esq.,  
New Bridge.

1813—Joseph Post, Esq.

1827—Garrett P. Hopper.

1756—Bargin County. For Peter piet. Demerest

You are hereby Supened in his Majis. name to be and appear at my house Satterday next at Two of the Clook in the afternoon to give your Evedence in an action depending Between Andre vanboscarik plantif agst. Andre Conter Defendant hereof you are not to fail on pennilty of Twenty poonds under my hand this Twenty second Day of October Anno Dom. 1756.

SAMUEL MOOR.

1785

Jacobus Demarest  
Planteve  
Dugles Carrens  
DefendentEvidence for the  
Plantif—Sworen  
Jacobus Bogert  
Rachel Van  
Houten  
John Demarest  
William Ely  
John Westervelt

August 13th 1785 in an action of Debt.

The Plantif Demanded a jury and a venire was granted the Plantif. Moved to the Court that it be returned and the trial came on, the venire was Returned and the following Jurors appeared.

1	Garrit Lydecker Esq	7	Johanis D. Demarest
2	Aurie Westervelt	8	Daniel N. Demarest
3	John P. Westervelt	9	Jacob Bogart
4	Dirck Banta	10	Henry Bogert
5	Daniel S. Demarest	11	Cornelius Bogert
6	John Christie	12	Stephen Bogert

And were Duly Sworen and after hearing the Evidence and allegations of the Parties the Jurors Went out to consider of there Verdick and John Westervelt Constable Being Duly Sworen to attend them the Jurors returned into Court and Ware Caled over and Gave their Vardick By the foremen for the plantif. Six pound fifteen Dammages New York money with cost of Sute and Judgement was given agreeable to the Vardict

Justice fees	Constables fees
Summons ..... £0.0.6	Serving a Summons £0. 2.0
Venire ..... 0.1.0	for 2 Supeenies Sarving
2 Supeenys ..... 0.1.6	ing ..... 0. 4.0
Sware Evedence .... .1.8	Sarving Venire .... 0. 5.0
Judgment ..... 0.0.9	0.11.0
0.6.5	Juries fees & Evi-
	dence ..... £0.12.0
	12 Juris ..... 0. 2.0
	2 Evedences ..... 0. 6.5
	0.11.0
	1.11.5

1786—There is 14 Lycence Granted at this Court June 1786 out of which money I have received £0.6.0.

JACOBUS DEMAREST.

1786—A tryal at Cornelious Hogland.

1789—Nov. 11—The court was adjourned for one hour then to meet at the house of Cornelius Hogland.

1789—Trial adjurned to appear at Hoaglands.

1789—A summons against Henry Oldis who lives nigh W Fell to appear 2 oclock in afternoon at Hoaglands New Bridge.

1794—If a constable failed to subpoena a certain party the penalty was twelve pounds—by order of Adam Boyd, J. P.





P. Names	Acres of Improved Land	Value of Do Unimproved Land	House and Lotts	Value of Do	Horses at 25 S. Ea	Horned Cattle	Total S to Levy on	Householders	Grist Mills	Breweries	Taverns	Single Men & Horses	Single Men	Slaves	Riding Chairs	Certainities		Amount of Tax	
																S	D	S	D
John West					1	1	1	1								6	10	6	10
David Day	50				4	4	31									3	3	6	6
Johannus Day	105				1	2	51									2	3	3	9
John Day	150				4	4	76	1								6	4	10	4
Jennes Daily					1	1	1										1	6	3
Benjamin Westervelt	60				2	2	31							2		1	3	4	4
Jacob Etsel	50				2	3	28									3	6	11	11
Charity Etsel	100				2	4	51									1	2	6	6
Samuel Etsel	50				2	2	27					12				3	13	6	6
Hartman Brinkerhof	150				3	3	73					12				3	13	6	6
John Brinkerhof	150				3	3	73					12				3	6	10	10
Stephen Bordett	150				4	7	79							2		4	4	5	3
Abraham Montanya	150	40			6	6	73					1				3	1	8	8
John Clopper	50	45			2	1	26									1	1	1	5
Michel Smith	50				2	5	30									8	1	0	1
John Smith	50		10		2	7	14	1								3	1	8	5
Abel Smith					5	7	1	1								2	9	5	3
Caty Demarest	100				7	5	58									1	6	3	5
Jacob Day	60				2	2	31									1	12	1	12
Daniel Rotan	60	40			2	3	14									10	10	3	3
Elizabeth More W	25				1	1	12									2	13	2	2
Samuel J. More	25				3	4	63									1	9	11	11
Roelief Westervelt	70	70			2	3	21							1		10	17	8	8
Hendrick Brinkerhoff	40	45			3	3	6			1						1	10	8	8
Mary Day	75	40			3	3	36				1					6	11	11	11
Samuel T. More	60	35			2	1	3			1						8	9	5	5
Peter H. Van Houten	60				2	2	25									12	12	6	6
John Hays	250	45			3	4	7									6	14	2	2
Nataniel Hicks					1	1	113									4	12	5	3
Mattis Barbary	20				2	2	13							1		12	17	9	9
Direk Vreland	75				1	2	33		2					1		14	6	4	4
Michel D. Vreland	250				5	4	122									4	5	3	3
John More	100				2	3	50									1	12	14	1
Jacob Demot	125	30			1	1	3							1		5	9	9	9
John Couwenoven	125				1	5	43									12	16	6	6
Eve. Couwenoven					2	2	4									6	6	9	9
John Johnson					2	2	4									6	6	6	6
Johannis Benson Esq					2	2	4									6	6	9	9
John J. Benson					2	2	4									6	6	6	6
Abraham Day					2	2	4									6	6	11	11
Jacob Nagel					2	1	3									4	11	11	11
Abraham Westervelt					2	1	3									4	11	11	11

Abstract  
of October  
1783

	Acres of Land	Horses	Cattle	Householders	Merchants	Saw Mills	Grist Mills	Fulling Mills	Breweries	Forges	Furnicls	Taverns	Tan Yards	Ferries	Vessels	Single Men & Horses	Single Men	Slaves	Riding Chairs	Covering W.
Hackensack.....	17874	560	677	52			8	1			5	5	1	1	3	1	17	55	3	3
Berlin.....	13535	400	501	47			4		1		3	3	5	3	1	1	15	49	3	3
New berhados.....	23798	607	977	102	4	1	8				5	5	1	1	1	25	72	10	10	1
Herrington.....	29920	824	1253	41		3	11				3	3	3	2	2	10	58	4	4	
Saddle River.....	28857	690	1114	72	3	4	5	1	1	1	1	8	4	4	4	15	50	3	3	
Franklin.....	40693	898	1282	48			7	1			1	1	4	7	6	2	16	21	5	6
	154677	3979	5804	362	7	8	43	1	1	1	1	29	4	7	6	6	98	305	27	6

Land Value  
£ Estimates

Berlin .....	22	Bergen .....	£3979— 2—9½
Hackensack .....	19	Hackensack .....	£4773— 1—0
Newberados .....	18	N. B.....	£6019— 7—9
Saddle River.....	14	Her. ....	£7668—12—0
Franklin .....	13	Sad. ....	£6017— 9—7

Franklin (torn off)

The State Tax Raised in July Rate 1783 is..	£387— 4—11
The County Tax Raised in the same time amounts to.....	£48— 9—11
The State Tax Raised in October 1783 amounts to .....	£398—11—10
The County Tax Raised in October 1783 amounts to .....	£22— 6— 5

JACOBUS DEMAREST, Assesser.

Hackensack Precinet.

In the first collection district of New Jersey.

Persons Names Page the First 1784	Acres of Improved Land	Value of Do	House and Lots	Value of Do	Horses at 25 S. P.	Horned Cattle	Total		Where on	Householders	Grist Mills	Taverns	Ferries	Vessels	Single Men & Horses	Single Men	Slaves	Hidings Chairs	Amount of		Amount of Certainities	
							£	S											£	D		
Samuel I. Moore	50	40			2	4	26	10	1											6	3	3
Andris Anderson					2	2	12	10	1											2	1	1
John Becker	20				3	3	1													0	2	0
Geirle Toers					3	3	1		1											2	2	0
Johannis Van Sile					2	2	1													3	2	1
Margirt V. Hoosen					2	2	1													2	2	1
Bernard Weed	150				4	4	68													3	3	1
Peter Bordett					1	4	3	5												7	7	3
Benjamin Boredett					2	1	11	2			1	1								10	15	3
Michel Treaser	19				1	1			1											7	7	3
John Ward																				7	7	3
Thomas Baglie																				7	7	3
James Raines	40				1	2	19	5												7	7	3
William Stuart					1	1	2	5	1											7	7	3
Abraham Westervelt					3	8	35	15		1										0	0	2
John Warren	60				2	3	5	10												6	6	2
Simsen Gray					3	3	62	15		1				1						1	4	10
William Day	140				3	3	1	1												4	4	10
William Day Jun.					2	1	13			1										6	6	2
John Farburn					1	1	10			1										7	7	3
Loake Peterson	10				1	1	2	5		1										7	7	3
John Etzel					1	1	2	5												5	5	2
Thomas Livingston	30				1	4	17	5												10	10	4
Jacob Degarmo					2	6	38	10		1										7	7	3
Benjamin Grey					2	2	3	5												7	7	3
Peter Degrote	75	45			2	2	3	5												7	7	3
Aury Degrote					2	2	3	5												7	7	3
Charles Ward-apthorp	25				2	2	12	3												10	10	4
William Lozier	17	45			3	3	37	5		1										7	7	3
Siebe Banta	70				2	2	4	10												3	3	3
Nicholas Banta	200				2	2	6	88	10											7	7	3
Peter Degrot					2	2	4	10	1											3	3	3
Jacob Degrot					2	2	58	5												7	7	3
John Degrot	125				2	2	4	10	1											3	3	3





	Acreage of Improved Land	Value of Do.	Houses and Lots	Value of Do.	Horses at 25 S.	Horned Cattle	Total Where on to Levy	Householders	Grist Mills	Taverns	Single Men	& Horses	Single Men	Riding Chairs	Amount of Certainties	Amount of Certainties
	£	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Peter P. Demart .....								1								
Douwe P. Westervelt .....	50	35			2	3	23									
John J. Westervelt .....	150				5	4	62									
David Van Norden .....	20					4	11									
Petrus Debaun .....						2	11									
John B. Westervelt .....	24				3	2	13	1								
Daniel N. Demare .....	56				3	2	30									
Johanis Westervelt .....	75				3	4	34									
John Passel .....	11				3	2	5									
Dirck Brinkerhoff .....	50				4	3	15									
Roelof Bogert .....	100	30			3	3	36									
John Bogert .....	32				2	3	14									
David Goetsches .....	125	30			3	2	43									
Woutewis Van Norden .....	125				3	3	44									
Jacob Van Norden .....	125				2	2	42									
Lyas Day .....	250				4	7	87									
Cornelius Westervelt .....	25	25			2	2	12									
John Westervelt .....	250	30			5	11	79									
Petrus Westervelt .....	200	30			4	4	69									
John P. Westervelt .....	50	20			3	3	21				1					
John Banta .....	200	20			4	4	49									
John Huyler .....	160	30			3	3	52									
Eve Huyler .....					3	2	2									
Pollie Huyler .....	65	30			3	3	25									
Hendrick Brinkerhoff .....	179	20			2	3	59									
Samuel Demarest .....	90	20			4	5	28									
Petrus J. Demarest .....	90				2	3	23									
Hendrick Demarest .....					2	1	3									
Roelof Demarest .....					3	2	35					1				
Jerrey Westervelt .....	100	30			3	2	15									
Johanis Banta .....	93	20			3	4	26									
I. M. Goetschius .....	64	30			3	4	20									
Eve Banta W. ....	140	30			4	6	53									
James Christie .....	130	35			4	6	56									
Peter Demarest .....	130				4	6	10									
Daniel J. Demarest .....	100				4	6	46									
Daniel Demarest .....	340	20			3	5	36									
William Christel .....	190	35			3	5	75									
John Christie .....	68				4	4	32									
Jacob Quackenbush .....	108	20			4	3	29									
Dirk Banta .....	191	30			6	5	69									
Isaac Kip .....	53				2	2	23									
Garrit Demarest .....					2	2	1									









## COLLECTOR'S RECEIPTS.

Belgrave May 4 1779 Then Received of Jacobus Dumaree Collector of Hackinsack Precinct the Sum of One Thousand four Hundred & Seventy Pounds Ten Shilling. and Eight pence Tax Money for the following taxes Viz for Raising the Sum of One Hundred Pounds &c Passed Dec 5 1775 for three years old Sinking fund—for discharging the New Jersey Expences of the State of New Jersey Passed the 26th of March 1775 Together with three Exempt Taxes Raised agreeable to Law Pa  
ABR. WESTERVELT Coltr.  
£1470..10..8

Received Totewah November 23 1779 of Jacobus Demarest Collector of the Precinct of Hackinsack the Sum of Seven thousand two hundred and Seventy Seven Pounds, ten shillings on account.

By me—ISAAC VAN DERBEEK Cont. Colt.

Reed. Leberly Pole March 29 1793 of Peter J. Demarest constable on a return to Jacobus Demarest Justice of last years Tax—the sum of five pounds Nine Shillings and ten pence Rec. per me  
CORNELIUS LYDECKER Collector.

John Benson Collector this day 28 day of January 1795 made oath before me that he lawfully Demandid the within Taxation of the several Persons herewith named, &c—Rec. New Bridge March 10 1795 of Jacobus Demarest the sum of Four Pounds four shillings & two pence it being collected from the several dillingquents within named &c.

JOHN J. BENSON Collector.

The Poor Tax Raised at the Town Meeting  
the Second Tuseday in March 1784

Poor Masters

The List No. 1 amounts to	£15—19—5	Daniel Demarest
“ “ “ 2	“ “ 7—18—9	Hendrick Brinkerhoff
“ “ “ 3	“ “ 8—15—6	J. M. Goetschius
“ “ “ 4	“ “ 11—16—1	John Demarest

The above written Dated the first day of May 1784

JACOBUS DEMAREST.

1784

Deducted of this List the Sum of £0—11—0  
Deducted the above Sum of J. M. Goetscheus  
which was a mistake  
as he had no Nigro man.

The Amount of the July Rate 1784 The Quotas of Hackinsack Precinct	
Amount of State Tax.....	£278—11— 5
Government Support “ .....	92—17— 3
County “ .....	81—19—10
<hr/>	
Total Sum .....	453— 8— 6
<hr/>	
the amount of State Tax.....	£261— 2—0
Government Support “ .....	83—16—2
County “ .....	69— 8—2
<hr/>	
Total Sum .....	414— 6—4
<hr/>	
1784	
The Number of White inhabitants.....	1032
the Number of Blacks.....	322
<hr/>	
Total . . . . .	1354

1865

“By the census of 1865 the Township of Hackensack had a population of 7112, and by the census of 1870 which was the last enumeration before the division and final cessation of the Township it had a population of 8,039.”

## GEDER COMES, COLLECTOR—PAPERS

They bear no date but the names appearing are of those active before the Revolution. The great amount of money recorded is of interest.

8 Paks at J. V. S. of £1000 each

Johanna Day Due to me. wid.....	12 Dols
John Jo. Buskirk Due to me.....	1 “
Jacobus Brinkerhoff Ditto.....	4 “
John Poulese Due to me.....	4 “ 2T
I am Due to the Tax.....	87 Dol
Jacobus Buskirk Due to me.....	1 D 2T
Thomas Harris Due to me.....	1 Dol
Marta Myrs Due to me.....	8 Dol 2T
Samuel Etsel Due to me.....	3 Dol 1T
Samuel Etsel Due to me of old Tax.....	8 Dol 1T
<hr/>	
John Westervelt .....	£13— 2—6
Samuel Demarest .....	13— 0—0
William Clark .....	17—10—0
Andris Coole .....	7— 0—0
<hr/>	
	30—12—6

## TAX MONEY IN PAKS

1	Pack of	2666	Dol—2F
2	Ditto	“ 2666	D—2T
3	Ditto	“ 2666	D—2T
4	Ditto	“ 2666	D
5	Ditto	“ 2666	D 2F
6	Ditto	“ 2666	Dol—2T
7	Ditto	“ 2666	Dol—2T
8	Ditto	“ 2666	Dol—2T
9	Ditto	“ 2666	Dol

1	Pack of	1185	Dollars
	ditto	914	Dol
	ditto	31	Dol
	ditto	27	Dol 11 Pence

---

2157

Among this money is £26—12—6 of old Tax.

Adam V. Norden.....	£45—0—0
Jacobus V Syle.....	8—0—0
Richard Dykeman.....	10—0—0

These men is gon to New York for which reason there Tax Cannot be Gadered or Collected.

£50—0—0 in Debted to me  
Like Wise 34 Dol 2T 1S  
Recd 40 Dollars

Due to me  
and Recd. to  
Geder Comes  
to 78—1—4

---

The following extracts from an article in the Newark Evening News will show the present day taxpayers of Bergen County something about the methods of assessing taxes in said county in 1816, that is one hundred years ago.

Jacobus Demarest whose name appears several times in the papers contributed by Mrs. Westervelt was according to data found among the Collins collection a tax assessor of Hackensack Precinct. First Collection District in the years 1779, 1783, 1784, and no doubt his assessments were made very much in the same manner as John Dodd made his thirty years later.

ARRIVAL OF ITINERANT TAX ASSESSOR  
WAS BIG PUBLIC EVENT 100 YEARS AGO

---

John Dodd Made Rounds in First District of New Jersey on Horseback in June, 1816, When Householder, Landholder and Slaveholder Gave Exact Accounting of Property.

---

TOWNSFOLK GATHERED AT PUBLIC TAVERNS AND MADE VISIT A HOLIDAY.

---

Assessors of property, real and personal, are, in compliance with the law, now making rounds of various districts, seeking new valuations and arranging the figures on their books to meet 1916 requirements. For years this season has been devoted to this foundation work of the public financial system. A century ago John Dodd, principal assessor of the First District of New Jersey, was the most thought of man in this section of the state. Then there was a state tax to be met every year, besides the one levied locally.

His formal announcement in May that he would begin his rounds of the district on June 7 brought about more or less activity in the respective towns visited. Practice was at that period for the assessor to go to a public place, swap stories, indulge in refreshments and then open his book and invite the people to walk in and declare their taxable property.

John Dodd was, at the end of his trip, the best informed man on about every subject in the district. He knew of every public house or tavern, every home and much of the gossip. Every householder, landholder and slaveholder were required to give an exact accounting of estates.

The first day was spent at the court house in Newark, where he finished the work in one day, making additions and subtractions and indulging in the forecast of his financial trip, which was to be made entirely by horseback. Saddlebags were required for filing books and papers.

Arising with the chickens on Monday morning, June 17, 1816, Dodd was again in the saddle and on his way up Broad street to the turnpike road (now Bloomfield avenue) and over the mountains by way of Pompton turnpike to Pompton, a place equally important 100 years ago as now. Here the farmers came in from the outlying territory for exchange of produce and gossip.

OTHER TAVERN HEADQUARTERS.

Ryerson's tavern was the point of rendezvous for the entire day. On June 18 the sitting was at Goodman's tavern

in Paterson, June 19 at Van Houten's tavern, Saddle River; June 20, Hopper's tavern, Hopper Town, June 21, Demarest's tavern, Harrington; June 22, at the court house in Hackensack, where a well-earned rest was taken till Monday morning.

June 24 was spent at Coulter's tavern in Bergen, and June 25 at Vanderbeek's tavern in Old Hackensack.

At each of these places the assessor made a speech to the assembled group in this manner:

"Fellow citizens, I am here for the purpose of securing information that may be furnished as to the changes which may have taken place in the assessable property of individuals since the last assessment, made under act of June 9, 1815, and previous to the first of June, 1816, which information must be given in writing under the signature of the person whose tax may be affected thereby.

"First—Assessable property omitted to be assessed at the preceding assessment and property that has ceased to be exempted assessment, such as property belonging to the United States or a state or otherwise exempted, which on its transfer became assessable.

"All such property is now to be assessed. But no alteration is to be made in the previous valuation of real estate in virtue of any improvement thereon.

"Second—Transfer of real estate and slaves according to which an abatement in the enumerations and valuation of the person transferring them will be made and a corresponding increase in the enumerations and valuations of the person to whom the transfer may be made.

"Third—Change of residence. These will merely require a transfer on the books from the list of residents to that of non-residents or vice versa, as the case may be, of the property in the ownership or agency of which such a change has occurred.

"Fourth—Burning or destruction of houses or other fixed improvements of real estate, for which an abatement equal to the injury arising from these changes is to be made.

"Fifth—Exemption of property ceased to be assessable.

"Sixth—Slaves that have been born or have died or have run away or have otherwise become useless since the preceding assessment.

"Any person becoming the owner of a slave by transfer to him from a collection district other than that in which he resides is required under penalty of \$10 to render a statement, specifying the age and sex of such slave, who is to be valued according to his or her existing value."

"Ahem!" The assessor waits for the citizens to walk up to his desk and make their statements. Tax dodging is im-

possible, for every man watches his neighbor carefully. All are on trial.

John Dodd, according to the law, was the arbiter in taxation from whom no appeal could be taken. His decision was final. Arguments were not allowed on the first visit. Statements property made were submitted as meekly as the exigencies required.

Then came the days set aside for appeal, or readjustment. Notices were sent out by the assessor that he would appear at the Newark Court House on Monday, July 15; Tuesday, July 16, at the Elizabeth Court House; Thursday, July 18, at the court house in Hudson for the purpose of receiving appeals that may be made in writing as to the revised enumerations and valuations.

It was necessary to specify with minuteness the property of the individual of the preceding assessment properly omitted then to be assessed and its value, including transfer of real estate and slaves. The latter were thus enumerated: Males above fifty years, below fifty years and over twelve years and those under the latter age, and for female slaves, between twelve and fifty years and under twelve.

TAVERNS.

1763

A RATE FOR TAVERN KEEPERS—1763

	(Can't
A warm Dinner.....	£0—read)—3
Cold Dinner .....	0 — 1 — 0
Supper .....	0 — 1 — 0
Breekfast .....	0 — 0 — 9
Bottle good Meadeary wine.....	0 — 5 — 0
Common wine .....	0 — 3 — 0
1 quart bool. of Good Lime Punch.....	0 — 1 — 6
1 quart Bool, with out Limes.....	0 — 1 — 0
1 quart of Good Matiglum.....	0 — 1 — 6
1 Gill of Rum .....	0 — 0 — 5
1 quart of Beer good .....	0 — 0 — 5
1 quart of Syder good .....	0 — 0 — 5
1 quart of Oats .....	0 — 0 — 3
good English hay for one night.....	0 — 2 — 0
good salt hay for 1 night for horse.....	0 — 0 — 9
1 Gill of Brandy or Gellwine.....	0 — 0 — 8
a Lodging one night for Person.....	0 — 0 — 5
Pastering one horse Day.....	0 — 1 — 0

By Order of Court April Term 1763

DAVID W. PROVOOST, Clerk.

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 TAVERN KEEPERS.

- 1766—Peter Demorest  
 1767—Peter Demeray  
 1774—Peter P. Demoree  
 1783—There were five taverns  
 1783—Mary Day  
 1783—Peter Bordett  
 1783—John Hays  
 1784—Michel Teefer  
   “ —Mary Day  
   “ —John Benson Jr  
   “ —Cornelius Hogland  
   “ —Jacob. Campbell.  
 1781 “Abraham D. Demorest, on the road to Old Hook kept  
   to —a general store. In 1809, a tavern where elections were  
 1799 held & other public business transacted.”

## Bergin County cfs

Peter Demarest John Christie & William Christie do jointly & severally acknowledge themselves to be justly Indebted unto our Sovereign Lord the King his heirs & successors in the sum of Twenty pounds Proclomt. money of New Jersey to be Levied upon their & Every of their goods & chattles on the conditions following.

The condition of the above Recognicance is such that whereas the above bonden Peter Demorest — — is Licenced by the Court of General Quarter Sessions for the County of Bergen to keep a Tavern or public house in & at the place he now dwelleth in the Preeinct of Haekensaek in ye County aforsd. if therefore ye sd. shall not game himself nor suffer any person to game in his house for money or the Vallue of Money but Shall during the s. time in all things Respecting himself as a public house keeper use and maintain good order & Rules. & find & provide good & suffict. Entertainment for man & provisions for horses then the above Reecognicance to be Void otherwise to remain in full foree & Vertue. Taken & acknowledgd before me by order of Court. June Term—  
1766. WILLIAM PROVOOST, Clk.

1767

## Bergen County cfs.

At a Court of General Quarter Sessions of the peace Held at New Barbadoes in & for the County of Bergen on the ninth Day of June in the Seventh Year of his Majesties Reign Annoy-Domino 1767. Present Lawrence L. Van Boskerk. Application being made to this Court by Peter Demeray for a Licence to keep a Tavern & Said Peter Demaray being



Recommended to the Justices in such manner as by a Law of this province is Directed the Justices in Session have thought fit to Grant & hereby do grant him full Licence to keep a Tavern for the term of one year Entering into Recognizance Pursuant to the Directions of the Act of Assembly in Such Case made & provided.

WILLIAM PROVOOST, Clk.

By Order of Court.

1766

QUARTER SESSION APRIL TERM

To the honourable Court. in and for the County of Bergen. We the Under Subscribers Recommend Peter Demarest Of the precinct of Hackengsack that he is a person of Good Repute for Honesty and temperence and is Provided with two Good Spare feather beds More then is Necessary for ye families use. and is well accomedated with house Room, stabling and Pasture (for use of Drovers). Agreeable to an act of Governor Conneill and generall Assembly of the Province of New Jersey Made and Provided for that Perpose—

(List of names missing.)

1798

COPY OF ONE MAN'S TAVERN ACCOUNT FROM A DAY BOOK—NEW BRIDGE.

		Oliver .....	Dr	£	S.	D
June						
	24	to Grog, Bitters & Milk punch.....		0	3.	6
	24	to Beer & Milk punch.....			2.	6
July	2	to wine Grog & Spirits.....			5	0
	7	to wine Sling & Sundry.....			4.	6
	24	to Grog & Bitters.....			5.	3
	27	to 2 Supper & Lieker.....			12.	0
	29	to wine Wather & Milk punch.....			2.	6
Aug.	10	to Lieker & cord wood. & Cafh.....		7.	16.	9
	11	to Spirits wine & Grog.....			5.	6
	15	to Grog wine & Gin.....			3.	9
	19	to 4½ glases Grog.....			2.	3
Sept.	13	to Cheair (Riding Chair) hier & Milk Punch . . . . .			9.	0
		to ½ Cheair hire to fort Lee & Lieker			5.	6
	17	to Brandy & Milk punch.....			1.	5
	19	to 2 glases Grog.....			1.	0
	23	to Milk punch . . . . .			1.	3

Oct. 1	to 4 Quarts Cyder.....	0	2	0
5	to Dinner & Breakfast.....	0	3	0
20	to Cold Supper & Licker.....	0.	14	0
25	to Grog Bitters & Cyder.....		5.	0
Nov. 5	to 1 Glas Gin Grog.....	0	0	8
Nov. 6	to Rum Grog Cyder & Bitters.....	0.	3.	6
Dec. 11	to Sundrys .....	1.	2	2
	to 1 Grog & half Gil Bitters.....			.9

## VOCATIONS.

1747—Peter P. Demarest, yeoman.

1767—Nov. 16—Surveyor.

This Day Received of Peter Demoree the sum of fourteen shillings 6 pence being in full of all accounts to this day Except 15 for surveying the Lands of the heirs of Lourans P. Van Buskirk Desd. & if Isaac Vrooman is willing to pay me for the same & dos pay it then this will be in full of all accounts whatsoever.

JACOBUS VAN BUSKIRK.

1768—Peter P. Demarest, Farmer.

1769—June 22—Blacksmith.

Received of Pieter P. Demerast in behalf of Abraham cle (Ely) for shoeing of 1 slight in full—£.15.8. by me—

JOHN TERHUNE.

1773—General Store—George Jansen.

1780—Carpenter.

Reed. of Jacobus Demaree the sum of fourteen shillings for making a coffen for the Deceased Molley Goelet—Reed by me

his  
ABRAHAM X DEVOE.  
mark

1783—There was one Brewerie-

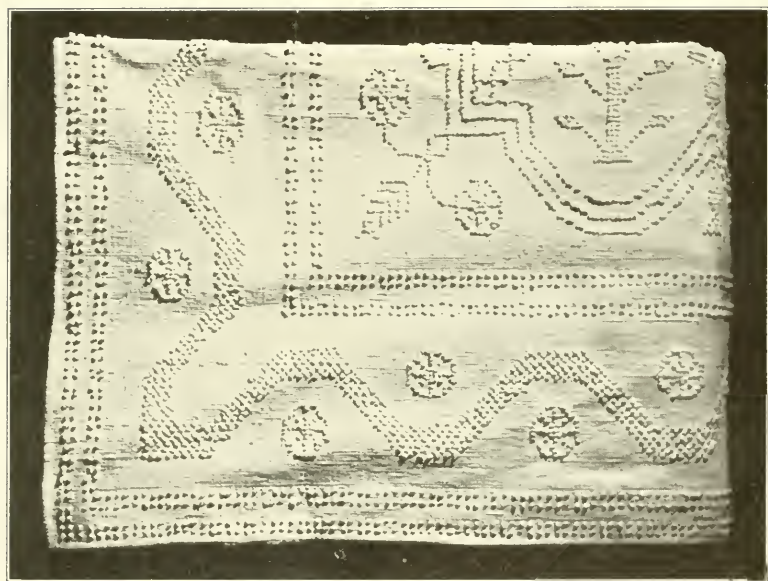
1783—John More had two Grist Mills

1784—William Day was owner of 1 vessel-

1784—Isaac Nicoll had 1 Saw Mill

1784—Grist Mills

William Lozier, Richard Udall, William Udall, Nicholas Lozier, Samuel Demarest, Simon Simouse, Benjamin Demare-



White Blanket. Haring, Weaver. 1800

C. Curtis



1795—Apr 9—Fish Dealer-  
Jacobus Demarest.

To Abraham Brower Dr-

	£	S.	D
To 200 clams .....	0	2	0
“ “ “ .....	0	2	0
“ 500 “ .....	0	5	0
“ 200 “ .....	0	2	0
“ 500 & 50 “ harts.....	0	11..	3
	<hr/>		
	1..	1..	3

Rec. the contents in full by me.

ABRAHAM BROWER.

1779—Stone Cutter-

New York.

The estate of Abr. Ely Dec. Dr

To A. Labagh-

To 20 ft of steps @ 2 f.....	£2.	0	0
“ one Grave stone.....	1	12.	0
“ cutting 248 letters @ 1½.....	1	11	0
	<hr/>		
	£5.	3.	0

Rec. Payment in full. A. LABAGH.

1800—Nov. 25—Surveyor-  
Jacobus Demarest

To Joh. Johnson, Dr.

To surveying 2½ Days.....	\$5.
“ mapping .....	1
“ writing 2 deeds.....	2
“ 2½ Days bearing the chain.....	1.25
	<hr/>
	\$9.25

1801—Sebe Brinkerhoff, Carpenter

1802—Jacobus Demarest paid 0.4.0 for a pair of shoes made for him.

1806—John J. Demarest, Shoemaker

1807—Lucas Van Buskirk sold Liquor.

1807—Luke Cooper, Blacksmith

1807—David Brower made two bbls. cider—0:1.3

1808—John Heaton a metal worker—

	£	S.	D
To put in an Ear to a bucket.....	1	0	
“ cleaning a Sword.....	3	0	
“ putting an eye to a hoe.....	2	0	
“ mending a link.....	0	9	
“ “ a watering pot.....	0	6	
“ soddering a kettle.....	1.	0	
“ mending a seissors.....	0	6	
“ wire . . . . .	0	3	
“ making a Coat For William Ely....	4.	6	

13. 6

1820—July 5—Undertaker

Rec. of William Eale, one of the executors of Peter Demarest Dec. the sum of three dollars for tending the funeral.  
ALBERT N. VANVOORHIS.

1820—Joh. Johnson received 65 cents in full for auctioneering Goods.

1821—Stone Cutter

To a Head & footstone £2.16.0 for Peter J. Demarest Dsed. Old Bridge  
JOHN P. DEMAREST.

1821—Samiel Freeland to making a boat. £0.16.0

One of the earliest vocations was that of lumbering. Men from New York took up large tracts of land, including the Palisades, very early and began cutting the timber, which was “pitched” down the Palisades to the shore and then rafted away. There was a “Pitching Place” on the Cornelius Lydecker property near the site of the Mountain House, Englewood.

1767—John Masseles, weaver.

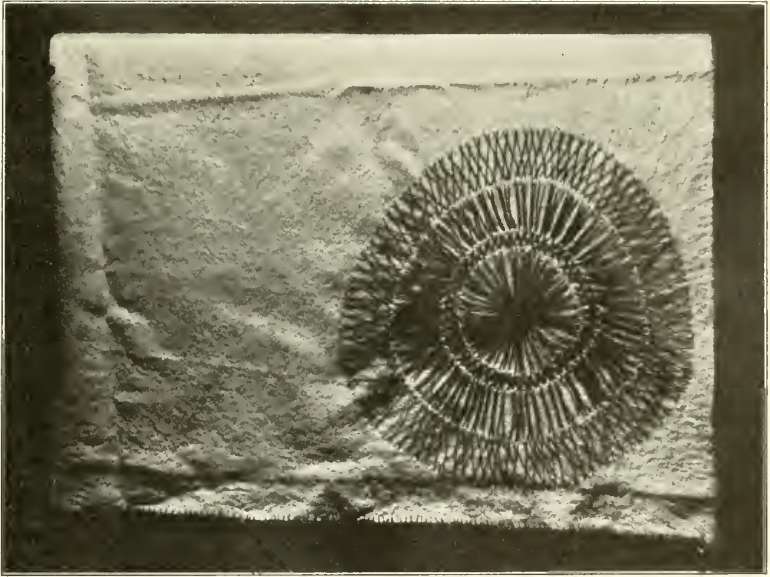
Jacobus Demarest Esq. Dr for weaving 17 els of woolen, £0.11.4.

Mis Leacraft for weeven 35 els of linnen- £1.3.4.

1779—An Old Inventory.

The following is an extract from an inventory of Johannes Blauvelt of Harrington, made in 1779:

	£	S.
57 yards homespun linen.....	57	00
15 yards tow cloth.....	15	00
59 shirts . . . . .	84	08
Boots, jackets and breeches.....	80	00
2 hats, stockings and mittens.....	22	00
2 rugs . . . . .	18	00
6 woolen shirts.....	14	08



**Cherokee Indian Rose Blanket**

C. Curtis









**Blue and White Blanket**

David D. Haring, Weaver

C. Curtis

18 linen sheets.....	57	12
13 tow sheets.....	31	04
4 table clothes.....	6	05
12 pair pillow cases.....	14	05

1784—Sold at a vandue. 1 Bush. Flaxseed—£0.5.4.

1807—Apr 14—Luke Van Buskirk Dr. to Peter J. Demarest for weeven Seventy Nine and half els (91 yards) of linnen—£2.13.0.

John Naugle weaver

1807—At death of Jacobus Demarest Esq—the following was sold at the vandue—

To a weavers Loom .....	£0.	19.	
To a Crackle .....	0	2	3
“ “ Hetchel .....	0	1	0
“ a Spool Wheal Swift.....	0	3	0
“ “ lot of gear.....	0	4	0
“ “ Real .....	0	6	9
“ 4 Shuutes .....	0	0	1
3 “ .....	0	0	1
“ a Cask. & flaxseed.....	0	5	0
“ “ Wooling wheel .....	0	10.	0
“ “ Lot of Spools &c.....	1	4.	6.

1812—Abraham Brass to. Spinning

one lb. of flax .....	£0.	3.	6
four “ “ “ .....	0.	10	0
“ “ “ “ .....	0	10.	0
Spining 7 lbs of toe.....		8.	0

1824—James P. Demarest

for weaving 9. ells of linnen 0.6.0

1825—James A. Haring Weaver—West Norwood. called Back neighborhood, Old Tappen. Quilts & Coverlets.

(Many in fine state of preservation—1916.)

David D. Haring Weaver same neieghorhood made Coverlets—Table—covers: rugs with tufted surfaces—Indian Rose blankets &c.

1815—July 5—William Ely and William Bettel and Robert Adams the executers of Robert Berahill Decesed Dr to John J. Demarest

for Proving the Will.....	0.	4	0
for taken the inventory.....	0.	6	0
for Going to Hackensack for wine and pipes for the funel.....	0.	12.	0
for Bringing the Corps to Hackensack..	0	8.	0

£1. 10. 0

1820

## STRAWBERRIES.

Mr. James C. Demarest, 92 years old (1916), gave the following facts in regard to strawberries: Bergen County was the first to send the berries to market. The demand was great. His grandfather, Samuel, and father, Cornelius, were raising them about 1820. There was an early variety, which did not do well. The standard was the "Scotch Runner." "I will never forget the fragrance from them when a wagon passed on its way to market." They carried a thousand baskets at a time as a load, and for the first shipments they received fourteen dollars for a thousand pints. As the money from the berries was the first to come in after a long winter, the best of care was given to the beds, that were laid out in rows with a path wide enough, that the pickers could work comfortably from both sides. The small baskets were placed on wooden trays and the berries, without the hulls, were placed in them. Before packing for market each basket had a green leaf tied over the berries. The pickers received one cent per basket. School children that asked the privilege were excused from school during this season.

From The Bergen County Journal, July 2, 1858:

"Capt. R. R. Hawkey informs us that 1,100 wagons containing 1,500,000 baskets of strawberries passed the second gate (toll) last week."

## STRAWBERRY BASKETS.

Some of the farmers made their own baskets during the winter, the women of the families assisting. Our people hired a man from Manicus (above Ramsey) who was a basket-maker. He came in the fall and from the woods gathered the hickory timber and worked it up into splints, and during the winter made thousands of the baskets for the berries (and for other use). Each shipper had his own mark—applied with paint to each basket—to assure its return. Some used initials, others made a stripe of some color, around or up and down, and others a color on the bottom, etc., and even then they miscarried, from the variety of marks seen on a collection lying in an attic.

The shippers in the section near Old Doek—Closter Landing—sent by the Periogus to the other side of the Hudson and to New York. Others sent via Fort Lee, also Hoboken. At one time wooden bowls and then pottery cups or bowls were used to ship the fruit in.

The apple crop was one of the most important of the township products. Many peaches were raised, and the thrifty



### Strawberry Baskets

C. Curtis

These baskets were used for strawberries, the berry being stemmed and oak leaves laid over the top to preserve them







H. W. Phillips

The home of Abraham De Voe and Elizabeth Parsells, his wife. 1771.  
Now the home of Mrs. Andreas



housewives spent the evenings peeling and slicing them for drying, as well as the apples.

1854

#### CLAY INDUSTRIES.

Brickyards in the Township.—At Bogota, on the river, on Munn's property, was a yard owned by John Marclis—afterward owned by John Smultz until 1869.

1855

Moses and Andrew Sears started a yard in 1855 on the Kipp property on the Hackensack River. In 1860 it was discontinued as the clay gave out.

1867

On the island at Ridgefield in 1867 a firm started a yard to make pressed face brick. They installed steel ovens, etc.; expended a large sum of money digging a hole 80 feet deep. After three seasons it was declared a failure.—From article on "Clay Industries of Bergen County," F. A. Westervelt.

1776

#### ABRAHAM DE VOE AND ELIZABETH PARSELLS, HIS WIFE.

Abraham DeVoe bought a small farm near New Bridge, 1771. He worked on his farm and, being a carpenter, also worked at his trade in the surrounding country. The battle of Long Island, however, changed his plans. His country wanted his services: one of his sons had become large enough to help his mother, and with her consent her patriotic husband joined the American army in a company under Capt. Demarest, where he shortly after became an under officer.

It was not long after when Tory thieves were organized and began to steal cattle, horses, hogs, fowls and everything that was at all valuable in the surrounding country. His premises were several times visited by both the black and white desperados, who took his cattle, robbed his house, abused his family, especially his brave wife, who would not disclose to them where his money was hid. He having considerable gold and silver, part of which was from the sale of Fort Washington property, he concluded to invest it in Continental money, just then issued, and this he held until it became almost worthless, and in the end he lost the greater part or all of it.

Several interesting facts have been handed down to and through his generations, one of which (a great-grand-daugh-

ter) gives an account of his sufferings and his wife's bravery (leaving out names), which appeared in the press under the head of "A Perilous Night."

In the year 1776, at the time the English troops were encamped near Hackensack, on the east side of the river, there stood on the old Hackensack road a large and commodious farm-house. One night, just at dusk, there might have been seen a man dressed in the uniform of an American officer cautiously wending his way toward it. As he entered he was joyfully welcomed by the family, for his wife and children were rejoiced to have the husband and father spend the night with them.

At midnight they were suddenly aroused by the tramping of horses and the sound of voices. In an instant the husband and wife were on their feet, and looking from the window, perceived a large company of English soldiers surrounding the house. Already a soldier was stationed at every window except one—a small window leading from a store closet, which was so completely overgrown with shrubbery as to be unnoticed by them.

"This is your only chance," exclaimed the wife; "go at once." "No," replied the sturdy soldier, "I will stay here and defend my family." "Stay and be slain or taken prisoner," replied his wife. "I will do all the defence that is necessary; for my sake flee." Thus urged, he dropped noiselessly from the window. Hat and shoes were handed him by his wife, and he crept silently away, expecting every moment to be taken prisoner by the enemy.

In the meantime the British soldiers were thundering at the door, loudly demanding admittance; but the lady of the house was in no hurry to admit them, knowing that if her husband could but reach the woods he might so make his way to the fort and be safe. Finally she withdrew the bolt and the leader demanded, "Where is your husband?" "He is not here," she replied. "Don't tell me that; we saw him come here at dusk and we have sworn to have him dead or alive."

They searched the house from attic to cellar and when they discovered that he had really escaped they were filled with rage. The leader flashed high his sword before the lady, angrily exclaiming: "Woman, do you see this sword?" "I do." "Well, to-day I broke it over your rebel son's head, and I would have served your husband the same could I have found him."

For an instant the mother's heart failed her; then, thinking he had said this merely to frighten her, she again took courage. Had she known that her eldest son had been taken prisoner, was wounded and apparently dying in the English

camp at Fort Lee, her courage might have forsaken her. After helping themselves to every eatable in the house they departed.

The lady did not again retire, but at dawn dressed herself for a walk, leaving the children in charge of the faithful colored servants. She took her youngest boy by the hand and walked quickly to the English camp. Arriving there, she demanded an audience with the chief officer. A little surprised, they admitted her. As soon as she entered, the officer arose and requested her to be seated, for he was as quick to recognize the true lady in the woman as she was to perceive that he was an English gentleman of the old school. Declining the proffered seat, she inquired: "Sir, did you come to this country to fight men, or to rob and plunder women and children?"

"To fight with men, madam; it is only villains and cowards who will harm defenceless women and children."

She then recounted the events of the previous night, adding: "This is the third time your soldiers have entered my house and despoiled it of everything they thought would prove to their advantage."

"And was your husband at home when the soldiers arrived?" inquired the officer. "He was." "And did you assist him to escape?" "I did; I should not have been a true wife if I had not."

The officer's face lit up with admiration as he replied: "I must say you are a brave woman to come and tell me this."

Then, calling two of his most trusty soldiers, he commanded them to escort the lady home and to guard her house day and night as long as they were encamped there; and if ever she was again troubled by his soldiers he would require an apology at their hands. But she was never again molested and ever after was heard to speak in the highest terms of the English gentleman.

After peace was declared Abraham DeVoe was found on his small farm and hard at work at his trade. Among his papers appeared a bill made out in 1799 for 119 days' work on the "Seaulleburgh Church" at 10s. per day, now called the "South Church," alongside of which is the burial place or cemetery where lie the remains of Abraham DeVoe and his brave wife—she dying in 1818, while he lived on to the great age of 91 years, as he died in the year 1826.

Abraham and his wife had but five children to grow to the age of maturity, named Mary, John, Elizabeth, Sarah and Abraham A.—From the history of the DeVoe family—1885.

Abraham DeVoe was the descendant of Nicholas de Vaux, a Huguenot refugee, who with others, came to this country

in 1674, accompanying the new Governor, Sir Edward Andros.

Nicholas de Vaux went first to Harlem but afterward joined other French refugees (Daniel du Voor, Jean Durie, Jacques Laroe) on the Demarest purchase, commonly called "The French Patent," where David des Marest was endeavoring to form a French colony, but succeeded only in building "The French Church of Kinkachemeck." The house of worship was built near upon a knoll just below the Old Bridge, where still remains "The French Burying ground."—Riker's Revised History of Harlem; chapter 21-22.

NOTE—While the oath was taken at an earlier date the entry was evidently made after the preceding ones and perhaps shows the fallibility of man.

### 1776

The following is from some leaves of a diary. The grandfather referred to was Cornelious Lydecker, and it was written by the Rev. Cornelious T. Demarest, his son-in-law:

"Grandfather Lydecker when the Rev. war broke out moved his family 1st to Goshen and lived there with Capt. Bradnor who had served in the French War. When Howe put out his proclamation Bradnor told Gr. that he could take advantage of it. Grandfather said 'Not, so long as he could find a quarter part of America Free,' &c.

"He went to several places & then returned to Bergen Co.

"Grandfather Ly was here yet when Fort Washington was taken for he stood on a point (Palisades) & saw it. Washington was at Fort Lee at that time. Col. Peters and Major Stephen—fine men—put up here at Grandfather. Soldiers slept in the Barn—very dirty and lousy. Col. Peters advised Grandfather to take his family back into the country which he did that fall, and came back again & staid here until the British landed at New Doek, and he had to leave all. The two horses of Peter & Steven were let go by the Negroo. They thought if they could get over the New Bridge they would be safe. The negroo and his wife remained and went with the British. Grandfather had 30 fat hogs a large number of cows and sheep a large Barrack stood where meadow hay lays E. of Barn full of wheat—clean wheat in his garret—a Barn full at the Lower place, all fell in the hands of the British.

"He put in his horses, tied 3 greys behind the waggon—was so confused could think of nothing. left new hat and every thing behind—the 3 horses broke loose & lost them too."

Mr. Beane John Demarest and Jacobus Demarest have  
always so far as has come within the Compass of my Know-  
ledge been reputedly friends to the present Government  
established under the Authority of the People, & have suf-  
fered considerably from the Enemy

J. Ruzen county  
Jan'y. 20<sup>th</sup> 1782.

Peter Helson

~~of the company of Prisoners~~

Certificate of Loyalty



1776—Nov. 23

Taken from Jacobus Demoray  
4 waggon load of hay by order  
of Corporal Sampson

QUARTERMASTER RICHARDSON.

Also taken from him

14 sheep  
3 heffers  
5 hogs  
2 pigs.

1780—Sept. 1st

This may Certify that Cobus Demeris has furnished to  
dragoons with hay and oats to S. I. Belonging to Capt. Bed-  
kins troop Light Dragoons Being Detached upon the rear  
Guard

WILLIAM REYNOLDS

D. D.?

to Cornelus herry ? forage master.

1783—Feb. 11

Received of Jacobus Demarest the sum of 3£ 9s. 4d. in  
part of cost of the money taken of John Lyle Prise.

CORNELIUS HUYLER.

To the Justice .....	£2.	0.	0
to the Waggoner.....	0	12	0
to William Day			
for expenses .....	1	12	0

7 1 4

Paid to Cornelious Huyler for costs.

1776

The oath of adjuration of the kingly authority is in the  
words following—to wit.

“I, A. B., do sincerely profess and swear *That I do not  
hold myself bound to bear allegiance to the King of Great  
Britain. So help me God.*”

The following is the oath of allegiance to the popular  
government:

“I, A. B., do sincerely profess and swear *That I do and  
will bear true Faith and Allegiance to the Government estab-  
lished in this State under the authority of the People. So  
help me God.*”

1787

The following Persons has taken the oaths of Abjuration and Allegiance before me the 14 day of Nov 1787—

Jacobus Bogart

John J. Bogart

John Ackerman

The 14 Day of May 1787

Jacob. J. Banta

1788

The 30th Day September 1788

John Walker, Schoolmaster

JACOBUS DEMAREST.

“During the Revolutionary War when the word was received that ‘the British are coming’ the families gathered up their valuables, silver, jewelry, & c. & hid them in many places. At Liberty Pole (now Englewood) Cornelious Lydecker owned a farm—part of it lying on what is now Palisades Ave. In front of the Presbyterian Church site was what the Dutch called a Slankey (ravine). In its depths & at the foot of the large trees many valuables were hidden and for many years, occasionally articles that had been left would be found.”

“In the Township stood Fort Lee, Howe’s Headquarters, Closter Dock and the old Block House so famous as the place of refuge for a band of the most unscrupulous Tories of the Revolution.”





**Remnant of Homespun Woolen Blanket bearing  
Crown of King George**

From home of Peter Burdett, Fort Lee



## TO MISS CATY VAN GEISEN

AT  
PULIFY—

The above address is on the outside of a folded paper sealed with red wax, and, within, the following:

<p>I Justify Every part of of Whig with all my heart for to support I'll try the Friends of Liberty I think the Association An honour to the Nation It Swells my heart full big For to be stiled a Whig I wish the Best success Unto the Grand Congress All Luck below the sun</p> <p>To General Washington</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">To General</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">CATY VAN GEISEN—</p>	<p>king and parliament I hate the Curst Intent Friends of Administration are troubles of the Nation a cruel Base Intent The act of Parliament When I am called a Tory Is more a shame than Glory to North and his conclusion the worst of all Confusion To Manisngle bute &amp; North (Mansfield) Destruction &amp; so forth</p> <p>Washington</p>
---	--

This appears the sentiments of a Whig, but when you pay no attention to the dividing line and read the full line, the Tory sentiment is strongly shown.

This information is given in regard to the above "From the original Journal of Nathaniel Crondy of Reading Mass. this song was copied." It was a revolutionary song by Enoch Benson Carter (died on Prison Ship) (supposed to have been written while regiment was at Liberty Pole).

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER AND WIFE  
WILLEMPIE BOGART.

"Jan. Demarest, son of Peter Demarest & Maria Batton (see genealogy) was a Revolutionary Soldier serving as a private in the Haekensaek Company. It is said his wife Willempie Bogart was a strong and fearless woman. They lived in the neighborhood when the plundering and persecutions of the Tories was a constant menace. Mrs. Demarest is said to have guarded well her husband's property, even to chaining the horses and cattle, from the marauding parties." "It is said of other wives that they guarded their property during the daytime with guns while their husbands slept." What a pity there is not more known of the women of the Township during that period.

1794—Sept. 17

I Henery Rixon do voluntarily enlist with Peter Hassenfretz to serve for him as soldier if required in Captain Helers Company or any other Company he is wanted in, and to receive in lieu thereof twenty Dolars bounty, but in case I am not wanted to serve or doth not serve, I am entitled to no more than Seven Dollars. Note, I received One Dollar in hand. Therefore if I do not go or serve I am to receive only Six Dollars but I go or serve I am to receive Nineteen Dollars.

his  
HENERY X RIXON.

Signed, Sealed and acknowledged  
the Day above written in the presence  
of

mark

MICKL. KIERAN  
NICHOLAS LOSYE  
WILLIAM WASET  
HUGH CASSIDY

I sine of this indenter to  
William Ely.

WILLIAM X MAGEE  
mark

PETER HASSENFRETZ.

1794—Sept. 20

I Peter Horsenflox of the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, is firmly bound, and I do hereby bind myself, unto William Ely, of the County & State afore said to find a good able Body Man to march at a moment's warning in the Quota of the first Battillon of the Second Regt. and for such service I do hereby acknowledge to have Received the sum of Sixteen Pounds in full—York Currency.

1794—Sept. 19

We the underwritten are hereby firmly bound to each other in the sum or sums of Money which shall be lawfully assesed on us, for the paying of a substute to serve in this the Millitia of the Class of the underwritten.

William Ely  
Thomas Howard  
Yacobus Poulis  
Albart Waldrom  
George Wilsson  
Paulus Paulusson  
Burekhardt Klotback ?  
Abraham Devoe Jur.  
Jacobus Waldrom

John Paulusson  
Peter J. Demarest  
Jacobus Demarest  
John Demarest  
Peter Demarest  
Jacobus J. Demarest  
Phillip Husman  
Guiliam Demarest  
Jane Demarest  
John De Hruseh ?

“Every man over 18 years of age had to train each year until they trained 10 years. They wore white trousers, blue coats, high hats. The officers wore a red silk scarf across their bodies and high red feathers on the front of their hats. June 4th was annual training day, all meeting at Haacken-sack.”

“The Continentals—of whom Garret G. Ackerson Sen was Captain wore drab knee breeches & vest & blue coats & three cornered hats.

1802

Capt. Cadmus. one man (Seal) Returned Ruben Hemmond  
1 Dol.

A Return of all the men who have been fined for Defeianey and non attendance at the Battle Muster on May 17 1802—  
RYNIER EARLE Capt.

Also a Return of Regiments Muster fined for the same on June 1802 and October

RYNIER EARLE Capt.

Rune Ludlam .....	\$3	John Evens .....	\$2
Matthias Wade .....	2	James Ludliam .....	1
John Lunliam .....	2	Henry Speer .....	1
Ezeele Stillwell .....	3	Able Smith .....	1
Robert Renwick .....	2	William Crum .....	2
Michel Floy .....	3	Nathan Slaker .....	1
Nathaniel Bud .....	1	John Post .....	1
Samuel Pryme .....	1		

1812—March 26

Notice is heare by given that an election will be held for Military Officers wanting in the 3d Company 1st Battilion 2d Reg. Bergen Bergade on the forth Day of April next at one oclock in the afternoon of said day at the house of Peter D. Christie, inn keeper at Seraalenbergh

JOHN D. HARING Maj.

1812

John J. Jr. Demarest Dr—  
A hat, feather, sword and belt.  
£7.12.0.

1812

Gabril Purdy—Dr—  
to horses goen to traing. £0.8.0

Barant Naugle was in command of a training band.

## SCHOOLS.

1773—Sept. 25

Mr. Berry Romine to Geo. Jansen Dr—			
To 10 lbs nails deld. Roelof Romine for			
the School House at the Ponds.....	£0.	8.	4.
To 13¾ years Interest.....		8	0
		<hr/>	
		£0.16.	4

1785

Dr John Van Giesen

to Peter Wilson

To Tuition of Paul Van Giesen from Oct.			
15 1785 to Nov 15 Do at writing.....	£0.	10.	0
1786—To Do at Do from July 3rd 1786 to Oct.			
3 Do .....	0.	10.	0
1787—To Do from Augt. 21st 1787 to Sept. Do..	0.	10.	0
		<hr/>	
	£1.	10.	0

Mr. Van Giesen

Please to pay to Jacob. Smith the sum one Pound ten shillings the amount of the above acct. & his Receipt shall be your discharge from your humble Servt.

PETER WILSON.

1788—John Walker, school master.

1794—Oct. 22

Received of Isaac Kipp for schooling your son Peter Aley the sum of four shillings

LEWIS TICHENOR.

1798

To Thomas Grace teacher of school Dr  
to 4 Glasses Gin Grog.—0.2.8.

1798—July 19

Received of Jacobus Demarest Esq—the sum of eighteen shillings it being in full for school teaching for Bess, and all other accounts till this Date

£0.18.0. Per JOH. JOHNSON.

1800

“Margaret Lydecker attended school in a small stone building on her father’s—Cornelius Lydecker—farm, Liberty Pole. The teacher was James Forester, son of Dr. Forester.”

“James Forrester was born in Edinburg Feb. 25, 1775. landed in America Oct. 16, 1794. In 1795 at the age of 20 years he commenced teaching school at Closter. He remained 3½ years when he returned to Liberty Pole. Here he taught 8 years. He then accepted a position in N. Y. City.”

1800—April 5

Received of Jacobus Demarest Esq—the sum of ten shillings it being in full for one Quarters School Teaching for Bess—

£0.10.0

JOH. JOHNSON.

1811

James Carson Cr. for one Qr. Skuling

0.12.0

1818—Aug. 8

Reed. from Mr. Wm. Ely Twenty eight and one sixpence in full for Tuition, New Bridge

WM. B. KIPP.

1818

“Liberty Pole School House opposite the Tavern was one of the oldest in Bergen County. It was replaced in 1818 by a new school building erected by the Liberty Pole School Union Company. Children from under the Palisades attended school there. School was from 9 till 5 in summer and 9 till 4 in winter. Only vacation at Christmas holidays. During strawberry time children desiring to pick strawberries were excused. About 1845 the teacher was Mr. Robinson.

“Many years, after 1818, it was torn down and rebuilt at Highwood, N. J., about 1 mile above, on the Tenafly Road. All the original material being used. Now in 1916 it is occupied by a family, after being converted into a bungalow.”

1843 to 1860

“The Schraalenburg School had as teachers Peter De Baun, Abram De Baun, — Cheesebrough & John Meyers.”

### THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From “First Centennial History of Schools in Bergen County,” by Supt. Demarest.

“Previous to the passage of the school act of 1846 the schools were supervised by township committees, elected at the annual town meetings. Prior to 1842 the school committee never had reported to the board of trustees of the school fund as the law required them to do. The newly-appointed committee, in conformity to a resolution adopted by the people assembled at town-meeting, were instructed to report at the ensuing town-meeting the condition of the public schools in the township.”

Part of report read at the annual town-meeting 10th April, 1843:

“Section thirteen of the act to establish public schools in the State of N. J. imposes upon one or more of the members of the school committee to visit and examine the schools in their respective townships at least once every six months, and on or before the first Monday in March report their state and condition, the number of scholars taught, the terms of tuition, the length of time the schools have been kept open, the amount of money received of the collector, and the manner in which the same was expended.”

“In obedience to the mandate contained in this section the school committee *did* visit a majority of the schools last fall. In the early part of February last they sent circulars to the trustees of all the schools, inclosing a blank form of a legal report, and requesting the trustees to complete the same, for which the committee would call on or before the first Monday in March.”

“They visited school No. 6—New Bridge—and No. 7—Schraalenburg. At New Bridge the average number of scholars taught is thirty-four; terms of tuition, \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.00. The school has been kept open all the year; the amount of money received of the collector \$74.80, which has been expended for the education of poor children, and for the expenses of the school house.” (The school house was opposite the tavern.)

“The average number of children taught at Schraalenburg is forty-seven; terms of tuition, \$1.50. School kept open the whole year; amount of money received of the collector \$83.60, all of which, except a balance of \$5.48 has been expended for the tuition of poor scholars, for extinguishing the debt on the school house and paying the expense of the school.”

“School No. 4 at the Liberty Pole is in good condition. The average number of scholars taught is forty-five; price of tuition, \$1.75; school kept open the whole year with the omission of a few days; received of the collector, \$100.00, \$62.23 of which has been expended for the education of poor children; the surplus funds of last year, added to the remainder of this year, have been used for erecting a cupola on their school house and the purchase of a bell, for keeping the school house in repair and providing the necessary articles for the use of the school.”

“School No. 2 at Fort Lee was visited. The school building appears to be the best, largest, and most commodious of any in the township. A becoming spirit animates all in the furtherance of popular education. The average number of scholars taught is fifty-two; the terms of tuition, \$1.50 and \$2.00; the school has been kept open the whole year; the amount of money received, \$92.44. Out of this sum was paid for interest due on the school house debt \$30.00; to paying



teacher, \$30.00; for stove and fuel, \$24.00, leaving an unexpended balance of \$8.40. Poor children are admitted free of charge, the teacher being engaged by the year at a fixed compensation."

"First free school in Bergen County was at Fort Lee and still flourishing. April 3, 1858."—Bergen County Journal.)

"No. 3 at the English Neighborhood was next visited. The school at the time contained only eighteen scholars whilst the number residing in the district is eighty. The principal cause of this discrepancy is that another school is taught in the district. Price of tuition, \$2.00. School kept open eight months in the year past; received, \$79.20, of which \$43.17 has been expended for school furniture, for cleaning and repairing school and paying the teacher."

"School No. 5 at Teaneck was visited. There were about sixteen scholars present. The only report we obtained from the trustees merely mentions the number of children in the district, which is fifty-six; the number taught, which is twenty-eight, and the amount of money received, being \$49.50."

"School No. 10 at Upper Teaneck was visited. The average number taught is thirty-eight; price of tuition, \$1.50; received of the collector, \$59.40, which according to the statement of the trustees 'has been expended for the use and support of the school.' No vacancy the last year."

"The report from part District No. 8 at the Flats says that the number of scholars taught is twenty-three; price of tuition, \$1.50 and \$1.75; no vacancy the past year; \$31.99, money received; 75 cents of this has been expended for repairs and the remainder *equally dividend among the children.*"

"The report of part District No. 9, Closter, merely gives the number of legal school age residing in the district, which is thirty-four, which barely enables them to receive their portion of the school money."

"The report of part District No. 1 at Bulls Ferry gives the average number of children taught as sixteen; terms of tuition, \$2.00; received of collector, \$17.60; expended in repairing school house and purchasing fuel."

Signed (JOHN VAN BRUNT')

## PHYSICIANS AND THEIR BILLS.

1749

Doct. Kemmena, 1749.

Dr. J. Van Wagner, 1779.

Engelbart Kemmena, 1780-83.

Beekman Van Bueren, 1779, 1784-86-90-83-99, 1805-06-07-09. (Deceased in 1812.)

Dr. John Van Bueren, 1788.

J. Lewis, 1804.

John Campbell, 1808.

Isaac N. D. V. Frolich, 1815.

David Marvin, 1814-15-16-19-20-23.

Dr. Abraham Hopper, 1829.

## BILLS FOR MEDICAL ATTENDANCE.

1749

New York. Received ye 13 November 1749 of Peter Demareay (Sen) ye sun of Six Shillings Be it in full of all accounts  
Per DOCT. KEMMENA

£0.6.0

1780

Mrs De Wedue Mareest To  
Dot Engelbart Kemmena  
To tending and medecins  
for Mrs Mareast £3.13.0  
To purghs for the Negero boy 2.0  
Rec. the full contents wydt  
in for me Engelbart Kemmena  
November 17 1780

1784

Mr. Jacoby D. Meref

To Doctor Beekman Van Bueren.

Feb.

28 to innocloting 7 of your family.....£4. 1. 0

31st to a visit ..... 0. 1. 0

" to a Dose annodyn..... 0. 2. 6

April

1st to a Purge ..... 0. 1. 6

" to 2 Doss anodyn..... 0. 4. 0

13 to a viset ..... 0. 1. 0

" to Bleden ..... 0. 1. 6

" to a mixer for the fity (city) children... 0. 2. 0

14 to a viset ..... 0. 1. 0

" to a Purge ..... 0. 1. 6

May			
8	a Dose for Worms.....	0.	1. 6
June 6 to 6	Worm Powders.....	0.	6. 0
			£5. 7. 6

Oct. 29 Red. the ful Contents in ful of all acct. Per Mee  
BEEKMAN VAN BUEREN.

1800

REMEDY FOR THE EPEDEMIC.

1 oz Rochelle Salts  
2 oz. Manna  
desolve them in half pint of warm water & take it in the  
course of 3 hours with as much Tamarind Water. if vometed  
up Repeat the Dose—

TRANSPORTATION.

1768

“Andrew Van Buskerk erected a stage wagon in Haeken-  
sack at the New Bridge to set out for Paulus Hook on Sept  
17th to go twice a week, for two shillings sixpence.”

1775

“He changed the terminal to Hoboken & like the others  
called his vehicle a ‘Flying Machine.’”

1768

“In the same year Jerdine Elsworth brought out his new  
caravan ‘between the Hook & New Bridge.’ He informed  
the public that his horses were very quiet & the caravan new  
& in excellent order. During the Revolution regular com-  
munication ceased.”—Bergen County Atlas.

“Liberty Pole Tavern Omnibus that left every day (Sun-  
day excepted) at seven o'clock in the morning reaching Ho-  
boken in 3 hours Returning, left Hoboken at 4 p. m. &  
reached the Pole at 7 p. m.”

1783-1784

Michel Feefer was taxed for a “Ferry.”

Schooners & Sloops sailed the Hackensack River as far as  
New Milford. At New Bridge was a Dock.

“Stages left New Bridge for Fort Lee. John Ackerman  
owned an omnibus with the door in the rear. Everybody  
liked to ride with Mr. Ackerman as he had fast horses.”

The boats carried all kinds of freight.  
The stages carried pasengers & packages also mail.

## RIDING CHAIRS.

1784

On the tax list of 1784 one of the many things taxed was a "Riding Chair"—which seems to have been the Dutch term for a chaise. They were taxed \$2 per year for them. There were only three in the township.

"Chaise—A one-horse vehicle for two persons, with body hung on long leather straps, having long elastic shafts, a calash top and two high wheels."

1788

Recd. of Jacob Bamber at Paramus 28th August 1788 a cow which he valued at seven Pounds. Said sum is to be deducted of a Riding Chair I am making for him which chair I promised to make complete in the Coarse of Six Weeks—Agreed with Mr. Smith for forty pounds Jersey Currency £7.Y.P.M.

Byrne PHILLIPS SMITH.

Witness

GEO. JANSEN.

Mr. James C. Demarest, now 92 years old, told of his remembrance of a Riding Chair.

"His mother, Effy, b. 1804, was a daughter of Peter C. Westervelt of English Neighborhood, who owned a chair which was considered 'very fine.' His mother when a young girl and her brother dressed up in their best clothes and started off in the chair to spend the day at Hoboken. When they reached the bridge, nearby were some sailboats. The horse became frightened and bolted. All were thrown in the river. The men from the boats hurried to their rescue. One cut the harness and the horse escaped. Another caught the boy and got him to the pier and told him to 'hold on;' then he swam to the girl, who was bobbing up and down for the last time, and caught her by the top of her bonnet, which fortunately was tied under her chin with ribbons that were strong enough to hold, so she was rescued."

## FERRIES OVER THE HUDSON RIVER.

"Closter Landing was called The Great Rock Reach."

"At one point a little rowboat is struggling across, tossing among the whitecaps. An old Dutchman plies the oars, rowing sturdily, and at last lands his passengers on the other shore. A few miles beyond and you see another rowboat ferry—and another. What are those quaint little sailing vessels wending their way? Periogas they are called, carrying both passengers and freight from bank to bank. So at

many points the Hudson was bridged by the rowboats and the periongas at much the same points—in fact, where you can bridge it today borne by the power of twentieth century mechanism.

“Burdett’s Ferry, Fort Lee, was the only communication between the sister forts, Washington and Lee, and while Mollie Sneden, that valiant and famous little Tory, was operating the ferry at Sneden’s Landing, five miles above Alpine, the loyal patriot Peter Burdette was assisting our army to transport ammunition and supplies, as well as soldiers, from shore to shore, while his better-half cooked flapjacks for General Washington.”—From *New York Times*, 1914, by Sarah Comstock.

## CHURCHES.

REV. SOLOMON FROELIGH.

In 1786 called to Reformed Dutch congregations of Hackensaack and Schraalenburg; officiated thirty-nine years.

In 1800 he wrote in regard to the religious revival in the above congregations:

“Schraalenburgh, March 17, 1800.

“Sir,—I feel myself prompted to transmit to you a detail of the surprising work of the Divine Spirit in the congregation under my care, which is of several years’ continuance. Thirteen years ago, when I became pastor of these congregations, I found religion among them in a very low ebb; nothing appeared the least encouraging but a disposition to attend ordinances; family worship had nearly become extinct—the young people were generally addicted to levity, and the slaves exceedingly vicious. This was the deplorable state of my flock for a series of year. But the first season that the epidemic prevailed in Philadelphia I preached on a fast day from Psalm *ixxvi.11.12*. This was the beginning of a glorious work of conversion among the people of my charge; it affected persons of every rank and age, from fifty years and upwards down to twelve, and a considerable number of black people. Both black and white prepared for church membership. In the space of nine months, I admitted nearly two hundred communicants, and baptised a large number of black people. Prayer meetings were set up, and have continued ever since. We frequently have a meeting season under preaching on the Lord’s Day—especially on sacramental occasions, when the Lord’s Supper is generally administered to between two and three hundred persons, which, though not an over-large number in a city, yet in a country congregation, much larger than usual—&c.”—From a Lamentation over the Rev. Solomon Froeligh, *SS.T.D. & P*—1827.

1799

“Fees for registering children be at least two shillings and that one half be paid the clerk if the child be baptized where (the clerk) officiates. The remainder belongs to the minister.”

There were many papers referring to pew rents, pastors' salaries and other monies, but simply references.

## TWO BAPTISMAL RECORDS IN DUTCH.

(Parents.)

Het Kint van Roelef  
Bogert. Endo moeder  
Jannitie Banta

(Birth &amp; Baptism dates)

Gebooren Den 10 May  
Gedoopt. Den 8 June  
in Het jaar 1788 het Kinto  
naem Jacob.

(Witness)

Jacob Banta En Eyn  
Huisorow Catrinna Lam  
Syn getuigen

Wort Een Damkseggenge Begert voor Een Kramvrouw.

(A thanksgiving in church is desire for a lady in childbed.)

Ouders

(Parents)

Petrus Bogert  
Maria Christie

Kint

(Child)

Grietie Gb.  
Augustus d. 10d

Ganygen

(Witnesses)

Jan Bogert  
Margriettie Demarst.

1788

This prayer was written by Jacobus Demarest on a scrap of paper about 1800:

“O lord wilt thou Revive thy work Amongst us. May a general Reformation take place within our Selves, within our Nighbourhood & throu out our Common Country. May we all be flocking to the standard of Jesus the Rock of our Salvation O Lord we thank the that our lot is fauling in pleasant plaices and that we have a standing into a Land of Gospel Light and Liberty and that we are blest with priviledg far and above our fellow creature.”

This prayer was written in Duteh by James Demarest:

“The Lord grant now abundantly to the needy and poor in the land, for they are evidently those whom Christ has left in his place. ‘Give a portion to seven, yea to eight for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.’ The Lord grant you a hearing ear and an understanding heart in order that we may add something to the glory of God’s most holy name and to the salvation of our souls. Amen.”

## BRIDGES.

1682

“For the first time commissioners were appointed to lay out roads, provide ferries and Bridges,” after formation of Bergen County.

1759

Action taken on “Building & repairing bridges.”  
Freeholder & Justices’ book.

1764

Johannes Demarest and John Zabriskie shall procure iron chains & fix the same to the draw bridge over the Hackensaek river instead of ropes.—1st Freeholders & Justices’ book.

1765

Ordered that Lawrence Van Buskirk Esq and John Zabriskie do take the chains that are now on the New Bridge & dispose of them to the best advantage for the benefit of the county and ordered that they shall buy good Pitched Ropes & fix upon the Draw Bridge & have said Bridge put in good repair.—Freeholders and Justices’ book.

1768

That the Bridg commonly called the New Bridge between Lawrence VanBuskirk’s Esq. and John Zabriskie shall be repaired.—Freeholders and Justices’ book.

1797—March 7

“Samuel Ogden and 36 other contractors were incorporated as ‘The Proprietors of the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic and Hackensaek,’ and under their charter claimed the exclusive rights to erect bridges over these rivers.”

1819—May 13

The Board of Freeholders adopted the following:

“Resolved, That a committee be appointed to superintend the following bridges, viz., Old Bridge, New Bridge and Hackensaek Bridge.

“Resolved, That Messrs. P. C. Westervelt, J. A. Westervelt and P. A. Terhune be said committee.

“Resolved, That the committee be and are hereby authorized to prosecute all offences that may be for the future committed against the act of the Council and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey entitled ‘An Act to prevent the

Draws of Certain Bridges in the County of Bergen being left open.”—From Bergen & Passaic County History.

“Albert Voorhis son of John Voorhis was drowned at New Bridge through an open draw.”

1826—Nov. 10

	Bergen County Dr. (to William Ely)		
	Dr. for Labor Don to the New Bridge...	£0.	1. 0
	one lb of Spiks.....	0.	1. 0
17	Dr for Inspecting A. Bridge.....	0.	8. 0
19	Dr for inspecting A. Bridge.....	0.	8. 0
	County Cr for old timber.....	0.	12. 0
Dec. 2	Dr for Inspecting A. Bridge.....	0.	8. 0
	Ditto for inspecting A. Bridge & Seling the old timber.....	0.	8. 0
11	Dr for Repairing the Draw of the New Bridge . . . . .	0.	8. 0
29	Dr for Labour Don to the New Bridge..	0.	4. 0

1827

Jan. 24	Dr for Repairs Don to the New Bridge..	0.	8. 0
27	Dr for taking the Spileings of the peare out of the Ice and bringing them on Shore . . . . .	0.	16. 0
Mar. 5	Dr for Repairing the Oraw of the New Bridge . . . . .	0.	7. 0
24	Dr for viewing A. Bridge.....	0.	4. 0
26	Dr for Repairing the Draw of the New Bridge . . . . .	1.	0. 0
Apr. 4	Dr for planking the Draw of the New Bridge . . . . .	0.	12. 0
	Dr for 13 lbs of Spiks.....	0.	3. 0
	Dr for Bolts & Nuts.....	0.	1. 0

(From an account book.)

1830

Article of sale of repairs of the Old Bridge near the house of Casparus J. Demarest. The repairs of said bridge and of the draw of said bridge to be put up at public vendue and to be struck off to the lowest bidder. The bill of timber necessary for repairing said bridge and draw are as follows, viz.:

For Draw—

			inches	feet
4 pieces	6 feet long,	4 in. by	7	— 20
1 do	7.6	8	12	— 20
1 do	7.6	6	8	— 15
1	14	3	5	— 17.6

Also 2 pieces for South Wheel

5.6 long 3 — 6



Also 288 feet of two inch measure of yellow black oak or white oak plank—to be two inches thick and 12 feet long for the draw and 168 feet of two inch measure of wood as aforesaid plank to be two inches thick and 14 feet long to be put on the West Side of the Bridge beginning from where the new are now and so on to the west side and if not found sufficient to fill out the Bridge then the best of the old plank and to be used. The new plank for draw are to be put on the East Side and to be spiked down well with spikes at least four inches long and four spikes to be put to a plank, i. e. each sleeper one, the purchaser is to overhaul the whole of the draw and make it to work well on the same principal and plan as it is now, together with the work required on the said bridge the plank on the Bridge to be pined down with wooden pins or spikes as the purchaser shall choose best. The west end of the draw to be covered with the best of the old plank that are now on the said draw and to be spiked down as aforesaid the bridge to be completed on the 25th day of September Instant Subject to the Inspection of William Ely. Sale subject to an adjournment. The iron work will be found by William Ely all but the spike.

Sold on the 3d September 1830 to GEORGE TAYLOR for \$32.75

1831

Articles of Sale of the repairs of the New Bridge across the Hackensack River. Together with the timber wanting for said repairs—

First. the repairs of said Bridge i. e. timber work, iron work, and spikes to be furnished by the purchaser.

2d. The repairs of said bridge to be struck of the lowest bidder subject to an adjournment

3 The following is the amount of timber wanting for said Bridge—

242 feet, inch measure of plank White Oak. Black Oak timber plank to be a stout inch thick and to be 11 ft long

346.6. inch measure of plank to be one inch and one half inch thick and to be 11 feet long to be *put on the draw the thick plank to be put on the east side and the thin on the west.*

4 pieces joist for the tip of said draw	5 ft 6 in long	4-4 thick—	29 ft 4 in	
1 Rabbit piece	21 "	5-6	— 56	6
2 hand rail posts	3 "	4-4	— 8	0
		of timber	93	10
		Plank	588	6
		Inch measure ?	632	4

4th The purchaser is to find & bolt with screws and nut to fasten the hinges of the tip part of said draw.

5th The plank to be well spiked down and the timber to be White Oak except the plank which may be of Black or White Oak as the purchaser shall chuse the purchaser shall also fasten the hand rail post or posts which want fastening. the whole of the above repairs to be finished on the first of October next in a workman ship manner subject to the inspection of William Ely and John Zabriskie

Sold this 30th day of August 1831 to me

Simon W. Demarest

for \$21.00.

At one time the "draw" was the "lift" type—one end being elevated. It worked by balancing weights and turned by a large key. Note article 4.

At another time the "draw" was of the "slide" type. It was drawn over the roadway of the main bridge.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

1733

On a map of 1733 the Overpeck Creek is called "Oversack River."

1742

The oldest document in the collection:

November ye. 13th 1742

Carman.

Mr Peter Demorrest Sir Pay or cause for to be paid unto Danniell Trasy or his order ye sum of fifteen Schillins and that without delay and this shall be your Suffititent Discharg. Sir I Remain Yours.

LOURONS VAN BOSKERCK.

New York April the 12 Day 1743

Received of Peiter Demeray the sum of four pounds four shillings and nine pence for cart work in full of all accounts.

I say Received by me

RICHARD BOOGERTH.

The bill.

the Large Boolt. wt 17 lbs at 9 pence p. pound  
 the 2 Skaines & 4 Bands wt. 33 pounds  
 the 4 Boxis wt 18½ pounds  
 the 8 Staples & 2 Linch pins & 2 bolts 08 pounds  
 the Back Band & Chanes wt 10 pounds  
 the coller rings & chains wt 14½ pounds

May In all the weight is 101½.....	£3.	17.	3
8 to new Shews for your hors.....	0	3	0
15 to old Shews .....	0	1	6
21 to a huck and chane for your cart wheel... 0	0	3	0

---

Dr to Richard Boogerth.

1757

Ordered that there be a sufficient Stock made in the Precinct of Hackensack to be managed & ordered by the Freeholders Cornelius Lydecker & Barant Cool at ye convenient place near the *New Bridge*—1757—Book of Freeholders and Justices.

1769

Shall be set up Posts and Painted Markes directing the several roads in said County and to be put up in Precint of Hackensack by direction of Lawrence L. Van Buskirk and Peter De Grote.—Book of Freeholders and Justices.

1783—Single men were taxed £0.12.0.

1784—Single men were taxed £0.7.3.

1786

Beekman Van Buren

to Nathan Squire Dr

To Chocolate and Cakes.....	0.	2.	0
To 1 handkerchief.....	0.	6.	6

1790

The name “teanaffy” appears on a document of 1790.

1796

Reed New Bridge Oct 22 1796 of Jacobus Demarest the sum of four Dollars it being for a Colt. of the Bold Hunter.  
URAL MEEKER.

(The Bold Hunter is often referred to in these documents.)

1800

PARTITION PAPER.

Whereas the Heirs of Peter P. Demarest late of the precinct of Hackensack in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey decesed have made partitin of the Real Estate of the said decesed, and whereas the Widow ——— has

a life interest in the Real estate aforesaid and it being possible that she may disturb, interrupt, and injure, one or more of the said Heirs in the enjoyment of their Respective Shares & Portions, Agreed that while the said widow shall be contented to receive a support from the said heirs, in lieu of enjoying the said Real Estate &c, she shall be at liberty to board or live with such of the heirs as she shall from time to time, select, prefer & choose and the price of the board & also the Doctors Bills, & the money wanted to purchase wearing apparel shall be borne & paid by the said heirs—Provided always that no more than 37 Dollars and 50 cts. per annum shall be charged for board. Signed \_\_\_\_\_

1802

New York, Oct 18 1802

Dear Christian friends

Mr & Mrs Elley May the Blessing of the Lord God of Israel under whose wings I hope you have been enabled to trust, Bless You and all that appertains to you Boath in the upper Springs and in the nether Springs. Be so Kind to give our Christian Love to your Honored father and Mother in law, Cobes & Pege, our Kind friends Judge & Mrs Haring & family to geather with those Christian friends that use to meet with us at a throne of grace not forgetting your worthy Pastor. I often refliet with comfort the time I lived amongst you and the many sweet oppetuntys I enjoyed at a throne of grace with you in the Little Retired habitation the Lord was please to provide for us tho at the expence of our Landlord happyyness, that little hut the Lord hath (blessed be his Holy name for it,) often been please to meake it a bethel to our soules. and a Palace weare he as King of Zion had often come in to sup with ous and we with him. I am grieved to hear that it has become a den of theeves, that the walls if they could speak, togeather with the trees and hedges would bear witness of our secret Converse and communion with our Dear Lord Jesus Christ should now hear nothing but that blessed name in whom your Souls Desire to trust and rejoice, Blasphemed from Day to Day. Mrs Chalk and my self being boath fond of solitude, the Lord hath been pleased in the general to cast our lot in the cities hath often caused me to admire Dr Watts paraphrase on the 55 Psalm weare he saith

O. were I like a feathered Dove  
and innocence had wings  
Id fly and make a long remove  
from all these restless things

Let me to some wild Dessert go  
 and find a peaceful home  
 Where storms of Malice never blow  
 temptations never come

But this world is not the Christian rest and to be Delivered from trouble we must be Deliverd from this body in which we dwell, in the world ye shall have tribulation saith our Dear Lord but in me ye shall have Peace therefore the Doctor goes on an saith

Vain hopes and vain invaluations all  
 to scape the rage of hell  
 the Mighty God on whom I call  
 Can save me here as well.

And may it be his blessed will who hath saved us with an everlasting salvation, saves us from day to day by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Gost even so be it Lord Jesus Amen. Amen.

Mr Elley Mrs Chalk sent to you some time ago to counter-order the cyder contrary to our intenchen. I should be glad therefore if you could fill that one barel that I left with you for that purpos with such as you know will suit. Send it by Mr. Buskerks Schooner and if you could send me a Bushel of your keeping apples with the cyder I should be obliged to you send the bill along with it and I will remit you the money to you by Mr Haring or pay it to any of your order as you shall think best. Be so kind to nail the directions on the barel, direct, for Mr Chalk at Mr Mac (torn off) Dry Good Store Greenwich oppisite the States Prison. NB you have heard no doubt by Miss Peggy Demarest your sister of the Lords disposale of us in a way of providence since I had the pleasur of seeing you I shall therefore only subscribe my self your in Christ Jesus. Affectinatly

JAMES CHALK.

This letter was folded and sealed with wax in the customary manner and directed to

Mr Elley farmer  
 New Bridge  
 New Jersey

By favor of Mr Samul Hering

Mr. (Wm.) Elley's wife was a daughter of Jacobus Demarest, Esq.

The following may have reference to the "den of thieves" spoken of in the letter of 1802 preceding:

"When the old school house at Liberty Pole opposite the Tavern was torn down prior to 1812 (the new one was built then) it was found to have been 'a den of thieves.' There was a quantity of silver articles that had been pounded and broken ready to put in a melting pot. Other articles were found showing it had been a meeting place for lawless people."

1806

Notice is hereby given that I the Subscriber have received into the pound on the 18th Instant Seven old Sheep marked with a Cross on the left Ear and a Slit in both ears and three young ones without mark. The owner or owners is Requested to come and pay the Cost & Damages and take them away or they will be Sold at Public Vendue at the house of Abraham Collins on the twentieth Day of August next the Vendue to begin at one o'clock in the afternoon of Said Day When attendance will be given by

WILLIAM ELY Pound Keeper.

July 15 1806

1806

Came to the Pound by order of the Widdo Nickle teen Sheep on the 18 Day of July 1806

Damages . . . . .	.50
for Receiving . . . . .	.20
for tending, keeping . . . . .	1.20
for hay During that time fore day... .	1.20
	<u>\$3.10</u>

Received of Albert

A Westervelt the sum of \$2.40 July 22 1806

1810

"We have no Law concerning Dogs killing Sheep but the Looser of Sheep is intitled to Damages as in all other Cases."

1809

An Inventerry takin this twentififth Day of August. In the year one thousand eight hundred & nine. of the Goods and Credits of Abraham Ely Dec. after the Desies of the widow Catherine Ely.

One feather beed & two sheats one pair of polloeaseis two pillows one bolsters one blanket one green Rug one spread

& A suiet of Curtains & Bedsted one bed & bedstid two sheats one pair of pilloes & eaises two cover Lid & one Green Rug & Boelster one Easy Cheare & Cobard & Seven Bags & Cloase Basket. one ax & two scoops one chafein Dish. two half Bushels one half peck. & horse whip one Case & Drawers three tables and one stand Eight Windsor cheares & fore comon one lucking glass Six pictures three brass candelstieks & one common. one pair of hand Irons & one pair of Dogs. one shovel two tongs one Large Bibel & Seven other books Sixteen plaits two large boels one Coffee mill & pair of candl moles. one Safe & Book ease one Belloes & teakittel one watering pot & two funnels chease toster one bason one pint cup one Skimmer one Laidel & one fork. one brass kittel one pot. & Griddale & frying pan & toster three smooding Irons two trammals two Carthings pots fore Breth of Carpting one box & Knieffs & forks one Ceder Washtub one pail Small tub three Barrels & bake tray one grind stone & hammer one trunk & Cloth Cloak, & one Sattin Kloak one Black silk Gound one callieo Gound one Quilt & petticoat, one woding hors.

Witness Preasent

PETER ELY

MARY ELY

JAMES J. DEMAREST

#### FROM AN ACCOUNT BOOK.

1807—1 lb butter 0.2.0  
 1807—One Bushel of tators 0.4.0  
 1807—1 pt of milk 0.0.3.  
 1807—For going to Hackensak (from New bridge) 0.2.6  
 1807—Gidion Ackerman Cr. Eight Cheairs 3.4.0  
 1807—3½ bushils of flax seed 1.18.6  
 1807—1 bushel of Sault 0.8.0  
     1 lb of to-bacco 0.1.6  
     ½ bushel of Corn 0.2.9  
 1808—One Calf Skin 0.10.0  
     ½ Gallon of Oil 0.5.0.  
 1809—To one Beurow 6.8.0  
 May  
 1809—19 shad 0.15.10  
     125 herren 0.5.0  
     1 Drake 2 6  
     31 cabbage heads 8.0  
 1809—1 Gal. vinigar 0.2.0.  
     1 Qut. Rie Flour 0.7.0.  
     For matting one Chear 0.2.0.

- 1810—To — — 48 feet of Gum Bords for his Mothers Coffin  
0.16.0
- 1810—To one hogg  
7 cts lb amounts to 18 dollars 9 cts
- 1810—1 Gallon of Cider 0.1.0.
- 1810—\$37.50 it being the one equal half of the price of a  
new waggon
- 1810—For the youse of the Cider mill
- 1812—To Rideing Chearse to Hoboken £0.16.0  
Paid Gates .0.5.0.
- 1812—1 Shad 0.1.0
- 1812—Two lbs Cotton 0.2.0
- 1812—A half loaf of bread 0.1.0.
- 1812—for making one trowsers 0.3.6.
- 1812—7 lbs of Indian flour 0.1.0.  
1 lb. of Lard 0.1.3  
1½ lbs of Pork 0.1.6  
½ bbl. cider 0.7.0
- Sept. 15
- 1812—Dr Campbele Dr. three Loads of Apples with 38  
Bushels in each Load at eight Cents per Bushel  
come to \$9.12 ct.
- 1813—to one pair of sled soles 0 2 0
- 1813—7½ Bushels of Ashes 0.7.6
- 1813—10 Bushels of Oats 2.10.0
- 1814—One Qut Mutton 14½ lbs at 7D po .0 8.6
- 1814—one beasts hide waying 55 lb at 6 cents per lbs 1.6.5
- 1814—Three pare of Stoekens 0 9. 0  
1 Sheap Skin 0.1.0.
- 1815—1 Qt. Lam £0.5.0  
Oisters 0.6.0  
1 lb pepper 0.2.9.  
½ lb Tea 0.6.6.  
14 lbs wheat flour 0.7.0.  
7 lbs. Sugar 0 8.9
- 1825—To exepences to New York 0.10.0.  
Cartage 0.1.6  
horskeeping 4  
Pikeage 2.6.
- 1825—one lb of candals 0.1.0
- 1829

We the subscribers freeholders of the township of Hacken-  
sack where called to Charles Cluss to view the damage done  
by a certian Bay horse on his premises August 26th 1829

PETER J. ACKERMAN  
CARINUS BOGERT



Days	35 keeping
	10
	<hr/>
	350
	8 bringing & receiving
	50 Damage
	50 Advertising
	<hr/>
	\$4.58

## ELIZABETH ELY NOW POULUFSON DR.

(Evidently wedding outfit.)

1831—Apr. 22	
One Beurow & field Bedsted & Cord.....	\$35.87½ cts
15 yars Bedtick 6 yards Muslin & quilt cotton...	4.81
One Washkittel & teakittel & Candelstick.....	8.25
One closeline & butter tray & ladel & wash machine (board) .....	.88
Fethers & one pare Blankets.....	19.50
one pare Smoding Irons.....	.88
one Lookinglass .....	13.00
one pare hand Iron & Shovel & tongs.....	6.00
one tub fore kelors, (colors) three pales, one churn .....	10.25
one Sope tub.....	2.25
A half Dozen Chairs.....	5.00
One Cow .....	15.00
One tabel \$9, Ditto one \$4, one Stand \$4.....	17.00
1832—March 10	
Eight fancy Chares.....	14.00
Sept. 16	
Dr to Cash.....	60.00

the Above account must not  
Be chard against her.

(Above is from an account book.)

# THE LUTHERANS ON THE HACKENSACK.

BY

DAVID D. DEMAREST, D. D.

Read before the New Brunswick Historical Club, Nov. 18th,  
1897.

(Courtesy New Brunswick Historical Club.)

It was my privilege a few years ago to read before this club a paper on the Huguenots on the Hackensack. In it I attempted to show that the Huguenots who, under the leadership of David de Maret had in 1678 settled on the eastern side of the Hackensack River, about three miles above the present village of that name, had built a church about the year 1682, in which the French language was used and which was occasionally visited by D'Aille and Peiret, the French Huguenot ministers of New York City. De Maret had obtained from the Proprietor a patent for two thousand acres with the expectation of obtaining from France a number of co-religionists to occupy it. His church building antedates that of the Reformed Dutch in the Village of Hackensack by about fourteen years, the latter having been built in 1696. The cemetery adjoining the church is known as the French burying ground. It is the oldest in that part of the country. I visited it last summer and found that it was fairly well cared for.

About one mile south of this, on the same side—that is, the eastern bank of the river, and close to the water's edge, on a bank twenty-five feet above the river, another church was built by the Dutch people. The chief exception was Albert Zabrowski from Poland, the ancestor of the Zabriskies, for besides the Huguenots almost all the settlers of this region were Low Dutch. The large stone ante-revolutionary building known as the Zabriskie house stands at the western end of the New Bridge. It is an interesting fact that Baron Steuben purchased it after the Revolutionary war and occupied it for a short time until the State of New York presented him with a large tract of land from which Steuben County is named. \*Here he lived to the end of his days. We find, then, in close proximity three ecclesiastical or-

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\*Dr. Demarest in his statement concerning the manner in which Baron Steuben obtained the "Zabriskie" house, is in error as will be seen by referring to the very able article written by Mr. William A. Linn and published in first Year Book of the Bergen County Historical Society.

ganizations and three church buildings. First and oldest of these was the Huguenot congregation, which, having been reduced to nine communicants, dropped out of existence in 1696, when, of course, the worship was abandoned. In that year the Low Dutch Reformed people, who had been organized into a church in 1686, and had worshipped ten years in some temporary building, began to build the first house of worship in the village of Hackensack. The Huguenots, being perfectly familiar with the Dutch language, which had been, in fact, adopted among the younger families, and also being in full accord with the Dutch people in doctrine, government and mode of worship, threw in their lot with them, aided in building their house of worship and identified themselves with them completely. So the Huguenot congregation came to an end so effectually that their descendants of the present day are filled with surprise when told that their ancestors read their Bibles, prayed and sang Maret's psalms in the French language.

Immediately after this came in the Low Dutch Lutheran element, which formed a congregation and built a church, which continued far longer than the Huguenot had.

At the time of the colonization of the New Netherlands the Calvinistic faith was the prevailing type of Protestantism in Old Netherlands. The state church was Calvinistic. At no time was adherence to this doctrine and order more strongly felt than it was when the first congregation was established on Manhattan Island in 1628, for the Arminian controversy had just been settled by an exactment of the Canons of the Synod of Dort, which had adjourned only nine years before, in 1619. In Old Holland belonging to other faiths, Jews, Anabaptists, Lutherans and others had long been tolerated and were numerous. In the city of Amsterdam there were thirty thousand Lutherans. The Lutheran congregation of that city has a grand history. Among its members were many excellent, enterprising and prosperous people, some of whom came to this new country very early. In 1654 they had become so numerous in New Amsterdam that they proposed to have a minister of their own denomination. They asked permission of Governor Stuyvesant to call one and to open a place for public worship. The request was denied by the Governor on the ground that he was sworn to allow the privilege of public worship only to the Reformed. The Dutch ministers Megapolensis and Drisiur were with him. The directors of the New Jersey company, not wishing to antagonize so valuable an element of the population, instructed Stuyvesant "to use all moderate exertions to allure the Lutherans to the Dutch church and to matriculate them in the public Reformed religion."

But Stuyvesant had no idea of moderation in dealing with persons who would not conform to his ideas. In 1656 he issued his famous edict against conventicles and unlicensed preachers who were not in harmony with the established religion as set forth by the Synod of Dort. Those who ventured to disregard it were punished by fine or imprisonment. The edict was especially aimed at the Lutherans, who complained of it to the New Jersey Company. The Company rebuked Stuyvesant, saying: "We would fain not have seen your worship's hand set to the placard against the Lutherans, nor have heard that you opposed them with the punishments of which they have complained to us, because it has always been our intention to let them enjoy all calmness and tranquillity. Wherefore will you not hereafter publish any similar placards without our previous consent, but allow to all the free exercise of their religion within their own houses."

On the strength of this the Lutheran congregation of Amsterdam, without consulting the Governor, or the New Jersey Company, or the classis of Amsterdam, sent a clergyman, John Goetwater, to organize a church and to officiate publicly in New Amsterdam. Stuyvesant ordered his return to Holland by the same ship that had brought him, which order was not enforced from a humane consideration of Mr. Goetwater's health. The New Jersey Company did not rebuke Stuyvesant for his proceeding, but thought that it might have been done in a "more gentle way."

The Lutherans felt that they could not let their children remain unbaptized and so they were compelled to bring them to the Reformed ministers for baptism, but it went against their consciences to answer in the affirmative the question: "Do you acknowledge the doctrine which is contained in the Old and New Testaments, and in the articles of the Christian Faith and which is taught here in this Christian church to be true and perfect doctrine of salvation?" The question had been put in this form by the Synod of Dort. But there was the older form of 1591 which required the promise that the child should be "instructed in the doctrines of the New and Old Testaments and in the creed." To this they did not object, urging that the Reformed ministers in the Netherlands use the old form as well as the new, considering it a matter of little difference. But the ministers in New Amsterdam would not take this view of the matter. The New Jersey Company here came to the relief of the Lutherans by ordering that the old formulary, word for word, should be used in New Amsterdam and that the ministers should not by too great preciseness alienate and drive away other persons. But the ministers insisted that this was a purely

ecclesiastical matter, and so it was referred to the classis of Amsterdam.

Happily this difficulty and all the other obstacles were removed after the province came under the authority of the English. Nicolls, the first royal Governor, at once granted permission to call a minister from Holland. After some disappointments one arrived in 1669, Jacob Frabricius, whose life was so scandalous that he was at once removed from his charge. It is due to his memory to say that he afterwards for a number of years did good service as pastor of the Wicano Church, near Philadelphia, and lived to a good old age, highly respected as a pastor and preacher.

At this time, 1671, a house of worship was built somewhere beyond the fortifications of the city. Two years afterwards, when the Dutch returned to power temporarily, they took down this building for military reasons, but they compensated the congregation for their loss. They soon proceeded to the erection of a new house of worship built of stone on the corner of Rector Street and Broadway.

The successor of Frabricius was Bernard Antony Arensius. He died in 1691, having served the congregation twenty years. It is presumed that he was a faithful, industrious pastor, prudently pursuing his work in the troublous times of changes of rule from English to Dutch and from Dutch to English and the many disquieting circumstances connected with these changes. His death occurred in the same year that Leister was executed. Now a vacancy of ten years occurred.

In 1701, Andrew Rudman, one of the Swedish Lutheran ministers, pastor in Philadelphia, was taken in charge of the congregation in New York. He waited the arrival of Pastor Sandels from Sweden to take his place and did not come to New York until the next year (1702). He found things in a very low state. The church building needed repairs, and he saw that they were made. He also perfected the organization of the church. He had a census taken of all the Lutherans in the city and on Long Island, and the church master, Lawrence Van Boskerck, furnished him with a list of all the Lutherans living on the Hackensack. This is the first notice we have of any Lutherans living there. There were a number of families there. The principal ones were Van Boskercks. They attended the Lutheran Church in New York, which was about fifteen miles distant, of which Andrier Van Boskerck was an elder and Lawrence Van Boskerck a church warden. The Van Boskercks had settled there about twenty years before this, and no doubt their children had during this time been taken to New York to be baptized and their parents had

gone thither to commune and the most devout of them frequently to the ordinary Sunday service.

In the records of the Proprietors there is a certificate by the surveyor Vanquellen as follows: "Surveyed and laid out for Mr. Lawrence Andriesser (Van Boskerck) a tract of land upon the Hackensack River containing 1,076 acres, beginning with a stake planted by a small creek that parts David de Marais land from this—from thence running as the brook runs forty chains to a black oak tree marked on four sides by a spring—running thence E. Northerly 98 chains upon the edge of a great swamp to a white wood tree marked on four sides—thence running west 136 chains to the Hackensack River—and thence running N.N.E. as the river runs 78 chains to the stake where it first began.

"Bounded on the N.E. part by John Demarest and part by a small creek, S.E. by a great swamp, and the brook of the W. branch of Overpeck Creek, S.W. by a highway, and N.W. by the Hackensack River—allowance for barren land and highway is to remain for 900 acres English measure.

"Dated the ——— 1681.

R. VANQUELLAN.

"Liber 2, 141."

Another Van Boskerck, also named Lawrence, lived in Bergen Neck, about twenty miles from this place, or very near to Bergen Point. He was an elder and being in poor health was occasionally visited by Lutheran ministers, who sometimes held special services at his house. This was done as late as the year (1746?).

I cannot learn that Pastor Rudman visited the people at Hackensack at any time. Indeed he remained in New York only one year, for he felt that at his time of life he could not undertake the work that was to be done and that a younger and more vigorous man must be found to occupy the field. You will appreciate this more when you consider that his predecessor had been accustomed to spend part of the year in Albany and to look after the scattered communities of Lutherans along the Hudson and even in Schoharie. He therefore returned to Philadelphia.

He there found Justus Falkner, the son of a pastor in Saxony, and grandson of Doctor Franke at the University of Halle. He had come in contact with his older brother, Daniel, who was a land agent for the Frankfort Company, which had purchased 25,000 acres of land from William Penn. Rudman proposed to him that he should place him in charge of the congregation in New York, to which Falkner consented. He was accordingly ordained to the ministry by Swedish ministers, Rudman, Buick, and Sandel in the Swedish Church

in Philadelphia, November 25, 1703, and he immediately proceeded to New York, where he began his work on the second day of December. This was the first ordination performed in America by Lutheran ministers. He labored diligently in his extensive field, spending his first six months in Albany, visiting other places in the north, and six in New York and its vicinity. He also labored among the Indians and negroes. Among his earliest baptisms recorded by him was that of Maria, daughter of the Are of Guinea and his wife Jora. It was his custom in the case of every baptism to record a brief prayer or collect. In connection with the baptism of this negro child he wrote: "Lord, merciful God, thou who regardest not the persons of men, but in every nation, he that feareth thee, clothe this child with the white garment of innocence and righteousness, and let it so remain through Jesus Christ, the redeemer and saviour of all men. Amen."

The fact may be here noted there were in this country, as in Europe, two types of Lutheran ministers, which will account for many of the difficulties that arose between ministers and also between ministers and congregations. There were those who though learned men of good character and faithful in the performance of the routine duties of a pastor, were however not of a specially spirited mind, who made much of ministerial prerogative, were exacting in their demands and overbearing in their intercourse. Others equally learned, correct and particular in the performance of parochial duties, were prevaed by an evangelical spirit, laid great stress on personal, experimental element which is in religion, and showed by the sweetness of their intercourse that they preferred to be servants of the people rather than their rulers. The latter had usually been trained in the University of Halle and had imbibed the pietistic spirit of Spenser and Franke. There was a disposition on the part of the former to look down on what were called Hallistic preachers. It was well for the Lutherans of New York and New Jersey that Justus Falkner belonged to the latter school.

The first visit made by Falkner to the Hackensack Lutherans was made on the twenty-second day of February, 1704. On that day he conducted public worship in the barn of Cornelius Van Boskerek and baptized three children. How frequently he came to this place to conduct worship we have no means of knowing. The demands upon him in his extensive charge would not allow him to visit his people in Hackensack; besides they could usually attend service in New York, it being distant only fourteen miles. Falkner continued in his pastorate until his death, at the age of fifty-one, in Claverack, where a parsonage was selected as a convenient

center of a parish that included New York and Northern Jersey.

Whether a church organization was effected at Hackensack during Falkner's ministry or whether the people continued their membership in the church in New York I have not been able to ascertain. The probability is that an organization was effected during Falkner's time. If so, then it is also likely that a house of worship was not built during his ministry. The people are referred to very early as a congregation, but the word may have been used in a loose, general sense, because they assembled for public worship, and not because they had an ecclesiastical organization. Rev. Mr. Deyo, a Lutheran minister, said in a letter to Rev. D. T. B. Romeyn: "It was probably organized into a congregation about the year 1745 or 1746." But he must be mistaken, for in 1731 the united congregation of New York and Hackensack made a call on a minister who was to labor in the summer in New York, and in the winter in Hackensack, and to pay two visits yearly to the Palatine Lutherans at Newburgh. Also in a conference of Lutheran ministers and elders held in 1735, in what was called the Raritan region, there were two delegates present from Hackensack, Abraham Boskerek and Jacob Van Orden, besides the minister.

There was another Lutheran congregation in Northern New Jersey, which was also under the care of the minister from New York, and who managed to visit them on successive days of the same week in which he visited Hackensack. This was Remmerspach or Ramapo, which was sixteen miles northwest from Hackensack. This settlement was composed of Germans, and the German language was used there in their services for the most part, though sometimes the Low Dutch for the benefit of that portion of the congregation. Nicholas Mansenger (Messenger) and Dietrich Wannemacher entered the Ramapo region when it was a wilderness. Other German people followed; a congregation was formed of German Lutherans, a house of worship was built, and services performed by the New York ministers. After a time the two congregations of Hackensack and Ramapo supported a minister between them independently of New York. The Ramapo congregation seems to have been the stronger of the two in the latter part of their joint history. Their last minister left them in 1775. They were too weak to call a successor—only about twenty-five families remained in the Hackensack church, with the prospect of further decrease. Occasionally services may have been held in the churches by the Lutheran ministers, but it cannot have been long before the houses of worship were abandoned and the congregations broken up.



The remnant at Ramapo doubtless went to the Dutch church at Ramapo, and that of Hackensack to the Dutch churches of Hackensack and Schraalenberg. Circumstances connected with the extinction of a rural church may be such that we must see that it was inevitable, and also that true religion does not suffer thereby. Yet we cannot contemplate such an event without a sad interest, nor visit a spot where a church was once located, and especially if ruins and traces remain, without calling up in imagination scenes of the distant past. We see in these instances the people coming in all directions on a Sunday morning in their farm wagons (some have come many miles), gathering about the church and exchanging greetings, finding their way to their seats at the sound of the bell, the minister ascending the high pulpit with the sounding-board overhead. We hear the elaborate sermon, the fervent prayers, and the singing of the psalms with loud voices by young and old, and we see the high days on which the Lord's Supper is administered. Who does not feel that he stands on hallowed ground, or that it is a solemn thing to realize that more than a hundred years have passed, the last pastor here ministered and the last congregation here worshipped, and no one of that congregation is found here among the living. A friend of mine living in Hunterdon County who is interested in the Lutheran history visited the site of the Hackensack church in 1890. He says: "I visited the locality of the old Hackensack Lutheran Church. The site is on the east side of the river, about a quarter of a mile from the place called New Bridge. The point is a sandy steep shore between the water and the highway, scarcely seventy feet and at least twenty-five feet above the river. Formerly the plot was evidently wider than it is now, but it is clear that at least one-quarter of the churchyard has been washed away by reason of the caving in of the shore. Only four gravestones still remain and all bear the name Van Boskerck. (He does not mention the vault.)

"The church stood broadside along the road and had a pointed roof. It is probable that in the attempt to straighten the road some of the original space was lost. Now the place is overgrown with small trees, brush and ferns and it appears to have met with some consideration, though no fence protects it.

"I met a very old man who said that he had always lived near New Bridge and could well remember the church before it was burned down. He had often thrown stones at it at bats. The structure was still in pretty fair condition; the roof leaked only here and there and the pulpit was good enough to preach in. When preaching had been done there he did not remember. One day as he was working in the

corn field he saw smoke ascending and soon the interior was burned out. A spark from a brush fire in the neighborhood had set it afire. 'That took place, so they say, in 1812, for I was a boy and am now eighty-nine. Well do I remember Dr. Shaffer of New York in the summer of 1821 preached in the churchyard; he stood upon the ruins of the old church and tried to awaken a new interest in the old congregation, but he did not succeed.'

"With the exception of this old man and a woman equally as old I found nobody that could give me any information."

The same gentleman says concerning the church of Ramapo: "There are probably few persons in the neighborhood of its location who can point out the exact site of the primitive straw-thatched log building which for so many years served as a house of worship for the Lutherans of upper Bergen County. Tradition is silent as to the time of its erection, and also of its disappearance, but it is explicit in designating the precise spot on which it stood and the materials out of which it was constructed. In traveling the highway leading from the Ramapo Reformed Dutch Church to the village of Ramsey one passes very near to the site of the ancient meeting-house, which may be described as about a mile south of the before-mentioned church on the western side of the road about a hundred yards below the residence of Mr. Richard Wannemaker. There are still extant some fifteen precious pages of a church record book whose title page bears the inscription:

"'Kirchen Buch vor die Rembachische Evangelische Lutherische Gemeinde, angefangen im Jahr Christi 1750.'"

In another connection he says that he found these pages in the possession of a mulatto in the neighborhood, that he endeavored to procure them for the Lutheran Historical Society, but failed because a white man made the possessor believe that they would command a large sum of money.

The date of the opening of this church book (1750) is not the date of the organization of the church which is referred to in Falkner's time, and which had elders in 1734. Perhaps an older book once existed—perhaps records were kept on loose sheets of paper by the minister.

With the extinction of these churches Lutheran public worship ceased among the rural native population of Northern New Jersey. Reformed Dutch churches had the sole occupation of the ground. But in the year 1820 the Lutheran Zion Church of Saddle River was established, and a house of worship built a few miles east of the site of the old Ramapo church. I am not informed of the circumstances of the founding, but among the nine founders were three Van Buskereks—Thomas, John and Lawrence; also the name Ackerman ap-

pears. These must have been the descendants of the Hackensack Lutherans. This church is still in existence and fairly prosperous. It is believed that this is the only Lutheran church to-day in Northern New Jersey except such as have been formed in the cities by foreign-born people. (See note.)

I call your attention to the other succession of pastors. Falkner died in 1723 and the vacancy thus created was not filled for two years. Meanwhile Daniel Falkner, the brother of Justus, the land agent hereinbefore referred to, had been ordained and placed over congregations in Hunterdon and Somerset counties. He made a visit to the congregations in New York and New Jersey which his brother had served.

William Christopher Berkenmeyer was sent to New York in 1725 and took charge of the congregation there, of all the Lutheran congregations on the Hudson and those at Hackensack and Ramapo. Berkenmeyer finding after laboring six years in the very extensive field, that the work was beyond his strength and could not be done satisfactorily by one man, resolved to confine his labors to the churches that were north of New York City, and let the churches of Hackensack and Ramapo unite in calling another man, together with New York City. He accordingly removed to Lunenburg, the present Athens, where he continued until his death in September, 1751.

The united congregations of New York and Hackensack now (1731) sent a blank call "to the worshipful consistorium of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in London" to have ordained and selected a suitable minister for them. They promised the new pastor the expenses of his journey hither, a salary of sixty pounds, a free residence, wood and light, and the following perquisites: Twenty shillings for a funeral sermon, six shillings for a prayer at the grave, twelve shillings for marrying outside, three shillings for a marriage notice, six shillings for marrying at the house, and one shilling for christening, three shillings for a baptismal certificate, one shilling for churching a recent mother, and sixty shillings for services outside of our corporation, whereof twenty shillings are to fall to the church. He was to labor in the summer in New York, in the winter in Hackensack, and pay two visits yearly to the Palatine Lutherans at Newburgh.

This call was presented to Michel Christian Knoll and he accepted it. This was the beginning of troubles, for which, however, Knoll was not responsible. A man named John Bernhard Van Dieren, or Van Duuren, or Van Doren, a tailor by trade, had been sent over by the Lutheran ministers in London as a colporteur. He was a warm-hearted pietist of the Halle school, and in visiting the various congregations he preached. The congregation of New York was so taken with

his popular gifts and fervent spirit, with which he won their hearts, that they sent a letter to the consistorium at London to the effect that they need not send a minister because one was serving them with great acceptance. Knoll, however, came on in December, 1732, and as Van Dieren had not received ordination Knoll was readily accepted. But the country people of Hackensack were not so compliant. Knoll was received, but a strong party adhered to Van Dieren and the opposition was organized. Van Dieren sought ordination from the Swedish ministers at Philadelphia, but they refused to grant it. Berkenmeyer and Knoll bitterly opposed him, for he was of the Hellestie pietistic school, which they abhorred. The Swedish ministers wrote a strong letter against him, also the Amsterdam Consistorium. Berkenmeyer called him an illiterate tailor, an interloper, intermeddler and mischief maker, but very likely he put on airs and acted imprudently, and trampled on the laws of the church. Knoll wrote him a very abusive letter, and then his friends in Hackensack and Ramapo came to his defence. They posted up in Hackensack the following placard, headed "Public Notice":

"We the undersigned elders and deacons of the two Lutheran congregations of Hackensack and Ramapo herewith declare Domine Knoll to be a falsifier and a disgrace to the Lutheran Church and his letter to be a slanderous letter, until he before the magistrate of Hackensack makes good what he has written of our Domine Van Dieren.

"John Fox, Jacob Van Buskirk, Peter Wannemaker, Diederick Wannemaker, John Teys, Joost De Groot, Matyr Cornese, Conrad Fredericks, Nicholas Massinger, Conrad Frey."

Van Dieren retired from the field, and it is said that he was finally ordained by a minister in Pennsylvania named Henkel. Knoll continued as pastor twenty years, but owing to dissensions and the unspiritual character of his ministrations, without spiritual results. The spirit of God was grieved.

Knoll also had trouble in New York because of the conflict between the German and Low Dutch elements in his congregation, which resulted in a pronounced separation. He left the field, but most of his time was spent among the Lutherans of Dutchess County until his death, in 1765.

The Germans had so increased in New York by immigration that they greatly outnumbered the Low Dutch, who were rapidly losing their children to English-using churches. The Germans wished for just a share in the services in their language, which the Low Dutch obstinately refused to consent to. They had controversies on other points which were very bitter, and finally withdrew and engaged a preacher for themselves.

The congregations of New York, Hackensack and Ramapo were at this time in a truly deplorable state. Their eyes were turned to Rev. Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg as the man who with God's blessing would be able to extricate them from their difficulties, remove their divisions and start them on a new career of prosperity.

Muhlenberg was a native of Eimbeck, a town of Hanover. He was educated at the Orphan house at Halle and had imbibed the pietistic spirit. He was sent out as a missionary to labor among the Germans in Pennsylvania. He arrived at Charleston, September 23, 1742. After spending some time with the Germans in South Carolina and Georgia he proceeded to Philadelphia, where he arrived the twenty-fifth of November. The field to which he was assigned included the congregations of Philadelphia, New Providence and New Hanover. His influence speedily extended among the German Lutherans far and wide, for he was not only a man in whom the grace of God dwelt, but one of excellent gifts and to whom the hearts of all men were irresistibly drawn. His missionary labors extended to the German communities on the upper Raritan, and even to the upper Hudson and Schoharie, and into the interior of Pennsylvania as well. A regular call dated February 1, 1757, was sent to him by the church of New York. His sense of importance of the field led him to consider this call very seriously and to take time to consider it. He finally decided that he could not leave his work in Pennsylvania and in Central New Jersey, the ministers and people in those parts strongly urging him to remain. But he went to New York to spend six months, in which time he accomplished a great work in reconciling the conflicting parties and in bringing order out of confusion. He also during that time visited the congregations of Hackensack and Ramapo. This was the first one of the seven visits made by him to those congregations 1757 to 1760. Unable to take charge of these churches, he provided a substitute in the person of Weygand, who began his work in 1753 and continued until 1767. Muhlenberg made in all seven visits to Hackensack and Ramapo. He kept a diary, in which the minutest details of his labors are recorded. It was regularly sent to the authorities and has been recorded by them. Parts of it have been translated into English and published in two volumes by the Lutheran Publishing Society. In making these visits he would generally cross New York Bay, in a small boat, of course, and land near the residence of the aged and infirm Lawrence Van Boskerek, near Bergen Point, where the neighbors would sometimes gather and he would hold religious service. Then some one who had come from Hackensack to meet him would conduct him thither, making a drive of

twenty miles. When he would hold public services in what he would call the large stone church, preaching and administering baptism, and the Lord's Supper, his congregations contained many of the Reformed people as well as Lutherans. On one occasion, at least, he mentions the presence of one of the Reformed Dutch ministers of Hackensack. Both those pastors called upon him and treated him courteously. All the time that was not occupied with public services he gave to visiting families, going where there were sick or infirm people, and especially to those who were seeking for themselves some spiritual good. He was welcomed to the houses of the Reformed Dutch as well as the Lutherans. He says that when he entered a house there was no time consumed in making preparations to entertain him with something to eat or to drink, but all, both men and women, composed themselves at once to listen to him. At the close of the interview they would invite him to partake of such refreshment as they happened to have at hand. His manner of dealing with classes of persons of various types gives evidence of profound knowledge of the human heart, and skill in exposing its secret motives and subterfuges. He gives at length a conversation with David de M., the grandson of the original David, and a son-in-law of G. Bertholf, the first Dutch pastor in New Jersey and who at that time was over eighty years of age. He lived to be over ninety. He was the man of the greatest note in the neighborhood, had held the most important offices of the town, and for several years in succession, a member of the provincial assembly. The spiritual tone of their conversation is remarkable and at parting the old man gave the preacher on his request a blessing like an ancient patriarch. He told Muhlenberg that some of the Dutch Reformed people found fault with him because he had friendly intercourse with the Lutheran preacher. But he said he could not help it, for he believed him to be a man of God, and that he certainly had received from him spiritual food and comfort.

He also mentions particularly the courtesy of the two Reformed Dutch pastors, Curtenious and Goetschius. Goetschius, the junior pastor, was in sympathy with the awakening spiritual work of Frelinghuysen, the Tonnents and John Edwards and thus was in sympathy with Muhlenberg. This Goetschius was a man of considerable note. He was an eloquent man in the pulpit and active and faithful as a pastor. He stood in the rank of contenders for the independence of the Reformed Dutch Church in this country, and for the establishment by them of an institution. He was one of the first trustees of Queen's College, named in both the first and second charters, and it was at his call that the trustees held

their first meeting in Hackensack, second Tuesday in May, 1767.

When Muhlenberg had spent with the Hackensack congregation all the time he could give them, a man from Ramapo would appear and take him to that place, and give the people there similar services. We may well believe that the Lord's people of these flocks went in strength of the meat thus received many days.

Muhlenberg had these people constantly in his mind and in his heart. In 1760 he sent them a young man, William A. Graaf, who independently of New York served these two congregations. His labors closed in 1775. He was the last one of their pastors.

Graaf was born at Grunstadt, in Rhenish Bavaria. When about twenty-six years old he was brought to Muhlenberg at Providence, Pa., with the request that he might be used in school work. He was fairly well educated—had studied theology for a time at Halle, when his father died and left him without means to continue his studies. He then went to England and thence to America as a cadet in company with many others in the train of Col. Prevost. Instead of returning to Europe, he remained and found his way to Muhlenberg, who gave him instruction and counsel and perceiving in him a gracious disposition, conceived the idea that he would be a good man to take charge of the Hackensack and Ramapo congregations. He took him to those people and he preached for them. They expressed their willingness, provided he remain a while longer with Muhlenberg to better qualify himself in the Low Dutch language. The conclusion was that in May, 1760, he took charge on trial for three years, having been duly licensed and ordained. The three years were extended to fifteen. He made his home at Ramapo and rode on alternate Sundays to Hackensack.

Concerning the character of his ministry in those fields I have no knowledge save what Muhlenberg says in his diary. He says: "Since that time I have heard in letters from Pastor Weygand of New York that he preaches very edifyingly and catechises in much wisdom; that he grows in his conversion and in the grace of consecration, and labors with many blessings. From others I have heard that he is in good repute in that district, and the congregations lately wrote and thanked me a thousand times that I had sent them such a man, who tried to build them up with healthy teachings, holy living, wisdom, love, gentleness, and humility. God grant for Christ and His name's sake that it may continue so."

But the field was in one respect a discouraging one. These churches were doomed to absorption by the neighboring Re-

formed Dutch churches. Pastor Graaf could only strengthen the things that remained that were ready to die. Accordingly, when a united call came to him in 1775 from Zion Church in New Germantown, Hunterdon County, and St. Paul's, he accepted it, and remained with those churches thirty-four years, until his death in 1809, aged eighty-two years.

A friend living in New Germantown says: "Mr. Graaf preached alternately in German and English, but his efforts to conquer the latter tongue were never successful. It is said that to the end of his life he persisted in calling the village of his residence New Shuurmantown, and the location of St. Paul's Church Blookameen. The good rector may have been a little uncertain in his language, but there is no doubt that his virtues and his attainments were of the most positive character. All the testimony is concurrent as to his having been a devoted, diligent and loving pastor and a truly learned and pious man. Possessed of an eminently happy disposition, he was esteemed and beloved by his people, as well for the many amiable qualities of his character as for the faithful performance of his pastoral duties."

He was a striking figure riding horseback with cocked hat and high military boots. Whenever he went to Spruce Run, a preaching place some miles distant, the farmers' sons along the way would saddle their horses and join him so that he would reach his place of destination with a strong bodyguard. He entertained the young men with pleasant and profitable conversation.

The last funeral that he attended was that of an old and loved friend, Aaron Melick of Stone House, near Pluckemin, with which his descendant, Andrew Mellich, has in his "Story of an Old Farm" made us familiar. He says:

"In fancy we can see the aged and feeble rector, robed in his Lutheran vestments, standing at the foot of the stairs, before him a little mahogany table upon which rest the big family Bible and the pastor's well-thumbed prayer book. At his side the tall clock ticks in solemn unison with the slow, well-measured and sad tones of the holy man, who speaks from the heart, for he is bidding a last adieu to the dust that is dear to him. His voice grows husky as he dwells on the virtues of the departed, and points out to the sorrowing hearers how the common walk of the good man of the house had been beyond that of everyday life. He cannot refrain from speaking of his own bereavement as he remembers that during his thirty-four years of ministrations over Zion's congregation he who now lies before him shrouded for the tomb had been not only a parishioner but a friend as well."

In a few weeks he went to join that friend. Of course



concerning such a character many anecdotes must have been handed down by tradition. One night he detected a neighbor carrying away a bundle from his hayrick. He stole up to him softly, took his tinder-box and flint, struck a spark and set the hay on fire. "Man," he shouted, "your hay is afire." The man, affrighted, dropped his bundle and the domine put out the fire, the domine remarking that he thought there was enough left for his poor cow, and suggested that when hay is wanted it is better to ask for it than to steal it.

He had four sprightly, fun-loving daughters, who were greatly disappointed at one time because their father would not allow them to go out to an entertainment of some sort. Through the cracks in the floor he heard them chattering about the beaux and bewailing their hard luck, when he knocked his cane on the floor to command their attention and called to them: "Yes, yes, gurls, you shall all be married yet." To which they responded in sorrowful chorus: "Yes, Poppy, but when, Poppy, when?"

When his daughter Caty was fully grown she desired a trunk for storing her nice clothing, so her father allowed her to go to old Henry Miller's store, which was close by, and select one and have it charged to his account. You may imagine the domine's surprise and consternation when on examining his bill he found this item:

1793, June 15. Rev. William Graaf, Dr.

To one drunk one pound S. one.

My friend informs me that this was no great orthographic feat for Henry Miller, Sr., for he spelled cabbage in just twelve different ways, not one of them being as we spell it. Cabets, capits, cabbigs, chabbege, kaeps, chabbage, kapige, capesh, bahigh, cabesh, kabesh, capes.

It is worthy of notice that the first American-educated Lutheran minister in this country came from the Hackensack congregation. M. says in his diary: "Capt. J. Van Buskirk has conferred with me about his son, aged twenty-two, who has chosen the profession of ministry, and with this view has already been under tuition of Rev. Mr. Weygand for several years, has also attended the English Presbyterian College and latterly has studied under Mr. S. As L perceived in the young man a suitable temperament and an inclination to the true Christianity, I promised to take him under my care and as much as possible, with God's favor and blessing, to give him further instruction." His ministry was wholly exercised in Pennsylvania until his death in 1800. He had charges in Montgomery County, Germantown, Lehigh and

Chester counties. He was one of the charter trustees of Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster.

The remarkable earthly career of Muhlenberg came to an end October 7, 1787, aged seventy-six years one month, at Hanover, Pa., where he preached his first sermon after his arrival in America. Among the clergymen who were present at his burial was Jacob Van Buskirk.

NOTE—It is the intention of the Publication Committee to have in a future book an account of the Lutherans in North Jersey.

ADDRESS OF GEORGE HEBER JONES, D. D.,

PRESIDENT OF THE MEN'S NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB,

In Presenting to Leonia the Washington Commemorative  
Tablet, July 4th, 1916.

*The Honorable the Mayor and Borough Council of Leonia  
and Residents and Fellow Citizens—*

The soul of a city is its *past*. To be linked with great events, to have produced great personalities, to have been the scene of events that overleap local boundaries and project themselves out into the larger life of the world for weal and for woe; these things are more than memories, they become community consciousness, ennobling and dignifying as they have made for good or humiliating and lowering as they have made for evil.

Leonia is rich in the first kind of these memories. Before Hendrik Hudson sailed the water of the great river east of us, here on these hillsides and along these brooks and streams was the home of the Indian Delawares immortalized by Cooper as among the noblest of American natives. Here came those sturdy Dutchmen, the companions of the Stuyvesants, Van Sautvoords, the Van Nordens, who helped lay the foundations of an intellectual and moral culture that embodied opportunity and exercise for all the powers of man. Here came the English who gave to the adjoining metropolis its name and also gave to us our first name, the English Neighbors, but which in view of their success in establishing a reputation for naming New York, we felt was not necessary to be maintained and so changed for Leonia. Here, too, bivouaced the soldiers of the colonies in the struggle that gave to the world a government of the people, by the people, and for the people; and, from the generations which lie between us and that day, doubtless came many a sturdy North Jerseyman who, in the various walks of life, has helped to make the world richer and better. Surely we are rarely favored with a Soul-Past which has the maturity of age and the nobility of being linked with great events.

Today, we as citizens of the borough, single out one of these events, and here on our principal thoroughfare establish a permanent memorial to it. We do so with the intent that in the years to come our children and our children's children may understand that we did not lightly esteem the historic line from which we have come. On the contrary, we here place in bronze and stone our witness to the high value which we attach to our relationship to a great chain of historic events in the founding of our Republic. We are proud of

the fact that the line of march taken by the Continental troops under General George Washington and General Nathaniel Greene, on their way to the victories of Trenton was through our town.

The story of those events is a tradition among us to this day, for here in Leonia live the descendants of the families and the lineage of some of the men who took part in those eventful days. Fort Lee on the top of the hill just across our borough line was the scene where for months during the year 1776, a command of 2,000 battling farmers kept defiant watch on the big British army over in Manhattan. Joined with them in this work was another force of American Continentals located in Fort Washington just across the Hudson at the upper end of Manhattan Island. General Burgoyne, however, was so determined that these Continentals should share the hospitality of his British regulars and Hessians in the town at the lower end of the island that he penned them all up and detained them much against their will as his guests.

Not content with this the British then marched north along the New York shore until opposite what is now the Village of Alpine and, 5,000 strong, crossed to the Jersey shore determined to include Washington and Greene and their 2,000 men in the list of the British guests at New York.

This, however, was not as easy as it appeared. Washington and Lee defiantly held the fort until the last moment and then, on the night of November 20th, 1776, for "strategic reasons," or in other words, rather than risk a bloody and fruitless engagement, withdrew without the loss of a man, and coming down over the hill marched through Leonia to Hackensack and to Trenton.\* This is usually designated as the retreat from Fort Lee but, in view of the chain of events of which it formed a part, we feel we are justified in refusing to use the word retreat and to regard it as a piece of matchless strategy, the preliminary of far reaching victories. A retirement accomplished in the face of a superior foe, without loss does not classify with what we usually call a retreat. We prefer to call it the advance on Trenton.

And so today we, the citizens of Leonia, have prepared this memorial in bronze and stone that our town may be linked, as long as bronze and stone endure, with the memory of Washington and Greene and their fellow patriots who suffered, and bled, and died that democracy might be established, preserved and extended on the American continent. Is it too much to believe that these great personalities look down upon us today and reassure themselves that they did not suffer and labor in vain?

Allusion has already been made to the distinguished sculptor, our fellow citizen, Mr. Young, who has designed this tablet. It is worthy of the subject and of the purpose. I wish also to call attention to the stone to which the tablet is fastened. It, too, has high value for it is a direct survival of the days of the American Revolution, and may have witnessed the march past of the Continental troops. This stone stood before the door of the old Moore mansion which dated from pre-Revolutionary times and the descendants of the family who occupied it are still among our most honored citizens.

It is said that in the raiding which followed the withdrawal of the American troops the British and Hessians attacked the Moore farm and carried off all the cattle and practically everything they had. The family numbered twenty-three persons at the time and the outlook was a gloomy one for them. It is said, however, that one of their cows refused all the blandishments of the men who tried to capture her and succeeded in eluding them. One of their horses found the company of the Hessians so undesirable that, watching his opportunity, he slipped away in the night and returned to the Moore farm. About the same time the cow also came back and with these two animals the family did the best they could to carry on the work of the farm. I tell this story not to link the stone with the memory of these patriotic animals, but to indicate that the stone itself was a participant in the events which we memorialize today.

Mr. Balze, I have the high honor as President of the Men's Neighborhood Club of Leonia to present to our town through you as the chosen representative of the Mayor and Council of our borough, this memorial. I do so in the earnest hope that it may become in the thought of our citizens not simply a stone marking the fleeting march past of an army that has disappeared into the shadow-land, but as a testimonial to the fact that as long as Leonia shall last the principles for which Washington and Green and their brave and heroic soldiers fought, and all kindred principles and truth that made for the betterment of town, and state, and nation, and world, shall be cherished and maintained in their purity by us, interpreted aright in our lives, and passed down undiminished and unimpaired to our children. I therefore transfer to you, in the name of the citizens of Leonia, and of the Men's Neighborhood Club, this Washington Memorial Tablet.

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\*It is interesting in this connection to refer to Mr. T. N. Glover's paper entitled, "Retreat of '76, published in Book No. 2 of the Bergen County Historical Society, 1905-1906. This note is published for the benefit of those members who

have joined the Society since 1906, as Book No. 2 is out of print. Mr. Glover spent considerable time and money in gathering data for his paper and may be considered as accurate as anything written on the subject.

In the course of Mr. Glover's paper he states: By Nov. 12, (1776), the army (American) except the garrison at Fort Washington was in New Jersey, one part crossing from Tarrytown to Sneedens Landing, and the other from Croton Point to Tappan Creek. General Heath, with a small detachment, held the passes to the northward—the river and the Suffern Clove; General Putnam had been appointed to the command of the army of New Jersey (whatever that may have been), and to General Green was assigned the command of Forts Washington and Lee, under immediate direction of Washington himself. Washington having spent two days with Gen. Heath inspecting the works, crossed the river at King's Ferry, just below Haverstraw, and on the 14th reached Hackensack, where he immediately established headquarters, at the residence of Peter Zabriskie—now the Mansion House. Here he stayed nearly a week and sent from it the letter to Lee to join him; here also Reed wrote his famous letter about Fatal Indecision.

The fall of Fort Washington on Nov. 16th rendered Fort Lee useless and its abandonment became only a question of time. Yet it had been considered quite safe—army supplies had been gathered there, and Congress had resolved that prisoners of war should be transferred there for safe keeping. But now that Fort Washington was gone General Green began the work of evacuation in earnest; he even made a memorandum of the march which is still in existence. As fast as he could get wagons and wagoners he sent away the stores, some to Acquackanonk (Passaic) others to Newark, Elizabeth and Paramus. He posted sentries on the cliffs who would watch the movements of the enemy. The night of the 19th was dark and rainy. Then it was that Lieutenant-General, the Earl Cornwallis, a brave and capable officer, a bosom friend of General Howe, the British Commander-in-Chief, acting under direct orders that we can never know, crossed the Hudson River and scaled the Palisade cliff by means of the old Closter landing road, which led away to Paramus. Before day-break he was on the heights and was marching towards Fort Lee. He was not foolish enough to think he was surprising the Americans, neither party in those days could make the slightest movement without his opponent knowing all about it, so he did not hasten. He knew well that the Americans had been evacuating the post several days and that certain acts of their Congress had not been executed because of it. When he formed his columns on the heights he was only two

miles from the present Englewood and from Fort Lee only five. By what road he marched it is now impossible to say. When the news of this approach reached the Americans at Fort Lee their camp kettles were over the fires and breakfast was preparing. General Green, whose first thought was battle, ordered a retreat. The evidence seems to show that he did not wait for orders from Washington but set his column in motion as soon as possible. To make the bridge was the quickest and surest, to go to the ferry was to lose time because the boats had not been gathered there. So over the hill towards Leonia they came—hungry and cold—but determined. An English officer who evidently pitied them wrote: I believe no nation ever saw such a set of tatterdemalions. There were but few coats among them but what was out at the elbows and in a whole regiment there is scarcely a pair of breeches. I may add, boots and shoes were very scarce, though that did not make so much trouble as it would now, for people went barefoot so much. They reached Leonia and swung into what is now Grand Avenue, then the Kings Road (for there was no possibility of crossing at this point) and went on to the Liberty Pole, now Englewood. They expected a fight—a most natural idea since the enemy had been in the neighborhood for hours—but no resistance was shown, and General Green giving up command to Washington returned to the fort to collect stragglers. He had been gone two hours but no enemy was there. He gathered two hundred men and probably led them across the dam and down to the ferry. Dr. English who had the benefit of close touch with the men of '76 speaks of this crossing as by the beaver dam (where was this?). When Washington took command he led the army across the swale by the road that leads to Teaneck hill, except that the road today is much straighter than it was then. Once on the hill he turned and followed up the present road to New Bridge. I find that the road has not changed much except that one approaches the bridge directly by a new street a few blocks long. He went around the hill. During the march from Liberty Pole the army had felt comparatively safe and crossed the bridge with light hearts. Once across the bridge the army followed the present road past the old Baron Stuben house directly towards the south side of Cherry Hill, crossing the bridge and thence direct to Hackensack.

The men could not have been entirely without food. One person who remembers seeing them told Mr. Barbor that they marched into Hackensack and encamped on the Green after dark, and the rain was falling. Possibly they spent the day between the village and New Bridge. No one mentions receiving food from the people along the road.

From the account written by the Reverend Theodore B. Romeyn we learn that Washington at the head of his army consisting of about 3,000 men crossed the new bridge into town. This crossing was made at a point about four miles north of Hackensack village. It was about dusk when the head of the troops entered Hackensack. The night was dark, cold and rainy, but I had a fair view of them from the light of the windows as they passed on our side of the street. They marched two abreast, looked ragged, some without shoes to their feet, and most of them wrapped up in their blankets.



## BERGEN COUNTY BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Compiled by S. F. WATT.

## NEWSPAPERS.

- ‡ Bergen County Journal, 1858.
- ‡ Bergen County Index, 1875-1890.
- Bergen County Democrat, 1877-1912.
- Bergen News, 1912-1913.
- Evening Record, 1901-1915.
- Hackensack Republican, 1879-1913.

## DIRECTORIES.

- Allen's Hackensack and Englewood Directory, 1894-1895.
- Directory of Hackensack, Bergen County, N. J. A full and complete compilation of the residents of the town. 1879.

## BOOKS.

- ‡‡ Bergen and Passaic Counties. History. W. W. Clayton-William Nelson.
- † History of Bergen County, N. J. J. M. Van Valen.
- ‡‡ Winfield's History of Hudson County. Charles H. Winfield.
- ‡‡ Old Bergen. Daniel Van Winkle.
- ‡ History of Hackensack. Historical Discourse. Rev. T. B. Romeyn.
- ‡‡ Atlas of Bergen County, 1776-1876. A. H. Walker.
- Atlas of Bergen County, N. J. Two vols. 1912. G. W. Bromley.
- † Heath's Memiors.
- † New Jersey as a Colony and a State. F. B. Lee.
- † The American Crisis.
- † Thomas Paine's Well Known Description of the Evacuation of Fort Lee.
- † The American Archives. Library of Congress.
- ‡‡ Bergen County Historical Society's Year Books, 1902-1915.
- ‡‡ The Bergen County Journal, 1858. One year issue bound.
- † History of Hackensack. Bergen County Democrat.
- ‡‡ Washington Papers—Correspondence with His Officers. Four vols. Library of Congress.
- ‡‡ A Historical Collection of the State of New Jersey, containing a general collection of the most interesting facts, traditions, biographical sketches, anecdotes, etc., relating to its history and antiquities, with geographical descriptions of every township in the State. Illustrated by 120 engravings. Tuttle, New York, 1844. John Barber and Henry Howe.

‡Record of Fifty Years, 1855-1905, Second Reformed Church, Hackensack, N. J. Arthur Johnson.

Passaic Valley, New Jersey, in Three Centuries. Historical and descriptive cards of the valley and the vicinity of the Passaic, past and present. 469 p. il. por. Q. N. Y.-N. J. General Co., 1901.

‡Records of the Reformed Dutch Churches of Hackensack and Schraalenburgh, New Jersey; with the registers of members, marriages, baptisms and the other consistories, to the beginning of the nineteenth century. Vol. I, Part 1, Reformed Church of Hackensack, N. J. Vol. I, Part 2, Reformed Church of Schraalenburgh, N. J. Holland Society of New York Collections.

Copy of East Jersey Proprietors' Release of Quit Rent to the Trustees of the Freeholders of the Town of Bergen, October 5, 1809. Newark Advertiser Steam Printing House, 1886.

‡Annals of the Classes of Bergen of the Reformed Dutch Church and the Churches Under Its Care, including the civil history of the ancient township of Bergen, in New Jersey. B. C. Taylor.

Genealogical History of Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey. N. Y. The New Jersey Genealogical Publishing Co. Cornelius B. Harvey.

List of Damages by Americans in New Jersey, 1776-1782.

List of Damages by English in New Jersey, 1776-1782.

Map of Bergen County in New Jersey, 1902. E. Robinson.

The Indian Lore of Northern New Jersey. Max Scrabisch. Report Relative to the Bergen Tunnel, made to the Legislature, 1865.

Bergen Turnpike Road Act. An act for the establishment of a turnpike road from the Town of Hackensack to Hoboken, in the County of Bergen. 1805.

The Presbyterian Church of Englewood. Historical discourses delivered on the 25th of March on the anniversary of the organization of the church. 1885. Henry M. Booth.

‡The Huguenots on the Hackensack. A paper read before the Huguenot Society of America in New York, 1885; before the New Jersey Historical Society at Trenton, 1886; before the New Brunswick Historical Society, New Brunswick, N. J. The Daily Fredonia Steam Printing House, 1886. D. D. Demarest.

Early Settlers in Hackensack, New Jersey.

Papers Concerning the Bridges Over the Rivers Passaic and Hackensack.

Passaic Floods and Their Control. C. C. Vermenk.

Manual and Record of the Church at Paramus, 1858. Published by order of the Consistory. N. Y. Hosford Co. Sketch of the early history of the Reformed Dutch Church of Bergen in Jersey City. Compiled from the ancient church records and deacons' account books of Bergen, Communipaw and Hasymua. N. Y. Versteeg, 1889. D. Versteeg.

In the Matter of the Committee of Five, Appointed by the Assembly to Investigate Alleged Unlawful Expenditures in Connection with the Acquirement of Lands and the Erection of County Buildings in the County of Bergen. Hackensack, N. J., October 5, 1911. Bergen County Investigating Committee.

Englewood, Its Annals and Reminiscences. J. A. Humphrey. Hackensack Up to Date. Supplement to the Bergen County Democrat.

† Pertaining to the War of the Revolution.

‡ Signifies in the collection of the Society.

## ANNUAL REPORT.

By the Treasurer.

From April 17th, 1915, to April 22d, 1916.

*Allison Special Accounts*

## RECEIPTS

Balance in Bank April 17th, 1915.....	\$1,030.20
Account Interest to April 22d, 1916.....	40.70

## DISBURSEMENTS

Paid for Revolutionary Document.    \$	25.00	
Transferred to General Account to purchase 1915 Year Books.....	75.00	
Balance in Bank April 22d, 1916..	970.90	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,070.90	\$1,070.90

*Allison Prisc Account:*

Balance April 22d, 1916.....		100.00
Available .....	\$ 100.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

*General Account:*

## RECEIPTS

Balance in Bank April 17th, 1915.....	125.15
Dues received.....	289.05
Dues unpaid.....	134.00
Receipts 1915 Dinner Tickets.....	42.18
Sale of Year Books.....	3.55
Transferred from Special Account to purchase 1915 Year Books.....	75.00
Receipt 1916 Dinner Tickets.....	127.50

## DISBURSEMENTS

Paid 1915 Dinner Account.....	\$ 51.40	
Postage, etc., Secretary's Account..	20.03	
Purchases, etc., President's Account	59.04	
1915 Year Book Account.....	81.95	
1916 Dinner Account.....	171.00	
Dues outstanding.....	134.00	
Balance in Bank April 22d, 1916...	279.01	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 796.43	\$ 796.43

ANNUAL REPORT.

By the Secretary.

The fourteenth annual meeting and dinner of the Society was held at The Warner, Hackensack, on Saturday evening, April 22d, 1916.

It was announced at the meeting that the Society would be granted the use of the large room on the second floor of the new addition to the Library building and a vote of thanks was extended to Hon. Wm. Johnson for the kind offer. The Archives and Property Committee will have charge of equipping the room with proper cases and stands for displaying the Society's historical collection and will receive contributions from members to assist in defraying the cost of this work.

It was also announced that Mr. W. O. Allison, of Englewood, had placed the sum of \$100 at the disposal of the Society to be used as prizes for historical essays by attendants of the schools of North Eastern New Jersey. It was voted to extend the thanks of the Society to Mr. Allison for his thoughtful and generous gift.

The Secretary's report showed that during the past year there have been added to the roll eighteen regular members, two life and one honorary.

Three have been dropped, two resigned, three deceased and one transferred to the life membership list,

Making the present membership	113 regular
	10 life
	4 honorary

Total.....	127
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The report of the Nominating Committee was read and the following officers elected for the coming year:

For President—

Cornelius V. R. Bogert.....Bogota, N. J.

For Vice-Presidents—

William O. Allison.....Englewood, N. J.  
 Fred H. Crum.....River Edge, N. J.  
 Edward Stagg.....Leonia, N. J.  
 Francis L. Wandell.....Saddle River, N. J.  
 Rev. Edward Kelder.....Coytesville, N. J.  
 David D. Ackerman.....Closter, N. J.  
 Eugene K. Bird.....Hackensack, N. J.

Richard T. Wilson.....Ridgewood, N. J.  
 P. Christie Terhune.....Haekensaek, N. J.  
 William A. Linn.....Haekensaek, N. J.

For Secretary and Treasurer—

Theodore Romaine.....Haekensaek, N. J.

The following resolution was introduced:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this meeting that the Society is greatly indevted to the President, Mrs. Frances A. Westervelt, for indefatigable and valuable work performed during the past two years, and that the work of the President has been of great value to the Society at the time when most needed.

The resolution was adopted unanimously, upon a rising vote.

It was decided to amend the constitution so as to provide for the establishment of a Woman's Auxiliary to take the place of the Committee on Colonial Household Furnishings and Belongings, and to be composed of all the women members of the Society. A Committee on Church History was also established.

The meeting then adjourned to the dining room where covers were laid for eighty-five.

At the close of the dinner reports were read from Chairmen of Committees and a brief but impressive address delivered by the President.

Mr. P. C. Staib acted as toastmaster and introduced as the principal speaker Mr. A. C. Monagle, of Brooklyn, who delivered a very scholarly and edifying address upon "Victories Worth Winning."

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## LIST OF PRESIDENTS

1902—1916

Hon. William M. Johnson.....	1902-03
Cornelius Christie.....	1903-04
T. N. Glover.....	1904-05
Hon. Cornelius Doremus.....	1905-06
Burton H. Allbee.....	1906-07
Byron G. Van Horne, M.D.....	1907-08
William D. Snow.....	1908-09
Hon. David D. Zabriskie.....	1909-10
Everett L. Zabriskie.....	1910-11
Howard B. Goetschius.....	1911-12
Matt J. Bogert.....	1912-13
Robert T. Wilson.....	1913-14
Mrs. Frances A. Westervelt.....	1914-16

## REPORT AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ARCHIVE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE.

In the year ending April, 1916, nearly one hundred articles have been added, by gift and purchase, and in connection with these a gift by Andrew R. Collins of a chest containing 800 documents pertaining to the Township of Hackensack. His name has been placed on our honorary list.

On the Fourth of July Hackensack had a safe and sane celebration. As we stand for patriotism, we had an exhibition of our Revolutionary articles, and some that were loaned, artistically arranged in one of Mr. E. McFadden's large windows, kindly loaned for the occasion.

Due to the construction of a large addition to the Johnson Public Library (where we have our collection) our property has been stored until the work is finished.

We could not give the exhibitions during the year as anticipated.

We are planning for an opening exhibition, to be followed by others during the year.

Our Indian dugout canoe has been identified as a "rare Indian relic." Correspondence has been carried on with those interested, the wood has been identified, a line drawing and cut made—all in view of an article for our next year book.

Research in regard to the history and specimens of the work of George Wolfkiel, the Bergen County Potter, on the Hackensack River near New Bridge, 1830-60, has resulted in identifying him as having made, about eighty years ago, the first historic pottery in New Jersey in the form of red earthen pie dishes, bearing a medallion of the bust of Washington and thirteen stars. There are only two known to have withstood the ravages of time, and one belongs to the Society. An article illustrating examples of his fine work and history in regard to the clay and beautiful glazes used will be prepared for publication.

The Newark Museum Association gave an exhibition of New Jersey textiles, historical and modern, in February and March, with an attendance of 50,089. Our Society was represented by a very fine historical exhibition of our homespun and weaves, the work of "the early days in Bergen County."

Our 1915 year book has been distributed to the members and exchanges and several copies sold to parties interested.

### CATALOGUE SUPPLEMENT NO. 2.

#### BOUND BOOKS.

One Vol., The History of Bergen and Passaic Counties.  
Walker & Nelson. 1882.—Gift of W. O. Allison.

- One Vol., Tombstone Inscriptions—Crooked Pond, Franklin Township; Orangeburg, Rockland County; Demerest Farm, Oakland; Van Blarcom Farm, Oakland; Van Houten Farm, Oakland; Christian Reformed Church Yard, Leonia; De Wolf Farm, Old Tappan; Dundee Lake, Bergen County. Copied by John Neafie. N. Y. B. C. H. S.
- One Vol., Annals of Classis and Township of Bergen. Taylor.—Gift of Mr. H. S. Ihnen.
- One Vol., Hackensack Year Book, 1915.—Gift Bergen County Democrat.
- One Vol., Hackensack, New Jersey. 1900.—Gift The Evening Record Publishing Co.
- Four Vols., Washington Papers: Correspondence with the Officers.—Gift Library of Congress.
- One Vol., History of Hudson County. Winfield.—Gift W. O. Allison.
- One Vol., Old Bergen: History and Reminiscences. Daniel Van Winkle.—Gift W. O. Allison.
- One Vol., History of the Reformed Church of Tappan, N. Y. 1894. Rev. David Cole, D. D.—Gift W. O. Allison.
- One Brass-trimmed Holland Bible, 1716. Contains some Bogert records.—Lent by Mr. Thomas Sprigg.
- One Vol., Christ Church, Hackensack, 1863-1916.—Gift Miss S. F. Watt.
- Reminiscences of Some of the Older Physicians, by David St. John, M. D., Hackensack, from Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey. Illustrated.
- Authenticated Copy of the Last Will and Testament of George Washington of Mt. Vernon, with Historical Notes, &c. Pub. A. Jackson, 1868.
- One Copy, Washington's Farewell Address to the People of the United States. Pub. 1858.—Gift of Frances Livingston Wandell.

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#### HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES.

- One pair Andirons, Trammel, Pots, Griddle and Frying Pan, Old Fireplace Furnishings, one Pottery Churn, one pair Pewter Candlesticks, one pair Early Glass Lamps use when "fluid" was burned, one Foot Stove.—Gifts Mr. Thomas Sprigg.

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#### MANUSCRIPTS.

- The Lutherans on the Hackensack. Dr. D. D. Demarest. 1897. Typewritten copy.—Gift New Brunswick History Club.



- Copy of Rev. Cornelius J. Blauvelt's Call to the Ministry of Schraalenburgh Church (South), July 1, 1828.—Gift J. C. Blauvelt.
- The Mutiny of the New Jersey Troops at Pompton in 1781. Rev. I. L. Kip. 1899. Typewritten copy.—Gift New Brunswick History Club.
- Eight Hundred Original Manuscripts of Hackensack Township, 1742-1830.—Gift Andrew R. Collins.

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REVOLUTIONARY DOCUMENT.

- Camp—November 27, 1776. By General Chas. Lee, Major-General. Sent by hand of General Heath to the inhabitants of eastern part of Bergen County, etc. B. C. H. S.

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MAPS.

- Bergen and Passaic Counties. 1861.  
State of New York. 1854.

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PHOTOGRAPHS AND HALF-TONE CUTS.

- The "Green" in 1820—Hackensack. Photograph and half-tone cut.—Courtesy of Bergen County Democrat.—B. C. H. S.
- The Indian Dugout Canoe. Line Drawing and Line Cut.—B. C. H. S.
- The Abraham Devoe Revolutionary Homestead, and half-tone cut.—B. C. H. S.
- A Cane—ivory and silver mounted—marked P. D. M. R., 1724. Formerly the property of Peter De Ma Rest. Photograph and half-tone cut.—Courtesy of Mr. William Ely, B. C. H. S.
- A Fragment of a Homespun Wool Blanket from the Peter Burdette Home at Fort Lee, having embroidered on it a crown and R. G.—King George. Photograph and half-tone cut.—Courtesy Mrs. M. Allair, B. C. H. S.
- Three Photographs and Cuts of Homespun Coverlets, Bergen County—B. C. H. S.
- Eleven Photographs of Early Bergen County Houses.—Gift H. S. Ihnen.
- Framed Lithographs of Twelve Pictures of Hackensack, 1878.—B. C. H. S.
- Photographs of the Jordan, Parcell Tavern, and Naugle Houses at Closter.—Gift Mrs. H. Bennett.
- Photograph of Mouth of Geo. Wolfkiel-Kiln.—Gift Frederick Kraissl, Jr.

- Photograph David Marinus House—Glen Rock.—Gift John A. Marinus.
- Souvenir Menu of Testimonial Banquet tendered to William M. Johnson.—Gift W. A. Linn.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

- Banknote of the First Bank in Bergen County. One Dollar. State of New Jersey. Washington Banking Company. W. G. Doremus or Bearer. George W. Youtres, Cashier. Haekensaek, April, 1833.—Gift W. O. Allison.
- One Indian Pestle.—Gift Robert T. Amos.
- One Civil War Gun.—Gift C. Van Winkle.
- Specimens of Pottery from the Geo. Wolfkiel-Kiln.—Gifts or Cornelius and Frederick Kraissl, Jr.
- Historical Souvenir Programme Fiftieth Anniversary of the Palisades Reformed Church of Coytesville, N. J.—Gift Rev. Edward Kelder.
- Toll Gate Sign, and Tablet with Rates. Used on Turnpike from 1804-1915. Gates abolished.—Gift of Freeholder Martin J. Brestel.
- Hand-made Lath and Plaster Made of Mud and Straw (early method of building) from Holdrum Homestead, Campgaw, N. J., built 1810, burned 1915. The plaster after the fire showed it was clay.
- A Branding Iron—"David Marinus, Sloterdam"—used before the Revolution by David Marinus (a cooper), who was a captain in the Revolution.—Gift of John A. Marinus.
- Old Lock.—Gift John Ryan.
- Piece of Shell Fossil found on farm at Campgaw, N. J.—Gift Albert Young.
- Certificate of Stock, Haekensaek and New York R. R. C., \$1.00 each. 1869. G. G. Aekerson, Pres.—Gift J. C. Blauvelt.
- English Stirrup dug up near New Bridge.—Gift.
- One Grape Shot dug up near New Bridge.—Gift.
- United States Flags with thirty-five stars.—Gift Albert Young.
- Clippings for Envelope System.
- History of Wampum made in Bergen County.—B. C. H. S.
- Clipping of Early History of Newark. 1666. Founders.—Gift B. H. Allbee.

Strawberry Baskets and Round and Square Molds used seventy-five years ago.—Gift Albert Young.  
 A Colonial Threshing Flail.—Gift.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES A. WESTERVELT,  
 HON. WM. M. JOHNSON,  
 JOHN A. MARINUS,  
 ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK

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 LIFE MEMBERS
 

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Albee, Burton H.....	Paterson
Allison, William O.....	Englewood
Britton, W. R.....	East Orange
Comeron, Alpin J.....	Ridgewood
Foster, W. Edward.....	Hackensack
Green, Allister.....	New York
Phelps, Capt. J. J.....	Teaneck
Preston, Veryl.....	New York
Voorhis, Charles C.....	New York
Zabriskie, A. C.....	New York

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 HONORARY MEMBERS
 

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Bogert, Isaac D.....	Westwood
Collins, Andrew R.....	New Bridge
Demarest, Hon. Milton.....	Hackensack
Vroom, Rev. William.....	Ridgewood

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 MEMBERSHIP LIST
 

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Abbott, John C.....	Fort Lee
Ackerman, David D.....	Closter
Ackerson, Garret, G.....	Hackensack
Adams, Dr. Charles F.....	Hackensack
Adams, Robert A.....	Saddle River
Asmus, Grover E.....	West Hoboken
Bennett, Henry N.....	Hackensack
Bennett, Mrs. Harry.....	Teaneck
Bierbrier, F. E.....	Saddle River
Bird, Eugene K.....	Hackensack
Blauvelt, H. H.....	Ridgewood
Bogert, Matt J.....	Demarest
Bogert, Daniel G.....	Englewood
Bogert, Albert Z.....	River Edge
Bogert, Cornelius V. R.....	Bogota
Boyd, John T., Jr.....	Hackensack
Brinkerhoff, Charles V.....	Hackensack
Cafferty, Charles.....	Apalachin, N. Y.
Cane, F. W.....	Bogota
Christie, J. Elmer.....	Nyack, N. Y.
Cooper, Richard W.....	New Milford
Cosse, Edwin F.....	Paterson
Criss, Hugo F.....	Hohokus

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Crum, Fred H.	River Edge
Crum, Mrs. Fred H.	River Edge
Cubberly, Nelson S.	Glen Rock
Curtis, Grover D.	New York
Curtis, Charles.	Hackensack
Dalrymple, C. M.	Hackensack
DeBaun, Abram.	Hackensack
DeBaun, Mrs. Abram.	Hackensack
Demarest, Jacob R.	Englewood
Demarest, James E.	Westwood
DeRonde, Philip.	New York
Diaz, Jose M.	Hackensack
Doremus, Cornelius.	Ridgewood
Eckert, George M.	Saddle River
Englehart, Charles.	Ridgefield
Esler, John G.	Saddle River
Fay, A. M.	Hohokus
Goetschius, Howard B.	Hackensack
Goetschius, D. M.	Little Ferry
Grunow, Julius S.	Hackensack
Haggerty, M. L.	Hackensack
Haring, Tunis A.	Hackensack
Hay, Clyde B.	Hackensack
Hester, Earl L. D.	Hasbrouck Heights
Howell, Mrs. Henrietta D.	Hackensack
Jacobus, M. R.	Ridgefield
Jeffers, Daniel G.	Hackensack
Johnson, Hon. William M.	Hackensack
Kelder, Rev. Edward.	Englewood Cliff's
Kipp, James.	Tenafly
Lang, Dr. E. A.	Palisade
Liddle, Joseph G.	New York
Linkroum, Courtland.	Hackensack
Linn, William A.	Hackensack
Mabie, Clarence.	Hackensack
Mabon, Miss Elizabeth.	Hackensack
Marinus, John A.	Rochelle Park
Metz, A. Russell, Jr.	Hackensack
Meyer, Francis E.	Closter
Morrison, William J., Jr.	Ridgefield Park
Morrow, Dwight W.	Englewood
Parigot, George W.	Allendale
Platt, Daniel F.	Englewood
Potter, George M.	Allendale
Ramsey, John R.	Hackensack
Richardson, Milton T.	Ridgewood
Riker, Theo.	Paterson
Rogers, Henry M.	Tenafly

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Romaine, Theodore.....	Hackensack
Romaine, Mrs. Theodore.....	Hackensack
Sage, L. H.....	Hackensack
Sloat, B. F.....	Ridgewood
Spear, William M.....	Leonia
Snyder, George J.....	Ridgewood
Stagg, Edward.....	Leonia
Stewart, Dr. H. S.....	Hackensack
Staib, P. C.....	Hackensack
Staib, Mrs. P. C.....	Hackensack
St. John, Dr. David.....	Hackensack
Smith, Miss Dora.....	Hoboken
Stumm, F. A.....	Arcola
Tallman, William.....	Englewood
Terhune, C. W.....	Hackensack
Terhune, P. Christie.....	Hackensack
Terhune, Mrs. P. Christie.....	Hackensack
Thompson, Robert W., Jr.....	Ridgefield
Vail, Carl M.....	Ridgewood
Vail, William L.....	Fairview
Vail, Mrs. William L.....	Fairview
Van Buskirk, Arthur.....	Hackensack
Van Horne, Dr. Byron G.....	Englewood
Van Nest, Rev. J. A.....	Ridgewood
Van Winkle, Arthur W.....	Rutherford
Van Winkle, Chas. A.....	Rutherford
Van Wagoner, Jacob.....	Ridgewood
Voorhis, Rev. John C.....	Bogota
Waklee, Edmund W.....	New York
Wandell, Francis Livingston.....	Saddle River
Wandell, Mrs. Francis Livingston.....	Saddle River
Ware, Mrs. John C.....	Saddle River
Watt, Salina F.....	Hackensack
Wells, Benjamin B.....	Hackensack
Wells, George E.....	Hackensack
Westervelt, Mrs. Frances A.....	Hackensack
Wilson, Richard T.....	Ridgewood
Wilson, Robert T.....	Saddle River
Wood, Robert J. G.....	Leonia
Woodman, Charles.....	Ridgewood
Wright, Wendell J.....	Hackensack
Zabriskie, David D.....	Ridgewood
Zabriskie, Everett L.....	Ridgewood
Zabriskie, Fred'k C.....	Hackensack

## In Memoriam

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Bogart, Peter B., Jr.....	Bogota
Bogert, Andrew D.....	Englewood
Brinkerhoff, A. H.....	Rutherford
Christie, Cornelius.....	Leonia
Clark, Edwin.....	Ridgewood
Currie, Dr. Daniel A.....	Englewood
Demarest, A. S. D.....	Hackensack
Demarest, Isaac I.....	Hackensack
Dutton, George R.....	Englewood
Easton, E. D.....	Arcola
Edsall, Samuel S.....	Palisade
Haggin, Mrs. L. T.....	Closter
Hales, Henry.....	Ridgewood
Holdrum, A. C.....	Westwood
Labagh, William O.....	Hackensack
Lane, Jesse.....	New Milford
Lane, Mrs. Jesse.....	New Milford
Lawton, I. Parker.....	Ridgewood
Nelson, William.....	Paterson
Romaine, Christie.....	Hackensack
Sanford, Rev. Ezra T.....	New York
Shanks, William.....	Hackensack
Snow, William D.....	Hackensack
Terhune, Peter O.....	Ridgewood
Van Buskirk, Jacob.....	New Milford









PAPERS AND  
PROCEEDINGS

1916 - 1917

NUMBER TWELVE

BERGEN COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

B4B4

# Papers and Proceedings

OF THE

## Bergen County Historical Society

1916-1917

### NUMBER TWELVE

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## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1916-17

### PRESIDENT

CORNELIUS VAN REYPEN BOGERT ..... Bogota

### VICE-PRESIDENTS

WILLIAM O. ALLISON ..... Englewood  
RICHARD T. WILSON ..... Ridgewood  
FRED H. CRUM ..... River Edge  
EDWARD STAGG ..... Leonia  
FRANCIS L. WANDELL ..... Saddle River  
REV. EDWARD KELDER ..... Coytesville  
DAVID D. ACKERMAN ..... Closter  
EUGENE K. BIRD ..... Hackensack  
P. C. TERHUNE ..... Hackensack  
WILLIAM A. LINN ..... Hackensack

### SECRETARY AND TREASURER

THEODORE ROMAINE ..... 158 Main Street, Hackensack

THE OFFICERS, EX-PRESIDENTS AND THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS  
COMPOSE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GEORGE E. WELLS ..... Hackensack  
REV. JOHN C. VOORHIS ..... Bogota  
MISS SALINA F. WATT ..... Hackensack  
ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK ..... Hackensack  
RICHARD T. WILSON ..... Ridgewood

### ARCHIVES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT ..... Hackensack  
HON. WILLIAM M. JOHNSON ..... Hackensack  
JOHN A. MARINUS ..... Rochelle Park  
ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK ..... Hackensack

### PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

BYRON G. VAN HORNE, M.D., Chairman ..... Englewood  
WILLIAM O. ALLISON ..... Englewood  
ROBERT T. WILSON ..... Saddle River  
HON. WILLIAM M. JOHNSON ..... Hackensack

Official Photographer ..... CHARLES CURTIS







TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE EASTERN QUARTER  
OF BERGEN COUNTY.\*

To Be Forwarded by General Heath.

---

Camp, Novemr ye 27th, 1776.

General Lee is extremely sensible of the distressful situation of the Inhabitants of the Eastern Quarter of Bergen County, but he can comfort 'em with the assurance that the staunch immovable Friends to Liberty and their Country's rights will ultimately (whatever may be their present hardships) prevail, whereas those who either from fear or a baseness of Principle, repair to the Standard of Tyranny must infallibly be ruin'd. The Congress must vought to make up the losses of the Sufferers in thr Country's Cause. I shall with the blessing of God be immediately in a situation of giving sufficient protection to the adherents of Freedom and inflicting a most just and severe chastisement on its opponents; in the meantime, I wou'd advise 'em to secure the most valuable and portable articles of their Property. The Foes and Deserters of their Country's rights on *this side* have already tasted of the bitter cup they had prepared for their Country. They were first plunder'd by the Mercenary Ruffians whom they had preposterously invited to protect 'em. The shells of their houses were alone left standing, these I have most justly, as I think, order'd to be set on fire and this mode I am determin'd to observe wherever I march. People of this stamp are utterly ruin'd. They never can be indemnified, whereas, those on the side of their Country may depend on a certain and ample compensation. I shall now only request that the Inhabitants of the Eastern Quarter of Bergen will stand firm against the threats and artifices of the Instruments of Tyranny—that I am preparing a Force for their protection, and repeat that they have only in the meantime to find a temporary secure place to deposit their most valuable and least bulky effects.

To the Inhabitants of the Eastern Quarter of Bergen.

CHARLES LEE,

Major General.

---

\*The body of this letter is not in the handwriting of General Charles Lee, but probably is that of his secretary or amanuensis. The signature, however, is that of General Lee as well as the sentence in the lower left-hand corner, 'to the inhabitants of the Eastern Quarter of Bergen.' This is on the authority of Mr. Leech, stenographer in the Department of Manuscripts, New York Public Library.

(5)

to the following of the Eastern

Quarters of Bergen County

to be forwarded  
by General Wash

Camp November 29<sup>th</sup> 1776

Consideration is usually sensible of the distress  
of the Province of Pennsylvania of the Eastern  
County of Berks is to take care and protection  
with it. The several counties that are in the  
Province have their Courts in the right side  
of the Province. It may be therefore in the  
present situation whether from law or a  
lack of principle, repair to the standard of  
justice must be made. It is necessary  
to make up the Kingdom of Pennsylvania  
County. It is all with the Province of the  
in a situation of giving sufficient protection  
to the Adherents of Freedom and infliction  
and severe punishment on its Opponents;  
in the mean time. It is a wise man to secure  
the most valuable and portable part of their  
Property. The Lords and Deputies of these  
Counties in rights on this side have  
already voted of this petition. They  
have proposed for their Country. They  
were first plundered by the British Army  
when they had professedly invited to protect  
their fields of their houses and vine left  
standing. These have most justly as  
a punishment for their conduct to be  
punished.



## WILLIAM ALEXANDER LINN.

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WILLIAM ALEXANDER LINN, a prominent citizen of Haekensack, one of the founders and active members of the Berger County Historical Society, and one of its Vice-Presidents, died suddenly at his home on the evening of February 23, 1917. Mr. Linn was born in Sussex County, New Jersey, September 4, 1846, the son of Dr. Alexander Linn, and grandson of John Linn, who was a Revolutionary soldier and a Representative in Congress in 1817-21.

Graduating from Yale in the class of 1868, in which he was a prominent figure, being class poet and editor of the "Yale Literary Magazine," Mr. Linn went to New York and became a reporter on the Tribune. He was called upon to index Mr. Greeley's "Recollections of a Busy Life," a task of magnitude when the peculiar handwriting of the great editor is considered. This work, however, proved of inestimable value to the young man, laying foundation for a future biography of Mr. Greeley which he wrote. During four years on the Tribune he became night city editor, editor of the weekly and semi-weekly, and night editor of the daily.

Mr. Linn went to the Evening Post in 1872, under William Cullen Bryant as editor and Charles Nordhoff, assistant.

He later became telegraph and general news editor, from which he was promoted to be managing editor, in which important department he found wider scope for his ability. He was at his desk for many years. The Evening Post, in its notice of Mr. Linn's death, says:

"His quick, certain and comprehensive grasp of the salient elements in the news situation of the country as it presented itself from day to day, and of the manner in which they could be most promptly, wisely and effectively handled, excited the enthusiastic recognition even of so hard-headed an observer as E. L. Godkin, and the efficiency with which he discerned and followed the general outlines of journalistic policies was not more noteworthy than his mastery and intimate personal supervision of the innumerable minor details which contribute so greatly to the general excellence, dependability and value of the modern newspaper. Nothing in the office routine was too small or trifling to escape his oversight. A hard taskmaster over himself he demanded, and, as a rule, obtained the prompt, faithful and accurate performance of allotted duties from all his subordinates. A nervous, excitable, hot-tempered—but essentially tender-hearted—man, he could be fiery in rebuke and cutting in contempt, but when the storm was over, there was no remaining grievance or ill-will,

and no victim of his anger ever bore him malice. He was a thoroughly just, honest, kindly man, held in honor and respect by all his associates, and in deep affection by those who knew him longest and most intimately.

His great executive ability, his discriminating taste, and his sober judgment bore fruit in all the departments of the paper under his immediate guidance. He was a man who saw and thought clearly, was singularly free from fads and prejudices, had a fine natural instinct for what was right, manly and democratic and the courage to avow and act up to his principles. Sycophancy, deceit, shirking, or false pretence he loathed.

“He continued his newspaper work with unabated energy for thirty years, in spite of a wearing dyspepsia that would have incapacitated many a far more robust man, and cruel domestic losses.”

In addition to his newspaper work, Mr. Linn's literary labors included a biography of Horace Greeley, “The Story of the Mormons,” “Rob and His Gun,” a story for boys, and magazine articles on building and loan associations, a subject upon which he was an authority.

Mr. Linn's “The Story of the Mormons” is recognized as the most exhaustive and authoritative work on the subject. In gathering the material for this volume he made personal trips to Utah and pursued a research requiring patience, perseverance and extensive correspondence. It deals with Mormonism from its inception, giving a full account of the travels and settlements of the followers of John Smith before their final settlement in Utah.

Mr. Linn came to Hackensack in 1875. He bought a home on Clinton place, living there during the forty-two years of his residence in the town. There his wife (whose maiden name was Margaret Astor Martin) died March 5, 1897; there he remained until the summons came which called him hence; took him literally “in the twinkling of an eye.” They had no children.

Mr. Linn was always interested in advancing the interests of the community, the first important action in this connection being in the organization of the Hackensack Mutual Building and Loan Association, in 1887.

To William A. Linn more than any other individual is due the remarkable prestige of the Hackensack Mutual B. and L.

He made a success of the Peoples National Bank of Hackensack, in the organization of which he was the guiding head, and for every interest of which he gave his best talent while

in the president's chair. The Ridgefield Park National Bank, an offspring of the Peoples, was another of his far-seeing financial enterprises.

Mr. Linn was associated with the Johnson Public Library from its organization, and at the time of his death was its president. His interest in the work of the library was untiring. His literary experience and wise counsel made him most helpful in the consideration and settlement of the various questions affecting the work of the library.

Mr. Linn's interest in the Historical Society was fruitful. He took an active part in its organization, and was a frequent contributor to its publications.

The Year Books of the society have the following important articles from his pen, the result of original investigations on his part, "Slavery in New Jersey," "The Andre Prison House at Tappan," "The Baron Steuben House" and "Interest on Surplus Revenue," the last of which he had prepared just before his death and is published in this issue.

The Board of Freeholders elected him county collector in 1916 and re-elected him in 1917. The duties of the position were of an especially onerous character during 1916, due to peculiarities of the large bond issues by the county, but Mr. Linn was master of the situation, and details of the varied accounts are reported as in splendid condition.

He was prominent and active in matters affecting the civic welfare of the town of his residence and wielded an extensive influence in all movements of a public nature, and did much to promote good government and the development of the town.

Funeral ceremonies for Mr. Linn were held in the Second Reformed Church at 10 a. m., Monday, Feb. 26, and were attended by many friends, the Freeholders acting as pallbearers. The service was read by the pastor, the Rev. Arthur Johnson, D.D. The remains were taken to Hamburg, Sussex County, and interred in the family plot in old North Church cemetery.

Mr. Linn, by his will, gave the sum of \$20,000 to an association to be formed in the town of Sussex for the establishment and maintenance of a hospital in memory of his father, Dr. Alexander Linn.

## “INTEREST ON SURPLUS REVENUE”

History of a Bergen County Appropriation.

BY WILLIAM A. LINN.

---

Persons interested in the annual budget of the Bergen County Board of Freeholders will find in that budget the following item: “Interest on Surplus Revenue, \$1,795.08.” The county annually appropriates this sum without change in the amount or the designation. The history of this appropriation runs back through the history of the United States for eighty years.

During the administration of President Jackson the United States Government found itself in the unusual position of having more money than it could use. There had been a vast expansion of bank capital. In 1830 there were 330 banks in this country, with a capital of \$61,000,000. In 1837 there were 634 banks, with a capital of \$525,000,000. The note circulation had increased from \$61,000,000 in 1830 to \$149,000,000 in 1837. This inflation was a source of speculation, and the principal speculation was in public lands. The price of government land was \$1.25 an acre. Speculators bought vast areas of this land, paying for it in bank notes, which were deposited and loaned again for further speculation. In this way the receipts of the government from land sales increased from \$2,623,000 in 1832 to \$24,877,000 in 1836. At the same time there was a great increase in the customs revenue, from \$16,200,000 in 1834 to \$23,400,000 in 1836.

As the public deposits in the banks increased there arose an outcry against the political power rendered possible through the control of banks, and Congress was urged to find a way to dispose of the surplus. As the public debt had all been paid this was a difficult problem. A member of Congress from South Carolina thus described the situation: “The departments were stimulated and goaded on to find out how much they could spend, while the majority in Congress seemed to be employed in finding out how much they could give.”

The only feasible plan for disposing of the surplus seemed to be to divide it among the States. Calhoun argued that a distribution of the funds as a gift would be unconstitutional, and as a sort of compromise, a bill was passed authorizing the deposit of the surplus with the States, in proportion to their representation in Congress, to be paid back at



the call of the Secretary of the Treasury. This saving clause did not seem to deceive any one, and Henry Clay told his constituents that "he did not believe a single member of either house imagined a dollar would be recalled." Says Carl Schurz, in his "Henry Clay": "It was a bad law in itself, but perhaps no worse than any other available expedient, since the accumulation of the surplus had not been prevented by a timely reduction of taxes."

New Jersey received her share of this surplus on January 1, 1837, and the Legislature of that year passed a law providing that the Governor, Treasurer and Speaker of the House should apportion the money among the counties, "in the ratio of the State tax paid by the several counties into the treasury of the State during the past year; the Boards of Chosen Freeholders to pledge the faith of their respective counties for the safe keeping and repayment thereof." The Boards of Freeholders were authorized to loan this deposit "upon bond and mortgage, or other good and sufficient security, and to pay the interest to the several townships in the ratio of their county taxes."

At first the interest as apportioned among the townships was set aside at the annual town meetings for the education of poor children. When the schools became free it was voted that the entire interest be devoted to school purposes, and the item now found in the annual Bergen County budget provides for six per cent. on the sum that Bergen County finally received.

The first two quarterly payments of this fund, amounting to \$27,454.76, were made to Bergen County in 1837, and the County Collector, when he reported this receipt, was authorized to retain \$5,000 "for the use of the County." A part of this \$5,000 was later loaned out. A third payment of \$13,727.38 was received from the State Treasurer the following July, making the total received by the County \$41,182.14.

In May, 1837, a committee of the Board reported resolutions providing that the fund then in hand be offered for loans "to the inhabitants of the several townships in proportion to their quota of State tax," the loans to be made on bond and mortgage on a 50 per cent. valuation, in sums of not less than \$500 nor more than \$3,000, and for not longer than a year. At the meeting of the Board on May 26, 1837, the following loans were made:

Henry W. Banta, New Barbadoes . . . . .	\$1,500
Peter I. Ackerman and Tunis Cole, Hackensack . . . . .	3,000
Francis Salmo, Franklin . . . . .	3,000

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John F. Gray, Saddle River .....	2,500
Charles Kinsey, Franklin .....	2,000
Peter A. Kip, Lodi .....	\$1,500
Asa Wright, Hoboken .....	2,000
Cyrus S. Browning, West Hoboken .....	3,000
John Tise, Bergen .....	2,000
Isaac I. Underhill, Secaucus .....	1,500

When the last payment was received from the State Treasurer ten additional loans were made, aggregating \$13,700.

When, in 1840, the county of Hudson was created out of a part of Bergen County, a division of the surplus fund had to be made between old Bergen County and the new Hudson, and there was a further division when a small part of Bergen County was added to Passaic County. Quite a complicated computation was required to arrive at a correct division. For particulars of this the reader is referred to the Bergen County Freeholders' minutes of May 1, 1839, and May 6, 1840. The amount due Hudson County was fixed at \$9,460.28, leaving Bergen County, after deductions for interest and the payment to Passaic County, \$29,918.14. This division was not satisfactory to a later Board of Bergen County Freeholders, and there seems to have been a rather prolonged dispute with Hudson County over the subject, but with no result.

We now find this surplus fund connected with the project to purchase for Bergen County a poor house farm. The subject of a poor house for the county had been under discussion in the late forties, and in April, 1849, a resolution was offered at the meeting of the Freeholders that a poor house should be built, but the Board refused to consider it. In 1850 a motion to refer the matter to the voters of the townships was tabled. In May, 1851, the Board voted that a committee of one from each township be appointed to look into the cost and location of a poor house, and at a special meeting of the Board the following month, on the recommendation of this committee, it was voted to offer Jacob N. Voorhis \$40 an acre for his farm on the road from the Paramus road to New Milford, and that all further business regarding the purchase be referred to the Committee on Surplus Revenue. In November, 1851, it was voted that counsel be ordered to call for May 1 so much of the surplus revenue loaned on mortgage "as will be sufficient to pay for the whole expenses of the poor house farm building, and stock the same."

The annual reports of the committee on surplus revenue to the Board are not all very clear. In the report of May,

1854, there is an item of “to townships for poor purposes, \$400.” Part of the surplus fund was loaned to the Tri-township poor house, and interest on this sum was paid for several years. The report of May, 1854, was as follows:

Loans on bond and mortgages .....	\$13,850.00
To townships for poor purposss .....	400.00
To county .....	6,502.82

In the early sixties, when successive calls for soldiers were made by the Federal Government on the States, Bergen County had to supply a good many men. These were obtained later by offering bounties, and the bounty money was raised by the counties. Bergen County made more than one issue of bonds to meet this expense. In November, 1863, the Freeholders passed this resolution:

“Resolved, That no more of the surplus revenue now in the hands of the Collector be invested at interest to the credit of the county, but that whatever amount may be in his hands shall be used to liquidate the indebtedness of the county arising from the payment of bounty to volunteers.”

In May, 1864, the Board passed the following resolution:

“Resolved, That the surplus revenue invested to the credit of the county be collected by the County Collector, and appropriated to paying off the county indebtedness.”

The report of the Committee on Surplus Revenue, submitted May 8, 1872, showed:

Bergen County, dr. ....	\$19,664.04
Interest to date .....	\$1,179.84
New Barbadoes, Midland, Washington, Hobokus, Franklin, Saddle River, Lodi and Union .....	9,000.00
Interest to date .....	\$2,160.00
Haekensack Township, 5 years’ interest .....	256.00
Estate H. B. Hageman .....	400.00
	\$29,918.14

The report for 1875 showed a total of \$29,918.14 and \$400 received from the Hageman estate, with a recommendation that this be paid into the county fund.

The county, the poor house and some of the townships seem to have paid interest into this fund until about 1881. In 1883 the Committee on Surplus Revenue was omitted from the list of standing committees. The following appropria-

ions for interest on surplus revenue were made in the budget in the years named:

1910 .....	\$1,203.84
1911 .....	1,203.94
1912 .....	1,743.84
1913 .....	642.48
1914 .....	1,795.08

The latter amount has been appropriated in each successive year. This interest is distributed among the school districts by the County Collector on warrants drawn by the County Superintendent of Public Schools on the basis of \$1.80 to each teacher employed.

[There is evidently an error in computation of these figures which Mr. Linn furnished a few days before his death, and is copied from the Minutes of the Freeholders; therefore he had no opportunity of correcting same.

The Committee learns on inquiry from the present County Collector that the State of New Jersey claims \$28,819.14 as the total amount due Surplus Revenue, and now contemplate calling on Bergen County for its payment in the near future.

It will be found that this amount is set aside as a reserve in the Financial Report of the County for the year 1917.]

WHEREAS by an Act of the Legislature of the State of New-Jersey, entitled "An Act making provision for the deposite and distribution of so much of the surplus revenue of the United States as now is, or may hereafter be, apportioned to and received by this state," passed March 1837, it is enacted, "That as soon as the Governor, Treasurer, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, of this State, and the survivors and survivor of them, and their successors in office, and the survivors or survivor of them, shall receive, or may have received, in deposite, any portion of the surplus revenue of the General Government, which fell to the share of this State on the first day of January last, and which may fall to the share of this State at any time or times hereafter, they shall apportion the same among the several counties of this state in the ratio of the state tax paid by the several counties into the treasury of the state during the past year."

AND WHEREAS the said Governor, Treasurer, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, of this State, have received of said surplus revenue the sum of  $\$254,840$  <sup>second</sup> ~~20/100~~ <sup>April</sup> dollars, it being the ~~first~~ <sup>second</sup> quarterly payment due to the State of New-Jersey on the first of ~~January~~ <sup>April</sup> last past.

AND WHEREAS upon an apportionment made of said amount, agreeably to the provisions of said act, the county of *Bergen* is entitled to receive, as their proportion of said fund, the sum of *thirteen thousand seven hundred twenty seven*  $\$13,727$  <sup>13/100</sup> ~~dollars~~ which amount the said Governor, Treasurer, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, of this State, have delivered to *Amos P. Hopper Esq. Collector of said County* being the competent authority authorized by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of said county of *Bergen* to receive the same.

Now, therefore, be it known, That I, *Albert S. Doernum* Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of said county of *Bergen* do hereby certify that the said sum of  $\$13,727$  <sup>13/100</sup> has been deposited by the said Governor, Treasurer, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, of this State, with the county of *Bergen* and that for the safe-keeping and re-payment of the same to the State of New-Jersey, according to the provisions of said act, the county of *Bergen* is legally bound, and its faith is solemnly pledged; and in behalf of said county of *Bergen* I do hereby affix my signature in testimony of the premises, and of the faith of the said county of *Bergen* to pay the said money so deposited, and every part thereof, from time to time, whenever the same shall be required for the purpose of being returned into the Treasury of the United States, according to the provisions of an Act of Congress to regulate the public deposites, passed the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D. 1836, or whenever, in the opinion of the Legislature, the interest of the State may require its return.

SIGNED this *Nineteenth* day of *May* in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

ATTEST:

*David D. Demant*  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
*Clute*

*Albert S. Doernum* Director

NEW-JERSEY TREASURY OFFICE,

TRENTON,

May 16<sup>th</sup> 1837

Andrew H. Oppen Esq. Collector of the county of Bergen

SIR:

An Act of the Legislature of the State of New-Jersey, entitled "An Act making provision for the deposit and distribution of so much of the surplus revenue of the United States, as now is, and hereafter be, apportioned and received by this State"—it is made my duty, as Treasurer of the State, to notify the Collectors of the several counties of this state, of the sum apportioned to each county, respectively. In compliance with said act, I hereby notify you, that the sum apportioned to the county of *Bergen* is  $\$13,727 \frac{33}{100}$  second installment. I also send herewith a form of the pledge of the county, to be signed by the Director of the Chosen Freeholders, provided they elect to receive the same.

*Jacob White*

Treasurer

## LOURENCE VAN BOSKEARK'S DEED

August 8, 1716, for Lutheran Church, on East bank of  
Haekensack, about one mile south of New Bridge.

---

To All Christian People, to Whom These Presents Shall  
Come:

I, Lourence Van boskeark, of Haekensack, in the County  
of Bergen, in the Province of New Jersey, yoeman, sendeth  
greetings:

Know ye that I, the said Lourence Van boskeark, for  
and in consideration of the love, good will and affection which  
(can't read) doe bear toward the Lutheran Church, have  
given and granted and by these presents doe fully, freely,  
clearly and absolutely give and grant to the Protestant Luth-  
eran Congregation at and about Haekensack a certain piece  
and parcel of land situate and being on Haekensack Creek  
or River, joining to a small run that runneth between the  
lands of Nicholas Lassure, shoemaker, and the said parcel of  
land beginning on the King's Road ten foot from the small  
run or Creek between Nicholas Lassure, shoemaker, and the  
said parcel of land and running all along that said small run  
only, keeping always the distance of ten foot from it to the  
mouth of the said run in the great Haekensack Creek or  
River and then along the said Haekensack Creek or River  
northerly two hundred and twenty-three foot, and then from  
thence again easterly to the King's Road in such a course  
that the whole breadth thereof on ye said King's Road may  
fully be one hundred and sixty-three foot. The beginning of  
the said breadth is to be made on the said small run between  
Nicholas Lassure, shoemaker, and the said parcel of land  
only, keeping ten foot distance from it as aforesaid, altogether  
with the rights, gifts, interests, claims and demands what-  
soever which I now have or which any or either my heirs,  
executors, administrators or assignes may hereafter have of,  
to or in the said granted premises or any part thereof, to  
have and hold the said parcel and piece of land unto the said  
Protestant Lutheran Congregation. Now being and hereafter  
at any time being for me provided nevertheless that the said  
Protestant Lutheran Congregation shall build and erect on  
and upon the said granted and given parcel of ground a house  
for Divine worship for the use of the Protestant Lutherans,  
in and about Haekensack, and that within the term of four

THE FINAL CENTURY OF THE WAMPUM INDUSTRY  
IN BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

COMPILED BY FRANCES A. WESTERVELT.

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In presenting somewhat of an industry that is now obsolete, it is thought that the bare facts and illustrations to be given would be practically meaningless without the following references, that will show the use and value of wampum to New Jersey and Bergen County during the Colonial period.

“These voices of the past tell of treaties that mark the stepping stones of a nation’s progress—they epitomize the dark days of endeavor, when the infant States fought for life and prosperity.”

“To the Algonkains must be credited the establishment of the first medium of exchange within the boundaries of the State of New Jersey. When the Dutch and Swedes came to the valleys of the Hudson and Delaware they found the Lemmi-Lenape and kindred peoples possessed of a money which, while crude, was satisfactory—so satisfactory indeed that the settlers provided by custom and law for its use among themselves and in their trading relations with neighboring tribes. This money was the wampum—the shell money of the peltry dealer and of the signers of treaties.”—  
LEE.

1658

“In order to remove any causes for friction with the Indians on the account of adverse claims to their territory, and to reassure the timid settlers, Governor Stuyvasant and the Council of New Netherlands purchased of the Indians January 30, 1658, a tract of land by the following description: \* \* \* Comprising the old township of Bergen for eighty fathems of Wampum, &c.”

VAN WINKLE.

1667

YE TOWN ON THE PESAYAK.  
(NEWARK)

was purchased by the settlers from Connecticut July 11, 1667, from the Hackensack Indians. Numerous articles were in the purchase price. The first mentioned was eight hundred and fifty fathems of wampum.—Historic Newark.



## UNION TOWNSHIP, 1668.

That portion of Bergen County which includes what now constitutes Union Township was originally known by the Indian name of Mig-hee ti cock (New Barbadoes Neck). It embraced five thousand three hundred and eight acres of upland and ten thousand acres of meadow. In 1668 Captain William Sanford purchased in the interest of Nathaniel Kingsland of the island of Barbadoes, this land from the proprietors, on condition that he would settle six or eight farms within three years, and pay twenty pounds sterling on the 25th of each succeeding March. On the 20th of July of the same year he purchased from the Indians their title, "to commence at the Hackensack and Pissawaek Rivers, and to go northward about seven miles to Sanfords Spring (afterwards Boiling Spring). The consideration was 170 fathoms of black wampum, 200 fathoms of white wampum (each fathom was 12 inches long, and the black was worth double the white): 19 watch coats, 16 guns, 60 double hands of powder, 10 pair breeches, 60 knives, 67 bars of lead, 1 anker of brandy, 3 half fats beer, 11 blankets, 30 axes and 20 hoes." It is noticed in all these purchases that the wampum heads the lists.—NELSON.

1669

"The ferry was established between Communipaw and the New Netherlands. Fare in wampum 6 stivers, equaling 12 cents."

## WAMPUM BELTS AND STRINGS OF WAMPUM

"Although many wampum belts were made during the early Colonial period, they are now very rare. There are a few in the museums and some still remain in the hands of public officials and county clerks as records of treaties with the Indians." "In all affairs of state the chief and sachems wore wampum belts around their waists or over their shoulders. In negotiations with other tribes, every important statement was corroborated by laying down one or more strings of wampum or belts. Friendships were cemented by them. Alliances confirmed, treaties negotiated and marriages solemnized. In all these the giving of wampum added dignity and authority to the transaction." "This belt preserves my words," was the common phrase among the Iroquoise when promises were made.

1758

“Given under my hand and seal at arms, the 25th day of June, in 32d year of his Majesty’s reign.

By his excellency, Francis Bernard, Esq., captain-general, governor and commander-in-chief of the colony of New Jersey, &c.

Brethren: The Minisink or Munsy Indians and those at Pompton:

It is with great pain I am to tell you that some Indians have invaded our province on the upper part of the Delaware and shed much blood, and that you are suspected to be concerned in it.

A STRING.

Brethren:

If you have been instigated to this by the false suggestions of our enemies, the French, we pity you, for these proceedings, if not immediately prevented, must cause a discord between us, which, though it may be greatly hurtful to our people, must in the end entirely ruin yours.

A STRING.

Brethren:

The throne of the great king is founded on justice, and therefore if you have received any injury from any of his people living within our province you should have made your complaint to me, who am ordered to do justice to all men, and I would have heard you with open ears, and given you full satisfaction.

A STRING.

Brethren:

If therefore you have any anger boiling in your breasts, *I by this belt*, invite you to Burlington, in five weeks, at which time our great council will be together; there to unburthen your minds, and root out of your hearts the seeds of enmity, before they take too deep a root. And I will kindle a council fire, and bury all the blood that has stained our ground deep in the earth, and make a new chain of peace, that may bind us and our children, and you and your children in everlasting bonds of love, that we may live together as brethren, under the protection of the great king, our common father.

A BELT.

Brethren:

If these words shall please you, and you should choose that we should be your friends, rather than your enemies, let all hostilities immediately cease and receive this passport, and go to Fort Allen, from whence you shall be conducted to

Bristol, where you will find deputies, who will take you by the hand and lead you to me at Burlington. But if the time and place I have mentioned be inconvenient to you, I shall be ready to receive you in this government, when you can more agreeably to yourselves attend.

A STRING.

At a conference held at Burlington, August 7, 1758:

Present—His excellency, Francis Bernard, Esq., and others.

His excellency sat, holding four strings of wampum in his hand, and spoke to them as follows:

Brethren:

As you have come from a long journey, through a wood full of briars, with this string I anoint your feet, and take away their soreness. With this string I wipe the sweat from your bodies; with this string I cleanse your eyes, ears and mouths, that you may see, hear and speak clearly, and I particularly anoint your throat, that every word you say may have a free passage from your heart, and with this string I bid you heartily welcome.

*Then he delivered all the four strings.*

His excellency then informed them that he should be ready to hear what they had to say in answer to the message he had sent to their chiefs, as soon as would be convenient to them, when they informed him they would be ready in the afternoon; and thanked his excellency for using the customs of their fathers in bidding them welcome.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Present:

As in the morning.

The Indians being informed that the governor was ready to hear them, Benjamin, on behalf of the Munseys Indians, holding a belt in his hand, spoke sitting, not being allowed to stand till the *Mingoian* had spoke.

Brother:

At first when your messengers came to us twenty-seven days since our ancient people were glad to hear them, and our young men, women and children rejoiced at the tidings. We know you are great and strong, and we took it kindly. All our friends and relations were in sorrow, and pitied the

condition of the women and of the children, who are growing up. The kind words of our brethren, the English, we sent to our uncles, the Minigoians, and one of them is come down here to the place of our meeting to be a witness of what passes between us. Then John Hudson, the Cayugan, above mentioned, stood up and spoke as follows:

Brothers:

In confirmation of what has been said to you, I, who am the Mingoian, am, by this belt, to inform you that the Munseys are women, and cannot hold treaties for themselves, therefore I am sent to inform you that the invitation you gave the Munseys is agreeable to us, and we have taken hold of your belt, and I desire you may write down my attending here, though while I am here I left my family in danger of being cut off by our enemy, the French.

Further, Brother:

I have told you your belt was agreeable, and received by us as an earnest of your friendship. \* \* \*

This belt confirms what I have said.

He then delivered the governor a belt, on one side of which are three figures of men in black wampum, representing the Shawause, Delawares and Mingoians living on the Ohio; on the other side, four figures representing the united councils of the Six Nations, in their own country. By these being now joined in this belt, he declared it expressed their union. That the western Indians having consulted their uncles, now joined in sending it, in pursuance of a belt of invitation sent them above a year since, by George Crogham, on behalf of the English.

August 8th, 1758.

Present: As before.

His excellency delivered the following answers to what the Indians said yesterday. \* \* \* The great God whom we serve, and who protects us, and gives us all the blessings of life which we enjoy, hath commanded us to be just and benevolent to all mankind. \* \* \* Of this I will give your people further assurance, when we meet at the council fire. In the meantime, I confirm what I have said by these belts.

His excellency then delivered one belt to John Hudson, the Cayugan, and one to Benjamin, the Munsey.

The 21st of October, 1758.

Governor Bernard, requesting the attention of the Indians, addressed them as follows:

Brethren of the United Nations:

By this string you spoke on behalf of our brethren the Minisinks, and said, "that they were wronged in their lands, that the English settled so fast they were continually pushing them back, and when they asked for their lands they were told that they had sold their land, and had got drunk and forgot it. If they had swallowed their lands, they must be content, but they did not believe that they had swallowed all, but that some was left. They desired that I would enquire after their lands that were left and do them justice."

Brethren:

I am glad I have an opportunity, in the presence of so many nations, to express the desire I have of doing justice to every one. The throne of the great king is founded on justice, and I should not be a faithful servant to him if I neglected to give redress to all persons, that have received injuries from the people over whom the great king has placed me.

I have therefore had a conference with the Minisinks in the presence of some of their uncles, and have come to a full agreement with them, and proceedings of which are now ready to be read to you.

Brethren:

I have another proof to give you of the uprightness and justice of our province. We have come to an agreement with the Delawares and other Indians for the uncertain claims they had on the southern parts of our province. I hereby produce the deeds that have been executed on this occasion, that the subject of them be explained to you, and be had in perpetual remembrance by all the nations present. And I desire that you may all remember that, by these two agreements the province of New Jersey is entirely freed and discharged from all Indian claims. In confirmation of which I give you this belt.

Easton, 26th of October, 1758.

Present: His excellency, Governor Bernard.

\* \* \* \*

Brethren:

As we have now settled all differences, and confirmed the ancient leagues of amity and brightened the chain of friend-

ship, we now clean the blood off your council seats and put them in order, that when you hold councils at home you may sit in your seats with the same peace and tranquillity as you formerly used to do.

A string consisting of a thousand grains of wampum.

Brethren:

With this string of wampum we condole with you for the loss of your wise men and for the warriors that have been killed in these troublesome times, and likewise for your women and children, and we cover their graves decently, agreeable to the custom of your forefathers.

A string of a thousand grains of wampum.

His excellency, Governor Bernard, produced the following deeds: \* \* \* One dated 12th September, 1758, and the other dated the 23d October instant at Easton, from the chiefs of the Munsies, Wapings, Opings or Pomptons, sixteen in number, and including all the remaining lands in New Jersey beginning at Cushytunk, and down the division line between New Jersey and New York to the mouth of Tappan Creek at Hudson River and down the same to Sandy Hook, etc. \* \* \* Endorsed by Nimham, a chief of Opings or Pomptons, who was sick at the execution thereof, and approved by the Six Nations, which was testified by three of their chiefs, signing as witnesses thereto; and Governor Bernard desired that all present might take notice of the same and *remember that the Indian titles to all the lands in New Jersey* were conveyed by those two deeds (for a valuable consideration) (such parts only excepted as were reserved for the use of those Indians that inclined to live under the protection of this government).—*Smith's History of New Jersey*.

#### THE BERGEN COUNTY WAMPUM MAKERS.

In Ireland in 1718 was born William Campbell. In 1735 he came to Bergen County and settled in Schraalenburgh. He married Elizabeth Demarest in 1735. His son John, two grandsons, four great grandsons and two or more great-great-grandsons became the renowned family of wampum makers.

The original homestead of John W. Campbell and wife Letitia Van Valen, of one hundred acres, was at Pascueck, 25 miles from New York. They settled there prior to 1775, and began the manufacturing of wampum. When the church was built across the road from them in 1812 they united

with it and presented half of the cemetery site. Their house was of red stone, built on the beautiful Dutch lines, with overhanging roof, in front and rear.

It was demolished about 1887.

#### WHERE THE WAMPUM WAS MADE.

While the business was in its infancy it was carried on in the house, mostly during the winter months, as the makers



Wampum Factory or Mint, Built Late 60's, Pasack, N. J.

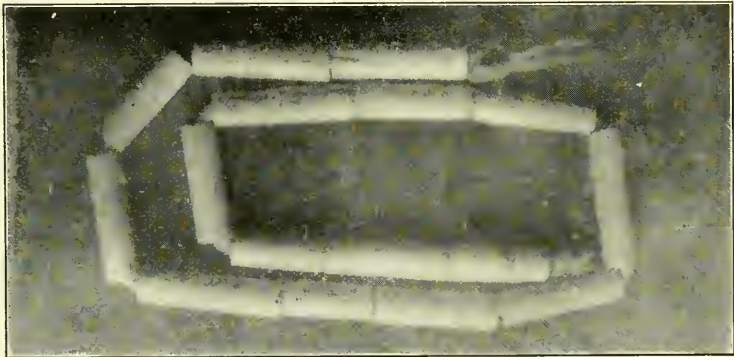
were also tillers of the soil. The women of the families often helped in its manufacture.

The rapidly increasing business was handicapped by their primitive methods, including foot power.

A change was made from the house to the mill by renting and fitting out the lower part of an old woolen mill that stood on the present site of the electric light plant at Park Ridge. Water power was installed, that ran the grinding and polishing wheels which were required for all of their products. They occupied this "Mint" for many years, making

thousands of dollars' worth of the wampum money within its walls, besides the ornaments. The next step in progression was to erect a new mint on their own property on the banks of the Pascaek Creek, a tributary to the Hackensack River.

This was the last home of the industry, and now lies in ruins with the scrap heaps nearby, from which many valuable specimens of their work have been recovered, even if they are "failures," and are in the Society's possession on exhibition. A center discharge wheel was installed, with other improvements. The great amount of work requiring the pick and chisel, grinding and polishing, drilling of holes in beads, moons, etc., was carried on in the lower part of the building, while the upper part was used for the working out of their discoveries, which were kept secret, the results being: "The



Campbell's White Wampum.

finest wampum made," the term covering both ornaments and money.

"The interior of a workshop resembled a lime kiln. The floors were hidden from sight by great heaps of shells, and the rude benches and tools covered entirely with white flying dust, as the shells were being ground and drilled, and suggested the application of innumerable coats of whitewash, which, in fact, it really was."

The following extracts are from Barber and Howe, 1844:

#### THE METHOD OF MAKING THE WAMPUM MONEY.

"Wampum, or Indian money, is to the present day (1844) made in this county, and sold to the Indian traders of the far west. It has been manufactured by the females in



this region from very early times for the Indians, and as everything connected with this interesting race is destined, at no distant period, to exist only in history, we annex a description of the manufacture.

“The black wampum is made from the thick and blue part of sea clam shells, and the white wampum from the conch shell. The process is simple, but requires a skill only attained by long practice. The intense hardness and brittleness of the material render it impossible to produce the article by machinery alone. It is done by wearing or grinding the shell. The first process is to split off the thin part with a slight sharp hammer. Then it is clamped in the sawed crevice of a slender stick, held in both hands and ground smooth on a grindstone, until formed into an eight-sided figure, of about an inch in length and nearly half an inch in diameter, when it is ready for boring. The shell then is inserted into another piece of wood, sawed similarly to the above, but fastened firmly to a bench of the size of a common stand. One part of the wood projects over the bench, at the end of which hangs a weight, causing the sawed orifice to close firmly upon the shell inserted on its under side, and to hold it firmly as in a vice, ready for drilling. The drill is made from an untempered handsaw. The operator grinds the drill to a proper shape, and tempers it in the flame of a candle. A rude ring, with a groove on its circumference, is put on it: around which the operator (seated in front of the fastened shell) curls the string of a common hand bow. The boring commences by nicely adjusting the point of the drill to the center of the shell, while the other end is braced against a steel plate, on the breast of the operator. About every other sweep of the bow, the drill is dexterously drawn out, cleaned of the shelly particles by the thumb and finger, above which drops of water from a vessel fall down and cool the drill, which is still kept revolving, by the use of the bow with the other hand, the same as though it were in the shell. This operation of boring is the most difficult of all, the peculiar motion of the drill rendering it hard for the breast, yet it is performed with a rapidity and grace interesting to witness. Peculiar care is observed, lest the shell burst from heat caused by friction. When bored halfway, the wampum is reversed, and the same operation is repeated. The next process is the finishing. A wire, about twelve inches long, is fastened at one end to a bench. Under and parallel to the wire is a grindstone, fluted on its circumference, hung a little out of the center, so as to be turned by a treadle moved with the foot. The left hand grasps the end of the wire, on which are strung the wam-

pum, and, as it were, wraps the beads around the hollow or fluted circumference of the grindstone. While the grindstone is revolving, the beads are held down on to it, and



Campbell's Black Wampum.

turned round by a flat piece of wood held in the right hand, and by the grinding soon becomes round and smooth. They are then strung on hempen strings, about a foot in length. From five to ten strings are a day's work for a female. They are sold to the country merchants for twelve and a half cents a string, always command cash, and constitute the support of many poor and worthy families." — *Barber and Howe*.

To procure the hard shell clams to obtain from them the "black hearts" to make the valuable black wampum, necessitated a long, tedious trip by rowboat from New Milford on the Hackensack River to Rockaway, Long Island, via Newark Bay. When they returned the clams were placed on the ground under the trees, and the neighbors were invited to take all the flesh they wanted, but to leave the shells. These, with the Rockaway sand, were carried by wagon six miles to Pasceack. When Washington Market in New York City was opened the thrift of the Campbells was shown when they made

contracts for all the empty clam shells. At stated times they went by boat to the market and with a small hammer the black hearts were skillfully broken from each shell and placed in barrels. They would return with ten or

twelve barrels at a time. They sold many of the black hearts to the farmers' wives and daughters for miles around, who made the wampum. The Campbells would purchase it from them direct or through the country store dealers, who exchanged merchandise for it, and with whom the Campbells made contracts for all acquired. "I went on many trips with my father when a boy," said one of the descendants, "one place being at Schraalenburgh to a general store kept by a man named Conklin. My father would often pay him in cash as high as \$500 for the wampum taken in trade. As this is



Unfinished Moons (From Old Site).

only one instance as to the financial part of it, it shows somewhat of the industry that was carried on in the homes."

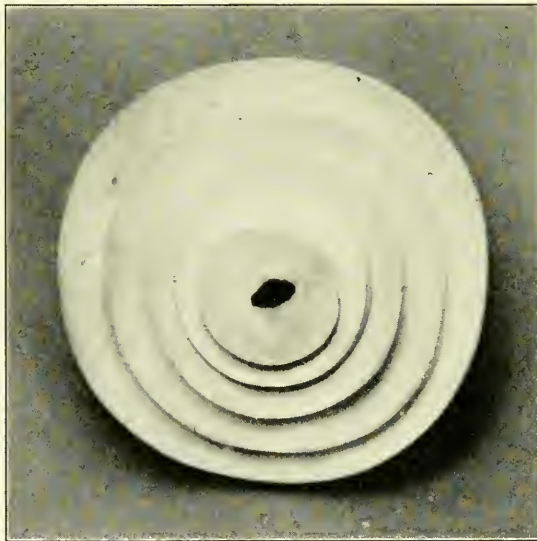
Jane Ann Bell, of New Milford, was an expert and worked for seven or eight years about 1850 for the Campbells in her home. There were many that worked out the blanks, as the unfinished work was called, the Campbells doing the polishing and finishing at the mint. The finding of shell scrap heaps around the county is thus explained. John Bross, an expert on the black wampum and the last to work for the firm, died March, 1917.

The firm sold the black wampum beads for \$5 per thousand, every string twelve inches long and each string counted as fifty. Twenty strings equaling 1,000.

The white wampum beads were only half the value of the black.

### THE WAMPUM MOONS.

The conch shells, from which they were made, were brought from the West Indian ports as ballast to the New York City docks, five and ten thousand at a time and sold to the firm. They were loaded on the Hackensack River sloops and taken to New Milford, the head of navigation, then by wagon to Pascaek. From the decks of the sloops and dock



Finished Moons.

many of the shells were stolen. This accounts for the great number found in the old homes and along garden paths. After 1858 the shells were transported via the newly opened Northern Railroad of New Jersey to Nannet and from there by wagon to Pascaek.

“From the conic centers of the shells the concave disks for the moons were made, each set composed of three to five disks, ranging in size from one and a half to five inches in diameter, the smaller placed in the larger, according to size, with the beautiful natural, highly glazed pink and white side

up, tied together through two holes in each center with the required bright red worsted, the ends left to form a tassel."

The Indians were very fond of display, and the greater their wealth the more they wore of the decorations. The chief's motive in adornment was to mark individual, tribal or ceremonial distinctions."

The moons were very popular and were worn mostly as we wear breastpins. The wealthy chief having a full set, while the poor brave had only two or three of the smaller size, while even single ones were worn. (See cut of Indian chief.)

The cost of the shells could not have been great, as like the clam the flesh was eaten and the shell discarded. Near the point of the shell will be found a slit, made by the natives with an instrument that was used to obtain the flesh from within.

The moons sold for three dollars for a five-piece set.

Two dollars for a three-piece set, one dollar and fifty cents for one-piece.

From the conch they also made disks called chief's buttons, that were a little smaller than the smallest moon, the price being governed by the beauty of the shell.

Another West Indian shell prepared by the firm for the much-sought ornaments was the "Iroquoise." This was a conical white shell almost uniformly one and one-half inches long and at the flare about the thickness of wampum. They took their name from the Iroquoise Indians who wore them in profusion.

From the conch they also made a large lozened shaped bead, with a large hole in the center, similar to those found in the Indian graves on Iroquois sites.

"The popular charmed necklace" was composed of about twenty sections of white wampum from the conch, alternating with twenty shells, the latter being selected for peculiarity of formation and tint.

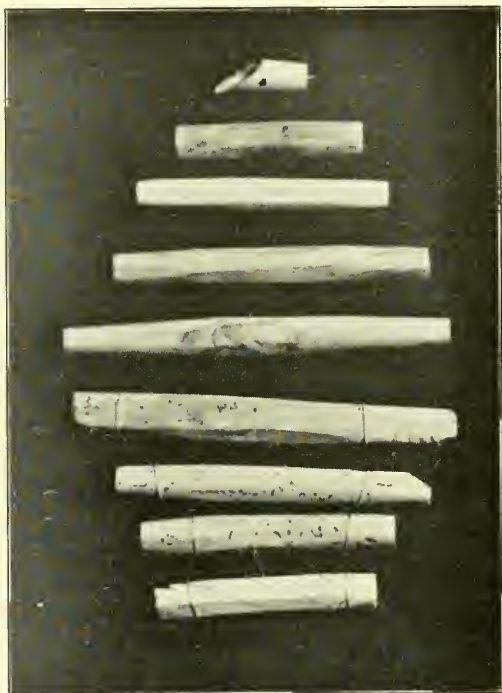
They treated and polished "red air" and "green air" shells, bringing out the varied tints and changeable hues. These, with the polished mussel shells, were not profitable and were abandoned.

The use of the ornaments was not alone for show, but were used in connection with religious ceremonies.

### THE WAMPUM PIPES.

They were made from the large ridges or ribs on the lips of the conch shell, broken out with a pick and chisel. The five-pound shells were the choice ones, as they yielded larger

pieces for the pipes and moons, the remainder being used for the white wampum beads. The pipes were made one and a half to six inches long, larger than a lead pencil, tapering from center to each end. Bleached with buttermilk and highly polished with Rockaway sand and water, they were sold for six cents per inch, up to four and a half inches, then eight cents



Wampum Pipes.

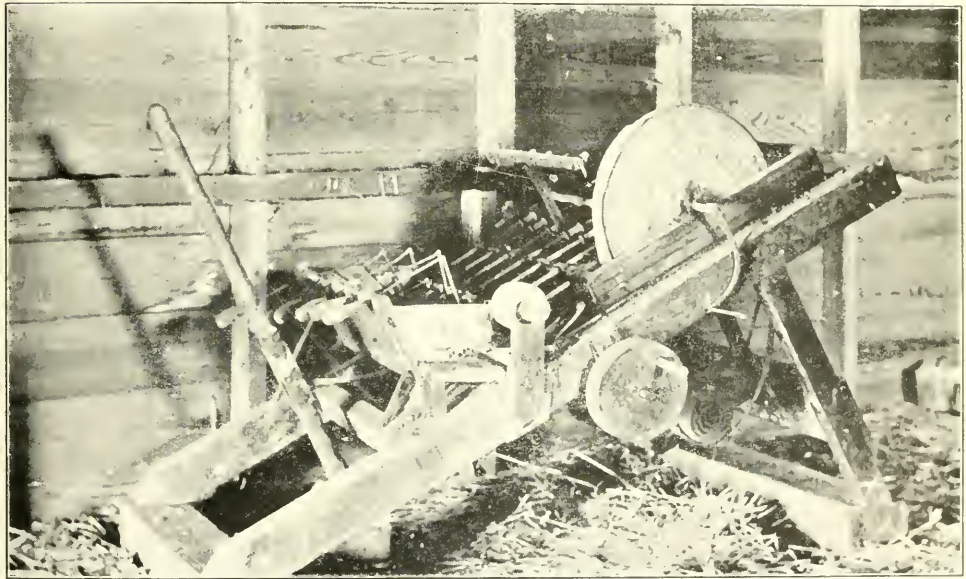
per inch to six inches. Their special use was as breast plates worn next to the body, also over the coats in rows from one to four in width.

They were also called "Hair pipes," and were used to ornament the long hair of the Indians by running some of the hair through them and tying them with bright colored strings.

The moons and pipes acquired a standard value in trading among the Indians of the plains.

## THE WAMPUM PIPE MACHINE.

David and James were the mechanics of the firm, and prior to 1850 they invented (not patented) a machine to drill holes through the length of the pipes. It was certainly an ingenious affair, made from the material at hand. The work crude, the flywheel a grindstone, the belting heavy leather. It was always turned by hand, generally by the boys of the families. Six spools were arranged to hold the



Wampum Pipe Drilling Machine. David and James Campbell's Invention.

hand-made drills, of fine steel, like a medium sized knitting needle, tempered in a candle flame to a cherry heat, then dropped in sheep's tallow that had been melted. Opposite the drills were six jointed arrangements that held the pipes that had been ground to the required form. By the use of a lever the drills and pipes were brought together in position for the critical task—the holes through the center of the very hard shell, where the least change in the line from the center would burst and ruin them. By another lever the pipes and drills were immersed in water contained in a tank beneath them, then the power was applied. When the drills had gone

half through the length of the pipes the machine was stopped, the lever reversed, withdrawing the drills. The pipes were reversed, the drills set and immersed and the machine set in motion again until the holes were through the entire length from one and a half to six inches—six of each size done at one time. The art of drilling under water, the use of buttermilk



Indian with Wampum Moon and Pipes.

for softening and bleaching were their discoveries and secrets, and with their valuable machine were guarded and kept from the public.

The machine was always kept on the second floor of the factory, under lock and key, and to this day the number of persons, even of the families interested in the industry, that have seen it are few.

It is through the courtesy of Mr. Daniel Campbell, who



was a wampum maker, that the history and the privilege of a photograph being made of what was the means of thousands of pipes being well made, six at a time, and quickly, was given. As there was no other machine in existence, the fear of its being copied if seen was the reason for the great care and secrecy in regard to it.

#### TO WHOM SOLD.

The descendants and historians make the statement that "John Jacob Astor laid the foundation of his great wealth through the Campbell's wampum." There may be some truth in the statements. It is found that John Jacob Astor, born in Germany in 1763, came to this country in 1783, and was induced on the voyage to engage in buying furs from the Indians and selling them to dealers. He learned the details of the trade in New York with a Quaker furrier, and then began business for himself, the period being about the same as when the first Campbell began his wampum industry. In 1811 he established a thoroughly American system of fur trading and sent out expeditions to open up intercourse with the Indians on the Pacific Coast. Abraham and William, the second generation of wampum workers, were experts and did a great amount of work for John Jacob Astor. Abraham died in 1847.

William was of a roving disposition and not to be depended on to fill the orders promptly. Mr. Astor visited Abraham's sons and induced them to fill his orders, and what they did not know he would explain to them, and thus the firm of the four Campbell brothers was started. Mr. Astor died in 1848.

It would appear that Mr. Astor may have been instrumental in opening the way for the Campbells' extensive trade on the plains and far west that lasted about 50 years after Mr. Astor's death. The list of those to whom the wampum was sold is:

John Jacob Astor.

P. Cheateau & Co., New York.

Secter, Price & Co., Philadelphia.

Robert Campbell, Chicago, and

A firm in Texas.

United States and Government agents for the Indians. The wampum was through them sold to Indians of the plains and the far west.

Those living nearer did not use it. The business had its fluctuations, due to the recurrent uprisings, and until peace

was restored almost ceased, causing the firm much anxiety as to the outcome. Large orders would indicate business was restored, and to fill them promptly they would visit the country merchants and buy at low figures their stock that had been considered "dead."

The day of wampum money began to decline about the year 1830. The moons, pipes and other ornaments were in demand for many years after, until the Government gave the Black Hills Reservation to the Indians; this, and the death of Abraham in 1899, the last of the firm of "four brothers," put an end to this extensive business that, in the long period of time by four generations of one name, in output and wide distribution, exceeds any other industry in Bergen County.

There is no question that wampum was made in the county at an early period by the settlers who learned to make it from the Indians. In 1916 there was a Colonial site found. Tradition says "furs were traded for wampum there in 1750." Manuscripts speak of it in 1764. Over 4,000 scraps of beads were found on it. The site is on an Indian trail from the Ponds, via Sicamac to Hackensack, and near a large Indian burial ground.

Credit is given to the following descendants of the wampum makers and others for assistance:

Alonzo Campbell, Park Ridge.

Daniel Campbell, Woodcliff Lake.

Luther A. Campbell, of Hackensack, now Circuit Court Judge, and Nicholas D. Campbell, an attorney and counsellor at law of Hackensack, both sons of Abraham D. Campbell, deceased, once prosecutor of the Common Pleas of Bergen County.

Neamiah Vreeland, Paterson.

E. K. Bird and Clyde Hay, of Hackensack.

Mrs. Harry Bennett, Teaneck.

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF HARRINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Paper read by Matt. J. Bogert, of Demarest, N. J., President of the Harrington Township Board of Education, at the opening of the new public school building at Closter, N. J., June, 1901. Paper has been revised by Mr. Bogert to August 1, 1917.

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When it was first suggested that it would lend formality to this occasion to have the Board of Education give some of the causes that led up to the erection of this building, and as representing the board it would fall to my lot to present that part of it, I gave little attention how far back in the past such a train of thought might be carried, but on taking it up I found one thought led to another, until I concluded it might be interesting to this audience to go back about eighty years, and bring to your attention the advancement that has been made in public school education in the township during that period.

In speaking of Harrington Township, we will deal only with that section known to-day as Harrington Township, leaving out the "Borough of old Tappan" and other territory formerly comprising the township of Harrington. We would also mention that for many of the early facts and incidents I am about to bring before you, we are under obligations to some of our oldest and most esteemed citizens and neighbors. I would particularly mention Mr. Abram C. Eckerson, of Harrington Park; Mr. Garret Z. Demarest, of Demarest, and Mr. Garret J. Aurayanson, of Closter.

About the year 1820 there were four school buildings in the township, situated as follows: One at Closter, about where the white cottage of Mr. Harvey Waddam (now John W. Ver Valen) now stands; one on the west side of the old Closter road, a little way south of the road leading to Mr. Earl Ferdon's, nearly opposite the Esquire Taylor's (now the Lewis place, about one-quarter mile southerly of Mr. F. M. Dyer) place; one at Demarest, at the turn in the main road a short distance south of Mr. Garret Z. Demarest's (now Dr. A. W. Ward), and another at the corner of the Schraalenburg road and the road leading to Demarest. The first three were built of stone, the last one of frame. You will notice the locations were not very convenient to scholars living at what is now called Norwood, Northvale and Alpine.

The buildings at old Closter and Closter were abandoned about 1830, and a frame building erected on the east side of

the old Closter road, a short distance south of the present school building at old Closter.

About 1835 a frame building was built at Harrington Park, near where the Pumping Station on the West Shore Railroad now stands. This building was afterward moved to Norwood at the corner of the Tappan road and the road leading to Closter, opposite to Mr. Jacob Mills, and when in later years it was replaced by a more modern building, it was again moved across the road to Mr. Mills' place, where it is still in existence and can be seen by any one having sufficient curiosity to compare the past with the present.\*

The frame buildings were generally painted red, so this period can well be called the period of the little Red Schoolhouse.

The old stone building at Demarest was occupied for school purposes until about 1850.

In this building I commenced my school days. There is one incident connected with my first day at school that I always recall with pleasant memories of my teacher. His name was "Roberts." It was a warm day in May or June. I had very little or nothing to do after I had said my little lesson (primary teachers will note that there was no busy work in those days), and toward the middle of the afternoon the teacher must have noticed my inclination to take a nap, so he kindly allowed me to stretch out on the broad bench, made a pillow of something for my head, placed his red silk handkerchief over my face to protect me from the flies, and I had a good, sound nap the rest of the afternoon, and got awake to go home with the other scholars at the close of school. Quite different from the kindergarten methods of to-day, but still in one respect somewhat similar, that is, to obtain the friendship and good will of the young beginner.

These early buildings were all built very much on the same plan; about 25 feet square, no hall, the door opened directly into the classroom; two or three small windows in each of the two sides; a continuous desk, fastened against the side of the building, extended along the two sides of the room. This desk consisted of a shelf about 30 inches wide, which inclined towards the scholars, who sat on benches that ran the whole length of the desk. The benches were broad slabs, 20 or more inches broad, supported on each end by two stout legs. The tops, through constant use, were worn to about a piano finish in smoothness. There were similar but

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\*About 1838 a frame building was erected at Alpine, very near to where the building known as the old schoolhouse now stands.

smaller benches in the body of the room for the use of the smaller scholars.

At the opposite end of the room from the door was a small teacher's desk, at which sat the stern disciplinarian with the proverbial birch or hickory rod close at hand. This rod was generally of pretty good length, so he could chastise at some distance. I recollect being told that one time when the teacher was chastising a scholar he accidentally quite severely struck the next scholar, for which he was very sorry and duly apologized, and that closed the incident. It would seem that corporal punishment was a part of the course of study in those days and not, as now, very strictly prohibited.

Before stoves came into use, which was about 1830, the buildings were heated by great open fireplaces, in which large pieces of wood could be utilized, but with stoves came the call for small wood, and it was one of the duties of the larger boys to chop this wood with axes (as it was before the invention of the buck saw), and also to attend to the fires generally.

It was also before the days of lucifer matches, so the fires had to be constantly watched and carefully prepared for holding over night, for if the fire by some chance should die out, which happened quite often, some one had to go to the nearest house for a shovelful of live coals to start it.

The scholars, both boys and girls, attended to the sweeping and keeping fires as late as 1876, that is, the first date at which I find a janitor appointed at a regular salary.

The attendance in these early school days was considerably more in winter than in summer, say, 20 to 30 in summer and 30 to 40 in winter, at each school. The year was divided into four quarters of 65 school days each, and school was held very frequently on Saturdays. There were no holidays nor summer vacations as now, except sometimes during the strawberry season to allow the scholars to stay home to pick strawberries and maybe a short vacation during the month of August.

None of these early schools were free. The scholars were all pay scholars.

The salaries of teachers varied somewhat in the different localities, some of the teachers being paid a penny a day for each day a scholar attended. Others were paid by the scholars, paying from \$1.50 (12 shillings, as it was called at that time) to \$3.50 per quarter, and still others were paid a regular salary of about \$1.00 per day and their board; that is, the different families in the neighborhood took turns in boarding the school teacher a week or two in each family.

This had one advantage over the present system. It enabled the teacher to get acquainted with the parents of the children, something which is quite neglected in these days, very often to the detriment of all concerned.

When paid a regular salary it was raised by apportioning it among the scholars. Those most advanced paying more than the beginners.

There were no blackboards and no school bells. The scholars were called to their duties by the teacher rapping on the window or against the side of the door casing with a book or large flat ruler.

The school hours were 9 to 12 and 1 to 4. No forenoon or afternoon recesses.

The principal studies were reading, writing and arithmetic, or, as they have been called, the three R's—reading, riting, rithmetic; and a scholar who could figure as far as proportion, or "Rule of 3," as it was then called, was considered a very apt scholar. A part of arithmetic that would seem rather odd to our scholars of to-day was that in all examples pertaining to money, it was not dollars and cents, but pounds, shillings and pence; and, in one respect, in these days of extended commercial relations with other lands, it might be a good idea to give foreign money a little more attention, particularly so in the reckoning of percentage and interest. I wonder if our graduating classes of to-day can quickly figure a discount of 4 per cent, or interest at 5 per cent, on a bill of goods made out in pounds, shillings and pence or in francs and centimes. These are not improper questions for many a bookkeeper of to-day.

Our public schools became absolutely free schools in 1867. Before that date the school doors were open only to those who were willing to pay for their education. Their being made free, gave the people an interest in public school education never realized before. The law of 1866 gave us a State Board of Education.

Before that date there was no uniform course of study and each teacher decided what the studies should be for his or her particular school. The consequence was that in a school where the teacher had a fad for mathematics, you would find the scholars very much advanced in that particular study at the expense of being behind in other studies. Another teacher might prefer some other special study; there being no particular head, there was no uniformity in the advancement of the scholars, but when a uniform and systematic course of study was worked out all this was changed, and now scholars can change from one school to another in the town-

ship and practically in the county, and continue right along in the same studies. This is certainly a great gain.

Our first county superintendent was appointed in 1867. Our present county superintendent issued his first course of study in 1887 and covered a course of nine years' work. Previous to 1894 the scholars had to furnish their own books and supplies, but the law of that year obliged the Board of Education to furnish everything. The present uniform course of study was approved in 1895, and, together with the uniformity in text-books and supervision generally, has done more for our county than anything else.

Some years ago, about the time our County Superintendent began to systematize the grades of study, putting all the schools in the county on the same basis, one of our teachers said to me that the County Superintendent was asking for too much work in a given time, and that it would be impossible to do it. That what he laid out for four years would take at least five. I told him if teachers in other parts of the county could do it, we could do it, and that he could do no more than try, on the systematic plan of dividing up the work, that is, a certain amount of work to be accomplished in a certain length of time.

The result was that he found he could accomplish the whole course in the prescribed time and to spare. So this eventually led to our looking up what could be done to keep our children in school two or three years longer instead of exhausting our course of study at 14 years of age, and caused us to recommend the ninth and tenth grades in our township. These grades being the first two of the four years' preparatory college course, and I trust the time is not far distant when the public schools of our township will add the 11th and 12th grades, thereby giving our scholars a full preparatory course, entitling them to admission to college. This gaining of time has been accomplished only by system, and working on a systematized course of study.

In 1897 the State ordered the County Superintendent to make uniform rules for promotion from grade to grade and for final graduation. In this respect too much praise cannot be given to our worthy County Superintendent, Mr. John Terhune, for his untiring fidelity to the cause of public school education. Most of the present systematized work in all its branches and also the matter of school libraries, not only for the children, but also for teachers, has been brought about through his endeavors.

But as he is present with us this evening he may tell you something about the position Bergen County holds in this respect.

In about 1852 this township was divided into four school districts, as follows:

Closter, Tappan, Old Closter and Alpine.

The Closter district consisted of what is now Closter, Demarest, Haworth and a part of Alpine.

The Tappan district consisted of what is now Norwood, Northvale and Harrington Park.

The Alpine and Old Closter districts were substantially as they are to-day.

The school building for the Closter district was at Demarest, the same building as is now known as the "old school-house," now the Catholic Church, and was built in 1852.

The school census for Closter district in 1856 (including Demarest and Haworth), was 88 children. The building at Demarest answered for this entire section until 1871, when the Closter district was formed and the brick school at Closter was erected. A small part of the district was apportioned to Alpine in 1863.

Between 1855 and 1860 Tappan, Old Closter and Alpine erected school buildings similar to the one at Demarest, and at that time they were considered thoroughly modern and "up to date."

The building at Tappan, now Norwood, occupied the site of the little red schoolhouse on the corner of Tappan road and the road leading to Closter, and was used by the entire district (Norwood, Northvale and Harrington Park) until 1893. It was abandoned in 1898 and moved to near Norwood depot, where it is still in use for other purposes.

The building at Alpine still stands where erected in 1857, but it has not been used for school purposes since 1898.

The district of Northvale was formed and its present building erected in 1893 and enlarged in 1898.

The Haworth district was formed and building erected in 1893.

The building at Old Closter is still in use where erected in 1855, but enlarged and modernized. The present school buildings at Norwood and Alpine were erected in 1898. The one at Demarest in 1894, the one at Harrington Park in 1900.

For the sake of comparison it may be interesting to group some of the statistics I have mentioned in periods of quarter centuries, beginning with 1825, but in doing this to recollect that of the four schools in the township in 1825, two of them stood very close to the southern boundary of the township and were patronized by many children from our neighboring township. I refer to the stone school building that stood just below Demarest and the frame building corner of Schraalenburgh Road and Hardenburgh Avenue. I un-



derstand that the one at Demarest was attended by children residing as far south as Tenafly.

The record would stand about as follows:

	Buildings	Teachers	Scholars
1825 .....	4	4	125
1850 .....	5	5	200
1875 .....	5	6	400
At present.....	9	19	550

This includes this building, which was authorized by the township meeting of August 29th, 1899.

I have tried in a crude and limited way to give you some idea of the advancement of public school education in this township during the last 75 or 80 years. The advancement of the last few years has only been made possible by working on a systematic plan as provided for by our recent laws on this subject. But the work has been still more aided by the taxpayers sustaining those having the management of school affairs and by their liberal appropriations from year to year, although there may be persons who say that our forefathers did very well on their limited system of education and that our system is not worth what it is costing us. Well, our forefathers got along very well without a great many other things that we now consider necessities. For instance, railroads, the telegraph, telephones and the modern printing press.

We certainly cannot afford to economize on the education of our children, and so prevent them fully enjoying and appreciating the advancement which we know is taking place all along the line of the age in which we live.

It therefore behooves us to be up and doing if we are to keep our place in the march of advanced education. It is not long ago that a college education was considered something quite beyond the attainment of the ordinary public school scholars, but the gap is being lessened very rapidly, so that even now we can tell the graduating class of '01, to whom it is our pleasure to present diplomas this evening, that you are only two years from being able to present yourselves for admission to any of the best colleges in our land.

Now it is our privilege to know what has been done in the past, and as we to-night dedicate this building in all its solidity to the cause of public education, it is our sincere hope and trust that as we of this day and generation have striven to keep up with the march of progress, so may future generations continue to advance, and Harrington Township will then always be, as we think she now is, in the front ranks of all that pertains to making her public schools among the best in the land.

## ALLISON PRIZE COMPOSITIONS.

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At the annual meeting of the Society in 1916 Mr. W. O. Allison, of Englewood, placed the sum of \$100 at the disposal of the Society to be used as prizes for historical essays by attendants of the schools of northeastern New Jersey.

On the afternoon of March 30th, 1917, the committee assembled at the Closter High School to award these prizes. After singing the National Anthem by the school, Mr. C. V. R. Bogert explained the object of our visit. Mrs. F. A. Westervelt spoke upon "Scrap of History," using wampum to illustrate. Miss S. F. Watt spoke about the "School Spirit" found in the compositions. Mr. Howard B. Goetschius gave a rousing patriotic address, ending with a request that the scholars try to locate the "Boundary Stones" on the State Line. Dr. Van Horn talked about local history. The prizes were awarded by Mr. M. J. Bogert. There were twenty-nine compositions, fifteen of which were selected as prize winners, over 50 per cent.

In behalf of the prize winners the following speech was delivered by Master Lathrop Vermilye.

Also the following letter:

S. F. WATT.

Ladies and Gentlemen, representing the Historical Association of Bergen County:

In behalf of the prize winners and of the schools included in the contest held by your association, I wish to thank you for your generous awards.

The contest aroused our interest in the past events of this section, and we began to realize that our local history was as interesting and worthy of our attention as that of Massachusetts or Virginia.

We hope that we are not the only ones who have been benefitted by the contest, and that in the papers submitted you have found some facts which may be of value to your association.

CLOSTER, N. J., March 23, 1917.

To All Who Have Helped Us:

The contestants of the Closter Public School wish to thank their friends for their kindness in giving us the information

which led to our winning twelve of the fifteen prizes given by the Bergen County Historical Association.

We feel indebted to you for having given so much of your time, but we have gained much information, and we will take pleasure in passing it on to others.

Yours truly,

CLOSTER PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The following excerpts are from the papers submitted. The accuracy of some of which the Publication Committee has not been able to confirm:

#### DERIVATION OF NAMES.

Alpine was named by Miss Evelyn Nordhoff, because its scenery resembled Switzerland.

Palisades was called Closter Mountain.

King George gave Count Henry Closter, or Klaster, a grant of 2,000 acres, extending from the Hudson to the Hackensack. He was killed by Indians. In 1886 two English seafaring men named Closter, descendants of this man, came here with deeds and claimed the land. The papers were legal, but they lacked money to establish their claim.

Closter means cloister or convent. The convent burned down in 1770.

Bull's Ferry was named after a family by the name of Bull. Mrs. Bull made pancakes impartially for Cornwallis and Washington.

Snedden's Landing was named from the Sneden family, many of whom live there.

#### NAMES, MEANING OF.

Hoboken—Hacking-Land of the tobacco pipe.

Tappan—On top of a hill.

Hackensack—Low land.

Bergen-op-Zoom—Swampland.

Tenafly—Sweet flag in the meadows.

Cresskill—Brook through Low Country full of cresses.

#### ROADS.

Closter Dock Road follows the lead of an Indian trail.

The early roads in Closter were the Old Dock Road, leading to the Hudson, and the County Road to Englewood.

The only ways of reaching New York were by sloop from

Closter Dock, New Dock (also called Huyler's Landing) and the Tenafly stage. In 1858 the railroad was built to Piermount Pier, where boat could be taken to the city.

To the north of Alpine Dock there is an old road to a plateau, formerly called Cape Fly-Away, where some of the descendants of the oldest inhabitants live.

The road to Utter's Dock: The Continental Road was used by Cornwallis and Washington. It was then almost straight up the hill and very steep. It was not used for wagons, but sleds were drawn by ox teams. In 1803 a survey was made and the road changed and built new. In 1840, 1854 and 1857 other surveys were made, from which the present road was built. In 1866 Hillside Road was opened to Cresskill.

The oldest road in Harrington Township is the Schraalenburg Road, once called The King's Highway, now Washington Avenue.

Rockland Road ran from Nyack to Jersey City.

#### TRANSPORTATION OR MODES OF TRAVEL.

The products were sent by sloop from Closter Dock to New York. Trip: One week.

John J. Johnson established and operated a stage line between Pascack, now Park Ridge, and Closter. In 1858 the Northern Railroad was opened.

They gathered strawberries and put them into tiny splint baskets with handles, holding about a pint. Fifty of these baskets were hung on a stick, and two persons carried two such sticks away down to the ferry at Closter Dock.

#### BOUNDARIES.

Mr. Ludlow, one of the early settlers, dug a ditch for his boundary line, and it is so still used.

#### WAMPUM.

Most of the land was bought from the Indians for wampum. Wampum was Indian money. It was made from the blue part of sea-clam shells. Among the whites wampum was freely used and passed current anywhere.

#### INDUSTRIES.

Closter was an old trading town. The chief occupation of the early settlers was farming. Quite a trade in pig iron was carried on with the iron works at Ramapo. Money was

not plentiful, so groceries were exchanged for pig iron, which was shipped to New York.

In Montvale there was found some machinery which indicated that there had been a brickyard.

#### TAVERNS.

Dowie Talema, corner Alpine and Old Closter Roads.

The Old Jug, near Lafayette's Camp, between Norwood and H. Park.

When Washington came through Closter, on his retreat from White Plains, he stopped at the White Star Hotel. It is said this hotel still stands, only the roof has been renewed, and is occupied by the family of Mr. Van Seiver.

Corner called "The Hookies."

In 1758 one David Henion, of Saddle River Precinct, was allowed to open a public house on giving bonds in twenty pounds that it would be a quiet and orderly place.

#### INDIANS.

The Indians raised maize on small patches of cleared land. For fertilizer they used fish, putting one or two in each hill. Several of these cleared patches may still be seen in Alpine near Ruckman's Point. They were called "maislans" by the Dutch. The Indians picked strawberries and sold them to the settlers. The chief Indian settlement was at Norwood, another at Old Tappan. Near the creek, behind the house of Fred Eckerson, they are supposed to have had a village. An Indian trail extended from the Hudson River up the Alpine, or Old Dock Road, through the M. S. Bogert property, now the Van Valen and Lincoln property, along the south line of Closter Public School to the Hackensack River.

The last Indian seen in Closter lived in a tent by the pine tree near the Clam Bake Woods. One day he disappeared, and no one ever knew what became of him. The only descendants of the Hackensacky Indians are a few half-breeds living in the Ramapo Mountains.

#### NEGRO.

Bergen County had more slaves than any other county in New Jersey. Some of the slave owners were the Ferdons, ancestors of Mayor Warren Ferdon, and the Naugles, ancestors of Mr. David Naugle. In Norwood there is a field owned by Mr. F. M. Dyer, in which some of the Ferdon slaves are

buried. After the Civil War many of the freed slaves settled on the Palisades. The ruins of this settlement are still in existence about a mile north of Indian Head Point. Lilaes, which the slaves planted on this settlement, still bloom, and are often picked by explorers.

#### FIRST HOUSES.

The oldest house in Bergen County is still standing and is occupied. It is on the County Road. This old stone house was ransacked twice by Tories, and was used by Lafayette for a hospital. Later the Naugles lived here, the Naugle who found Andre's cane. This stone house replaced a log cabin.

Amyanson's blacksmith shop, 1720.

House owned by William MacBain, built 1740, low ceilings and open beams.

J. P. B. Westervelt's house at Crosskill.

#### SCHOOLS.

The oldest schoolhouse in the township, of which we have any account, stood on the lot owned by Mrs. Eliza Campbell and Albert Anderson. It was a stone structure one story high, with two rooms, one for the school, the other a dwelling place for the teacher. The school was built by subscription. The land was given by Abraham Ackerman, on condition it should always be used as a school lot. Conveyances of land adjoining this lot by the Ver Valen descendants about 1830 mention it in boundaries as the "School Lot." The deed was written in Dutch and was never recorded.

About 1858 a special act was passed by the Legislature authorizing the trustees of Closter, Demarest and others to sell the schoolhouses and such lots as they had title for, and appropriate the money towards building a new schoolhouse. The Closter and Sehraalenburg schools were sold and a school built at Demarest.

The first teacher of whom we have any account was Benjamin Blackledge, grandfather of James P. Blackledge, of Closter. It is said he was the first teacher of English in Bergen County. He taught both English and Dutch. In 1764 he came from Elizabeth Town to Closter, on foot, to teach school.

The first schoolhouse in Demarest stood upon the land of Samuel R. Demarest. It was twenty-two feet square, with one room. This school was supported by rate bills and the teacher "boarded round." The next school, about one-quarter

ter mile westerly of the depot, became notorious because a band of robbers stored their plunder in the loft.

There have been three school buildings at Alpine. The first was known as the Closter Mountain School.

### REVOLUTIONARY SITES.

The British soldiers had an encampment on the outskirts of Closter. It is supposed to have been on the east side of the County Road, a short distance north of Ruckman's Road. The Americans held the swamp lands that are now the village of Closter. There is an old stone house on the Closter Road which was looted three times by the Tories. The second time they looted it they took a wagon load of provisions. They got as far as the bridge that is now the dividing line between Closter and Norwood, when the Americans fired on them, causing them to leave their booty and flee.

This house was also attacked by Indians, who left tomahawk cuts on the doors and windows. It was also used by General Lafayette as a hospital. A few of their graves may be found in a corner of a field owned by Mr. Wm. MacBain.

British coin are found here which proves the location. I found two old ones last year.

This field adjoins the Old Cemetery, which may be seen from the Ruckman Road.

On the County Road opposite the residence of Mr. David Wark, and on the property of Mr. Tully, may be seen the ruins of an old stone blacksmith shop. Before and after the Revolutionary War this shop was one of the gathering places of the neighborhood. Washington is said to have had his horse shod here when on his way to his headquarters at Old Tappan. Owned by Mr. William MacBain.

The stone part of the MacBain house was built in 1740, roughly hewn, massive beams of oak support the ceilings. The barn on this place, now torn down, was built in 1720, and was used as the community blacksmith shop. In place of nails the rafters and beams were riveted together by hard oak pegs, varying in length and thickness.

American camp on a sand pit on County Road in Demarest House of J. P. B. Westervelt, stood in time of Revolution. Washington at home of Mrs. Myerhoff. The stone part of this house is 200 years old.

### EARLY SETTLERS.

Barent and Resolvent Naugle, on April 10, 1739, bought of Captain Symes 1,030 acres of land northeast of Closter for

225 pounds. The two brothers cleared and tilled portions of their tract jointly, and built each his family residence on what is now called the "Rockland Road." Resolvent joined the Hackensack Dutch Church, and Barent the church at Tappan. A few years before their deaths they divided their original purchase between them, Barent taking the north half and Resolvent the south half. 1748.

The first Jordan came from France with Lafayette.

David and Cornelius H. Tallman, Isaac J. Meyers, Martin Powliss, Walter Pearsalls and Ver Valens, Hendrick Geimer, Mathias and Jacob Conklin, John Reyken, Abram Abrams-Haring, Tennis Van Houten, Johannes H. Blauvelt, Cornelius Smith, Jonathan Lawrence, Nicholas Ackerman, William Campbell and Jacob Van Weart, William Jayox Du Bois, O. Casine.

Cresskill—Colonel Jacobus Van Courtlandt, Captain John Huyler, Johannes Rolofse Westervelt, Samuel Peters Demarest, Barent Jacobus Cole, Peter Mathews Bogert.

Closter—Balthazer de Hart, Matthew M. Bogert, Peter M. Bogert, Lancaster Symes, Barent and Resolvent Naugle, Henry Ludlow, Wilhelmus and John H. Ferdon, 1743; Demarests, Auryansens, Zabriskies.

Tappan—Dr. Lockhardt, Daniel de Clark, Peter J. Haring, Jan Peterson de Vries.

Sneden's Landing—About 1740 John Sneden bought of Henry Ludlow a large farm at what is now Sneden's Landing. This farm was partly in Bergen County, N. J., and partly in Rockland County, N. Y. His descendants are still numerous in northern Bergen County.

John Haring, school teacher and lawyer, who lived in Tappan, was a delegate to the First Continental Congress.

#### ANDRE'S CANE.

The following is on the authority of Mr. David Naugle, of Closter:

An English officer, who came for Andre's belongings, was driven from Tappan to Sneden's Landing by a slave of Mr. David Naugle. Andre's cane was left in the wagon and has been in the possession of Mr. Naugle's descendants until lately, when it was lost. It was a riding cane, made of rawhide, with his name and the British coat-of-arms on it. It had a horn handle and a gold plate. Andre's sister stopped at a house on Blanch Avenue. A few old willow trees mark the place where it stood.



## MILLS.

About a quarter of a mile west of Lafayette's hospital there used to be a mill in which the farmer's grain was ground and paid for in flour. Mr. David Naugle ran this mill for many years.

The grist mill at Demarest was burned by the British.

The mill at Haworth, owned by the Durie family, was run by Albert Zabrisky. Bogert's Mill was at Harrington Park. At Upper Closter was J. Sloat's sawmill. At Anderson Avenue and County Road there was a mill for making fence posts.

On the County Road, about midway between Demarest and Cresskill, there is the ruins of a saw and grist mill, owned in Revolutionary days by Patriot Samuel Demarest. The mill stood on the south bank of a small stream, which was dammed to provide water power for the undershot wheel. Not far from the opposite bank stood the miller's home, where he lived with his wife and two sons, Cornelius and Hancock or Hendrick.

On May 10, 1779, Van Buskirk's corps landed at Closter Dock and proceeded to plunder and destroy houses and barns. Beside this mill they killed Cornelius Demarest, wounded his brother Hendrick and carried off Miller Demarest, after firing the mill and barn. The buildings were only partly burned.

While the marauders were returning to their boats at Closter Dock with their booty and prisoners, Samuel Demarest escaped. He fled toward the south, and finding himself closely pursued, he dropped over the edge of the Palisades into a ravine. His three pursuers followed his example and plunged headlong to their death, four hundred feet below.

## CEMETERIES.

At Norwood—North Hook Cemetery stands on the property of F. Monroe Dyer. It was used as a burial ground for the slaves of Wilhelmus Ferdon.

On the property of Mr. MacBain, near the State Road, is another old cemetery containing British soldiers' graves.

One cemetery on the State Road at Demarest, another is in Alpine and several in Harrington Park, and one on Ruckman Road. Not many of the stones are standing, but a few may be seen.

At Englewood—An undercliff settlement and cemetery.

## A SILENT RECORD OF THE PAST.

While wandering around I came across a place of rest by the roadside, overgrown with wild vines and bushes, a sort of barrier for the protection of those who have been laid at rest until the final day. Being of a curious mind, I trod carefully among the graves and looked down on the graven records of the pioneers and their descendants of this locality. It was certainly more than interesting to note and try to read some of these old epitaphs. Among the oldest I could find was:

In memory of Leonard De Graw, born Sept. 5, 1721. Departed this life March 2, 1814, aged 92 yrs. 5 months and 25 d

This cemetery is on the Blaauvelt estate. It was for the Blaauvelt family. In the northeast corner is a burial place for negroes.

All the old tombstones are of red sandstone, which was probably quarried between Piermont and Nyack. Some of them were so old that they would almost fall apart at the least touch. This cemetery lies on Schraalenburg Road in Harrington Park.

## OBITUARY.

### ANDREW DEMAREST BOGERT.

Andrew Demarest Bogert, one of the oldest and best-known residents of Englewood, died at his home there on Wednesday evening, March 29, 1916.

Mr. Bogert was born at Teaneck, May 29, 1835, and was the son of Gilliam and Marie Demarest Bogert. The American ancestor of the family was Gilliam Bogert, who emigrated from Amsterdam, Holland, in the year 1662. Mr. Bogert's father was a volunteer in the War of 1812. His mother was a direct descendant of north of France Huguenot stock.

After fitting himself by an apprenticeship in New York City and a course at Cooper Institute, Mr. Bogert in 1859 engaged in the contracting and building business in Englewood, which was continued until 1908, when he retired. A large number of homes in this city and vicinity were built under his direction, and his extensive business included many large hotels and public buildings, among which may be enumerated the old Englewood House, Highwood House at Tenafly, Palisades Mountain House, Fort Lee Hotel and Octagon Building, the Methodist, Presbyterian and Reformed Dutch churches and the Englewood, Teaneck and Undercliff school buildings. He was also active in real estate development in Englewood and Leonia. Mr. Bogert was a member of the Englewood Presbyterian Church, of the Holland Society of New York, and was vice-president for Bergen County for eight years. For many years he was a director of the Englewood Loan and Building Association, and had been president of the Citizens Sewer Company since its incorporation in 1882 until the past year.

For many years Mr. Bogert took an active part in the affairs of his home town. In politics he was a Democrat and held many offices of trust. In 1895 he was elected Chosen Freeholder from Englewood and served in that office for six years. He had also served as chairman of the Democratic County Committee for three terms. His life until his retirement from business in 1908 had been an extremely busy one, and a fair share of his time was occupied for the public service, intelligently and conscientiously directed in the interests of those whom he served.

The interment was at Brookside Cemetery, Englewood, N. J.

Mr. Bogert is survived by his wife (Eugenie Bene) and one daughter by a previous marriage, Mrs. Huyler Bogert, of Highwood.—*Englewood Press*.

## ANNUAL REPORT

By the Treasurer

From April 22d, 1916, to April 21st, 1917.

*Allison Special Account*

## RECEIPTS

Balance in Bank April 22d, 1916.....	\$970.90
Account Interest to April 21st, 1917.....	34.50

## DISBURSEMENTS

Transferred to General Account to purchase 1916 Year Books .....	\$210.00
Balance in Bank April 21st, 1917....	795.40

\$1,005.40	\$1,005.40
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*Allison Prize Account*

Balance in Bank April 22d, 1916.....	100.00
Prizes awarded March 30th, 1917....	\$50.00
Balance available .....	50.00

\$100.00	\$100.00
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*General Account*

## RECEIPTS

Balance in Bank April 22d, 1916.....	279.01
Dues received .....	238.00
Dues unpaid .....	98.00
Sale of Year Books .....	13.50
Transferred from Special Account to purchase 1916 Year Books .....	210.00
Receipts 1916 Dinner Tickets .....	3.00
Receipts 1917 Dinner Tickets .....	88.00
Receipts Showcase Fund .....	181.50

## DISBURSEMENTS

Postage, etc., Secretary's Account..	\$54.57
Purchases, etc., President's Account.	48.20
Paid 1916 Dinner Account .....	49.75
Paid 1917 Dinner Account .....	3.00
Paid Expenses Allison Prize Essays.	6.06
New Showcases .....	389.98
1916 Year Book .....	210.00
Unpaid Dues .....	98.00
Balance in Bank April 21st, 1917....	251.45

\$1,111.01	\$1,111.01
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ANNUAL REPORT

By the Secretary

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The fifteenth annual meeting and dinner of the Bergen County Historical Society was held Saturday evening, April 21st, 1917, at the Warner, Hackensack, N. J.

The minutes of the preceding annual meeting were read and approved.

The report of the Nominating Committee was read and, upon motion made seconded and carried, the Secretary was directed to cast the ballot for the following officers for the ensuing year:

President

C. V. R. BOGERT, Bogota.

Vice-Presidents—Eastern District

WILLIAM O. ALLISON, Englewood.

REV. EDWARD KELDER, Coytesville.

DANIEL G. BOGERT, Englewood.

Central District

F. H. CRUM, River Edge.

E. K. BIRD, Hackensack.

P. C. TERHUNE, Hackensack.

L. M. MILLER, Leonia.

Western District

F. L. WANDELL, Saddle River.

RICHARD T. WILSON, Ridgewood.

H. H. BLAUVELT, Ridgewood.

Secretary and Treasurer

THEODORE ROMAINE, Hackensack.

It was the aim of the Nominating Committee to divide the county into districts and give each district an equal representation as nearly as possible.

At this point Hon. William M. Johnson took occasion to speak a word of commendation upon the labor expended by Mrs. F. A. Westervelt, the chairman of the Archives and Properties Committee, in re-arranging our exhibits in the new room and showcases.

The President appointed an auditing committee, composed of Messrs. P. C. Terhune and C. M. Dalrymple, to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

Adjournment was then made to the dining-room, where covers were laid for eighty.

After dinner our President, C. V. R. Bogert, in a short speech, related the accomplishments of the past year. Of the new showcases set up and paid for; of the gift of a showcase from G. G. Ackerson for the dugout canoe; and the work of the Archives and Properties Committee in getting the room and exhibits ready for visitors.

The Hon. William M. Johnson then made a speech of tribute to the sterling qualities of the late William A. Linn, with whom we were all so well acquainted, and about whom we really knew so little.

The yearly reports were then given. The Secretary reported that during the year there had been added to the roll 13 regular members, 5 had been dropped, 1 resigned, 2 deceased—

Making the present membership.....	119 regular
	9 life
	4 honorary

Total .....	132
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a gain of 5 for the year. Other reports were given by

MRS. F. A. WESTERVELT,

Chairman Archives and Properties Committee.

MISS S. F. WATT,

Chairman Women's Auxiliary.

MR. EVERETT L. ZABRISKIE,

Church History.

DR. BYRON G. VAN HORNE,

Publication Committee.

Which were placed on file.

President C. V. R. Bogert, acting as toastmaster, then introduced the speaker of the evening, the Rev. A. H. Brown, who gave us a pleasing address on "Being Oneself."

## REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

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During the year five meetings have been held. Three took place in the Johnson Public Library, giving members a chance to become familiar with the properties of the society. One meeting was held at the home of Miss S. F. Watt, and the last at the Mabon home on Essex street. A delightful afternoon was spent, inspecting the house and familiarizing ourselves with more than two centuries of local history.

We are eagerly anticipating our May meeting at the home of Mrs. Wandell at Saddle River.

We expect to entertain the Daughters of the Revolution of Ramapo Liberty Pole and Bergen on May 16th at the Johnson Public Library, in order to promote social interest, mutual co-operation and to introduce our society and collections.

During the coming year papers upon historical subjects will be presented at each regular meeting.

We hope to interest the wives of all the members of the society and draw them into membership.

Respectfully submitted,

SALINA F. WATT,

Ch. of W. Aux.

## REPORT AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ARCHIVE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE.

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During the building of the large addition to the Johnson Public Library, wherein our collections are housed, it became necessary to pack up our possessions for nearly one year. In November, 1916, we were granted the use of the large and beautiful new room through the kindness of Hon. William M. Johnson, for which a vote of thanks has been given. We disposed of most of our old glass cases. With the few remaining, the room and articles were arranged as best they could be. Invitations were extended for an evening mid-year meeting and opening, for the members and friends of the society. During the afternoon there was an attendance of one hundred and fifty, mostly the school children, who welcomed the event as a restored pleasure in the opportunity given them for daily visits to the room which contains great attraction to them. At the evening meeting the Woman's Auxiliary received the guests, one hundred and fifty. After a social period the meeting was called to order by the president, C. V. R. Bogert. A few short addresses were made and then the president told of the object of the meeting, that was, discussion for the best plans to acquire enough cases to have our exhibits suitably and safely cared for. It was carried that the Archive and Property Committee were to ask for subscriptions from all members, starting with those present, and to all others a circular letter be sent. The result to date is \$196.50. Through our president's good judgment and valuable assistance, we now have the room, 50x35 feet, fully equipped by the addition of the following newly acquired cases: Five very fine cases, with glass shelves; one 8-foot post, with twelve double face leaves or wings of glass, and the addition of glass doors to a 15-foot set of shelves.

We expended for cases, carpenter work, transportation, painting and varnishing, cleaning and arranging \$398.98, deducting the amount of subscriptions, \$196.50, leaves a shortage of \$193.48, which amount we appropriated from the Society's treasury.

The following letter from a museum expert on Indian relics is given in regard to our dugout canoe:

"I should suggest that in the first place it be carefully cleaned and then when ready for exhibition it should be placed under cover in a glass case.

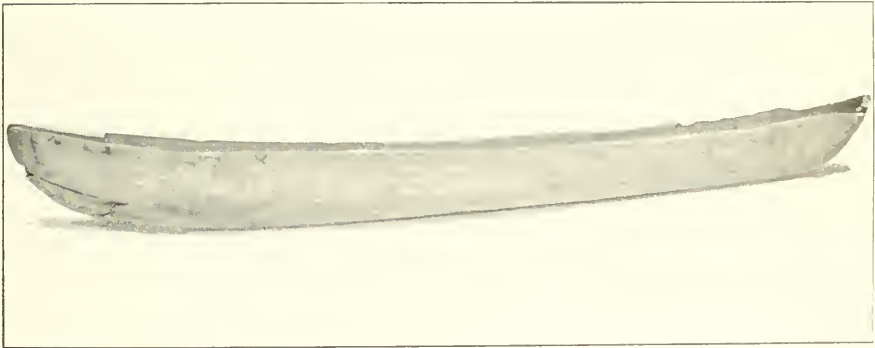
"The specimen is very valuable, and no expense should



be spared in its preservation. If left uncovered it will be only a matter of a few years when you will find yourselves minus a canoe. It is not alone the damage it would be likely to receive from the hands of the public, but the constant cleaning or dusting which would be necessary would gradually wear away the soft and partly decayed wood. Therefore, considering the value of the canoe, I should again strongly recommend the use of a glass case in which to exhibit the specimen."

As Mr. G. G. Ackerson and the late G. H. Randall had been the donors of the dugout canoe, Mr. Ackerson was interviewed as to what assistance he would give in regard to its care. The following report of what he has done speaks well of his great generosity and interest in his County Society:

Mr. Ackerson has had the canoe (it is 15 feet long) inclosed in a fine glass case, made to order under the supervision of our president), with two oak standards, also a very beautiful and artistic brass tablet fastened to the canoe bearing the following inscription:



### DUGOUT CANOE

UNEARTHED IN 1868 NEAR THE HACKENSACK RIVER ON THE  
PROPERTY OF

JUDGE GARRET G. ACKERSON  
HUDSON STREET, HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY.

In 1904 it was Presented to  
BERGEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

... by ...  
GARRET G. ACKERSON AND GARRET A. RANDALL  
Grandsons of the Judge

In 1914 it was identified by Alfred Ronk as a very rare Indian relic.  
The United States Forestry Department has identified the wood as white oak.

The exhibits as now placed are classified and marked as follows:

Bookease, 15 feet—Books, pamphlets, and in one end large exhibits.

Case—Indian relics and wampum specimens.

Case—Fine specimens of pottery, tools, etc. George Wolfkill, 1830-60.

Case—Mummy.

Case—Old blue china, lustre, etc.

Case—Colonial and early house hardware.

Case—A miscellaneous collection of small valuable articles.

A group of early fireplace furnishings.

Platform—Artistically furnished with antique table, three chairs and rag carpet. On the wall back of it a large picture of General Washington underneath an American flag, and a Revolutionary gun.

Group—Spinning wheels, wool and flax and reel, Colonial home-made cradle, hair trunk.

Group—Hackensack Academy bell, 1770, courthouse bell, 1819.

Case—Household articles.

Case—Canoe.

Case—War relics.

Post and Wings—Contains manuscripts, photographs, homespun textiles, wool and linen, flax-lace, flags, etc., etc.

On the walls are historical pictures, documents, etc.

A large filing cabinet contains over 200 negatives of historic houses, sites, etc.

In large envelopes, contents classified, are clippings from newspapers, etc., referring to Bergen County's important events since 1902.

Many valuable additions have been made during the year to our collection. A revised catalogue will appear in the next year book.

To Hon. William M. Johnson, the trustees of the Johnson Public Library, the President of the Society, the Women's Auxiliary and the contributors to the fund for cases, we extend thanks for favors and assistance given us in our efforts to place and keep our historical room one of the best sources of interest and information pertaining to historical events and history of Bergen County.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES A. WESTERVELT,  
HON. WILLIAM M. JOHNSON,  
ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK,  
JOHN A. MARINUS.

## LIST OF EX-PRESIDENTS.

1902—1917

Hon. William M. Johnson.....	1902-03
Cornelius Christie .....	1903-04
T. N. Glover.....	1904-05
Hon. Cornelius Doremus.....	1905-06
Burton H. Allbee.....	1906-07
Byron G. Van Horne, M.D.....	1907-08
William D. Snow.....	1908-09
Hon. David D. Zabriskie.....	1909-10
Everett L. Zabriskie.....	1910-11
Howard B. Goetschius.....	1911-12
Matt J. Bogert.....	1912-13
Robert T. Wilson.....	1913-14
Mrs. Frances A. Westervelt.....	1914-16
Cornelius V. R. Bogert.....	1916-17

## LIFE MEMBERS

Allbee, Burton H.....	Paterson
Allison, William O.....	Englewood
Britton, W. R.....	East Orange
Comeron, Alpin J.....	Ridgewood
Foster, W. Edward.....	Hackensack
Green, Allister.....	New York
Phelps, Capt. J. J.....	Teaneck
Preston, Veryl.....	New York
Voorhis, Charles C.....	New York
Vail, Carl M.....	Ridgewood

## HONORARY MEMBERS

Bogert, Isaac D.....	Westwood
Collins, Andrew R.....	New Bridge
Demarest, Hon. Milton.....	Hackensack
Vroom, Rev. William.....	Ridgewood

## MEMBERSHIP LIST

Abbott, John C.....	Fort Lee
Ackerman, David D.....	Closter
Ackerson, Garret G.....	Hackensack
Adams, Dr. Charles F.....	Hackensack
Adams, Robert A.....	Saddle River

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Bennett, Henry N.....	Hackensack
Bennett, Mrs. Harry .....	Teaneck
Bird, Eugene K.....	Hackensack
Blauvelt, H. H.....	Ridgewood
Bogert, Matt J.....	Demarest
Bogert, Daniel G.....	Englewood
Bogert, Albert Z.....	River Edge
Bogert, Mrs. Albert Z.....	River Edge
Bogert, Cornelius V. R.....	Bogota
Boyd, John T., Jr.....	Hackensack
Brinkerhoff, Cornelius V.....	Hackensack
Cane, F. W.....	Bogota
Christie, J. Elmer.....	Nyack, N. Y.
Cooper, Richard W.....	New Milford
Cory, Mrs. Catharine.....	East Northvale
Cosse, Edwin F.....	Paterson
Criss, Hugo F.....	Hohokus
Crum, F. H.....	River Edge
Crum, Mrs. F. H.....	River Edge
Cubberly, Nelson S.....	Glen Rock
Curtis, Grove D.....	New York
Curtis, Charles.....	Hackensack
Dalhrymple, C. M.....	Hackensack
DeBaum, Abram.....	Hackensack
DeBaum, Mrs. Abram.....	Hackensack
Demarest, Jacob R.....	Englewood
Demarest, James E.....	Westwood
DeRonde, Philip.....	Englewood
Diaz, Jose M.....	Hackensack
Doremus, Cornelius.....	Ridgewood
Eckert, George M.....	Saddle River
Engle, Miss Mary J.....	Fairview
Englehart, Charles.....	Ridgefield
Esler, John G.....	Saddle River
Fay, A. M.....	Hohokus
Franck, Dr. A.....	Hackensack
Goetschius, Howard B.....	Hackensack
Goetschius, D. M.....	Little Ferry
Greene, Robert Hill.....	Leonia
Grunow, Julius S.....	Hackensack
Haggerty, M. L.....	Hackensack
Haring, Tunis A.....	Hackensack
Hay, Clyde B.....	Hackensack
Hester, Earl L. D.....	Hasbrouck Heights
Howell, Mrs. Henrietta D.....	Hackensack
Jacobus, M. R.....	Ridgefield
Jeffers, Daniel G.....	Hackensack

Johnson, Hon. William M.	Hackensack
Kelder, Rev. Edward	Englewood Cliffs
Kipp, James	Tenafly
Liddle, Joseph G.	New York
Linkroum, Courtland	Hackensack
Mabie, Clarence	Hackensack
Mabon, Miss Elizabeth	Hackensack
Marinus, John A.	Rochelle Park
Metz, A. Russell, Jr.	Hackensack
Meyer, Francis E.	Closter
Miller, Lewis M.	Leonia
Moore, Sidney H.	Ridgewood, R. F. D.
Morrison, William J., Jr.	Ridgefield Park
Morrow, Dwight W.	Englewood
Osborn, J. Hosey	Passaic
Parigot, George W.	Allendale
Pell, Miss Katherine	Saddle River
Platt, Daniel F.	Englewood
Potter, George M.	Allendale
Ramsey, John R.	Hackensack
Richardson, Milton T.	Ridgewood
Riker, Theo.	Paterson
Rogers, Henry M.	Tenafly
Romaine, Theodore	Hackensack
Romaine, Mrs. Theodore	Hackensack
Sage, L. H.	Hackensack
Sloat, B. F.	Ridgewood
Spear, William M.	Leonia
Snyder, George J.	Ridgewood
Stagg, Edward	Leonia
Stewart, Dr. H. S.	Hackensack
Staib, P. C.	Hackensack
Staib, Mrs. P. C.	Hackensack
St. John, Dr. David	Hackensack
Smith, Miss Dora	Hoboken
Stumm, F. A.	Arcola
Tallman, William	Englewood
Terhune, C. W.	Hackensack
Terhune, P. Christie	Hackensack
Terhune, Mrs. P. Christie	Hackensack
Vail, William L.	Fairview
Vail, Mrs. William L.	Fairview
Van Buskirk, Arthur	Hackensack
Van Horne, Dr. Byron G.	Englewood
Van Nest, Rev. J. A.	Ridgewood
Van Winkle, Arthur W.	Rutherford

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Van Winkle, Charles A.....	Rutherford
Van Wagoner, Jacob.....	Ridgewood
Voorhis, Rev. John C.....	Bogota
Wakelee, Edmund W.....	New York
Wandell, Francis Livingston.....	Saddle River
Wandell, Mrs. Francis Livingston.....	Saddle River
Ware, Mrs. John C.....	Saddle River
Watt, Salina F.....	Hackensack
Wells, Benjamin B.....	Hackensack
Wells, George E.....	Hackensack
Wesley, F. R.....	Bogota
Westervelt, Mrs. Frances A.....	Hackensack
Willich, Theo.....	Leonia
Wilson, Richard T.....	Ridgewood
Wilson, Robert T.....	Saddle River
Wood, Robert J. G.....	Leonia
Woodman, Charles.....	Ridgewood
Wright, Wendell J.....	Hackensack
Zabriskie, David D.....	Ridgewood
Zabriskie, Everett L.....	Ridgewood
Zabriskie, Fred'k C.....	Hackensack

## In Memoriam

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Bogart, Peter B., Jr.....	Bogota
Bogert, Andrew D.....	Englewood
Brinkerhoff, A. H.....	Rutherford
Christie, Cornelius.....	Leonia
Clark, Edwin.....	Ridgewood
Currie, Dr. Daniel A.....	Englewood
Demarest, A. S. D.....	Hackensack
Demarest, Isaac I.....	Hackensack
Dutton, George R.....	Englewood
Easton, E. D.....	Arcola
Edsall, Samuel S.....	Palisade
Haggin, Mrs. L. T.....	Closter
Hales, Henry.....	Ridgewood
Holdrum, A. C.....	Westwood
Labagh, William O.....	Hackensack
Lane, Jesse.....	New Milford
Lane, Mrs. Jesse.....	New Milford
Lawton, I. Parker.....	Ridgewood
Lim, W. A.....	Hackensack
Nelson, William.....	Paterson
Romaine, Christie.....	Hackensack
Sanford, Rev. Ezra T.....	New York
Shanks, William.....	Hackensack
Snow, William D.....	Hackensack
Terhune, Peter O.....	Ridgewood
Van Buskirk, Jacob.....	New Milford
Zabriskie, A. C.....	New York





Eighteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Bergen County  
Historical Society

Number Thirteen

1920

HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY



EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BERGEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY







*Yours very truly*  
*Robert Thelton*

A faint, oval-shaped portrait of a man with dark hair, looking slightly to the right. The portrait is centered on the page and serves as a background for the text.

ROBERT T. WILSON

*Twelfth president of the Bergen County Historical Society (1913-1914) died February 1916 in his forty-second year. At the time of his death, he was treasurer and Deacon of the Upper Saddle River Church. He was also a member of Fidelity Lodge, No. 113 F. & A. M., Ridgewood, New Jersey.*

*Yours very truly  
Robert T. Wilson*

Eighteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Bergen County  
Historical Society

Number Thirteen

1920

HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY

Press of The Hackensack Republican



## Officers for the Fiscal Year 1920-1921

### *President*

LEWIS MARSENA MILLER .....Leonia

### *Secretary*

THEODORE ROMAINE .....Hackensack

### *Treasurer*

C. M. DALRYMPLE .....Hackensack

### *Curator*

MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT .....Hackensack

### *Vice-Presidents*

Closter .....WILLIAM H. ROBERTS

Englewood .....WILLIAM O. ALLISON

Fort Lee .....JOHN C. ABBOT

Hackensack .....WILLIAM P. EAGER

Hackensack .....P. CHRISTIE TERHUNE

Leonia .....ROBERT J. G. WOOD

Oradell .....ELMER BLAUVELT

Ramsey .....JOHN Y. DATER

Ridgewood .....WALTER W. WILSEY

Ridgefield .....M. R. JACOBUS

Rutherford .....A. W. VAN WINKLE

Westwood .....ISAAC B. HOPPEP

### *Former Presidents*

HON. WILLIAM M. JOHNSON, Hackensack..... 1902-03

MR. CORNELIUS CHRISTIE, Leonia..... 1903-04

MR. T. N. GLOVER, Rutherford..... 1904-05

HON. CORNELIUS DOREMUS, Ridgewood..... 1905-06

MR. BURTON H. ALBEE, Paterson..... 1906-07

DR. BYRON G. VAN HORNE, Englewood..... 1907-08

COL. W. D. SNOW, Hackensack..... 1908-09

HON. DAVID D. ZABRISKIE, Ridgewood..... 1909-10

MR. EVERETT L. ZABRISKIE, Ridgewood..... 1910-11

MR. HOWARD B. GOETSCHUS, Little Ferry..... 1911-12

MR. MATT. J. BOGERT, Demarest..... 1912-13

MR. ROBERT T. WILSON, Saddle River..... 1913-14

MRS. FRANCES A. WESTERVELT, Hackensack..... 1914-16

MR. CORNELIUS V. R. BOGERT, Bogota..... 1916-18

MR. ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK, Hackensack..... 1918-19

MR. LEWIS MARSENA MILLER, Leonia..... 1919-21

**\*Standing Committees, 1920-1921***Archives and Property*

Mrs. F. A. Westervelt, Hon. William M. Johnson, Frank B. Plympton, Hackensack; David Hopper, Mahwah; Mrs. Harry Bennett, Teaneck.

*Ancient Cemeteries*

Matt. J. Bogert, Demarest; Walter Christie, Bergenfield; J. Z. Demarest, Closter.

*Church History*

Walter Christie, Bergenfield; Rev. Edward Kelder, Fort Lee; Rev. J. A. Van Nest, Ridgewood.

*Current History*

Reid Howell, Rutherford.

*Genealogical and Biographical*

Mrs. John Christie Ware, George M. Eckert, Saddle River; Mrs. F. A. Westervelt, Hackensack.

*Historic Sites and Events*

Dr. James M. Hackett, Robert Hill Greene, Leonia; Emile Stange, North Hackensack; George W. Hood, Ridgefield.

*Membership*

Cornelius V. R. Bogert, William T. Knight, Bogota; Walter G. Winne, Hasbrouck Heights.

*Publication*

Dr. Byron G. Van Horne, Englewood; Dr. Charles F. Adams, Hackensack; Reid Howell, Rutherford; Robert Hill Greene, Dr. Roscoe Guernsey, Leonia.

*Publicity*

J. W. Binder, E. K. Bird, Hackensack; Joseph H. Tillotson, Englewood; J. E. Williams, Ridgefield Park.

*Topographical and Historical Geography*

Joseph Kinzley, Jr., Hackensack; Prof. B. T. Butler, Leonia; William Conklin, Englewood.

*Wars and Revolutionary Soldiers' Graves*

Dr. Charles F. Adams, Hackensack; Carl M. Vail, Ridge-wood; John W. Bellis, Oradell.

*Women's Auxiliary*

Mrs. A. Z. Bogert, Mrs. Harry Lewellyn, River Edge; Mrs. Byron G. Van Horne, Englewood; Mrs. Clayton Demarest, Hackensack; Mrs. F. Hayden, Rutherford; Mrs. Harry Bennett, Teaneck.

\*The President is ex-officio a member of all Committees.

**Aims of the  
Bergen County Historical Society**

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- To make research into historical facts and collect data relating thereto;
- To suitably mark by Monument or Tablet sites of historic interest to preserve them from oblivion;
- To collect and preserve genealogical records and family traditions;
- To cultivate a spirit of Patriotism, which is love of Country, and aid to respect and uphold its laws;
- To foster National, State, Local and Family Pride, and the Intellectual Cultivation and Development of its members.

## Eighteenth Annual Report Bergen County Historical Society

### President's Report

The several reports of Standing Committees submitted herewith tell of the activities of the Society during the fiscal year 1919-1920, which has been a year of progress and gives promise of further advance during the eighteenth year of the Society's existence.

The numerous interesting relics of the past which have been added to our Museum during the past two years bear testimony to the alertness and efficiency of our Curator. It is to be hoped that members owning articles of historic interest will arrange for their ultimate addition to this museum, if for any reason they are not available now.

The limited resources of the Society in the past has retarded the carrying out of all the aims of its organizers, but the report of the Membership Committee showing increase from 145 to 432 members during the year demonstrates a quickened interest and the possibility of increasing our Membership Roll to one thousand before our annual meeting in April, 1921. The annual dues paid by that number of members will enable the Society to give due attention to two neglected duties:

"To suitably mark by monument or tablet sites of historic interest, to preserve them from oblivion.

"To cultivate a spirit of Patriotism throughout the County and to foster National, State, Local and Family Pride."

Our Committee on Historic Sites and Events will make a record during the coming year and suitably mark some of the points which have been too long neglected.

Good speakers should be sent to the several boroughs in the County to stir up interest in the work and aims of the Society, to cultivate a spirit of Patriotism and preach the gospel of Americanism. Such meetings should be arranged for once each month, November to March, inclusive. A look over our Membership Roll discloses the names of many of the most prominent and influential men and women of the County. I doubt if another such aggregation for good and patriotic work can be found in the County of Bergen, and I believe this influence will respond willingly to intelligent leadership by the officers of the Society designated for the coming fiscal year. I hope that opportunity will soon knock at their doors.

One resident of Bergen County, who has been a life member of this Society almost from its inception, has shown his interest and generosity by two gifts of \$1,000 each, creating the "Allison Special Fund" from which the cost of publications is defrayed. The Treasurer's report shows the present healthy condition of this fund.

But in evidence of his increased interest, Mr. William O. Allison of Englewood made his third gift to the Society, this time for \$10,000. The Executive Committee in its resolution of thanks to Mr. Allison named this the "Allison Investment Fund" and instructed the President to invest the amount in the United States Fourth Liberty Loan Bonds. Eleven thousand dollars par value were bought at 90.30, at which figure they yield 4.71%. These eleven one thousand dollar bonds are registered in the name of this Society. The April Treasury warrant for the semi-annual interest, with a small addition from our general fund, secured three one hundred dollar coupon bonds of the same issue, so that now our safe deposit box holds \$11,300 of these securities, the value of which no red-blooded American citizen can doubt.

The Bergen County Historical Society is not soliciting alms or bequests, but it confidently expects that other wealthy members will give a demonstration of real interest by building up this investment fund until the assured income is sufficient to warrant greatly augmented activity.

Under the intelligent leadership of Mrs. A. Z. Bogert the Women's Auxiliary has grown from twenty-one to ninety-four members. Mrs. Bogert's report of the activities of the women members of this Society will interest every reader, and I venture to suggest that it would be difficult to pick from our Membership Roll another ninety-four who have shown so much interest in the work of the Society. The example of these earnest women is commended to the consideration of members who wear trousers!

By far the most important event of the past year, and probably in any year of the Society's existence, is our undertaking to build a memorial to mark the site and commemorate the activities of Camp Merritt, where a third of all the men sent over seas received their equipment and were prepared for doing their share in the undertaking to "make the world a decent place to live in." More than half a million of those returning have been cared for there until ready to be sent forward to the camp of demobilization nearest their home towns.

In the report of our semi-annual meeting last October appears the address made by the Executive Officer of Camp Merritt, Major Max Sullivan, in which he gave us the details

of the organization and system which made possible the remarkable work done at Camp Merritt in so short a time. In this address will be found undeniable justification for our undertaking this patriotic work. I want the members of this Society to understand the reasons for this undertaking and the arrangements which have been made for its accomplishment.

The project was brought to us by Major Francis G. Landon, the Morale Officer of Camp Merritt, who addressed our Executive Committee at their meeting last August. Senator William M. Johnson also addressed the committee in favor of the monument. On adoption of a suitable resolution the chair appointed Cornelius V. R. Bogert, Dr. Byron G. Van Horne and Mr. Matt. J. Bogert a Special Committee to take charge of the matter and report to the Executive Committee.

This Special Committee, with the President as ex-officio member, appeared before the Board of Chosen Freeholders asking their co-operation and appointment of a committee of the Board to work with us and the camp officers. Our appeal was listened to with close attention by each member of the Board, and after due consideration, on August 6, 1919, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, during the late war with Germany, the Government of the United States established a large and important camp in this county between Dumont and Tenafly, designated as Camp Merritt, which has been used as a camp of embarkation and debarkation for men in the army, and which has received from time to time more than a million men in the aggregate, and which camp will in the near future be dismantled by the Government; and

Whereas, in order to establish a permanent memorial of Camp Merritt, it is thought proper to erect a monument on a plot of ground at the corner of Knickerbocker road and Madison avenue now belonging to William O. Allison, who is willing to convey the same for such purpose, provided assurance can be given that said memorial and plot will be properly and permanently maintained; and

Whereas, it has been suggested that the title to said plot be lodged in the County of Bergen, in trust, to maintain, preserve, and protect said memorial in perpetuity; and

Whereas, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Bergen recognizes the very distinguished honor which the establishment of Camp Merritt has conferred upon the county and the propriety of a suitable memorial to perpetuate the historic associations connected with the camp, and appreciates the patriotic impulse which has led to a contribution of funds for the purpose,

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Bergen will, in behalf of the county, accept the position of custodian of the proposed memorial and will take title in the name of the county for the plot on which it is to stand, in trust, to maintain said memorial and plot in suitable condition and subject to a covenant and agreement that said county will forever protect, maintain, and keep in good repair and condition the said monument and plot, to the end that it may be a public and lasting memorial of the events and history connected with Camp Merritt; and

Be it further resolved, that said County of Bergen hereby agrees to build said monument and memorial of such funds as may be contributed for the purpose, and such funds, if any, as may be hereafter appropriated by said Board in accordance with the statute; and

Be it further resolved, that the County Counsel be instructed to take such action as may be necessary for the proper transfer of the plot hereinbefore mentioned.

Following adoption of these resolutions the Director, Joseph Kinzley, Jr., appointed Reid Howell, of Rutherford, William H. Roberts of Closter and Charles K. Allen of Ridgewood.

This action being communicated to the Camp Commandant, Major-General G. B. Duncan appointed Major Francis G. Landon, Major Max W. Sullivan and Major Jesse I. Sloat to serve with him on behalf of the military authorities.

These three committees met at the Officers' Club and organized as the "Camp Merritt Memorial Association," electing Cornelius V. R. Bogert, President, William H. Roberts, Vice-President, Major Francis G. Landon, Secretary, and Matt. J. Bogert, Treasurer.

Subsequently, Mr. Bogert resigned to become jointly with Harvey Wiley Corbett of New York the Architects for the Association and prepare plans for the proposed Memorial.

On acceptance of Mr. Bogert's resignation Dr. Byron G. Van Horne was elected President.

The Special Committee of this Society was augmented by the appointment of Abram De Ronde, Dwight W. Morrow, Daniel E. Pomeroy and William Conklin of Englewood, Edmund W. Wakelee of Demarest, Hon. William M. Johnson, J. W. Binder, Clarence Mabie and George Van Buskirk of Hackensack, these gentlemen becoming automatically members of the Camp Merritt Memorial Association, which now includes:

Charles K. Allen ..... Ridgewood  
 Matt J. Bogert ..... Demarest

J. W. Binder .....	Hackensack
William Conklin .....	Englewood
Abram De Ronde .....	Englewood
Gen'l G. B. Duncan .....	United States Army
Reid Howell .....	Rutherford
Hon. William M. Johnson .....	Hackensack
Joseph Kinzlev, Jr., .....	Hackensack
Major Francis G. Landon .....	New York
Clarence Mabie .....	Hackensack
Lewis Marsena Miller .....	Leonia
Dwight W. Morrow .....	Englewood
Daniel E. Pomeroy .....	Englewood
William H. Roberts .....	Closter
Major Jesse I. Sloat .....	United States Army
Major Max W. Sullivan ..	United States Army
George Van Buskirk .....	Hackensack
Dr. Byron G. Van Horne .....	Englewood
Edmund W. Wakelee .....	Demarest

Every one of these names will be found in the Membership Roll of the Bergen County Historical Society.

The site for the memorial has been definitely fixed and mainly acquired without cost, half the area being a gift from Mr. William O. Allison. Knickerbocker road and Madison avenue at their intersection will be diverted around a three hundred foot circle at the apex of which will rise a monument which, to be commensurate with the mighty accomplishments of Camp Merritt, must be lofty, dignified, artistic and above all, inspiring—a memorial worthy of Bergen County and in which we can all take a just pride. Eventually this memorial will undoubtedly be connected by a parkway with the Inter-State Park.

The State of New Jersey, under a bill which has become a law, will provide one-third the cost of this memorial, fifty thousand dollars. Bergen County is due to raise one hundred thousand dollars, and the military authorities have already contributed to this fund seven thousand five hundred dollars, which is in the treasury of the Association.

I cannot stress too greatly the patriotic duty of our Society in furthering this project and carrying it through to an early completion. We are sponsors for this undertaking and are proud of it. The Memorial will not only mark the site of Camp Merritt, but will commemorate its wonderful activities and achievements, in enduring bronze and granite.

It will also stand a lasting testimonial to the patriotism and energy of the Bergen County Historical Society.

LEWIS MARSENA MILLER, President.



### Secretary's Report

There have been added to the roll during the year 256 resident, 5 life and 4 honorary members; we have lost 4 through death, making the present membership:

Resident .....	378
Honorary .....	8
Life .....	16

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402

a gain of 261 for the year.

### Treasurer's Report

From April 26th, 1919, to April 17th, 1920.

*Allison Special Account:*

#### RECEIPTS

Balance on hand April 26th, 1919.....	\$1,123.37
Interest to January 1st, 1920.....	39.00
Transferred from Allison Prize account.....	45.00
Gift from W. O. Allison.....	10,000.00

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Purchase Liberty Bonds.....	\$10,000.00
On Account of Freeholders' Book and Gen. Greene's Orderly Book..	339.31
Balance on hand April 17th, 1920..	868.06

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\$11,207.37    \$11,207.37

*Allison Prize Account:*

Balance April 26th, 1919.....	50.00
Broadway School Prizes.....	5.00
Transferred to Special Account.....	45.00

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\$50.00    \$50.00

*General Account:*

#### RECEIPTS

Balance in Bank April 26th, 1919.....	\$242.59
Dues Received .....	684.00
Dues Unpaid .....	412.00
Received from W. O. Allison for Map General Greene's Orderly Book.....	231.00
Transferred from Special Savings Account to apply on printing of Freeholders' Book and Gen. Greene's Orderly Book.....	339.31

Received from W. O. Allison for Curator's Salary .....	300.00
Sale Year Books.....	2.40
Receipts Tickets Annual Meeting 1919.....	14.50
Cash in exchange for check.....	35.00
Checks Lost .....	9.00
Interest on Liberty Loan.....	233.75

## DISBURSEMENTS

Expense Annual Meeting 1919.....	\$51.75
President's Account .....	76.67
Secretary's Account .....	299.62
Curator's Salary .....	400.00
Maintenance of Room.....	29.40
Freeholders' Book, Gen. Greene's Orderly Book .....	570.31
Checks Lost .....	9.00
Check in exchange for cash.....	35.00
Balance Paid on Liberty Bonds.....	73.25
Unpaid Dues .....	412.00
Balance April 17th, 1920.....	546.55
	\$ 2,503.55
	\$ 2,503.55

## BALANCE SHEET, April 17th, 1920.

## ASSETS

Cash in Bank, Allison Special Account.....	\$868.00
Cash in Bank, General Account.....	546.55
Total Cash .....	\$1,414.61
*Annual Dues from Members.....	412.00
United States Bonds, par value.....	11,000.00
Total .....	\$12,826.61

## LIABILITIES

None.

\*Mostly dues for current fiscal year beginning Feb'y 22nd.

### First Annual Report of the Curator

At our last annual meeting we unveiled, so to speak, our reproduction of the early Dutch kitchen, including the open fireplace and brick oven; with the many original articles used in the kitchens of the early homes. Posters announcing the exhibit and the talks were sent out to all members and to every library in the county and over the lines, and to the school principals. Prizes for the three best papers about "The Talks" were offered. In the first month there were thirteen classes (400 pupils) from the schools during school periods, and hundreds of visitors to hear the story of the early kitchen and its activities, illustrated by the use of the real antiques. As the kitchen for about two hundred years was the center of life and education there is a broad field to cover. From the Broadway School (mostly foreigners) were submitted fifteen papers, which were excellent. The three prizes were presented there. Up to date we have had twenty-four classes averaging forty each—eight hundred pupils, and a class from Moonachie (more foreigners).

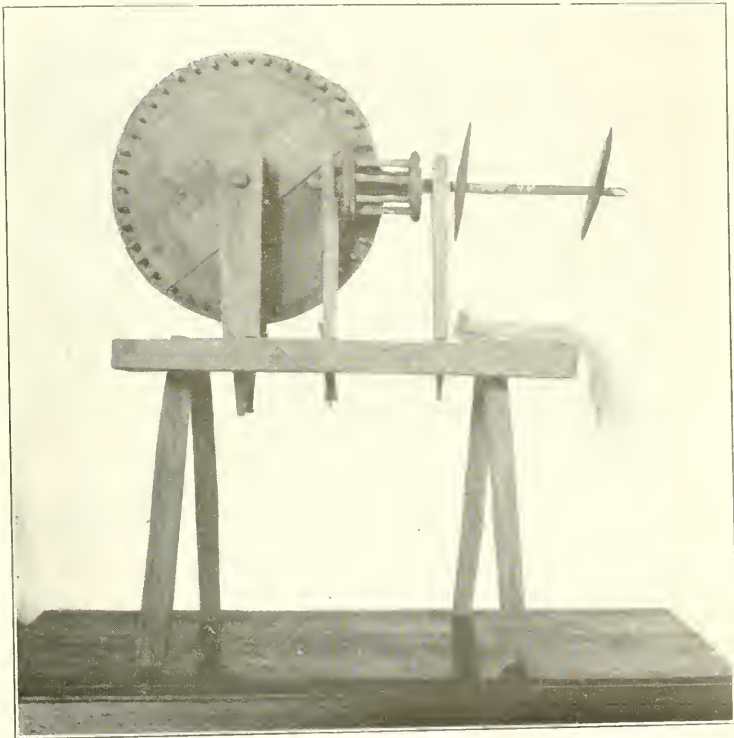
A "talk" illustrated with about fifty articles was given to the Woman's Club at Oradell, at which five new members were enrolled; and to the Woman's Club of Bogota. Many groups and single visitors have been taken on the tour of the room, hearing the many stories.

At the monthly meetings of our Women's Auxiliary there is always a new exhibit set out and its story given. Plans are being made for the classes of River Edge (their transportation being paid), Hasbrouck Heights and Bogota, the Girls' Patriotic League of Ridgefield Park, and the Men's Club of one of the Hackensack churches. On the 10th, an illustrated talk at Rutherford to the Women's Reading Club is to be given.

A loaned exhibition of glass, china and pottery was given from Feb. 15th to April 15th. There were three hundred articles exhibited, including some of the very rare early Delft ware, and other rare and choice specimens. Of the work of Bergen County's "own potter" (1830-1860), Geo. W. Wolfkiel, there were fifty pieces, (still on view). It was a great success; visitors from far and near. During the two months we averaged a daily attendance of twenty-five, and it was during our very severe weather.

The next exhibit was the articles of the Colonial period of 1700. The schools were studying that period. As we have a fine collection it was of great interest.

Then came the Revolutionary period of school study and our collection, which is good, was displayed.



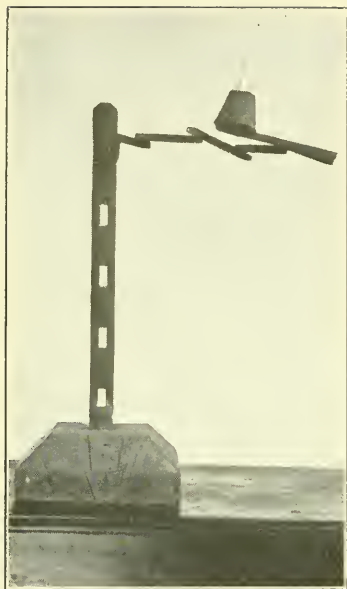
PRIMITIVE SPINNING WHEEL.

A handle on the rear turns the disk with the pegs.  
From the Zabriskie-Van Dien Home, Paramus Road.

An old author says: "The action of spinning must be learned by practice, not by relation." Sung by the poets, the grace and beauty of the occupation has ever shared praise with its utility.

Wool-spinning was truly one of the most flexible and alert series of movements in the world, and to its varied and graceful poises our grandmothers may owe part of the dignity of carriage that was so characteristic of them.

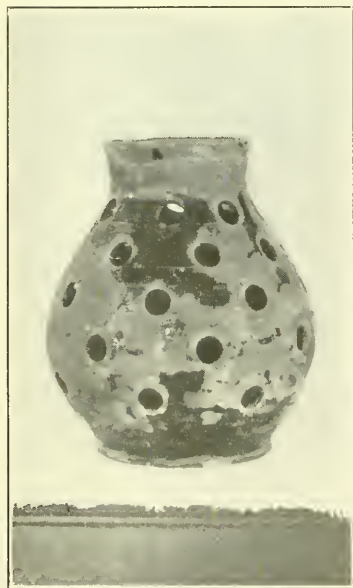
It was a good day's work for a quick, active spinner to spin six skeins of yarn a day. It was estimated that to do that with her quick forward and backward steps she walked over twenty miles.



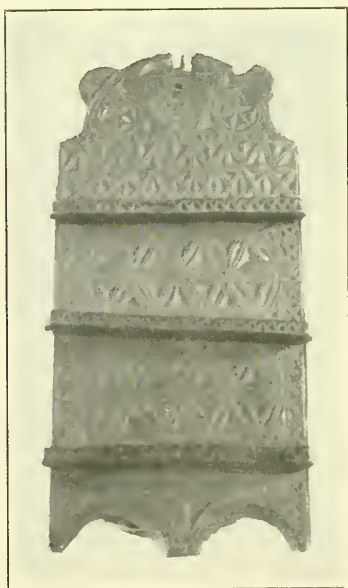
ADJUSTABLE CANDLE STAND  
From a Hoorn Family, Upper Saddle River.  
Possibly around 1735.



MEXICAN WAR HAT AND BUCKLE  
On home-made hand box. David Zabriskie,  
from homestead at Oradell, later known  
as the "Grant" place.



PARSLEY POT  
Used by Mrs. Sally Ann Zabriskie of Ramsey.  
Made to order for her by George W. Wolf-  
kiel the historic Hackensack River  
Potter. 1830-60.



HAND CARVED SPOON RACK  
Dated A. N. 1731 A. H. From the Zabriskie-  
Van Dien house on Paramus Road.

The next will be a view of early house building material and colonial house hardware, of which we have a wonderful collection, including timber pegged together, the large laths, the clay mixed with straw used in the cracks and spaces, and the iron hand-wrought household articles, nails, etc. The exhibit will include photographs of the early houses, many of which are now demolished. The "talk" will be of the early building and the practical reasons for some of the methods that resulted in the "typical Bergen County house."

This paper could be extended to a great length, requiring hours, instead of minutes, in its reading, and then the half could not be told of the activities, keen interest, education, and enjoyment given, not only to the children (who love this room and roam through it at pleasure, asking questions) and the middle-aged, but especially to the aged men and women who come and enjoy living over in memory the days long past, which the relics recall. It will not be many years when there will be none to say as the few do now, "These things carry me as in a dream to my grandmother's home!" Why they do not say Grandfather's home, as surely there must have been some of them is explained when they say, "Oh! what good pies she made in the old red pie dishes that were just like these. And the cookies! And the bread from the brick oven! How I wish I had some now!" showing that the taste for the products of the early kitchen still lingers and can never die. It is not only that history has been imparted, but that which has been told herein by visitors of the joys, sorrows, romances and customs of early Bergen County homes, has been so instilled in the Curator's mind that a glance in any direction, some relic could call forth a story.

I thank you for the privilege given me for the opportunity to live so close to that which tells of the worth while lives in the making of dear old Bergen County.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES A. WESTERVELT, Curator.

### **Annual Report of the Archives and Property Committee**

During the year now ending there have been added by purchase, gifts, and loans, three hundred articles, all of which are of interest and value. Many visitors to our Museum have been so impressed with the care and interest shown in the collections that they have presented many things. The list of contributors and articles would be too long to present at this

meeting, but special mention should be made of the gifts pertaining to Camp Merritt, of our own County, now practically closed. The Monument Memorial Committee of the camp have placed in our custody the bronze tablet (that was removed from the huge boulder) until called for to incorporate it in the Memorial Monument to be erected on the cantonment site. Major-General Duncan presented an official linen map, 14 feet by 6 feet, a plan of all the buildings, (over 1,000) in the camp with the key to the plan. Its proper and fitting care is being considered. He gave also an aerial photograph of the camp. Another important gift is a large panoramic view of the cantonment, framed by the distant Palisades and the beautiful surrounding country. The post and wing case bears in one wing valuable data and photographs relative to the camp. The Camp Merritt Dispatch, published weekly, has been bound and is on exhibition and for reference.

Medals and certificates used to present to the Hackensack soldiers and sailors have been placed in the collection. The Liberty Loan Committee presented a large cannon, a French machine gun, large shell, German overcoat, helmet and haversack from a French battlefield.

From a mother of Bergen County (who wears a gold star) has come to us a very sacred trust, her son's diary, working maps (he was an engineer), and other interesting data all so closely related to the great war.

Many of our gifts have been of great value in the work being done in our Museum.

Many calls have been made for our Year Books, several being from New Jersey school supervisors. One call from the Chinese Educational Commissioner to America for a history of our Museum.

Several classes in the State Street School issue monthly papers, the printing being done in the High School printing department. To the class in the fourth grade was given Hackensack History and the loan of a cut of The Green in 1820 which was used in the May number of the "Bird's-Eye News". From our archives almost daily data is being given on Bergen County history, many coming from out of town, showing an awakening in historical research for which the Bergen County Historical Society is mostly responsible.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCES A. WESTERVELT,  
WILLIAM M. JOHNSON,  
MRS. HARRY BENNETT.

P.S. From the publication of our last report, 1916-17.

the activities, increase, and the growth of our archives and properties has been continuous.

### **Report of the Committee on Ancient Cemeteries**

The committee being uncertain as to just how much work had been done by their predecessors, has formulated plans by which it hopes to cover the scope of its field (or work) thoroughly. In the meantime it would be very much appreciated if any member of the Society who may have any data bearing on the work would communicate the same to the chairman of the committee. It is natural to suppose that those members living in the vicinity of old cemeteries would be likely to know most about them, and if such members would resolve themselves into sub-committees and report all they could find out about the old cemeteries in their own localities it would very much help the work of the committee.

MATTHEW J. BOGERT.

### **Report of Committee on Church History**

Your chairman, at beginning of the year just passed, looked into the future expecting that, the war being over, things would return to normal and some of the plans worked out for this committee could be put into action. But, as the year advanced, big problems loomed up claiming time and attention both from a patriotic and civic standpoint, thus forcing the abandonment of work in prospect. We look forward into the future hoping that some definite work can be accomplished in the coming year.

E. L. ZABRISKIE.

### **Report of Committee on Current History**

The chairman of the Current History Committee begs to report that during the year work was started upon procuring the names of the boys serving their country during the great war, but owing to the lack of co-operation and the almost impossible nature of the task it was deemed best to postpone this work until such time as Congress has compiled and indexed the names of all who served their country. When this is done, as Representative Ramsey assured the chairman that it will be, he recommends that the Current History Committee procure a copy and file same for future reference.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE ROMAINE, Chairman



### **Annual Report of the Genealogical and Biographical Committee**

The chairmanship of the Genealogical Committee was turned down by other people before it finally landed on me and I think I have discovered why. I am about the only member of this Society who is diligently locating ancestors and "how often, oh, how often" I have written to people something like this: "Your great-great-great grandmother and mine were sisters; do you know any previous family history?" Once in a while they reply, but usually they keep my stamped envelope and also the information. Mr. Miller probably thought "What a nuisance that woman is. We will put her on the Genealogical Committee and let her bother herself."

Now this introduction explains my report. While Chairman of this Committee, I discovered where two of my remote ancestors were buried in a field, and they were perfectly satisfactory ones too—they had gravestones with the dates of their birth and death engraved thereon. It's lucky they turned up in time to report, because no one has asked me to do a single thing.

Respectfully submitted,

A. ELIZABETH WARE.

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### **Report of Committee on Historic Sites and Events**

Our report will be brief. We can only report progress. We have been greatly disappointed in that we have been unable to set up on the site of the Protestant Lutheran Church and Cemetery on the River Road, just north of the residence of Mrs. W. W. Butler, the monument which we had ordered to mark that historic spot; but because of labor shortage Mr. Elmer Mabie, who has so generously donated this monument, has been unable to complete his work. He hopes, however, to be ready some time this summer.

ARTHUR VAN BUSKIRK.

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### **Report of Committee on Membership**

Soon after Mr. Miller became President of the Society, he stated at one of the Executive Committee meetings that in order to increase its usefulness he felt that the Society should increase its membership, and suggested a plan similar to that used by the National Geographic Society in obtaining members.

With the approval of the Executive Committee, the plan was put in operation, and through Mr. Miller's activity and interest in seeing the Society grow, the Committee is able to make the following very encouraging report:

## MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

1919	April 26th	Annual Meeting . . . . .	141	
		Elected . . . . .	4	145
	May 15th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	6	
	July 25th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	10	
	Sept. 12th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	42	
	Sept. 26th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	14	
	Oct. 25th	Semi-Annual Meeting, Elected. . . . .	31	
	Nov. 20th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	15	
	Dec. 19th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	38	
1920	Jan. 9th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	23	
	Jan. 16th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	14	
	Jan. 30th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	31	
	Feb. 27th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	12	
	Mch. 26th	Executive Com. Elected. . . . .	25	
	Apr. 17th	Annual Meeting, Elected. . . . .	30	201
				430
	Deceased . . . . .			4
				432
	Net gain during year . . . . .			287

The same membership plan is still in operation, with slight modifications, and consists mainly in having the various members of the Society recommend to the Membership Committee, on blanks furnished for this purpose, the names of persons whom they believe would become members of the Society. Many members have not yet responded to the request for nominations and yet the Society has increased to three times its membership of a year ago. It is the aim of the Executive Committee to have a membership of one thousand by the next annual meeting. When we see what was accomplished during the past year, this should be a very easy task if all members will kindly submit their nominations of prospective members promptly.

Respectfully submitted,

Membership Committee,

C. V. R. BOGERT, Chairman.

### Report of the Publication Committee

The chairman of the Publication Committee reports that since the printing of the last year book, 1916-1917, it was almost impossible to secure contributed articles for the new Year Book or get research work done until this year. Those who might have contributed were devoting all their energies, as good patriotic Americans, to help win the war. The Society is fortunate this year in having a number of excellent articles as a perusal of the succeeding pages will show. The Publication Committee wishes to thank the writers of the articles as well as the chairmen of the various committees, most of the latter having made full reports.

The chairman for some time has had in charge the publication of two books which are unique in their way in that they are reproductions of original history of Bergen County. They record history as it was made at the time. The first book will be an exact copy of the "Minutes of the Justice and Freeholders of Bergen County," from May 19th, 1715, to August 18th, 1794. It is the earliest record extant in the County Clerk's office at Hackensack, New Jersey. The second is the Orderly Book of the New Jersey Brigade while in Bergen County, New Jersey, and the then adjacent county of Orange, New York, during the Revolutionary War, from July 30th to October 18th 1780. From the fact that so little original history of Bergen County has been preserved, the chairman has given much intensive study to this book requiring considerable expenditure of time and some little money of his own, with the result that every pertinent detail in regard to the officers, men, and places has been thoroughly worked out. From the subject matter, as presented in the book, some of the framework of all the regiments that were constituent parts of the army during that time has been found. From this and various other sources of information I have been able to know the regiments that were actually present in Tappan, Closter, Englewood, Teaneck, Leonia, River Edge and Paramus, and how many regiments there were in the army and why the army was in the various places. Copies of newspaper extracts of the time, copies of many letters written during the period, copies of several diaries written at the time, all in regard to the territory in question, are included. These as well as much contemporaneous history serve admirably to elucidate the book and map. The book has been thoroughly indexed, both as to names and places, and the officers and men have been arranged and classified as to their various regiments.

To get all the above has required numerous trips to librar-

ies in New York, Newark, Perth Amboy, Trenton and Washington, D. C. Most of the work has been completed. Some of the members of the Society, knowing something of the historic value of the book and map, and being desirous of seeing them in print, it has been decided that the book and map will be published without any addenda. At some future time, when the chairman has completed the work, he may at his discretion publish the result of his labors.

BYRON G. VAN HORNE.

### Report of Committee on Wars and Revolutionary Soldiers' Graves

During the annual meeting of the Bergen County Historical Society held during the year 1914 a report was made of the work that Society had undertaken in locating the burial places of all Revolutionary soldiers in Bergen County, with the ultimate object of marking them in some suitable manner.

President J. L. Merrill of the New Jersey Society, S. A. R., was a guest of honor at this meeting and during his address told of a similar work the New Jersey Society was doing in this respect. He suggested that here was an excellent opportunity for the two Societies to work together, and stated that if the Historical Society would notify the New Jersey Society of all such graves they are able to locate, that the latter would gladly mark them with the regular S. A. R. bronze marker.

Following Mr. Merrill's suggestion, Mrs. F. A. Westervelt, the President of the Historical Society, appointed the following committee to co-operate with the New Jersey Society and Paramus Chapter, S. A. R., in carrying on the work: E. L. Zabriskie, Ridgewood, chairman; Daniel G. Bogert, Englewood; Richard T. Wilson, Ridgewood; Grover D. Curtis, 512 East 50th Street, N. Y. C.

From that time and up to the present, with the exception of the period during which members of the committee were active in war work, the committee has prosecuted the work assigned to them and, as a result, has furnished to a similar committee of Paramus Chapter, S. A. R., the following graves as worthy of being marked with their regular marker:

#### HACKENSACK.

Henry Berden, Lieutenant in Bergen County State Troop, born August 1, 1752, died March 25, 1840. Buried in abandoned graveyard of the Christian Reformed Dutch Church on Hudson Street, Hackensack.

Abraham I. Brower, Private Bergen County Militia, born

June 21, 1763, died March 21, 1837. Buried in the graveyard of the Reformed Church of Hackensack.

Benjamin P. Westervelt, Private Capt. Christie's Co., Bergen County Militia, taken prisoner Sept. 6, 1781; exchanged; received a pension; buried First Reformed Churchyard.

#### NEW BRIDGE.

John Demarest, Private Bergen County Militia, born January 26, 1732, died May 14, 1809. Buried in French Cemetery between River Edge and New Bridge.

#### CLOSTER.

Dan Van Scivan, a Pensioner in 1841 at which time he was living in Lodi, born 1748, died July 10, 1843. Buried in Sautie Taves Burying Ground on property of Mr. Matt. Bogert, between Closter and Demarest.

Garret Auryansen, Private Bergen County Militia.

Resolvert Auryansen, Private Bergen County Militia.

Joseph Demarest, Private Bergen County Militia, also Lieutenant Colonel Fell's Battalion, N. J. State Troops.

Barent Naugle, Private Bergen County Militia.

David Naugle, Private Bergen County Militia.

All of whom are buried in the Auryansen burial ground.

#### RIDGEWOOD.

James J. Blauvelt, Private Bergen County Militia, born 1763, died 1842, a Pensioner in 1841, at which time he was living in Franklin Township. Buried in the graveyard of the Paramus Reformed Church.

#### ARCOLA.

Albert P. Van Voorhees, Private Bergen County Militia. Buried in the Voorhis Family Burial ground.

#### BERGENFIELD.

Wiert Banta, Private Bergen County Militia.

David Campbell, Private Bergen County Militia.

James Christie, Captain Bergen County Militia.

John W. Christie, Private Bergen County Militia.

Samuel Demarest, Captain Bergen County Militia.

Jacob Westervelt, died in British Prison, New York City.

All of whom are buried in the graveyard of the old South Schraalenburgh Reformed Church and whose graves have been marked by Post No. 52, G. A. R.

#### DEMAREST.

Dourve Talema (Dow Tallman), murdered by Tories. Buried Sauchers Taves Begraven ground.

These names have been accepted by the S. A. R. and



REPRODUCTION OF AN EARLY DUTCH KITCHEN

In the Museum of the Society. Here the illustrated talks on the home life of the early settlers are given to the classes from the schools, Women's Clubs, and other groups.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
PRESS

arrangements have been made, when the markers can be obtained, to so mark the graves.

In addition to the foregoing work the Committee in correspondence with proper authorities in Washington, have secured necessary data and forms required by the War Department, so that they are now in a position, when graves are located without headstones, to see that such headstones are placed by the representatives of the War Department.

The Committee at present consists of: Grover D. Curtis, 512 East 59th Street, N. Y. C.; H. H. Blauvelt, Ridgewood; Carl M. Vail, Ridgewood; Richard T. Wilson, Chairman, which chairmanship he has held since 1915.

### **Annual Report of the Women's Auxiliary Committee**

The first meeting was held in September to organize and make plans for the meetings for the winter. Fourteen members were present, and the underlying purpose of the program there suggested was to increase the interest in the aims of the Bergen County Historical Society, and by increasing that interest, gain more members and by these means accomplish some of the objects for which the Society was established. That we have succeeded, in at least one endeavor, is shown by our membership of nearly ninety members.

The October meeting was held at the home of the Chairman, Mrs. A. Z. Bogert. After a short business meeting the members motored to Camp Merritt, where they were met by Major-General Duncan and Major Landon, and by them were shown the camp with special interest in the site of the proposed memorial.

The November meeting was held in the rooms of the Society, and Mrs. Westervelt gave a most interesting talk on "Household Ways in Old Bergen County," illustrated by articles drawn from the wonderfully rich collection in the Museum of the Society.

The December meeting was omitted because of the many demands of the holiday season, but January was rich enough to compensate. Then was held an exhibit of china, glass and pottery of which the Society could be proud, and again our Curator shared with us her fund of knowledge regarding the choice collection. This exhibition remained open six weeks, during which time there was an average daily attendance of twenty-five people, and this during the days of storm and bad roads.

Owing to the unusual difficulties of transportation, the February meeting was very small, only four being present



The interest of the March meeting was given by the members, who contributed items of local historical interest.

In April the Auxiliary was given a rare treat, for Mrs. Mabon opened her house on Essex street to the members, and the old stone house with its treasures was thoroughly enjoyed and admired. From there the members were taken to the old Anderson house on Main street, where Miss Anderson showed the Auxiliary the same gracious hospitality and the members explored every corner of one of the interesting old houses of Bergen County.

Before closing this report, it seems but right to speak of the far-reaching influence that our Curator, Mrs. Westervelt is exerting in the thoughts of our school children in stimulating their interest and creating in them a reverence for the things of the past. Surely they will be better Americans for this charming way of studying the history of their county. One needs only to spend an afternoon in our Museum to realize how very real the interest is that will bring so many children to browse among its treasures.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. A. Z. BOGERT, Chairman.

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## **The Patriotic Duty of An Historical Association**

An Address made at the Annual Meeting, April 27, 1920, by Captain Arthur H. Brown, Senior Chaplain, 80th Division, A. E. F.

The invitation to speak to you met with my unhesitating acceptance. Possibly this was due to the pleasant recollections of a similar privilege which came to me three years ago. Then, too, the subject suggested was one that appealed to me very much, for whatever else my army experience did or failed to do for me, to this I can testify—it awakened an interest in such work as your society aims to accomplish.

After the armistice and before sailing for home, during that long interim when hope deferred made the heart sick, one of my duties as Division Chaplain was to issue a weekly historical bulletin, descriptive of places of interest which lay in the neighborhood of our training area.

It was my custom to sally forth, armed, not with a Baedeker but with an interpreter (my own French I am sorry to confess never matured), and to invade a town which promised to yield some treasure. My assault would be directed on the mayor, the schoolmaster or the village cure' as the likeliest sources of information. Generally, it was the old cure' who proved to be the best repository of local lore. Can one ever

forget or cease to admire those simple-hearted priests who, with the reverence which knowledge inspires and the love which long association breeds, would show me the cherished reliques of an older day?

What information their own rich memories failed to bring to light was generally available on the shelves of their libraries where books stood ranged, books which looked as though they outrivalled in age the neighboring church itself. Here, where everything fairly reeked with the past including our little snuff-loving, cassock-clad priest, he would adjust his glasses over the yellow page of some ancient volume and discover for my use the forgotten fact.

How delightful to me were those days of research, to me who used to be quite awed by the extreme antiquity of some of the Dutch houses in Bergen County! I got so that I would pass by with indifference a 16th Century church, even though built at a time when contemporary America was but a woodland wilderness. Why waste one's precious time with things so modern when there were plenty all about which could boast an age perhaps twice as great?

If you want to be made keenly aware of your own national youthfulness, poke around in one of those French villages. Our soldiers would be billeted in some unimpressive little town, out of the main current of life and events, and they would imagine that they were bringing to it, for the first time, name and fame; when, like as not, it antedated our entire American civilization by half a thousand years and their coming was only one more chapter in a long and glorious story.

The relative significance, from an historical point of view, between the old world and the new was well brought out by John Burns of England. He was conversing with two soldiers, one of our own men and a Canadian, as they stood together just outside the Parliament Buildings in London. Pointing to the Thames the American asked, "What's that, Mr. Burns?" "That," was his answer, "is the mighty Thames!" "Humph!" was the rejoinder, "Have you seen the Missouri River?" Then the Canadian spoke up: "Before you answer that tell me, Mr. Burns, if you have seen the St. Lawrence." "Yes," said John Burns quite undisturbed, "yes, I've seen both your rivers. Your St. Lawrence is just water. Your Missouri is only muddy water. But, gentlemen, this is liquid history!"

What interesting things I found as a reward for my search, almost within the limits, too, of one of our counties—the partially excavated ruins of a Gallo-Roman town; the tomb of St. Valentine, a 6th Century holy man, as well as the skull of that distinguished gentleman carefully preserved and an-

nally exposed to the reverend gaze of pilgrims; a Gothic church built in the era of the Crusades, four hundred years before the adventurous voyage of Columbus but still standing, opened-doored to the worshipper, though bearing all the marks of venerable age; a 14th Century feudal castle, a fine example of that sturdy form of architecture called Norman, majestic even in its decay. These are but a few of a host of things, remnants of an elder time, found in a secluded, unfrequented part of La Belle, France. Now you see why I share with you all the enthusiastic interest which you are taking in the traditions of this historic region.

But while speaking of the mere pleasure one derives from it, I realize that it is something more than a fascinating pastime, this delving into things dead and gone. Dead did I say? There is where we err. How foolish to suppose that the Past is something extinct and powerless! Why, the Past is a hand, strong and masterful, stretching through time and moulding that which is and that which is to be. The Past, in relation to the Present, is like a father who gives to his son so many of his qualities and characteristics that, when the former is no longer in the flesh and we see the boy, we justly say, "His father lives again in him." So far from yesterday being a thing without vitality, we may say that in many an instance the Present must become the Past before it makes its fullest impression, before we can begin to form any just estimate of its far-reaching and never-ending influence. Home and the dear folks who peopled it never meant so much nor affected us for good so greatly as when they took their place among the things that were. So with the War. During its progress conjectures were rife as to its meaning, its significance. But they were only conjectures. We knew not, nor do we now know, the implications of that struggle. The most we can say with certainty is that the face of the world has been changed forever and only eternity will reveal all that is involved in that bloody cataclysm which for four years convulsed the earth.

In that sense the Past is ever living and powerful, whether we will it or not. But in another sense, it lies within our ability and choice to make much that is in the Past dynamic or otherwise. Here lies the function, the patriotic duty, it seems to me, of an historical association. It should keep alive, by making it known, all that is best in the Past so that it may continue to carry on a ministry for good in the Present.

On a neglected shelf in the Bodleian Library at Oxford there lay for two centuries several volumes of closely written cipher. At last someone had the patience and the skill to unravel the mysterious code and in doing so discovered the now

famous diary of Pepys, a diary which pours a flood of light on the period of the Restoration in England and affords a wealth of entertainment to those who delight in reading of the ways and whims of other times. The antiquarian, to whom we owe the translation, was veritably resurrecting a portion of the Past.

What tremendous inspiration may be found in the Past, if we be bent on making the most of it! Early in the War Lord Kitchener died, but he did not cease to live. The North Sea swallowed up his gallant form, but England, who held him in her heart, decreed that his spirit should persist. A poet of our very own, Miss Amelia Burr of Englewood, wrote thus of him:

“Not the muffled drums for him  
Nor the wailing of the fife.  
Trumpets blaring to the charge  
Were the music of his life.  
Let the music of his death  
Be the feet of marching men.  
Let his heart a thousand-fold  
Take the field again.”

When Canada wanted fresh volunteers, she put out posters with those last two lines upon them—

“Let his heart a thousand-fold  
Take the field again.”

Those who understood the inspiration of his career and rallied in response to that appeal, constituted what in all justice was still called “Kitchener’s Army.” How admirably, too, this thought is illustrated from the annals of our own Civil War. John Brown was hung two years before the first shot was fired on Sunday, but what was the expressive song sung on the long tramp by weary men who needed every possible spur to keep them going?

“John Brown’s body lies a-moulding in the grave,  
But his soul goes marching on!”

How much of inspiration there may be in a great Past the returned soldier is especially well able to judge, for he has been in a land and among a people who could boast one. As I have intimated, France is saturated with the Past. On every hand, in old chateaux mellowed by the touch of centuries, in beautiful cathedrals wrapped in all the mystery of the Middle Ages other days looked down upon him and spoke of fine achievement. It stirred him mightily to find himself walking the very

highways which once beat to the tread of Caesar's own legions or to be housed in barracks as at Pontanezen, the very barracks which were once peopled with the brave soldiers of Napoleon, that "little corporal" who for the sake of a great name knocked half the world to pieces. In almost every church in France there stood a statue of Joan of Arc, clad in armor and upholding the banner of her country. Well did we express in song the spiritual significance of it all—

"Joan of Arc! Joan of Arc!  
 May your spirit guide us through,  
 Lead your France to victory,  
 Joan of Arc! They are calling you."

Inevitably thoughts like these bring to my mind those words from Scripture:

"Seeing we are compassed about by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

Do you remember how Gibbon came to write the *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*? The idea first started in his mind while on a visit to the Eternal City. To use his own classic words, it was "in the close of the evening, as I sat musing in the church of the \* \* \* Franciscan Friars, while they were singing Vespers in the Temple of Jupiter, on the ruins of the Capitol." Inspiration enough for a task even so tremendous as that which Gibbon undertook!

Here lies the justification for the Bergen County Historical Society in this region so rich, considering the brevity of its years, in that which ought to make men proud: the justification, too, of that splendid proposal to mark by fitting monument the site of Camp Merritt, through which so many of our fighting host passed on their way to a war magnificently waged. Not that we can honor these men by tablet of bronze or monument of stone! Their own deeds are their sufficient praise. But in commemorating them we benefit ourselves, in drinking from the wells of memory and admiration we gather strength to uphold the blazing torch they lit and continue the fight which, we pray God, may ultimately mean a new earth, as well as a new heaven, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

But while there is inspiration in the Past, there is also peril to which we must not blind our eyes. There are things in the Past which we have laboriously kept alive but which ought to have been left to die a natural death. It is like a patient whose heart-action is sustained by artificial means. One couldn't help but feel that in certain ways the Past was too much with them on the other side. How provoking it was to see people jog on

contentedly behind some outworn tradition, some age-old custom which, if brought to the trial of reason, could not justify itself.

This is illustrated by an incident that happened in a village where some Americans were billeted. The mayor requested that in case of fire the soldiers should assist in manning hose and pump. To this the colonel readily agreed; even went so far as to appoint a special detail for the purpose. The lieutenant in command thought a little practice would be a wise precaution. But the mayor would not listen to the idea. "We cannot allow that," he said in ill-concealed astonishment at the absurdity of the request. "We cannot allow that. The hose hasn't been used for twenty years. It is old and rotten, and if you go to fooling with it, might burst."

The peril of the Past is that one may anchor to it rather than draw incentive from it. Some people seem intent on making the Past a goal rather than a point of departure. They have an inordinate reverence for mere age. They worship the God of Things as They Were, and the liturgy of their worship is "What was, should be now and ought ever to be." Deliver me from such blind devotion! Ralph Adams Cram may dilate on the glories of the 13th Century and we find ourselves in hearty accord with much he says, but when he paints it as a sort of Golden Age and laments the decadence of these modern times, we part company. The truth is that we have cast the veil of romantic imagination over some of those Mediaeval towns. They were as picturesque and interesting as I have hinted, but if, with our modern tastes, we were transplanted, like the Yankee in King Arthur's Court, into the long ago, we would probably refuse to live in them. They have "a glory from their being far." Hopeless dirt, incredible stench, want of drainage, scanty light, accumulated garbage—ah, yes, I think I may safely say that the old haunts of chivalry and love would have been quite intolerable to the modern American who expects his daily bath and an ample amount of fresh air. He would have pined for these degenerate times.

The degree to which imagination enters into our conception of the Past is suggested by a story of Archbishop Whately's. An antiquarian found what he supposed was an ancient shield. He prized it highly, incrustated as it was with venerable dust. He loved to muse on the splendid appearance it must have had in its bright newness; till, one day, an over-sedulous house-maid having scoured off the rust, it turned out to be merely an old pot-lid.

Now I think it is the duty of an historical association to revive the Past in so far as it deserves revival and then to use the

remaining material of its find to emphasize and praise the advances which we have made on times gone by, remembering ever that "to live is to outlive." Unless we want to be classed with the "have beens," we must keep our minds in a healthy state of hospitality toward the new, interesting ourselves as a society, not only in history that has been made, but also in history that is being made.

We were never so open-minded as during the War. This was doubtless due to the enormous scale on which the fight was conducted. Precedents had to be abandoned. Old ways of doing things would not suffice. We were compelled to blaze new trails through virgin forests. The War also made us critical of what was old. A vast judgment seat was set up in the world before which governments and institutions, men and gods, were brought to trial. Our most cherished convictions were subjected to searching examination. The rooted habits of a lifetime had to justify themselves or go in the discard. We were all saying that a brighter future was being forged on the dark anvil of the present. But with the armistice a re-action set in and it has been spreading ever since, so that the peril is that we will fail to reap the full harvest of benefit from a war successfully waged. In our recoil from the extravagant ideas of radicals, we give every evidence of playing into the hands of stand-patters, who hate disturbance even as they love their incomes. Apparently, they would like to have the greatest disaster which ever befell the world, a disaster which can be traced to very evident and remediable wrongs,—they would have such a disaster come and go with no result save the death of ten million robust men and certain commercial advantages accruing to the United States.

There is a type of mind which such can influence, and they are doing so by every possible means—those who deprecate change, the kind who at every new proposition only entrench themselves the more strongly in the old position, saying "What is new isn't true." They forget that the progress of the race has come only by the breaking of precedent and that every thought, every custom, every method which we honor today was once brand new without an antecedent to sustain it. "There is nothing new under the sun" is a saying often on their lips. They overlook the fact that it was uttered by the arch-pessimist of the Bible and that after his day even Christ Himself came. The writer of Ecclesiastes must have been the spiritual ancestor of a certain man who in 1832 resigned his position in the Patent Office. The reason he gave was that he felt sure everything had been invented that was ever going to be, that the Patent Office would soon have to close, and that he had best

forestall the inevitable by looking elsewhere for employment. That was in 1832!

Of course, extremists on the other side are just as bad, the men who like to affect what is new, very often too when its newness is its chief charm and sometimes its only recommendation. They are men who have no loyalties to the Past, but who, like the fickle weather-vane, follow the shifting impulses of the moment. No finer word has been uttered here this evening than that which told of work done by this Society among the children of foreign parents. To initiate them into the greatness of our national past, to acquaint them with those things which stir the soul to patriotic pride, to reveal to them the roots from whence sprang all that is best in American life, is both a safe-guard for us and a God-send to them.

In this day of clamant voices, some crying "Halt!" and others, "Double-quick, March!" the member of an historical society ought, it seems to me, to occupy a middle position, a kind of Golden Mean. He should be a man who honors the Past, gratefully seeks, accepts and employs all of good it has to yield him. He does not speak and act as if no one, before he appeared, had ever lived or thought. He understands that, were it not for the Past, we would have to start afresh speechless savages in the forest. He appreciates the fact that the day of some things is past, forever past, like empty sea-shells, whose work of protection is done; very curious, very picturesque, very interesting, it may be, but no longer useful. He is not blind to the fact that the Past made its mistakes, that it left a few problems for the Future to solve. Therefore he is not a slave of precedent; he does not make a fetish of the Past. He is hospitable to change, orderly change. He is open-minded toward tomorrow. He knows by the experience of the Past that the fanaticism of today will be the fashionable creed of tomorrow. He perceives that there are "new and gigantic thoughts in the air which cannot dress themselves in the old wardrobe of the past." He is, therefore, willing, if necessary, to make a "hazard of new fortunes." With reverence for the Past with greater reverence for the Future, assured that Truth hath shown him but half her face and that beyond and above still tower the vast heights of unattained possibility, he presses on with Lowell's magnificent lines upon his lips—

"New occasions teach new duties;  
Time makes ancient good uncouth;  
They must upward still, and onward,  
Who would keep abreast of Truth;  
Lo, before us gleam her camp-fires!  
We ourselves must Pilgrims be,



Launch our Mayflower, and steer boldly  
 Through the desperate winter's sea,  
 Nor attempt the Future's portal  
 With the Past's blood-rusted key."

## The Nation: What It Is—What It Costs

Address by Lieut. Col. E. W. Halford, Leonia, N. J.,

July 4, 1916

### Unveiling of Washington Commemorative Tablet—Passage of Revolutionary Troops from Fort Lee through Leonia to Hackensack and Trenton

The commemoration of a retreat may be regarded as somewhat anomalous. Monuments are usually raised to victories, and tablets mark the path of advance. As the eye of memory looks toward yonder hillside, and follows the line to and beyond where we now meet, it is to see a small company of men, not with bands playing and banners flying in the blatancy of triumph; but marching in grim silence, without confusion it is true, yet equally without the elation of success. But November 20, 1776, was a necessary day in the calendar of events which, beginning with the preceding 4th of July, ended at Yorktown, and fruited in the founding of a nation and a government, now the greatest, and potentially the mightiest, among all the nations and governments of the world.

Retreat is not always disaster. Xenophon won immortality through retreat; and it is of interest to us in New Jersey, at least, to recall that it was his work within the borders of this state—those masterly maneuvers of which this retreat was a part—that gave to Washington an international reputation as a soldier, calling forth from Frederick the Great of Prussia, the comment that "these strategies had never been excelled in all the annals of war."

#### I. THE NATION.

This tablet here unveiled and speaking of but one incident and that comparatively minor, would be measurably meaningless were it not intended as the expression, for ourselves and for posterity, of the soul and spirit of the nation it connotes. As Jerseyites we may well and worthily engage in these exercises; for New Jersey has an honorable record in connection with the entire struggle. Before the Declaration was made its people deposed from the speakership of the State Assembly Robert Ogden, because he failed to unite with them in memorial and protest to the King and Parliament of Great Britain against the wrongs from which they suffered, and it was the third state to ratify and to adopt the constitution of the new nation.

while within its borders were fought some of the most decisive struggles of the Revolution.

A nation, with all the word implies, was created by the Fathers. There were those in the early days and have been all along our history, as there are some yet, who affect to believe that it was an isolate, self-contained and self-satisfied community that was then formed. Within the last ninety days I read in a leading editorial printed in one of the most prominent daily newspapers of the country this choice morsel:

"God swung his deep and stormy Atlantic seas between Europe and America. We would not suffer materially or otherwise if those seas were never crossed by a British, a German, or an American keel, for we are sufficient unto ourselves in every way."—Los Angeles Times, April 3.

These have ignorantly if not wilfully misinterpreted Washington's wise warning against "Permanent political alliances" with other nations, and have assumed that the Father of his country believed that the Nation he assisted into being should and could have a reserved and restricted life; a life with privileges to be sure, but without responsibilities. They have not read history wisely nor well.

On the 7th of June, 1776, on motion of Richard Henry Lee, the Continental Congress adopted a resolution declaring it to be "expedient forthwith to take the most effective measures for forming foreign alliances." Twelve colonies voted for this resolution, New York alone abstaining from voting, and a committee was at once appointed upon "relations with foreign powers." The Declaration of July 4 proclaimed the purpose of the Colonies to be "to assume among the powers of the earth that separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitled them." Third in the catalogue enumerating powers belonging to such a nation, was "to contract alliances"; and on July 6, 1778, "A treaty of alliance and commerce" was formed with France, soon followed by others of a like nature with other governments.

The Constitution of the United States, adopted September 17, 1787, provided that Congress should have "power to regulate commerce with other nations," and that the President should, "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, make treaties," without qualification as to their terms, so that they be within the scope of universally-accepted national sovereignty. This constitution was signed by George Washington as President of the Convention which framed it. Washington had no belittling idea of the power or purpose of this Nation, and he cannot be quoted against the fullest and largest function of our National life.

The United States is a world power, a member of the family of Nations, with full international relationship and responsibility. It cannot exist for itself. It cannot stand aside from the development of civilized society throughout the whole earth.

## II. WHAT THE NATION IS.

This Nation has its own genius. Fifty-three years ago, on the greatest battlefield of the civil war, Abraham Lincoln said: "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. We are now in a struggle to test whether that nation or any nation so conceived and dedicated can long endure." One hundred and forty years is not much of a period in the life of a nation. Two lives such as mine carry us to a point six years prior to the Declaration and to nineteen years before the government eventuating the reform was formally inaugurated. Other nations have lasted through many centuries, if not milleniums. The testing time to which Mr. Lincoln alluded is still on. We speak of "Independence Day." Except in a restricted sense the term is a misnomer; an infirmity of language. In the large sense no person or no nation is independent: The thoughtless use of the word tends to breed arrogance and selfishness. The only "independent" condition is the condition of irresponsibility. The moment a man or a nation comes to himself or itself, there is established that "interdependence" which is the law of all sentient and responsible life. In one way or another the United States must be at charges with the other nations of the earth. We shall be forced to enter into their fellowship, even the fellowship of their sufferings, and to an increasing degree as the distances of the world grow smaller and the fellowship of man becomes more instant and constant.

The principle to which this Nation is dedicated is the equality of all men—the universal Democracy of Humanity—"All men," as used in the Declaration, means *all* men. It means democracy and freedom for the Mexican as well as for the American, for the black as well as for the white; for far Cathay as well as for Europe or the United States. We stand for that supreme and conquering principle of universal democracy in which "none shall dominate but all shall share"; a principle essential and applicable to all life—political, social, economic, mental, moral, spiritual. It is one world, one humanity, one law, one destiny. This may prove a difficult lesson to learn, and an unpleasant theorem upon which either to make or to

interpret history or to regulate conduct. But it is eternally true and eternally inescapable.

Upon this principle this Nation is dedicated to Peace. Said President Harrison, "Our people are smitten with the love of peace." That is the prophylaxis in our essential nature which will save us from developing the desire for war, despite the efforts of a few to inoculate the country with the virus now eating out the vitals of outworn autocracies. The spirit of war is the spirit of conquest. That spirit is hateful to us, and alien to our birthright. We will have none of it. With unerring instinct there is chiseled on the face of the monument of our greatest military chieftain, "Let us have peace." Washington wrote: "I am led to reflect how much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth than all the vain glory which can be acquired from ravaging it by the most uninterrupted career of conquest." America is committed to development, not to destruction; to order, not to chaos; to the inalienable rights of all men everywhere to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We make uncompromising battle against whatever stands in the way of these things, whether at home or abroad. To bring to perfection these fruits of a normal life there must be peace within our own borders, and elsewhere—a peace to be secured and maintained at whatever cost. We stand ready for, and responsive to, the call of duty toward the peoples and the nations of the earth in the constitution of international agencies for the determination, the enforcement and the maintenance of those rights and privileges which make for justice and righteousness—the only stable foundations of the peace we desire and will have, not for ourselves only, but for all mankind.

### III. WHAT IT COSTS.

Nothing is so costly as all this, for these are of the spirit of a man and of a Nation. In the garden of the spirit the finest fruits ripen on the higher branches. "Freedom in its deepest and broadest sense is never a bequest; it must be a conquest." And it is always of the Soul. Said Daniel Webster: "Be it remembered that it was a thinking community that achieved our revolution before it was fought." The minds of men are the first battlefields, and conscience is the arena in which issues are met and fought out to wise or base conclusion. Much has been said of one or other infallibility—infallibility of popes, of churches, of authority, or of custom. There is but one infallibility—the human conscience, which Shakespeare called "This deity in my bosom." Quoting Washington again: "Labor to keep alive in you that little spark of celestial fire called conscience." Unless men shall keep their minds their

own, and back their untrammled judgment, reached through an educated, intelligent and sane conscience, with a will that leads them to the end no matter what may be involved, their enslavement is but a question of time and of occasion. All that is worth while in human history has been worked out through a science knowing no unworthy compromise of principle, and a spirit ever open to the influences of a virtue untainted by selfishness and unweakened by fear.

“Yet still there whispers the small voice within :  
 Heard through gain’s silence and o’er glory’s din,  
 Whatever creed be taught, or land be trod,  
 Man’s conscience is the oracle of God.”

In 1761 James Otis cried out before the Supreme Court of Massachusetts: “To my dying day I will oppose with all the powers and faculties God has given me such instruments of slavery on the one hand and villany on the other”—referring to entry and search of a man’s house without authority of law. Speaking of this protest by Otis, John Adams said: “Then and there was the first act of opposition to the arbitrary claims of Great Britain—Then and there the child Independence was born.”

The protestant conscience is the father of freedom: The protestant conscience must be sacredly guarded as the final bulwark of liberty. John Hampden declining to pay the ship tax, and going to jail rather than obey an unrighteous law enacted by tyranny: Abraham Lincoln resisting through an entire night the advice of weaker-minded men who preferred to walk in dalliance with opportunism, saying to them, “I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true”—and in the morning uttering the debated words that doubtless contributed to the defeat of his political advancement for the time, but which in the near future proved the golden stairs upon which he climbed the heights, to become

“On freedom’s crowning slope  
 The pillar of a people’s hope,  
 The center of a world’s desire” :—

William E. Gladstone saying to his opponents in the British parliament in the debate upon the extension of the ballot—  
 “The great moral forces which move onward in their might and majesty, and which the tumult of our debate does not for a moment impede and disturb—these great forces are against you” :—

The protestant conscience that will say with Tennyson—

“Because right is right,  
To follow right were wisdom in scorn of consequence.”

this is to be cultivated and maintained at every hazard. Men still stone the prophets; yet in after ages the stones become their monuments.

But let those who assume to be prophets and teachers be careful of their title. An inflamed conscience is not necessarily a reliable guide, and protestantism may be only a name for narrow prejudice. The spirits which voice themselves to man's conscience must be tried and can be tried, and are to be accepted or rejected according to their reactions. One safe and sure test is of their harmony with the soul of, and their contribution to, the development of a stable democracy.

There must as well be a corporate conscience. There are other agents and responsible units than individuals through which life is functioned and the work of the world carried forward. The corporate conscience can only be born out of and developed from the individuals who compose the corporation—social, economic, civic, religious. An individual can no longer hide behind corporate impersonality for either action or non-action that would be culpable or cowardly in himself. The old legal lie that “corporations have no souls,” in the sense that its members are thereby immune from responsibility for corporate misconduct, has been driven into exile by the social forces of these later days. Guilt is not only personal: but responsibility for corporate guilt is personal. Whether of a family, or of a firm, or of a corporation business or political—each of us is held for the acts of those to whom he relates himself: sometimes and in some ways more directly perhaps than at others: but in the last analysis responsibility inevitably accrues, and penalties for action or inaction are remorselessly levied and executed.

This corporate conscience must be quickened and kept protestant against social and political unrighteousness. We are our brother's keepers, and wrongs unjustly inflicted or allowed cry from the ground until avenged and righted. Said Mr. Lincoln in the dark days of our great civil conflict: “Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that the mighty scourge of war may soon pass away. Yet if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn by the lash shall be paid for by another drawn by the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still must it be said, ‘The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.’” These words are as vital now as when they were first uttered. They measure the demand that will be made upon

America by reason of its trusteeship for humanity, as they indicate the peril and penalty of ignoble betrayal.

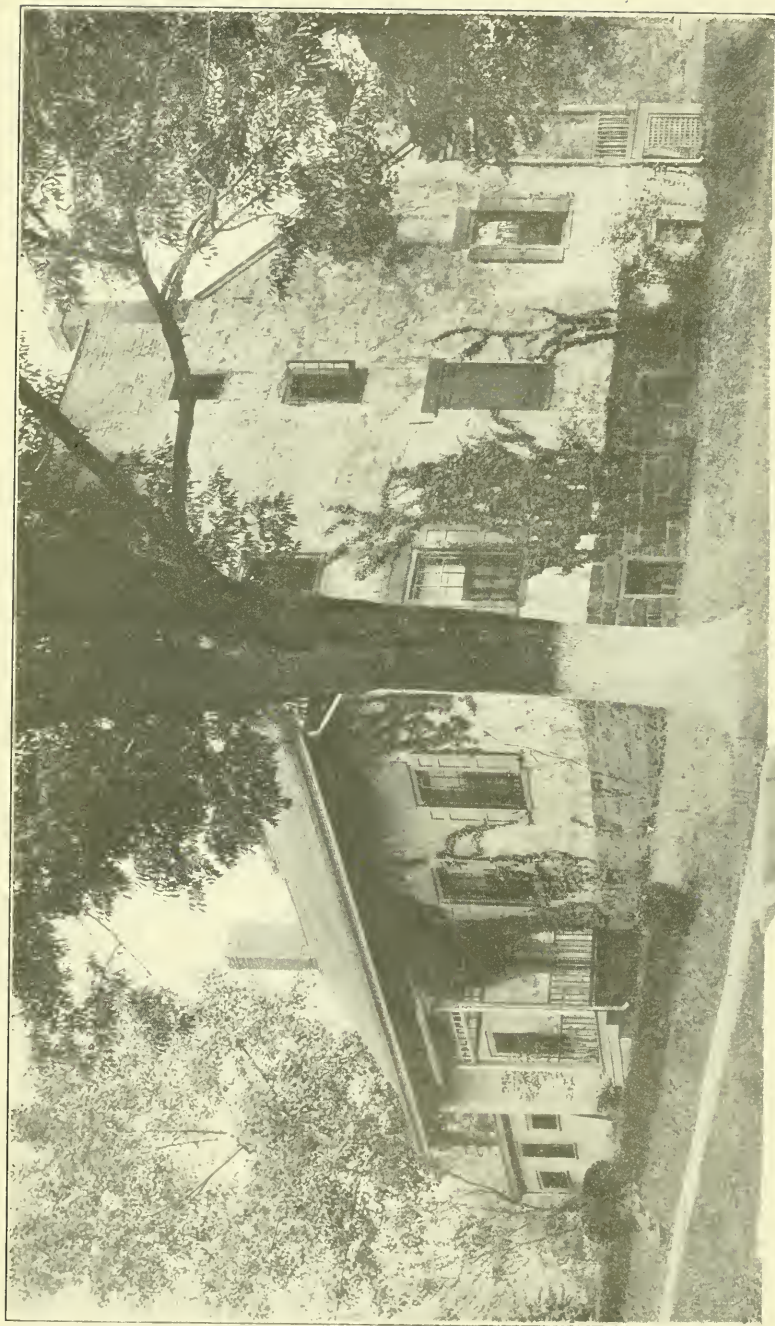
Non-conformity is seldom easy, unless when made a virtue in itself to minister to vain self-complacency. Ease lies along the path of least resistance. But non-conformity is the atmosphere of freedom. The tendency in all organization is toward crystallization, institutionalism, in which is ever lurking the danger of tyranny, caste and hierarchy. Dissent is the necessity of democracy: a dissent founded in conscience, guided and restrained by wisdom, but without fear. In the degree this spirit of non-conformity be absent from, or is lost to individuals, to society, to the state, to the church, there ensues a like measure of arrested development, of decay, of tyranny, or oligarchy.

If this government, acclaimed today not only in this land, but wherever its influence and its hope have extended and penetrated human society, is to be preserved, it must remain "a government of the people, for the people, and by the people." Virtue and morality must ever be the twin pillars upon which it shall stand, these pillars firmly fixed upon the only foundation strong enough to bear them and their superstructure. There is a constant disposition to belittle and to cast aside the authority of religion; not the form of its expression, about which men may justly differ; but the spirit of religion, which is essential to life. Washington cautioned his fellow-citizens against the folly of indulging the hope that free government could exist except through virtue and morality, and he warned them that these traits could only be maintained through religion. Writing to his wife on the 3rd of July, 1776, John Adams said of the day upon which the question of the Declaration was determined, that the day "ought to be commemorated from this time forward forever, from one end of the continent to the other, by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God, as well as with guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations."

Fundamentally the American spirit is deeply religious. When Columbus discovered America the first thing he did was to dedicate it to Almighty God in the name of the King of Spain. When the Pilgrim Fathers landed on our shores, they praised God for bringing them to a new world where they could enjoy civic and religious freedom. And during the years of the Revolution the Continental Army as well as the colonists generally, besought the Almighty to help them in their struggle for freedom. John Adams gives a very graphic picture of a remarkable scene—the first prayer ever offered in Congress. The chaplain—an Episcopal minister—invoked the Divine blessing and guidance upon their proceedings. Patrick Henry, Samuel







THE COLE HOUSE.

English Neighborhood Road.



THE VREELAND HOUSE.  
English Neighborhood Road.



OLD BRINKERHOFF HOUSE

Near Demarest's on Teaneck Road, not far from N. Y. trolley track. One of the finest specimens now standing. Dormer windows were added a few years ago.



THE SMITH OR McMICHAEL HOUSE.

English Neighborhood Road.

Adams, Randolph, Rutledge, Lee and Jay were among those who stood with bowed and uncovered heads, but Washington sank upon his knees. In this way did the first Congress acknowledge their dependence upon God, and one of their acts was to proclaim a fast day on which they called "the inhabitants of all the English colonies on this continent to humiliation, fasting and prayer, that the Almighty, the most merciful Governor of the world, would hear the voice of His people, redeem them from all their iniquities, grant an answer of peace, and convince their enemies of their mistaken measures, and of their injurious and vain attempts to deprive them and unborn millions of that inestimable heavenly gift of Freedom and Liberty."

When Washington was inaugurated in New York as our first President, he first repaired to St. Paul's church where religious services were held, and then went to the spot on Wall street where the civic ceremonies took place. On the centennial of that event it was my fortune to attend the then President of the United States as he followed the example of his illustrious predecessor. Again have I gone down to the old church, and sat in the pew in which Washington thus attested his sense of ultimate dependence both for himself and for the Nation, and thought of the lesson his act would convey.

A free government must be a righteous government. Such a government means equal opportunities for all and special privileges for none. It means just laws, equitably enforced. It means halls of legislation, and temples of justice, and offices of administration free from favoritism, from selfishness, from the suspicion of bribery in any guise—free of anything and everything that would corrupt or impede the flow of righteous life through these arteries of our national being.

The citizenship of America must recognize that "the State is organized for society and that its ordering is holy; it is not enough to make politics clean: they must be made sacrificial and redemptive." The permanence of free government means that business and society must have a regenerate spirit. "When men go out to the day's task they must go in the divine temper. When they commit themselves to citizenship they commit themselves to things sacramental, and when they walk the ways of fellowship they walk them as Sons of God."

No apology is offered or needed for the serious disposition in which this address is conceived. The honor and privilege of speaking upon this occasion have not been lightly esteemed. There has purposely been no direct reference to the immediate unusual conditions either in our own country or abroad: conditions that must sober the mind and temper the spirit of every thoughtful man and woman. No assembly of people could

come together this day without realizing that the whole world is brought face to face with the fundamentals of life.

We believe this Nation was conceived and brought forth for high service: to render that service, either for our own or for the world's weal, both people and Nation must be made worthy to serve. One of the foremost of Europe's writers recently wrote:

"The underlying watchword of the preparedness issue which is sweeping the United States, is the idea that the power of America should be used to deliver humanity from the toils in which it has been enmeshed by the past; that it should be the weapon of a new dispensation, and that the affairs of men shall henceforth be subject to the arbitrament, not of force, but of justice. The sword which America is forging will be used not to make war, but to make war on war, and to lay the foundation of world security."—London Daily News.

It is "sweet and proper to die for one's country," but Montalembert, the great Frenchman, added the higher and more important half to that truth, when he wrote "to die for one's country is fine, but to live for one's country is better."

Properly do we glory in the greatness of this nation. Napoleon said, "Great is he who uses his greatness for all." Such is America's commitment. "It is a high day in the human story when a great principle reaches its hour." This is the hour for the apotheosis of the principle of service. No matter what labor or what sacrifice devotion to this principle may entail, in the words of the great charter of our freedom, to this commitment "We pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

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### "OLD DAYS IN LEONIA."

Robert Hill Greene.

June 14, 1920.

As a self-governed community Leonia is a comparatively young municipality, being but little over 25 years old. Her ancestry can, however, be traced not only through generations of men but through divisions of territory back to the earliest settlements on Manhattan Island and the Jersey Provinces:

Her generations may be paraphrased as follows: Leonia was set off from the township of Ridgefield, that was set off from the township of Hackensack, that was one of the original divisions of the Province.

The old township of Hackensack has no connections with the village of that name except that the ancient township and the modern village, one lying on the eastern shore and the other

on the western, both received their names from the river that for uncounted years was the highway of the Indians.

In the year 1682 the Province of East Jersey was divided into four counties: Bergen, one of these four, comprised the strip of land lying between the Hudson and the Hackensack rivers and extending north to the boundary of the province.

The old township of Bergen had been constituted in 1658 and comprised the southern part of this strip as far north as the present boundary of Hudson County.

In accordance with an act passed in 1693 the remainder of the county was comprised in the township of Hackensack.

In 1709 the boundaries of Bergen County were changed and Hackensack village, which up to that time had been in Essex County, became the county seat of Bergen.

In 1668 Samuel Edsall, a prominent man in New Amsterdam, purchased 1,872 acres in the southerly part of Hackensack township. This land extended from the Hudson river to the Overpeck creek and the northerly boundary was within the present confines of Leonia, probably at Park avenue. Apparently Edsall settled on this property immediately, as much is said of his constructive work and of his prominence in local affairs.

The purchase of this land had an important bearing on the future life of the community as it established an English settlement among the Dutch along the Hackensack river.

This section became known as the English Neighborhood, and in some old records the Overpeck creek, or Overpeck's creek, is referred to as the English creek.

The bounds of the English Neighborhood are indefinite, but from old maps and records it is evident that it extended along the eastern side of Overpeck creek from as far south as Fairview, through Leonia to Englewood.

In the records of the Governor and Council of East Jersey for the year 1684 we find reference to the Indian ownership of the land in this section as follows: "The petition of Casper and Alattys Jansen, setting forth that about seven years since (1677) the petitioners obtained by gift from Indians a parcel of land lying at Hackensack, on the North side of the Creek, etc."

From the 1715 Book of Records, Freeholders and Justices, we find an entry which throws light on other inhabitants of field and forest and that helps one to form a mental picture of conditions existing at that time. "Ordered that there be raised the sum of ten pounds proclamation money for defraying the charges of killing wolves, panthers and red foxes for the ensuing year."

Among the early settlers within a radius of a few miles of

the present boundaries of Leonia may be mentioned Hendrick Jorisen Brinkerhoff. In 1865 he purchased land on the east bank of the Hackensack river and the old homestead built soon after is still standing.

Hendrick Brinkerhoff was the ancestor of Cornelius Christie on his mother's side, and many other descendants are living here and in adjoining boroughs.

Derick Vreeland obtained by royal grant a tract of land extending from the Hudson River to the Overpeck creek. It included all of the northern part of the borough to as far south as Christie Heights.

In the year 1784 Vreeland was taxed for 250 acres of improved land. As indicating the relative size of this tract, it is interesting to note that only six men in Hackensack township were taxed for an equal or greater amount.

The first house on the Vreeland grant stood about 100 feet southeast of the residence of Thomas B. Freas on Hillcrest avenue. This house was destroyed by fire and another was built a little to the northwest.

Not far from the year 1800 a more commodious house was erected on the east side of Grand avenue and north of Lakeview. This is considered one of the best examples of the later Dutch Colonial period and should be studied by those interested in architecture. Amar Embury devotes several pages of text and illustration to its description in his book on "The Dutch Colonial House."

The English Neighborhood, made up as it was of Dutch and English settlers, was the scene of trying times prior to and during the Revolutionary War. Sentiment was divided from the first and as time went on and the British troops appeared, many who had been quiescent openly allied themselves with the invading army and in some cases became the leaders of marauding bands. The English Neighborhood road was the only thoroughfare leading northward to Closter Landing and was therefore of considerable military importance. Several times this section was laid waste by those who came up from New York through Bergen.

One of the most tragic of these raids occurred at Closter on May 10, 1779, when men were carried away, women abused and buildings burned. The record ends with these words: "They (the marauders) were of Buskirk's corps, some of our Closter and old Tappan neighbors."

An interesting episode has been brought to light in some unpublished papers of Cornelius Christie, as follows: "Sam Cole was one of those who proved false to the patriotic cause—a refugee. After the war had commenced and when the

country was ravaged by tories and the British troops, he revealed his true character by a deed which rendered him deservedly infamous. He went to his neighbors, who were in great fear for their cattle, and induced them to surrender them all in his power, he representing that he would enclose a piece of land on his place in a retired spot where they all might be kept entirely safe. They confided in his sincerity. But he had no sooner secured the cattle in this lot than he posted directly to the tories and furnished them with all information necessary to carry off this rich booty."

Mr. Christie goes on to say that the country became too hot for Cole and that he went to Nova Scotia. He came back after the war was over and had hardly landed from the boat that brought him down the Hudson when he met one of his old neighbors who proceeded to lash him with a rope's end. Soon after he was treated to rotten eggs, but even this reception did not deter him from returning to live in his old home on the English Neighborhood road, although he was never permitted to vote. Descendants of Sam Cole continued to occupy the house for many years. After changing owners several times it was recently purchased by the artist, Rutherford Boyd. Under his treatment it will become one of the most interesting places in the borough.

Leonia is rich in association with the struggle for independence, and it is unfortunate that so little attention has been paid to preserving records and relics that would be of inestimable value. Old Fort Lee stood near her eastern border. A camp of French soldiers was located near what is now Oak Tree place, and judging by relics found it is evident that at some time a body of British troops were encamped near the present location of the Methodist church on Woodridge place.

When Washington's troops evacuated Fort Lee in the early morning of November 20, 1776, they came down the western slope of the Palisades, some veering to the south toward Little Ferry but the majority bearing to the north to make the crossing of the Hackensack river at New Bridge. Whether they followed what is now Central avenue to its junction with Grand avenue and thence northward to the Liberty Pole Tavern, or deserted the road for the shorter cut across the fields, is a point that is open for discussion.

It is said that some crossed the creek at an old grist mill located near the present dye works just north of the Leonia boundary line. This was a tide mill and was probably owned by John or Michael Moore.

To commemorate the fact that the troops passed through Leonia the Men's Neighborhood Club erected a memorial



tablet and presented it to the borough on July 4, 1915. The presentation address by Dr. George Heber Jones, president of the club, was published in the Papers and Proceedings of the Bergen County Historical Society for that year, while extracts from the oration delivered by Col. E. M. Halford at the time are published in the present volume.

This tablet was designed by the well known sculptor, Mahonri Young, a member of Leonia's art colony. The sandstone slab on which the tablet is mounted was probably pressed by the feet of many of the men in Washington's army as it was the door step of the old Moore homestead where the troops received aid.

This house stood on the high ground west of Wood's Terrace and about two hundred feet north of Woodridge place. It was approached by a lane running north from Central avenue and located just west of the residence of ex-Mayor R. J. G. Wood.

The Moore house, like most of those of that period, was built of sandstone gathered from the adjacent fields. It was one-story high, faced the south and had an ell on the east end. Near the house were the slave quarters. The family, including slaves, numbered 23 persons.

As the Continental troops came down the hill after the evacuation of Fort Lee, they stopped at this house for provisions and were given what could be spared. A little later the British carried away practically all the live stock and all of the slaves.

In a day or two one of the slaves returned but died in a short time from exposure and fright.

Previous to the war (1771-1775-1776) Thomas Moore was a Justice holding his appointment under King George, and as he was loyal to the American cause he was arrested and was at this time confined in the Old Sugar House prison in New York, where he died either of starvation or by poison. At the same time his brother was in New York in the service of the King and undoubtedly knew of Thomas's condition.

An interesting chapter in the religious history of Hackensack township also centers in Leonia. There were two churches in Bergen County, one at Bergen Hill, and the other at Hackensack Village called the "Church on the Green." Many of the settlers from the English Neighborhood attended the latter place of worship, but in 1768 steps were taken toward the erection of a Dutch Reformed Church east of the Overpeck creek.

From an old record dated November 18th of that year we learn that Thomas Moore gave an acre of ground for that purpose and that the work of building had been started.

The trustees were Abraham Montany, Stephen Boardette, John Day, Michael Moore, Thomas Moore and John Moore. Garrett Lydecker was ordained and installed as the pastor in the year 1770. There were at that time 19 members.

It would be interesting to know intimately the group of men and women who formed this, the first organized society in the present confines of the borough. Besides the six trustees, the members were: Samuel Moore, John Lashier, David Day, Edward Bylestead, John Cahy and "nine females". Of the Trustees, Thomas Moore is already known to the reader. Stephen Bourdette was part owner in a royal grant of land that comprised a large part of what is now Weehawken and Hoboken. He also owned 400 acres in what is now Fort Lee village and his house was not far from the present location of the Fort Lee Monument.

Abraham Montany (or Montanye) was also a large land owner and during the war suffered the destruction of much property. According to an old inventory, his losses amounted to 275£-5s-0p.

John Moore is mentioned in the tax lists of 1783 as owning, besides land and cattle, two grist mills and a "riding chair", this being the name by which a chaise was then known. They were uncommon at that time, only three being mentioned in the tax lists for Hackensack township in the year 1784.

John Day was taxed for 150 acres and live stock. It is said on good authority that a man by the name of Day kept a hotel here at that time but apparently there is no record of his first name. There is an old record however which states that Mary Day was a tavern keeper and the two taken together would seem to prove that Leonia was the site of one of the early taverns of this section.

All seemed to go well with the new organization for a few years, but here again the love of king as against the love of country wrecked the congregation.

The Reverend Garrett Lydecker went with the Tories, taking with him most of the church records. He remained in New York for a time officiating in the Dutch church and then went to England. In the list of confiscated estates in Bergen County appears the following: "Garrett Lydecker, township of Hackensack, 180 acres and tenements". While there is nothing to prove that this record refers to the tory pastor, it evidently relates to him or to some of his relatives. Other members of the Lydecker (or Lyndecker) family were very loyal, and it is said that they brought back all of the property confiscated during the war.

For sixteen years the church was without a minister, when

the Reverend John Cornelison was installed as pastor of this church and of the one at Bergen—one-third of his time was spent in the English Neighborhood. During this time, Thomas Moore had died in prison and title to the land on which the church stood had passed to Michael Moore.

In 1793 a new church at Ridgefield was built but before work on it was started a notice was issued stating "That Catharine, widow of Michael Moore, deceased, and Michael, Jacob and Samuel Moore, his sons, gave full power to the elders and deacons for building up or pulling down or removing the (old) church without any molestation from them or any person claiming under them."

Nothing is recorded of the condition of the building, but the elders and deacons stated that they "had long seen the necessity of having a place of public worship, having by consent and it also appearing to be their right, thought most beneficial to the said congregation to pull down the old church, and have laid a plan to build and erect a new one in a more proper place."

According to one tradition the old building was used as a barrack for the Hessian soldiers and the interior practically ruined; according to another tradition it was burned by marauders. Whether the church was partially destroyed by fire or was used as a barrack is at present a matter of conjecture, but the fact remains that it stood idle for several years after the political and social storms had subsided.

As the normal life of a building of that period was greater than at present, it is not at all likely that a new church would have been erected had not the old one been mutilated in some way.

No description of the life of the English Neighborhood can be complete without some mention of slavery. Just how many slaves were kept here cannot be told, but it is safe to say that the percentage was as great as in other parts of Hackensack township. In the year 1784 nearly 25% of the population of the entire township were slaves. In 1800 there were 2,825 in Bergen County.

Between the years of 1735 and 1767 four slaves were burned at the stake in the village of Hackensack, not through mob frenzy but after deliberate sentence had been passed by the Justices and Freeholders.

It must not be inferred that all slaves were bad nor that all masters were cruel, but the evil existed and continued to exist until 1846 when it was decreed that slavery in the state of New Jersey be abolished.

A woman still residing in Leonia recalls attending the funeral of perhaps the last slave woman in the present confines

of the borough. This was at the Smith, or as later known, the McMichael place on the south side of Highwood avenue near Grand.

The funeral of "Old Betty" was held in the kitchen, but was attended by her white as well as her colored friends. There was a burial plot for slaves on the Vreeland property and until a few years ago the graves were marked by rough stones. This plot was located a little to the west of Broad and south of Lakeview avenues. By a peculiar turn of fate, this very spot is now being laid out as a garden by the Englewood Nurseries Co.

The old Smith house just referred to deserves more than passing notice. It is said that Major Andre was a frequent caller in the old days. The passer-by on Highwood avenue sees only the rear of the house as this, like all others of the period, faced the south. The illustration on another page shows the porch and entrance on the south side. Much of the original beauty of the house has been lost due to the addition of dormer windows and other useless ornamentation.

Growth in the English Neighborhood was slow, but as children grew up and married, the large farms were divided. A few others from remote New York came in and purchased land. What was occurring here was true of other rural places, while villages like Hackensack made a more rapid growth.

Finally, it became necessary to have more direct lines of communication between the village of Hackensack and the Hudson river, and the Hackensack and Fort Lee Turnpike Co. was formed. A new road was built across the meadows from Hackensack to the English Neighborhood road (now called Grand avenue) making a continuous thoroughfare of the Fort Lee road up the hill through Fort Lee village and down to the old steamboat landing on the Hudson. The location of the Fort Lee road (now called Central avenue) through Leonia was not changed until it reached a point just east of Paulin Boulevard, when it was swung slightly to the north to avoid the steep grade. The location of the old road bed is still discernible.

There were two toll gates across Central avenue—one on the east and the other on the west side of Grand avenue. A small hotel or road house was built on the southwest corner where these streets crossed, and the entrance to the toll road for pedestrians going west was by way of the hotel porch. In later years this road house was moved out along the pike just west of the railroad tracks, where it still stands.

A stage coach ran between Hackensack and the Hudson river, where it connected with a steamboat that touched at

several points and finally landed its passengers at Spring street, New York. The running time between the Fort Lee landing and New York was one hour.

The True Reformed Dutch Church on Grand avenue dates from the year 1824, although the building was not erected until 1831. From an old record we read that "In the year of our Lord 1831 the new meeting house of the True Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the English Neighborhood was built." \* \* \* "The church was built on the west side of the English Neighborhood road, a little distance below where the road from Hackensack to Fort Lee crossed it, on ground given by Garret Meyer and John Cole; and to this David Christie, who bought G. Meyer's farm, and John Cole afterward made handsome additions on each side." It is interesting to know that the building cost about \$1,500. The names of the various pastors indicate their Dutch lineage; they were as follows: Brinkerhoff, Demarest, Blauvelt, De Baun, Van Houten, Iserman, Wyckoff. During the pastorate of the Rev. James Wyckoff doctrinal differences arose and the pastor and forty-eight members left the church and with others became charter members of a church of the Presbyterian faith in February, 1899. Services have been conducted in the old church for a part of the time since that date, but recently none have been held. There is a small burial plot north of the building.

Perhaps 70 years ago Mr. Roehling purchased land north of the brook that parallels Hillside avenue. Like many another prospective American, this man decided to change his name and at the suggestion of a friend who perhaps had some of the blood of old Ireland in his veins, Mr. Roehling became Mr. Riley; hence the name Riley avenue now known as Hillside.

On the land purchased by Mr. Riley was an old cemetery dating back to pre-revolutionary times, where it is said many of the early settlers were buried. There being little or no interest manifest in the preservation of this burial plot, the stones were removed and it has been commonly reported that they were used in grading around a house built nearby.

When Hillside avenue was constructed human bones were found, and this has occurred frequently as excavations for new houses have been made. This is not the only instance of the desecration of cemeteries, as those who have read Burton Allbee's article "Our County Disgrace" in the 1913-14 year book are aware.

From 1835 to 1850 several families came to Leoria who have exerted a great influence in the community; among them were the Christies, the Woods, the Gismonds, and the Moores (James V. and Stephen H. V.)

With the invention of the steam engine, came a new era in development and on February 9, 1854, the Northern Railroad of New Jersey was chartered. This road was completed October 1, 1859, and ten years later it was leased to the Erie Railway Company.

From an old timetable dated April 2, 1866, it is interesting to note that four passenger trains and a "milk, market and freight" train passed over this road daily en route for Jersey City, and that an equal number of trains with an additional "way passenger" on Saturday went to Piermont.

For years the little community that had grown up at the junction of two of the most important roads in the township had been designated as "The English Neighborhood near the Fort Lee Road." With the coming of the railroad and the establishment of a post office this practice had of necessity to be changed. The railway station was at first called Fort Lee, but this name could not be applied to the post office without confusing it with the office in Fort Lee village on the hill. Wishing to retain the historic name "Lee," the name Lee-onia or Leonia was suggested. In 1865 this name was formally adopted and Leonia became a village in Hackensack township.

There were at that time about 25 houses and a small store. Grain was taken to the grist mill on the creek near the dye works, and there was a saw mill on the brook that crosses Grand avenue a little beyond the present southern boundary of the borough.

In 1871 the large township of Hackensack was divided. The southern portion extending as far north as the Englewood line comprised the new township of Ridgefield. Leonia remained as a part of Ridgefield township for 23 years, when on December 4, 1894, the Borough of Leonia was incorporated. There had been talk that a part of the village would be included in a proposed borough to the south, but through the active efforts of some of the citizens this unhappy division of the community was avoided.

At the time of incorporation, the population was not far from 700. At present it is over 3,300.

The quiet beauty of the place early attracted some of the leading artists and illustrators, until now the Leonia Art Colony numbers half a hundred well-known names.

Increased traffic facilities brought also the city business man and the college professor and among them all has grown up the spirit of community life and a real love for the town of their adoption.

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The writer is indebted to Mrs. George Gausman, Thomas

Moore, ex-Mayor Robert J. G. Wood, James V. Moore, Lorenzo Gismond, Isaac Vreeland and John Brinkerhoff for much valuable assistance in the preparation of this article.

### The Locating of Camp Merritt

The prelude to the location of Camp Merritt dates back to the Vera Cruz incident in the fall of 1915. During that period when it looked as though there might be trouble between the United States and Mexico, the commanding officer at Governor's Island received word to select a site in and around the port of New York, which would be available as an Embarkation Camp for troops.

Major General William M. Black was then stationed in New York as the senior colonel of the Corps of Engineers. The writer, through his official position as president of the Board of Commerce & Navigation of New Jersey, came directly in contact with the Engineering Corps regarding the question of transportation and the development of the waterfront of New Jersey in general. It was but natural that Col. Black should ask the New Jersey authorities for information regarding available sites.

The writer had the privilege of accompanying the Army Board and pointing out to them various localities in New Jersey which offered rail and water facilities as well as the proper drainage and all the other needs of a camp to accommodate thousands of soldiers.

Of all the sites looked at at that time, the two which most impressed the board was the one where Camp Merritt is located at the present time, and the other was the old Cresskill Mill Dam site east of the Northern Railroad.

The War Department realized in 1917, after the departure of the first troops for Europe, that it was very necessary to have an Embarkation Camp close to the port of New York where troops could be held pending the assembling of ships for the transportation of troops abroad.

A special board consisting of the following officers—Col. F. P. Reynolds, Col. A. C. Blunt, Major U. S. Grant, 3rd, Capt. Oury—was designated to select various sites and report on their availability to the staff at Washington.

Gen. Black, remembering his experiences in 1915 suggested to Major U. S. Grant, engineering officer of the Board, that he communicate with the writer when he reached New York, which Major Grant did.

I explained to the Board what we did in 1915 and they asked if they could be taken over the same ground. Knowing

Mr. Watson G. Clark's (chairman of the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Highway Commission) intimate knowledge of various localities in the Northern Valley, as well as having a very high respect for his engineering ability and his knowledge of drainage, it seemed to me that he was the one best fitted to conduct the party in their search for a site. When I placed the proposal before him he, like the good patriot he is, said he would drop everything and not only place himself at the disposal of the Board but also his car.

The day, July 6th, 1917, was spent in traversing the Northern Valley and looking over the various sites and in the evening we returned to New York, and before the Board left for Washington that evening we had been in communication with Mr. French of the Hackensack Water Co., Mr. Stone of the Erie Railroad, Mr. Frowley of the N. Y. Central, Mr. Wakelee of the Public Service Corporation. Because of the information furnished by these gentlemen, the Board was able to return to Washington and make a complete report concerning the water, gas and electrical supplies as well as the railroad facilities that the present Camp Merritt site offered.

Mr. Clark generously volunteered to secure the options on the property for the Board and was able to give the Board a great deal of general information regarding the ownership of the various lands that would be needed for the camp.

When many of the citizens immediately around the camp heard about the prospects of locating the camp at its present site they were alarmed because of the disturbances that they feared would come to the community life owing to the presence of so many men. It is needless to say these fears were groundless, and subsequently the same citizens were vying with each other to help make life pleasant for those quartered at the camp, and they took great pride in the fact that the camp was located in their midst.

Too much credit cannot be given to Judge William M. Seufert, who was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and Judge Thomas J. Huckin, Prosecutor of the County, for the preservation of law and order during the period when the camp was being constructed. These gentlemen took time by the forelock and inaugurated measures which prevented disturbances from arising and they co-operated in every way with the camp authorities. They did it without any publicity and without looking for public recognition of their splendid work, only a few knowing of the ability they displayed and the many hours of ceaseless activities which they put in for the common good.

One of the incidents that was most interesting in connection with the location of the camp was the first visit paid to the



proposed site by Major General David C. Shanks. One of the parties whose property was afterwards taken over, objected to the laying of a sewer pipe through her property. The Government agreed to lay the pipe and replace the soil so that no one could ever detect that the pipe was there and to pay liberally for the privilege, but because she was opposed to the location of the camp, she apparently thought by opposing the laying of the pipe that this would possibly cause the site to be located elsewhere. This was all explained to General Shanks and he said he would like the opportunity of meeting the lady. The General, in company with Mr. Clark and myself, found her in one of her fields. The writer will never forget the sight of the General approaching her with his cap in his hand in true Virginia style, and with all the gallantry that Virginians are noted for he made his appeal for the privilege of crossing her land with the pipe. It is needless to say he won. It seemed to those of us who were watching the episode of this little drama that we were witnessing an incident that represented the ideals that the world powers were clashing over.

Picture if you will the United States at war in a life and death struggle for Democracy, appealing to one of its citizens through one of its representatives, a gentleman in command of its forces, for the privilege of laying a pipe across a field where no damage would be done to the property but yet would serve as an accommodation for the men who were going to lay down their lives for the defence of their country. Contrast this if you will with what would have taken place under like conditions in Germany. Would there have been any appeal for the privilege or would the order have gone forth to do certain things with all the powers of a fiat? Could there be a more vivid picture of the difference between Autocracy and Democracy? On one hand the rights of the individual being respected as against the autocratic rule of those in control. Then again, what a testimony to the American Army and to its officers as exemplified by General Shanks.

Bergen County may well be proud of the honor of having had located within its midst the camp which housed and sheltered the boys just before they left for what was to many to be their last experience.

To those of us who lived close by the camp and witnessed the many farewell scenes which were always in evidence due to the parting of loved ones, Camp Merritt will always be a halloved spot. The Bergen County Historical Society deserves the thanks of the community as well as the people generally for its efforts toward preserving what will become one of the most historical spots in the United States.

J. SPENCER SMITH.

## The Location of Camp Merritt at Tenafly, N. J.

From an Engineer's Viewpoint

Camp Merritt, Tenafly, Bergen County, New Jersey, as first located was on the ridge lying between the West Shore and the Northern Railroad of New Jersey in the boroughs of Dumont, Cresskill, Haworth and Demarest. The southerly boundary line of the camp was the northerly boundary line of the borough of Tenafly. The camp was known at first as "Camp Tenafly" and later as Camp Merritt. This was due to the fact that during the early negotiations all official communications were dated from Tenafly, and the site was referred to as Tenafly, N. J.

The elevation of the ridge on which the camp is located is approximately 150 feet above sea level. The topography of the land was such that the site could be readily drained and sewers, water and gas were within easy extension distances of the location. On the easterly boundary of the camp, the Northern Railroad of New Jersey being a double track branch of the Erie, connected it in a southerly direction with the main line at Jersey City, and in a northwesterly direction at Suffern. The West Shore railroad ran along the westerly side of the site. Railroad facilities were thus all that could be required. Had a connection been made as was originally intended at Homestead from the Northern Railroad to the Pennsylvania lines, troops could have been brought directly from the south, and southwest, into the camp without either transfer or congestion, via Pennsylvania and Northern Railroad. The West Shore afforded ample transportation facilities from the northwest.

Mr. J. Spencer Smith, President of the Board of Commerce and Navigation, had been in communication with representatives of the War Department, and on July 6, 1917 at his request, the writer proceeded with Mr. Smith in an automobile to the Union League Club, New York City, where we met a committee appointed for the special purpose of selecting a suitable camp site within easy access to the Hoboken port of embarkation. The committee was comprised of Col. F. P. Reynolds, representing the Medical Corps, Major U. S. Grant, 3rd, representing the Engineering Department, and Captain Ohry, a line officer of considerable experience, also Col. A. C. Blunt.

They had been unsuccessful in their attempts for the past two or three days in locating camp sites on the main line of the Pennsylvania and Jersey Central.

The entire committee proceeded with us in the automobile by Riverside Drive to Dyckman Street Ferry and thence to the proposed camp, pausing for a few moments en route at Grant's

Tomb while Major U. S. Grant, 3rd, paid homage to his grandfather's memory. While en route the committee discussed the probable size and requirements of the proposed camp. We drove directly to the westerly slope of the Palisades in the borough of Tenafly, where a bird's-eye view of the site could be obtained. From here the committee proceeded to Knickerbocker road in the borough of Tenafly and made a careful reconnaissance survey of the entire territory lying on either side of Knickerbocker road, extending from Tenafly to Closter. The easy method of sewerage, water supply, lighting, and railroad connections were pointed out. Then we drove to the top of the Palisades at Alpine. Here the committee alighted and proceeded on foot to the Alpine Ferry. It being explained to the members that the troops could be marched to this point and shipped directly by river craft to the steamers lying at the port. It is curious to note that this road down the Palisades over which hundreds of thousands of American soldiers later marched on their way to attack the "Huns" in their own home district, is the very road over which the "Huns" marched up in 1776 under Cornwallis to attack George Washington's little army at his encampment near Tappan and Fort Lee, starting the historical retreat of Washington across New Jersey. The committee was so impressed with the advantages of the site and surrounding territory, that they decided that they would look no further, and decided to return to Washington at once. On reaching New York, while waiting for the train, Captain Oury and the writer prepared tentative plans showing the facilities with which the camp utilities could be installed. Mr. Smith took up with the railroads the possibility for immediate connections.

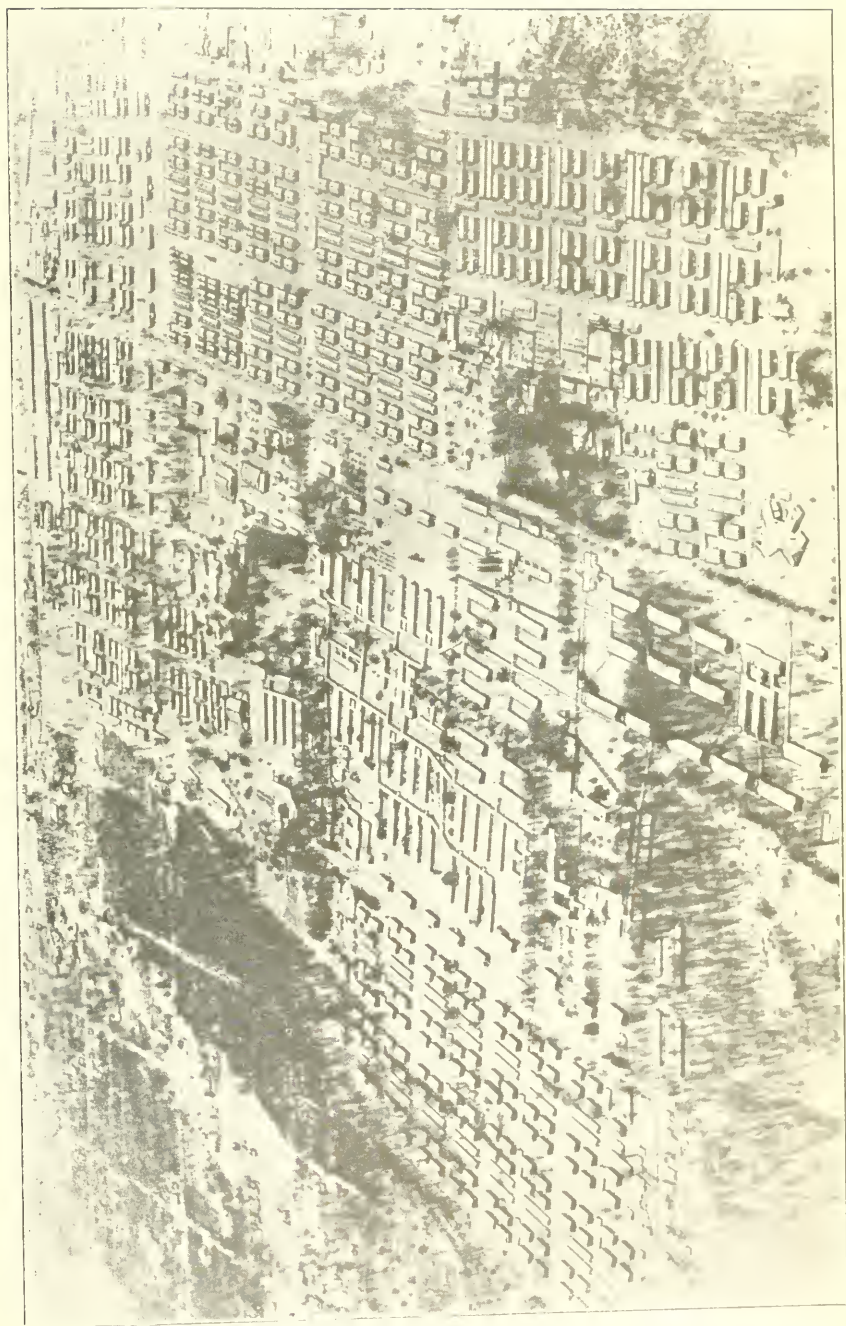
Within a few days later I received a request from General William M. Wright, commanding officer of the port of Embarkation, Hoboken, N. J., that he wished to make a reconnaissance survey with me of the entire territory, which we did. The result of this reconnaissance survey was that General Wright finally selected for the camp site the lands beginning at the northerly boundary line of the borough of Tenafly, extending northerly on either side of Knickerbocker road practically to Hardenburgh avenue in the borough of Demarest. The easterly boundary of the camp was irregular, but extended generally to the brow of the hill on the east with a few specific instances where the lands taken extended to the Northern Railroad in the valley below, on the west to the westerly slope of the crest of the hill extending in the borough of Dumont along Grant avenue to the West Shore Railroad. He also selected two separate sites on Knickerbocker road for extensions in the boroughs



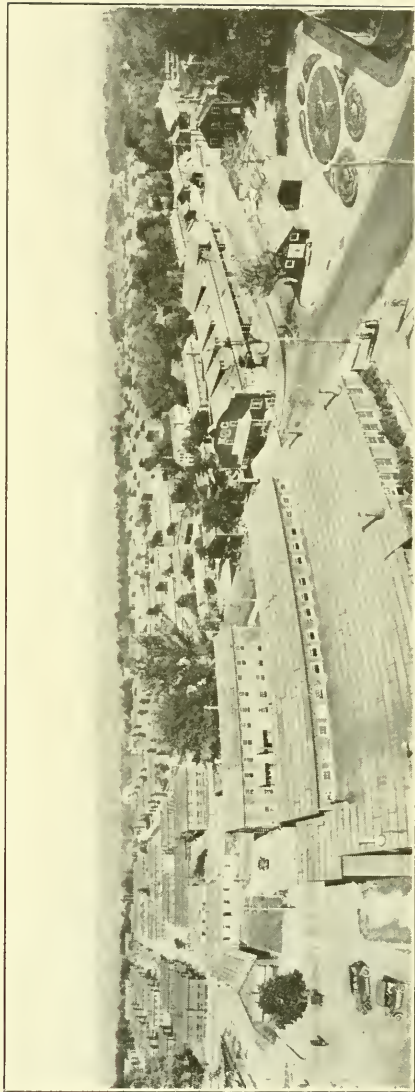
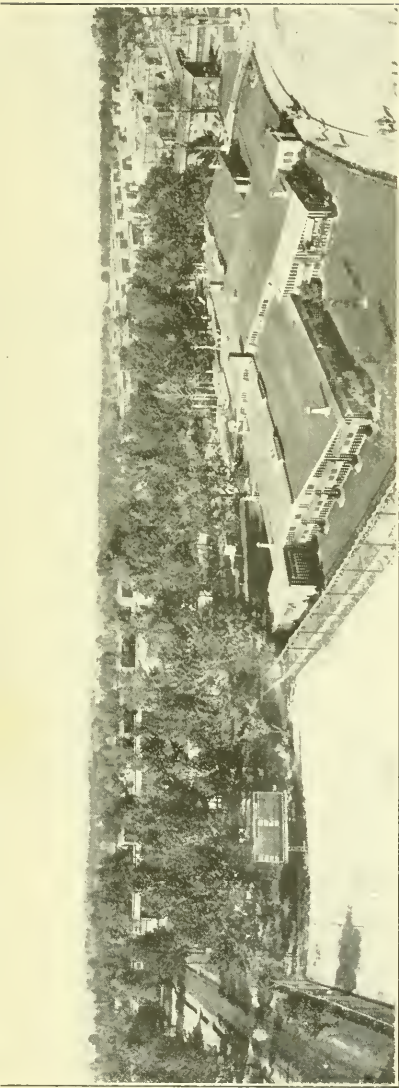


GEORGE B. DUNCAN.  
Colonel, 21st Infantry.

Major General A. E. F. Commanding 77th and 82d Divisions in France  
1917-18. Commandant Camp Merritt 1919. Brigadier General  
United States Army 1920.



AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPH OF CAMP MERRITT.  
1919.



PANORAMIC VIEWS OF CAMP MERRITT.  
1919.

of Demarest and Haworth, which were later used for the camping of tented troops and drill grounds.

The General requested me to obtain the consents from the owners affected to lease these lands immediately to the United States Government. The work of securing these leases in conjunction with an army officer was exceedingly interesting, knowing as I did many of the owners of the lands from early boyhood, having been born in the stone house on Madison avenue just west of Knickerbocker road, Cresskill, which later became the home of the camp commandant.

It was necessary to obtain these consents as time was the essence of the whole matter, and the Government was exceedingly reluctant to resort to condemnation proceedings at this juncture, hoping that the patriotism of the citizens would make such steps unnecessary.

Among many interesting occurrences in obtaining these leases I recall two which are worthy of note. One was the case of a newly married couple, whose home was located on the line of the proposed railroad spur, connecting with the West Shore Railroad. They had built their little home with the aid of the building and loan, and were looking forward to enjoying the results of their home building. I had occasion to call on them early one Sunday morning and told them that the following morning the Government would like to start moving their house, excavating a deep cut across the front of their property. Without any question as to compensation, or thought of the consequences, they immediately volunteered to turn their property over. Of course the army officer and myself started negotiations at once, and arranged to give them suitable compensation. The result was that within twenty-four hours the men were there tearing down a portion of their home that they had so patiently constructed.

The other incident was that of a veteran of the Civil War, who had for forty years lived in a beautiful home in the center of the camp where he had raised a large family. At that time four of his boys had volunteered and were accepted into the service, as well as two of his daughters. He had been told that he could probably remain on his property, but due to camp extensions this became impossible. I called on him in conjunction with the United States representative and explained the situation. His reply was: "Gentlemen, this is my country; you can have my home and place. I had hoped to have died here, but I am ready to move." When asked what compensation he would require he stated he would leave that entirely up to the Government. Within a few days thereafter this man who had expected to spend the remainder of his life there was, like the



rest, moving out to permit of the construction of this camp that was to house over a million men. These are only two instances of many where only patriotism counted among the families affected. Land being obtained in a great many cases upon a nominal rental basis.

I quote from a letter of Brig. Gen. William M. Wright, Headquarters Port of Embarkation, New Jersey, dated July 24, 1917, written to the writer, upon the completion of the work of securing the consents to lease from the various property owners:

"The question of this camp site is one of the most important problems facing the War Department today. One might say that on it hinged the success of our overseas shipments of men. I do not consider a great problem of this sort satisfactorily solved unless we take suitable and proper ground, and when you see those who have met the Department with a patriotic desire to be of assistance to the cause, I hope that you will express to them my appreciation."

The camp was located and the consents to lease from the property owners of the various tracts originally contemplated were obtained from July 6th to July 26th, 1917. The construction work started within a few days thereafter and the first troops were marching into the camp in early September.

WATSON G. CLARK,

Tenafly, New Jersey.

June 15th, 1920.

## Letters

In selecting a subject for an historic letter one is indeed fortunate if he may choose from so rich a field as is presented in the border-land of Bergen and Rockland counties. In turning to the buildings of Colonial times, those that are yet standing and nearly all of them have some history or legend attached, we naturally turn to the oldest of them all, the De Wint House of the Revolution but the Washington Headquarters of today. This house is situated at the northern end, on the west side of the New Jersey highway known as Livingston street, about a quarter of a mile north of the state line.

It was in 1700 that John Stratemaker did himself proud in building for himself a stone house; the sandstone of which the house is built was carried in hand barrows across the swamp from where it crops out under the Palisade range; the brick used to trim having been brought from Holland. In 1704 John sold the place to Dick Stratemaker, who sold it to Rem Remsen of Long Island, and he in turn, in deed dated May 1st 1746, sold it to Johannes De Wint.

De Wint was a man of means and of affairs. He was interested in the West Indian trade, and as this was tabooed by England, it may in a measure account for his staunch adherence to the cause of the Colonies. It is from him that the house derived the name of De Wint House. The rooms are large, but so low-ceiled that the Dutch builder had need to contrive a recess in the ceiling to permit of a place for the tall Dutch clock he had brought from Holland. Around the chimney-piece were Dutch tiles. These tiles, which the writer remembers well, were removed a score or more of years ago by the present owner of the house to prevent them from being stolen.

In this house transpired many stirring events, and not least among which was the night of Sept. 30th, 1780. That night is described as having been so clear and beautiful that from the camp on the low hills nearby the bugle calls and the sound of horses neighing filled the air. It is said that the tall figure of His Excellency, uneasy and restless, would now and again be seen passing across in front of the windows. In Mabie's Tavern, not far away, was the man of whom the Great Chief wrote: "He was more unfortunate than criminal, an accomplished man and a gallant officer." In Washington's hands lay his fate. Both men were to be pitied, for it is no easy matter to be sternly just. (The desk which it is said Washington used when he signed this death warrant is said to be in possession of the family of George Sneed at Red Bank, N. J.). Alexander Hamilton has been quoted as saying, "His Excellency would

have agreed to a change in the form of death, but Generals Greene and Sullivan were strongly of opinion that to do so at that time would have been unwise and unpolitic. The Generals said to condemn a man as a spy and not at last to deal with him as Hale was dealt with, would be impolitic and unfair to men who were as gallant as Sir Henry Clinton's Adjutant General." Great as is the interest in that historic event it is not the climax of the events that happened under the roof of this house, but the following that takes the house entirely out of the class of a local "Washington's Headquarters"; so that our whole nation can well turn with reverence to this old house. Who that has ever visited Independence Hall in Philadelphia and has not felt that thrill of "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." And yet the consummation of it all was right here within the De Wint House in Tappan. It was a great and glorious thing to declare that these Colonies "are and by right ought to be free and independent states," but quite another thing to make proud, powerful Old England and her King acknowledge it. For more than seven years the Father of His Country and those stanch patriots that were associated in the cause with him, both officers and men, had fought and starved, and bled and died. You know the story, but now it was over and here in this very house was the consummation. Here on May 6th, 1783, by appointment, came the conquering hero, General George Washington, and to this house was sent Sir Guy Carleton, representing His Majesty George III, and they there arranged the closing of affairs for the exchange of prisoners and the return of stolen property. The war was over.

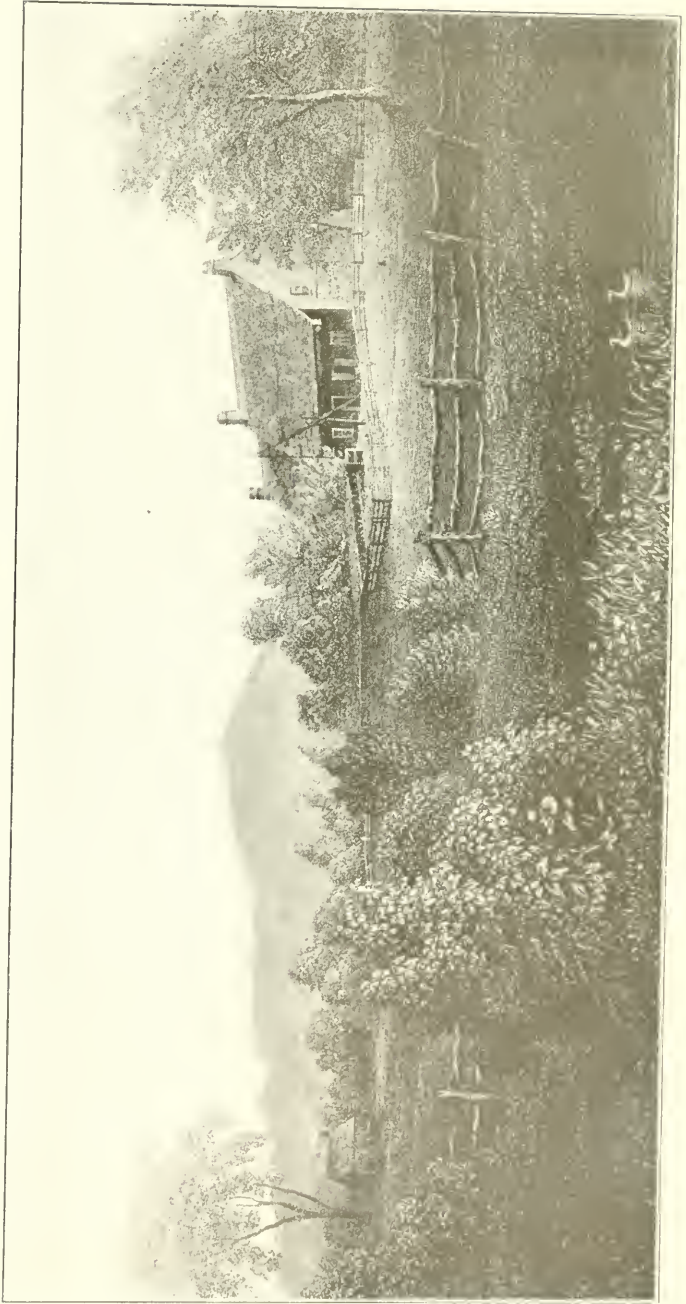
Great was the Declaration, but greater the Consummation, because the desire and determination had become a fact.

On the centennial of these events patriotic feeling in these parts was strong, and the Rockland County Historical Society, a then prominent organization, had their headquarters in this house. It is to be regretted that that society has gone out of existence; but it is a pleasure to state that the Rockland County Society, a more recently formed organization, is now functioning largely in this field.

Long after the Revolution this property passed from the De Wint heirs and the owners since have been Arthur Johnson, Dr. Smith and William Rogers. The frame or western part of the building as at present was added by Dr. Smith. Aside from this the house is as in the original. The old sweep well which the older pictures of the house show, has given place to a more modern well curb.

HARRY RYERSON.

Tappan, N. Y., June 10, 1920.



HEADQUARTERS OF GEN. WASHINGTON AT TAPPAN.  
1780.



Leonia, May 29, 1920.

Dr. Byron G. Van Horne, Englewood.

Dear Doctor: Your kind note received, and I will try to answer some of your questions, although anything relating to the Westervelts can be found in the Library of the Society in the Westervelt geneology by Walter Westervelt.

My grandfather, Jacob A. Westervelt, was born in Schraalenburgh, and was the first child baptized in the church his father built there. I do not remember exactly where the house was, although I remember distinctly going to an old Dutch house there with him. We afterward went up there to see an Aunt Jane Bogart, who I think lived in the house. So it may be known as the Bogart house, for my great-grandfather died very soon after my grandfather was born.

My grandfather was a shipbuilder; perhaps the most noted of his day with the exception of William H. Webb, his intimate friend. His masterpiece in the line of sailing vessels was the "Margaret Evans", celebrated yet all over the world in the chanty

The smartest clipper you can find  
Is the Marg'ret Evans of the Black Star line.

His finest steamship was the U. S. Frigate Brooklyn, which he built especially to suit the views of Captain Farragut, afterward Admiral. He was elected Mayor on the Democratic ticket, but as a representative of the mechanics and tradesmen, as opposed to the politicians. The most conspicuous feature of his administration was the organization of the Metropolitan Police, and he received the first police badge, which is now in the New York Historical Society. Another feature was his veto of the "Broadway Railroad Steal," which was eventually overridden, in later years, by Jacob Sharp and the "Boodle Aldermen." In the last years of his life he was called to office after the Tweed Ring was broken, as President of the Dock Department, and as such made tremendous improvements in piers and docks. His chief engineer, whom he selected, was General George B. McClellan, and his secretary, General Louis Fitzgerald.

He was President of our first International Exhibition in the Crystal Palace.

He built the two first really practical steamships (for the Savannah and Britannia were only experiments, out-classed by the clippers), the Hamburg and Bremen. Both were lost at sea in a single month.

He was the "Colonel House" of the Lincoln administration, having no official title, but constantly consulted in naval

matters, and suggested and built the double-end thirty day gun-boats, which broke up blockade running between Nassau Island and the South.

My great-grandfather Aaron J. Westervelt of Schraalenburgh was a well known builder. Many of the houses he built in Franklin street, New York, were standing recently. He built the Dutch Reformed Church at Schraalenburgh. I know little about him as he died at a comparatively early age.

My great-great-grandfather was John Westervelt, Private in Captain James Christie's Company, Colonel Theunis Dey's Regiment of Bergen County. He was taken prisoner and died on the prison ship Jersey in Wallabout Bay.

My great-great-great-grandfather was Johannes Westervelt, private in the same company and regiment. Was taken prisoner by the British September 6, 1781, and subsequently exchanged.

The Adjutant General of New Jersey can give you all desired information about the Bergen County regiments.

There is no complete record of the Prison Ship martyrs, but it is known that 11,500 were buried at the Wallabout. The Society of Old Brooklynites, or Martyrs' Monument Association, could give full particulars, probably the first, as I imagine the last is extinct.

The monument at Fort Greene was unveiled Nov. 14, 1908. I will inquire about the Trinity Churchyard monument, which was erected between 1850 and 1860.

Yours very truly,

CHARLES S. CLARK.

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105 Ames Avenue, May 2, 1920.

Dr. Byron G. Van Horne, Englewood.

My dear sir: Your note received. I do not know that I could add much to what I told you about the "Prison Ship Martyrs"; and would only suggest that in the Year Book be inserted a notice somewhat similar to that annexed.

Yours very truly,

CHARLES S. CLARK.

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The Bergen County Historical Society would be glad to receive from descendants of soldiers of the Revolution, and particularly from members of the Sons of the Revolution and Daughters of the Revolution, the names, companies and regiments of men who were captured by the British, and confined

in the "Jersey" and other prison ships in Wallabout Bay, Brooklyn.

Bergen County has been singularly remiss in failing to honor the memory of these heroes, hundreds of whom came from Bergen County, although New York has honored them by erecting the imposing monument in Trinity churchyard facing Pine street, and Brooklyn by erecting the noble shaft in Fort Greene Park.

From the time Washington fled across the Hudson, after the fall of Fort Washington and Fort Lee, until the close of the war, no locality suffered more than Bergen County, and every raid by the Tories or the British left families without their sons and fathers, who were hurried to the prison ships.

In these noisome hulks, reeking with plague, with ports nailed up and hatches battened down to prevent escapes, 11,000 prisoners were confined during the Revolution and died by hundreds. Every morning the order was given "Rebels, bring up your dead", and the emaciated bodies were brought ashore and buried.

After the Revolution a rude pavilion of wood was erected in the burying ground, but soon fell into decay. No other memorial was erected until Mayor Westervelt (a son of Bergen County) was Mayor of New York.

Certain real estate interests were anxious to have Pine street cut through Trinity churchyard at the same time the project of building a monument to the Prison Ship Martyrs was discussed. Mayor Westervelt vetoed the ordinance for the street opening, and suggested the memorial be placed where it is, thus effectually blocking any attempts to invade Trinity's holy ground; and subscriptions were readily obtained.

In our own time the Society of Old Brooklynites and an association formed for the purpose, secured \$25,000 subscriptions, and \$150,000 from the city and state, and erected at Fort Greene a beautiful marble shaft, unsurpassed in this country, under which lie the bones of the "Martyrs."

In common decency, should Bergen permit strangers in another state, to thus honor the Fathers of Bergen, and itself do nothing?

CHARLES SYDNEY CLARK,

(Descendant of three of the "Martyrs.").



## Necrology

(See Frontispiece)

I wish to contribute my mite to the memory of Robert T. Wilson, one time President of the Bergen County Historical Society and for several years my fellow co-worker on the year books of the Society.

At that time he was suffering from the ravages of the "great white plague" and on the advice of his physician he spent much of his time in the country at his home in Saddle River.

While working on the year book, it was his custom to motor over in the morning to my house, have luncheon with us, and return to his home late in the afternoon. We spent many pleasant hours in getting the material of the various year books ready for the printer.

He was one of the most courteous gentlemen it has ever been my good fortune to meet and we always enjoyed having him as our guest. A poem written by him to my little daughter Jean, then aged five years, is one of our treasured possessions.

As often as I think of him, this verse of scripture is coupled with his memory: "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly and love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God." How well this describes his character his church, lodge, neighbors and business associates will testify. In whatever sphere of influence his lot was cast, he made the world the better for having lived in it.

BYRON G. VAN HORNE.



THE JOHNSON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Home of the Bergen County Historical Society, Hackensack, N. J.



## In Memoriam

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Maria A. Bellis.....	Oradell
Andrew D. Bogert.....	Englewood
Isaac D. Bogert.....	Westwood
Peter B. Bogert, Jr.....	Bogota
A. H. Brinkerhoff.....	Rutherford
Cornelius Christie.....	Leonia
Edwin Clark.....	Ridgewood
Fred. H. Crum.....	River Edge
Dr. Daniel A. Currie.....	Englewood
A. S. D. Demarest.....	Hackensack
Isaac I. Demarest.....	Hackensack
Sarah F. Demarest.....	Hackensack
Oliver Drake-Smith.....	Englewood
George R. Dutton.....	Englewood
E. D. Easton.....	Arcola
Samuel S. Edsall.....	Palisade
August M. Fay.....	Hohokus
Mrs. L. T. Haggin.....	Closter
Henry Hales.....	Ridgewood
A. C. Holdrum.....	Westwood
George Heber Jones, D. D. ....	Leonia
Hugo F. Kriss.....	Hohokus
William O. Labagh.....	Hackensack
Jesse Lane.....	New Milford
Mrs. Jesse Lane.....	New Milford
I. Parker Lawton.....	Ridgewood
William A. Linn.....	Hackensack
John A. Marinus.....	Rochelle Park
William Nelson.....	Paterson
Christie Romaine.....	Hackensack
Rev. Ezra T. Sanford.....	New York
William Shanks.....	Hackensack
Col. William D. Snow.....	Hackensack
Dr. David St. John.....	Hackensack
Peter O. Terhune.....	Ridgewood
William L. Vail.....	Fairview
Jacob Van Buskirk.....	New Milford
Jacob Van Wagoner.....	Ridgewood
Francis Livingston Wandell.....	Saddle River
Salina F. Watt.....	Hackensack
Robert T. Wilson.....	Saddle River
A. C. Zabriskie.....	New York
David D. Zabriskie.....	Ridgewood

## Birth of the Society

By Eugene K. Bird

The Bergen County Historical Society was born March 4, 1902, in the Johnson Public Library building, Hackensack, when a few gentlemen met and formed a preliminary organization, with William A. Linn presiding. The Rev. Herman Vanderwart was made temporary chairman, James A. Romeyn temporary secretary. Encouraging words were received from a number of prominent citizens of the county, upon which assurance Caleb Van Husan Whitbeck, the Rev. E. T. Sanford and William O. Labagh were named as a committee to circularize in the interest of the enterprise, inviting all citizens of the county to join. Those present at this meeting were: The Rev. Herman Vanderwart, William A. Linn, James A. Romeyn, Wm. O. Labagh, Alfred T. Holley, the Rev. Arthur Johnson, the Rev. E. T. Sanford, the Rev. H. B. Leech, F. W. Orvis, James M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Esray, Mrs. L. Kirby, Dr. L. S. Marsh (dentist), Eugene K. Bird, Henry D. Winton, H. Wetzelberg, Cornelius Blauvelt, Isaac I. Demarest, Caleb Van H. Whitbeck, Joseph Kinzley and Wilkin Bookstaver, all of Hackensack; the Rev. W. H. Vroom of Paramus, and William H. Zabriskie of Oradell.

A second meeting was held March 27, when Charles Burrows, F. M. Glover and C. L. Crear of Rutherford, Gen. J. Vreeland Moore of Leonia, Mayor Isaac D. Bogert of Westwood, Counselor Cornelius Christie of Leonia, Mrs. Elizabeth Vermilye of Englewood, the Rev. Dr. W. W. Holley of Hackensack and Colonel Wm. D. Snow of Hackensack were among names added.

This committee was appointed to name candidates for office: The Rev. Dr. Holley, Chas. Burrows, Mrs. Elizabeth Vermilye, the Rev. W. H. Vroom, Isaac D. Bogert, Col. W. D. Snow, Cornelius Christie. They presented the following names, and all were elected:

President, William M. Johnson; Vice-Presidents—Wm. A. Linn, Hackensack; J. V. Moore, C. Christie, Leonia; Elizabeth Vermilye, Englewood; the Rev. W. H. Vroom, Paramus (Ridgewood); I. D. Bogert, Westwood; Recording Secretary, the Rev. E. T. Sanford, Hackensack; Corresponding Secretary, Arthur Van Buskirk, Hackensack; Treasurer, James A. Romeyn, Hackensack; Executive Committee—F. M. Glover, Rutherford; Miss Adelaide W. Sterling, Englewood; Abram C. Holdrum, Westwood; Abram De Baun, Hackensack.

A newspaper report of the day says that "Mr. Glover, who

is a lineal descendant of Historicus, gave a pleasant little talk on historical fossils and the necessity for avoiding the ruts that mark the trail of historical societies throughout nations where living and dead languages are recognized."

Mr. Glover, as chairman of the executive committee, was informed that he could exercise his most subtle and active faculties to avert the fossilization of the body with which he had allied himself.

And so the Historical Society of Bergen County was launched. Its membership at the present time is as follows:

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HON. MILTON DEMAREST.....	HACKENSACK
GEN'L. GEORGE B. DUNCAN.....	UNITED STATES ARMY
THEOPHILUS N. GLOVER.....	LINCOLN PARK
MAJOR FRANCIS G. LANDON.....	NEW YORK
JOSEPH C. LINCOLN.....	CHATHAM, MASS.
MAJOR JESSE I. SLOAT.....	UNITED STATES ARMY
MAJOR MAX W. SULLIVAN.....	UNITED STATES ARMY
REV WILLIAM VROOM.....	RIDGEWOOD

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WILLIAM O. ALLISON.....	ENGLEWOOD
JOHN BORG.....	HACKENSACK
MRS. JOHN BORG.....	HACKENSACK
W. R. BRITTON.....	EAST ORANGE
ALPIN J. CAMERON.....	RIDGEWOOD
ABRAM DE RONDE.....	ENGLEWOOD
WILLIAM J. ECK.....	HACKENSACK
W. EDWARD FOSTER.....	HACKENSACK
E. HOWARD FOSTER.....	ENGLEWOOD
ALLISTER GREEN.....	NEW YORK
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HOWARD B. GOETSCHUIS.....	ROSCOE, N. Y.
ARCHIBALD C. HART.....	HACKENSACK
ARTHUR C. HOPPER.....	RIDGEWOOD
DAVID HOPPER.....	MAIWAH
WILLIAM B. MACKAY, JR.....	HACKENSACK
J. G. C. MANTLE.....	LEONTA
H. V. D. MOORE.....	ENGLEWOOD
CAPT. J. J. PHELPS.....	TEANECK
VERYL PRESTON.....	HOBOKUS
W. R. SCHOONMAKER.....	HACKENSACK
ANDREW STERTZER.....	HACKENSACK
JOHN STEWART.....	GARFIELD
CARL M. VAIL.....	RIDGEWOOD
CHARLES C. VOORHIS.....	NEW YORK
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**WESTWOOD**

MRS. CHARLES H. HAYWOOD

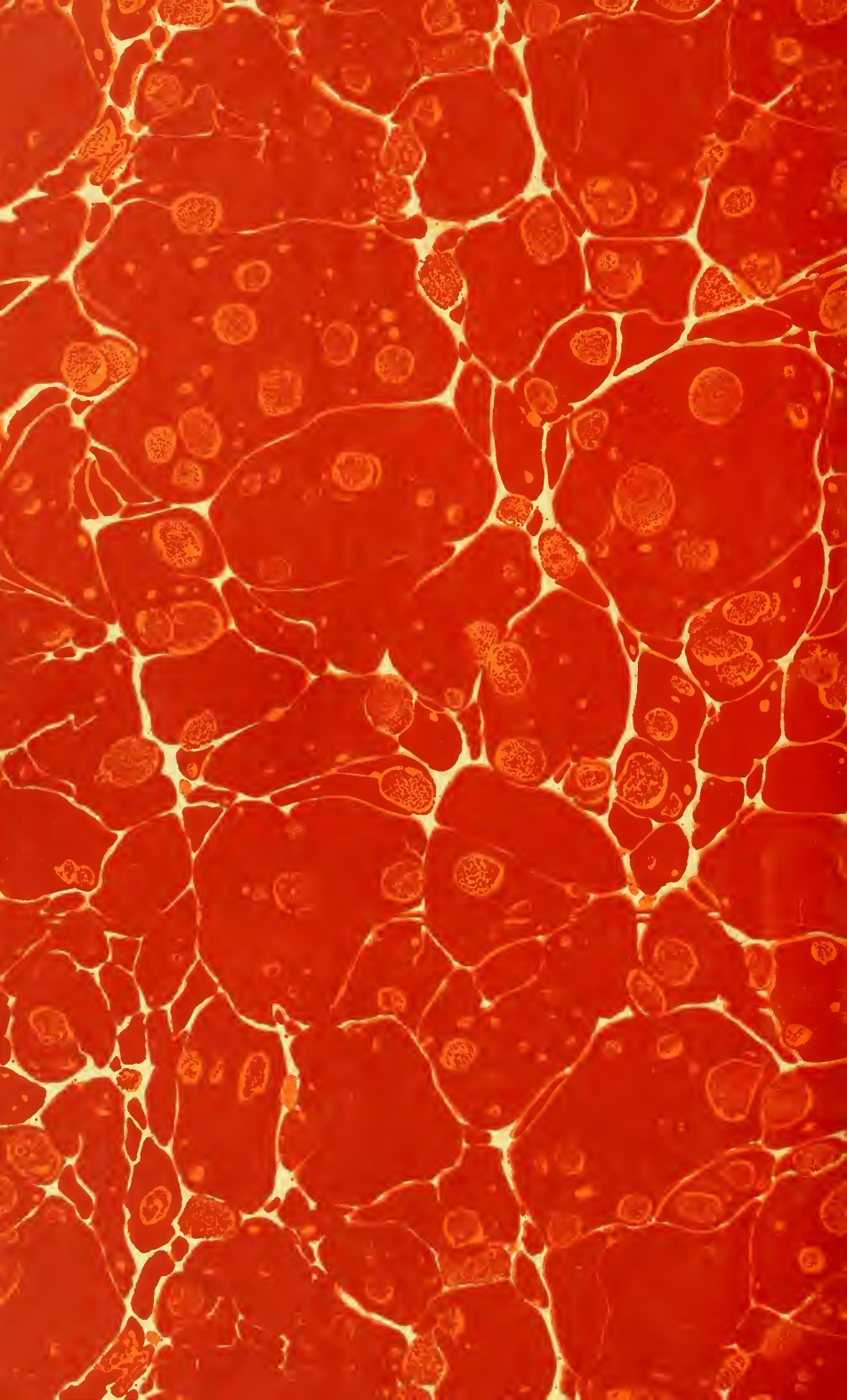
**WEST NEW YORK**

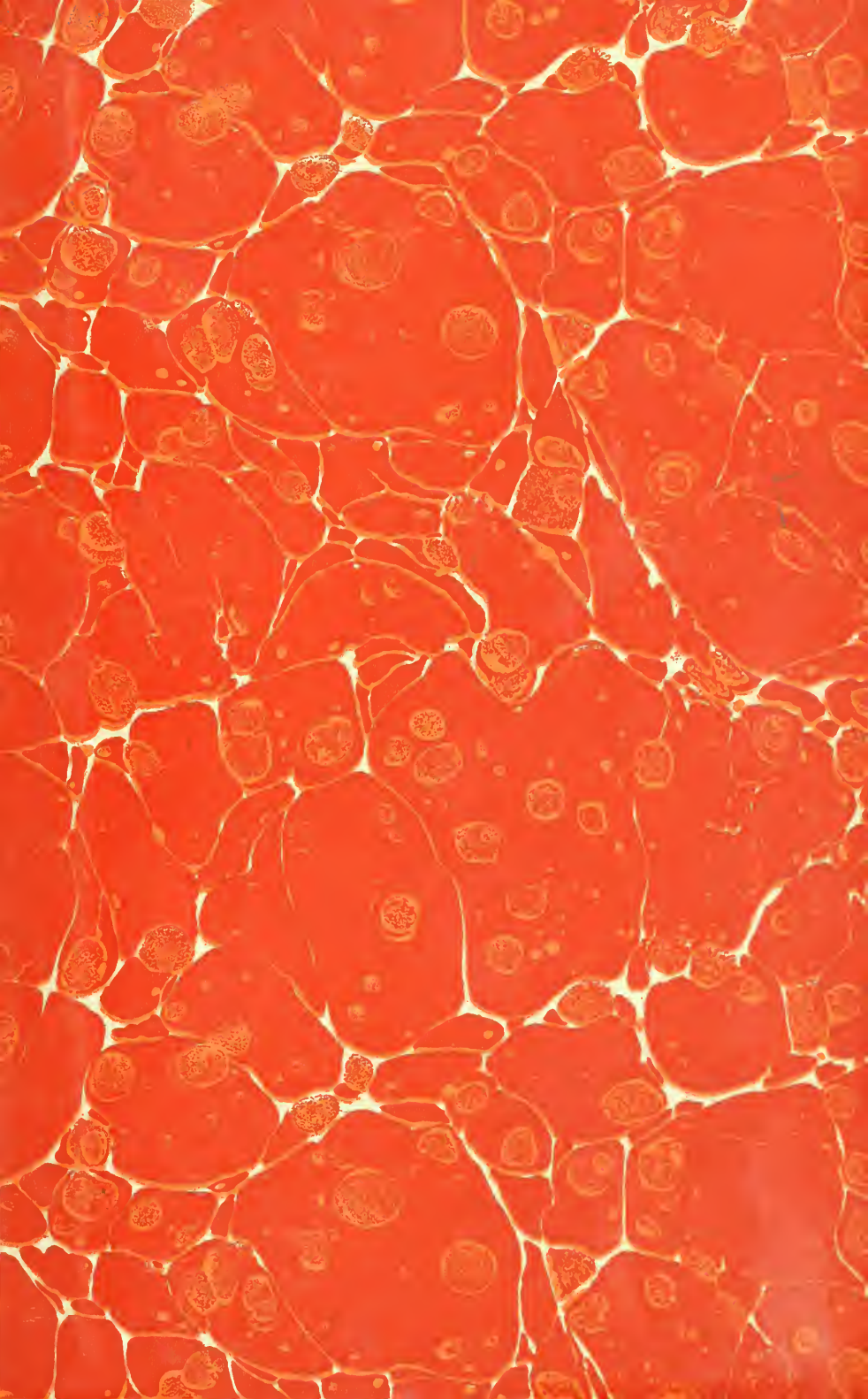
E. G. THOMSSON





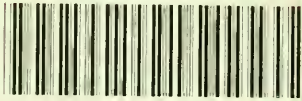








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