

The Parke Society

Promoting Fellowship, Genealogical Research, and the Preservation of Our History

George Watt Park - Crusader for Home Gardeners

by Margery L. Fitts #58

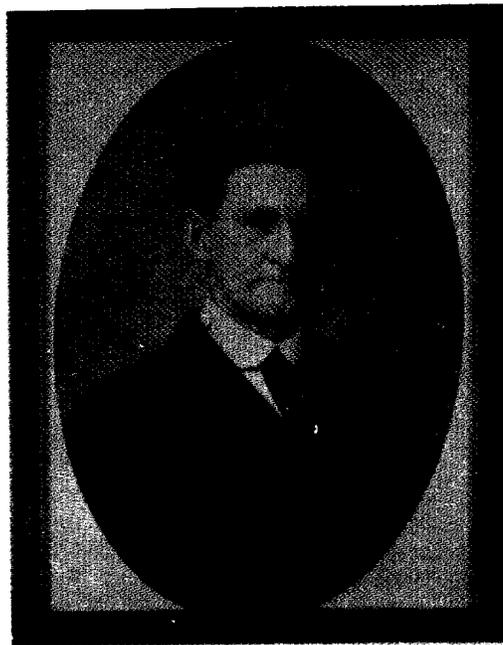
Part I

Shortly after the War Between the States, Horatio Alger, working with slum boys in New York, began to write stories showing how such youths could, and sometimes did, turn hard work and virtue into success. Although they were fiction, they soon became the symbols of what could happen in America: in essence, the "rags to riches" theme.

Had the author sought examples in the countryside instead of in the city, he would have found a prototype for one of his heroes in George Watt Park. This son of John and Jane (Watt) Park arrived in their Pennsylvania farmhouse 11 October 1852. He was the third of seven children in this family, which eked a hard living from the soil in the Path Valley, near Fannettsburg in the Allegheny Mountains not far north of the Maryland border.

These were difficult years in which to raise a family, with much political and social unrest. Citizens in the territory were strong Union sympathizers and took considerable harassment from Confederate troops during the war. The Fugitive Slave Law struck close to home, with the rioting and burning of Chambersburg only a few miles away. Even the North-ern victory at Gettysburg did not end the unrest and attendant scarcities. Every hand was needed to keep stomachs filled and bodies clothed.

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George Watt Park

Reunion - 1981

Now is the time to start planning for the 1981 Parke Society Reunion. Last year at this time we circulated a survey among the members to help the trustees plan a gathering that would interest all members.

The first choice for this year's location was Lancaster PA, the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch and Amish country and that's where we will be! With Trustee Harold Park as Chairman, plans are well under way. The dates set: August 28, 29, & 30, 1981.

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NEWS LETTER of The Parke Society

Incorporated in Connecticut
—1964—published Winter, Spring
and Fall for members of the Society.

Editor:

David L. Parke, Sr.
404 Wellington Ave.
Reading, PA 19609

Copy Editor:

Dorothea B. Cogswell

News items, history and queries
always welcome on any Park/e/s
or a descendant.

Regular membership open to a
descendant of a Park/e/s born in
the British Isles or North America
before the Revolution. Associate
membership open to any interested
person.

Historian - Registrar:

Theodore E. Parks
P. O. Box 590
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Application Fee \$5, Annual Dues \$4
Life Membership \$75

Secretary:

Priscilla C. Parke
125 Amity St.
Amherst, MA 01002

Any CHANGE OF ADDRESS
should be forwarded to the Editor
promptly to assure delivery of the
News Letter.

Parks missing in action

Edward W. Parks was a
prisoner of war during WW II.
For this reason he is active
in the Massachusetts Chapter
of American Ex-Prisoners of
War, Inc. He reports that
of the 2512 MIAs listed from
Southeast Asia there were:
Joe Parks, Raymond F. Parks

Ed would like to hear
from any of our Society
members who were prisoners-
of-war. His address is:
RD 4 Miller Rd, Middleboro
MA 02346.

Congratulations!

Andrea Lynn Keenan was
born 19 Nov 1980 to Todd
and Cynthia Kay Keenan of
Stanton NE. She is the
gt granddaughter of Arthur
Wallace Hubbard #54. Grand-
mother is Lila Elaine
(Hubbard) Harney #55.

A daughter, Natalie Jeanne,
was born 11 Feb 1981 to David
Livingstone Parke Jr (38) and
Caroline Mayo Parke. She is
the niece of Elisabeth Parke
Hayes (200) and granddaughter
of David L. Parke Sr (13).



Jill & David Parke

Trustee Julia Parks Bowden
Bowers (14) and Newsletter
Editor David Livingstone
Parke Sr (13) were married
4 Apr 1981 in Menands NY.
This is the first known uniting
of two Society members. They
are 5th cousins twice removed!

A word from your Editor

It seems appropriate
that I mention a word of
apology for not issuing the
NEWSLETTER on schedule.
As you will see above, my
thoughts have been on other
matters! This issue is
being "put to bed" just
before the big day.

I do enjoy sharing the
news of Park/e/s past and

Welcome New Members

- 440. Mr. Karl E. Parks II
- 441. Mrs. Jane P. Tyrrel
- 442. Mrs. Caroline L. Parks
- 443. Mrs. Janet E. Samuelson
- 444. Mrs. Mary E. Wilson
- 445. Mrs. Jean Anderson
- 446jr Miss Sarah C. Parke
- 447. Mrs. Lois Fretwell
- 448. Mrs. Janet M. Hart

IN MEMORIAM

We were saddened to learn
of the death of Harry Edward
Kimball (292). He died on
6 Feb 1981 at Wellsboro PA
where his family had lived
for 150 years. Harry was the
son of Norval R. and Ella
Nelson Kimball born 7 July
1890 in Wellsboro.

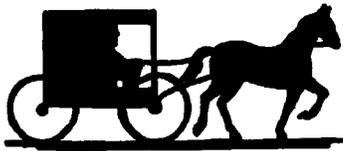
In his youth he was a
cut glass cutter, then studied
as a piano technician in New
York City. An accredited
member of the American Society
of Piano Technicians, he
was associated for years
with M. Doyle Marks & Son
Music Store in Elmira NY.
For years he services the
pianos for many of the
Steinway concerts of the
Elmira Community Concert
series.

Mr. Kimball was an Elis-
copalian, a life member of
the Tioga County Historical
Society, and the Chemung
County (NY) Historical
Society.

Surviving is his wife,
the former Marianne Smith.
His Parke lineage: Robert¹,
Thomas²⁻³⁻⁴, Mary⁵, Daniel
Kimball, Sterry, Daniel J.
to his father Norval R.

present with our ever
growing membership. Last
summer I turned over the
duties of Historian-Reg-
istrar to Tad Parks. I
greatly appreciate his
taking this load off my
shoulders.

Now with this one
specific duty as Editor
and loving wife to support
my efforts, the future
issues should be out on
time.



Reunion - 1981 Lancaster, PA

from page 33

Headquarters will be the Brunswick Motor Inn in downtown Lancaster. A brochure being sent to you by separate mail will give you a peek at all the fascinating sights to see and things to do. If possible you should come earlier in the week or plan to stay after the reunion to take it all in.

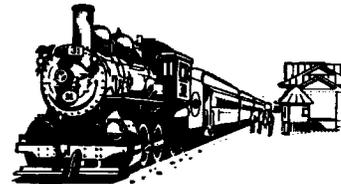
The members' general feeling after the last reunion was that we do not want to be in a college dorm again. Though cheaper, it does have drawbacks! So room rates will be higher this year: a single \$26.50, and \$39.50 for double occupancy with two beds. The \$15 registra-

tion fee will cover our expenses for the social hour and annual banquet. You will receive full particulars within the next two weeks.

The past two years' format will be followed: the Trustees' meeting Friday evening, the genealogical seminar Saturday morning, a tour Saturday afternoon, followed by the social hour and banquet. However, this year there will be further choices. In place of the seminar there will be other places to go, including a run up to Reading only 30 miles away. Why Reading? Your editor settled there three years ago, not knowing that it was the "Factory Outlet Capital of the USA":

Clothing - Shoes - Jewelry - Sporting goods etc.; men will especially enjoy the Black & Decker Power Tool Outlet. Most items are at half price. Also many quaint towns like Paradise, Bird-in-Hand, Blue Ball, and Intercourse are only a few miles to the east.

It's going to be a FUN time, and you'll enjoy meeting many of your cousins, whom you'll find pretty nice people. So set the date on your calendar - the weekend of August 28 to 30. Watch your mailbox for the official mailing with all the information.



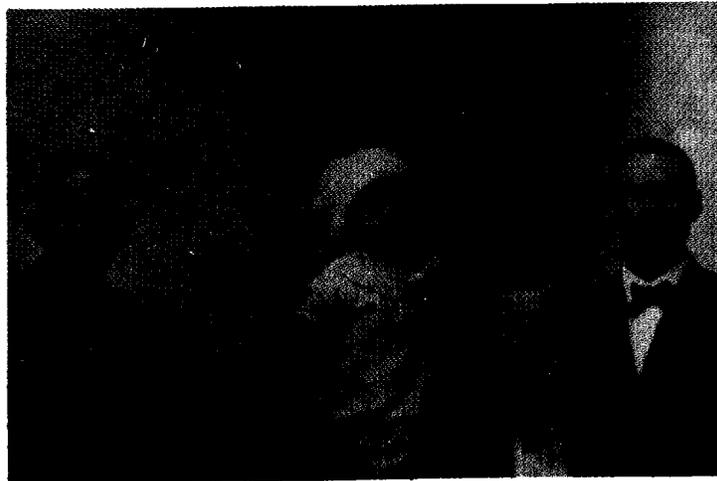
Queries

er to address list to contact member.

#115 Daniel Parke b 6 Apr 1758 East Haddam CT d 6 Oct 1836 Camden NY m Esther Ranney 13 Apr 1779. Settled Camden NY. Where is Daniel's powder horn and family bible? Would like picture of horn and copy of bible records.

#391 Capt. William Parke m Abigail Oxford of Oxford NJ. William b 1764 Belvedere NJ d 1830 Port Dover ONT. Need names of his parents.

#249 Elizabeth Park/e m John Bennett Jr 8 Mar 1687 Stonington CT. Need proof she was dau of Samuel² and Hannah. First Congregational Church, Stonington CT records show: "John Bennit and Mary Parke, Widow, owned the covenant, etc. and both baptized, John Bennit, Jun. and Samuel Bennit owned the covenant & baptized, all adults, John Parke, Jun, an adult, baptized, and Thomas Joseph and Elizabeth Isaac, Nathan, children of John Bennit baptized."



Above is an interesting picture received from the Rev. Robert R. Park #386. This shows his grandfather, Joseph Jasper Park sitting with the beard, James Monroe Park on the right and Charles Hudson Park on the left.

Joseph's second wife is beside him with her niece between them.

In addition to Joseph and James, three other brothers also fought in the Civil War. They were Newton Elexander Park (he was killed in the battle at Bentonville GA and died in the arms of Burrell), Burrell Josepus Park, and William Columbus Park.

A book Rebels Valient by Wesley Thurmon Leeper describes the "fighting Park boys".

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Yet Mother Jane insisted on her patch of beauty, her flower garden. Family tradition said that little George, even as a toddler, made his playthings from leaves and flowers. When still in his early teens, he began to grow his own flowers, starting with a few seeds from his mother. He soon realized that, in saving seeds from one year to the next, he had more than he needed. He wondered if others might like to buy some of his extra seeds, and characteristically went into action.

George had been a youthful (precocious?) school teacher, and had saved ten dollars. This bought him a printing press. It was a small but heavy hand-press. His only way to fetch it from the nearest railway station, six miles away, was to walk over and trudge home with the press on his back. Once home, he set it up in his mother's parlor and began printing a list of his seeds for sale, and distributing it among friends and neighbors. Thus began one of the earliest mail-order seed businesses, which now, 112 years later, is still going strong!

Even at fifteen, George knew that he must advertise to make his business grow. In March, 1867, he wrote a 12-line advertisement and had it printed in the Rural American published in Clinton, New York. It cost him \$3.50, but brought \$6.50 in orders.

Growth came, but only through hard work and long hours. Anyone who makes his living from horticulture or agriculture knows: "The farmer is the world's greatest gambler." In early years George depended on nature for proper amounts of moisture and sun, controlling soil content, and combating plant diseases. Nickels and dimes flowed in for his hand-packaged seeds until by 1869, he had saved enough to print his own catalogue.

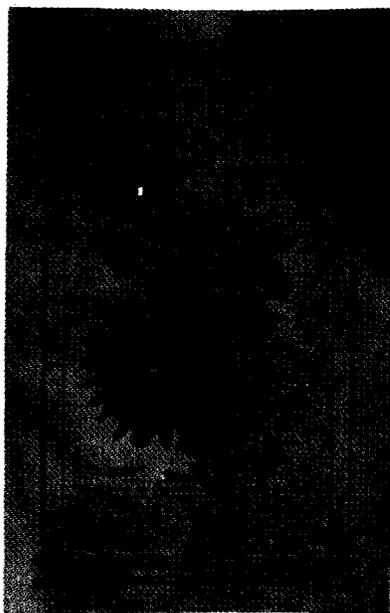
In contrast to today's

huge colorful mailings, this first run of 500 leaflets contained only eight pages. It was printed in black and white, and showed wood engravings of only two flowers, an aster and a pansy. It took a well-developed imagination to picture next summer's flower-filled garden beds. "My garden always looks best in January", a Massachusetts woman once said.

George Park was really a crusader for the home gardener. He wanted millions of people to enjoy his own hobby of making things grow. He saw himself a friend to

grew in only six years to 20,000. Then the Post Office looked at the publication and decided that Mr. Park was mailing advertising at newspaper rates, which must not be. This was hard to take, but he finally solved the problem by raising the subscription price from twenty-five to fifty cents a year and changed the name to The Floral Magazine. It still flourished.

Between the seed business and the magazine the actual cash received was astonishing. Most people paid for purchases and subscriptions by mailing dimes and stamps.



Early covers from Park Seed Co. publications

gardeners. The covers of his earliest printings bore his creed: "Your success and pleasure mean more to Park than your money". This line still appears on today's company catalogues.

Because of his concern for his customers, in 1871 he started a monthly horticultural paper, The Floral Gazette. Here he gave advice, people asked questions, and exchanged plants, seeds and bulbs. This idea caught hold, and from a 200-copy first printing, its circulation

George's only sister, Margaret, took these home at night and counted them on the kitchen table. A nephew claimed that once, when his Uncle George bought a piece of land near Fannettsburg for \$500, he paid for it with five thousand dimes, which he brought in a wooden bucket.

When George was thirty, he had a well-established business, with bulbs and flowering plants as well as seeds. He also edited a popular magazine, had married

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We'd like you to know -

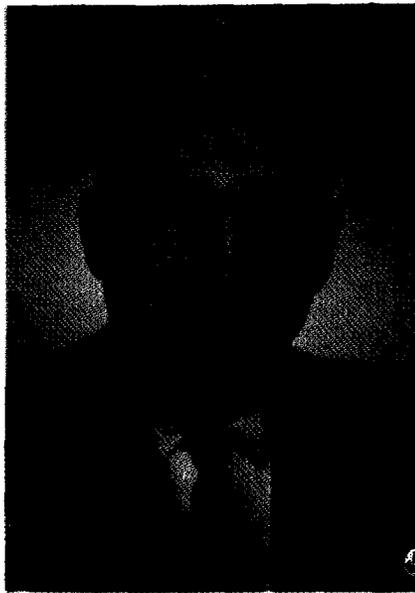
Dana Parks, Jr. IV (44), Trustee of the Society, is a American Lineage Specialist, that is, a professional genealogist researching Revolutionary soldiers from NH.

The son of Dana Parks III Dana was born in Newton MA 30 Oct 1910. It is interesting to note that it was in this same town where his immigrant ancestor Richard¹ settled. Following his attendance in the Newton schools he went to the Northeastern University School of Law.

Dana was in the brokerage business and a savings bank until 1942 at which time he joined IBM. He started in Boston and retired as manager of the Concord NH office in 1977.

He started work on family history in 1930 and is still hard at it. He is a member of the NH Historical Society, the NE Historic Genealogical Society and the National Genealogical Society.

For 17 years he has been derator for the Town of Salisbury NH and has served as Vice-Chairman of the



Dana Parks Jr., IV

Merrimack Valley Regional School Board. Dana is a member of the Congregational Church and is past Trustee of the NH Conference.

Hobbies include camping, amateur radio, cabinet making, collecting US stamps, and occasionally needlepoint. With his wife Gladys he also does a bit of square dancing.

Dana's lineage: Richard¹, Thomas², John³⁻⁴⁻⁵, David⁶, Dana⁷⁻⁸⁻⁹. (see Vol XV p3)



Lillian Elizabeth Cross Good (60) is one of the many descendants of Robert¹ in the teaching profession. Her early education was in Park River ND followed by two years at Valley City State Teachers' College ND and undergraduate work completed at Montana State University. An MA was earned at Washington State Univ.

Mrs. Good was born in Childs MN the daughter of Albert Davis and Nellie Cross. In 1931 she was married to Clarence Porter at Lewiston MT and in 1948 she married LeRoy Vincent Good at Seattle WA. By the second marriage there was a son, David Michael.

Teaching on the elementary level has been in Emerado ND, Seattle WA and in Anchorage AK. Although a career teacher, Lillian was inspired during WW II to work at Swan Is. Ship Yard in Portland OR and at the Boeing Plant in

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a girl named Jennie McAllen, and had two children. However, he missed a firm educational foundation. Therefore, after saving for that purpose, he headed for Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University). This decision to make up his missing education was not easy, for both family and academic reasons. Courses came hard because he had missed early fundamental training in school, but many hours of extra reading and laboratory work helped him catch up. In 1886, at 34, George W. Park graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree.

During the next decade, the business grew so fast that the volume of incoming mail justified adding a post office

in his Path Valley home, "Libonia". Working conditions were then hard in many ways. The railroad was six unpaved miles away and they had no telephones until the late 1890's. Most of the employees at "Libonia" either walked to work or lived in nearby rooming houses, but when bicycles became popular, the company helped finance a bike path into Fannettsburg. The day began at 6:50 in the morning and ended at 6 p.m., with a work-week of sixty hours!

George devoted himself to the more creative parts of the business. While keeping an eye on management, he worked hard at writing, editing and promoting. Successful promotion included the use of premiums, free suscriptions to The Floral Magazine, and bonuses for forming clubs to buy his

packets of seeds in quantity. He also had a flair for writing the "over-the-back-fence" chatty gossip that always goes on between home gardeners, giving both the catalogues and the magazine a friendly touch, and getting an ever-increasing circulation.

He now needed experienced help to run the presses. In addition to the monthly magazine, the spring and fall catalogues each totaled about 20,000 copies. The company made its own printing plates, and the three big presses ran day and night, ten hours a shift. No wonder that early in the 20th century the company had outgrown "Libonia", and sought a new location. In about a year the company found another site, on the Pennsylvania Railroad near LaPark, now called Paradise (Lancaster Co.) PA.

Continued in next issue

Census - 1830

The Park/e/s summary of the 1830 census, completed in this issue, is offered here to assist those who may be researching their Park/e/s ancestry. All those whose name was Park, Parke, Parks, Parkes and even Perks are included.

The names are shown by the county where they lived in 1830. The census page number is given to let you refer to the complete census for analysis of household members as well as those of other names nearby who may be related by marriage.

States covered in earlier issues are:

- Vol XVI -2 VA, WV, GA, NC
- 3 TN, AL, KY, SC
- DE, FL, MD.
- Vol XVII-1 New England
- 2 NY

Pennsylvania

Allegheny County

Alexander Park p 5
 James Park p 87
 James Park p 82
 James Park p 91
 John Park p 5
 John E Park p317
 John Park p157
 Joseph Park p149
 Robert Park p317
 William Park p157
 William Park p 6
 William Park p138
 David Parks p162
 Delila Parks p140
 James Parks p324

Armstrong County

William Park p263
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 Thomas Parks p265

Bedford County

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 John Parks p 15
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 Martha Parks p 17

Berks County

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Bradford County

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 Chester Park p 75
 Isaac Park p 46
 Mary Park p146
 Harry Parks p 46
 John Parks p 58
 Joseph Parks p 78
 Nancy Parks p 77
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Butler County

David Park p 25
 Joseph Park p 25
 Samuel Park p 24
 Thomas Park p 25
 William Park p 25
 William Parke p 59
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Cambria County

Isaac Parks p178

Chester County

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 David Park p 96
 Elizabeth Park p 65
 George W Park p 96
 Jacob E Park p 62
 James Park p 90
 John Park p292
 John G Park p 91
 Jonathan Park p 65
 Mary B Park p291
 Robert T Park p 65
 Thomas Park p 62
 Thomas Park p335
 Benjamin Parke p321
 John Parke p 22

Columbia County

Russel Park p 89
 Samuel Park p205
 William Park p 86

Crawford County

Myron Parks p 27

Cumberland County

John Park p 12
 Nancy Park p 10
 George Parks p113
 James Parks p110
 William Parks p144

Dauphin County

Robert Parke p 16

Erie County

James Parks p254

Fayette County

Andrew Park p155
 Rebecca Parks p182

Franklin County

Hugh Parks p275
 John Parks p236

Greene County

Nancy Park p373
 James Parks p394

Huntingdon County

Daniel Park p 33
 John Park p 89
 John Park Jr p 22
 John Park Sr p 22
 Joseph Park p117
 Joseph Park p 30
 Robert Park p116
 Alexander Parke p101
 David Parks p 47
 Isaac Parks p 25

Indiana County

John Park p254
 Robert Parkes p183

Lancaster County

Jonathan Park p256
 James Parks p491

James Parks p182
 William Parks p473

Luzerne County

Daniel Park p477
 John W Park p477
 Joseph Park p477
 Roger Park p459
 Russell Park p486
 Samuel Parke p365
 Aaron Parkes p412
 James Parks 1st p365
 Moses Parks p412
 Thomas Parks p365

Mercer County

James Park p124
 John Park p124
 William Park p180
 William Park p127
 Catherine Parks p203
 Samuel Parks p203

Montgomery County

David Parks p294
 William Parks p294

Northumberland County

John Park p141
 John Parks p148

Perry County

George Parks p305

Philadelphia County

Hannah Park p238
 Samuel Park p272
 William Park p 82
 A M Parke p179
 Ingham Parke p173
 James Parke p234
 John Parke p 18
 Thomas Parke p 97

Somerset County

John Parks p 49
 William Parks p116

Susquehanna County

Asa Park p 74
 Cocvill Parke p 89
 Martin Parke p 64
 Simon Parke p 89
 Thomas Parke p 64
 Nehemiah Parks p 87

Union County

James Parks p280
 John Parks p402
 Roberts Parks p339

Vendango County

Joseph Parks p 18
 Myron Parks p 3
 Thomas Parks p 18

Washington County

John Park p 79
 Joseph Park p268
 Nathaniel G p 75
 Isabela Parks p238
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Westmoreland County

Catherine Park p239
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 Benjamin Parks p305
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Park/e/s in Pennsylvania

Part II

Park/e/s immigrants from the British Isles settled in many locations along the eastern seaboard; Robert and Richard, the earliest, in Massachusetts and Connecticut, William in Virginia. These were in the first half of the 17th century, all from England. With the founding of Pennsylvania in 1683 a new influx of immigrants began to arrive.

In the last issue it was pointed out that this was a very different colony from that formed earlier in Boston and Williamsburg. William Penn was responsible for a much more understanding approach: a truly religious freedom for all, civil laws less stringent, a better atmosphere for the educated to ply their trades, and peaceful relationship with the Indians.

Although many descendants from the first Park/e/s moved into Pennsylvania as families moved west, we will consider here primarily those lines that started here. The

first arrival of this new contingent was Arthur, from the Ulster province of Ireland in 1720. (see Vol XVI p48) As pointed out earlier, those emigrating from Ireland during the 18th century were of Scottish origin. Arthur settled in what is now Chester County, just west of Philadelphia. He was soon followed by two brothers, a sister, and his elder brother William's children. These were all devout Presbyterians among those who founded the Upper Octorara Church in Sadsbury township.

About 1724 Thomas Parke settled in Philadelphia. Samuel Park was one of the first settlers in Lancaster Co. He later moved west to Washington Co., south of Pittsburgh. It should be noted that at the time of his move, around 1740, Washington Co. was still part of Lancaster Co. John Park, from whom George Watt Park was descended, (see p33) came to York Co. before 1750. The Society's trustee, Harold Park, has done much research on this line,

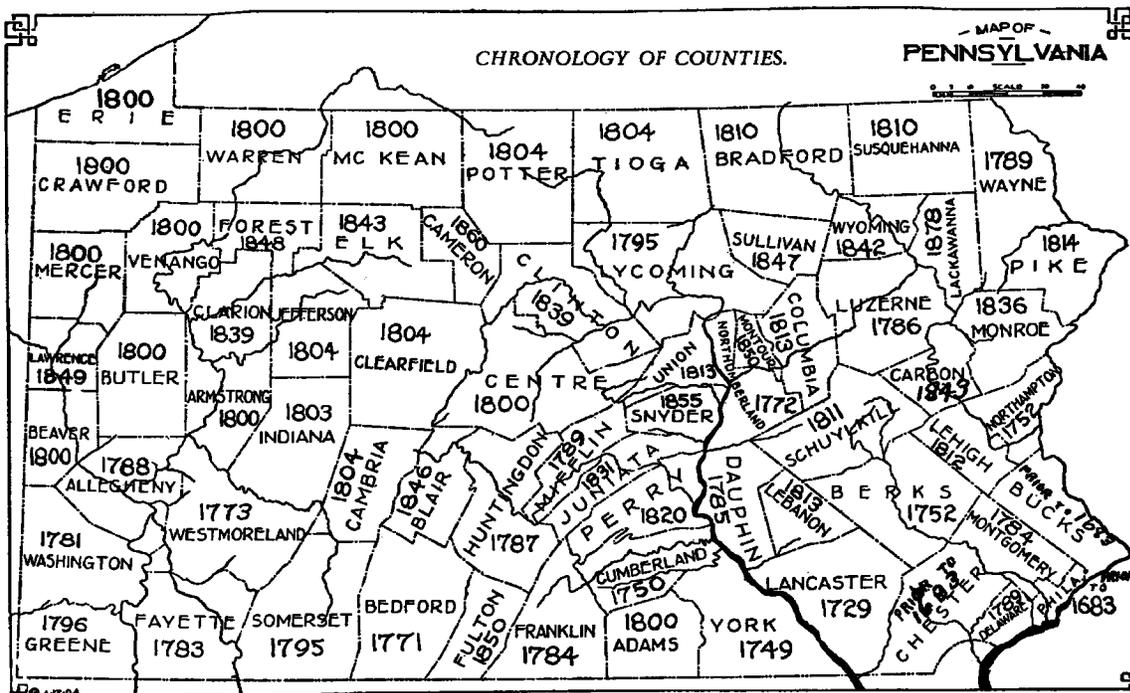
but to date has been unable to prove relationship to any of the other Park/e/s immigrants of this period. It is fairly certain that he also was of Scotch-Irish origin.

Others of whom we know very little arrived before the Revolution: Matthew Park in Pittsburgh, and James who first landed in Baltimore and also settled in Pittsburgh. Thus many of the Park/e/s in Pennsylvania by 1800 were descendants of Arthur and his siblings, also Thomas, Samuel, John, and the above Matthew and James.

Penn's colony was to become a 'melting pot' of Park/e/s. Descendants of Robert moved from Connecticut into north-eastern Pennsylvania. We must remember that this northeast part had been claimed by Connecticut as an annexed portion. Many of these settlers suffered because of this misunderstanding. (see Vol XVI p 4) In 1778 the Wyoming Valley around Wilkes-Barre was the scene of a bloody massacre. As if they were not having enough problems fighting the English, the settlers here were fighting each other.

Descendants of Roger Park of Hunterdon Co. New Jersey

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Interesting Ancestors

SAMUEL KIRKLAND 1741-1808

Missionary to the Indians
Founder of Hamilton College

The Rev. Samuel Kirkland was many things: a missionary in the wilderness of central New York, agent for the newly formed United States Government, and founder of the Academy that became Hamilton College in Clinton NY. He was also a reluctant journalist, or, as he put it, "I had rather preach to the Indians a whole fortnight, than journalise for a day."

Yet from this reluctant writer we gain an eyewitness account of his journeys across the state to the "Chenesee River" and to "Buffaloe", of participation in Indian councils, and of changes as the white settlers encroached upon the Indian lands. Samuel Kirkland's Journals have recently been edited and published by Walter Pilkington of Hamilton College. Kirkland's role as advisor on Indian affairs to the federal and state governments, and his participation as interpreter in the important treaty conferences have given his papers a present-day significance, now when Indian nations are pressing claims for land lost by their forebears. They base their claims on the legal interpretation of 18th century treaties, and they question the validity of land ownership within the confines of the former Iroquois empire.

The Journals, detailing Samuel's forty-year mission on the western frontier of New York, came down to his grandson, Samuel Kirkland Lothrop, who handed them on to his son Thornton Kirkland Lothrop of Cambridge MA. Many of the Kirkland manuscripts, including the Journals, were given to Hamilton College by Mr. Lothrop and form the nucleus of the College's Kirkland Collection in the Burke Library.

Samuel Kirkland, a sixth generation descendant of Robert¹ Parke, was born 1 Dec 1741, the tenth child of

twelve sired by an impecunious country parson. The Rev. Daniel, Samuel's father, was a graduate of Yale in 1720. He was pastor of the church in Newent, the northeast parish of Norwich CT. After 30 years in this parish he was adjudged mentally deranged



The Rev. Samuel Kirkland

and was dismissed. Samuel was only 12, so in the next few years he had a meager existence.

During Samuel's formative years important changes were taking place within the church. He grew up in the atmosphere of the emotional revivals of the "Great Awakening" which shattered the long-established religious formalism of Puritan New England. Not only did Samuel learn the general concern for revitalization of personal religion among the colonists themselves, but also the parallel obligation to evangelize the heathen Indians. The "New Light" reform, started by Jonathan Edwards of Northampton MA, spread throughout Connecticut. Samuel readily accepted this new theology with its emphasis on inner personal religion, and was so

impressed by it that he never entirely broke away from it. The local church's active ministry to the Indians living in the vicinity nurtured Kirkland's interest in the natives and their welfare.

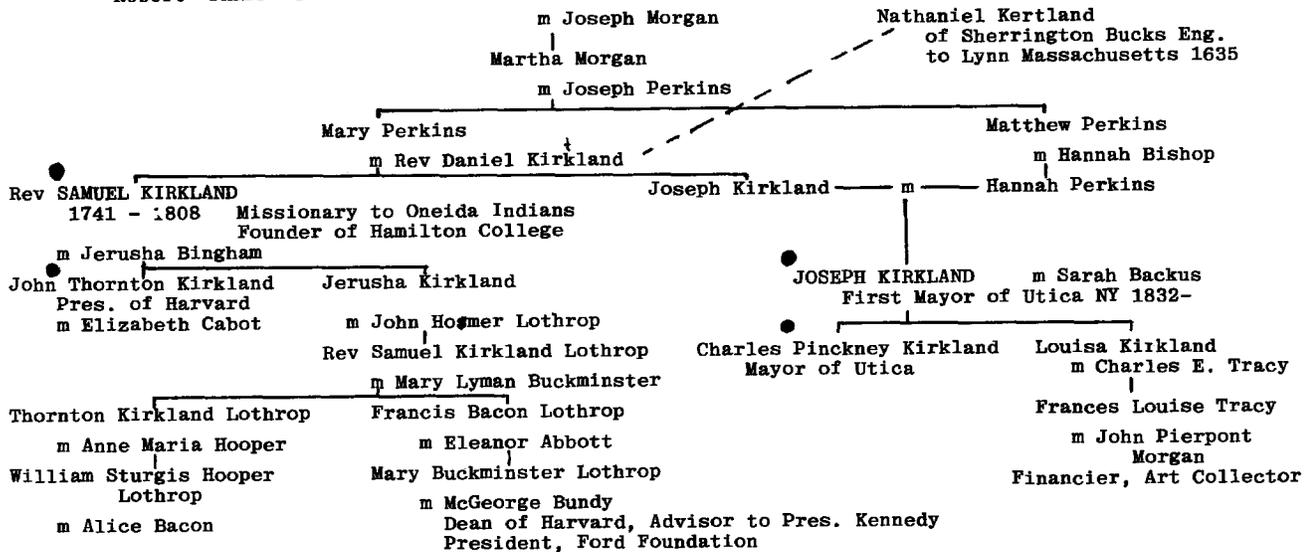
In 1760 at 19 Samuel left home to attend the "More's" Indian Charity School in Lebanon CT. The school had been started by a close friend of his father, Eleazar Wheelock, who later founded Dartmouth College. This man had a powerful and long-lived effect on young Kirkland. In starting the school it was Wheelock's plan to convert and educate Indian youths. These native boys should be uprooted from their tribal surroundings and brought to live with him. He then would give them the rudiments of religious training, together with some knowledge of agriculture and husbandry.

Samuel Kirkland was the first white student to attend the school. At that time it had five Indian boys. Samuel and the Indians slept on straw in bunks and dined usually on boiled meat, vegetables, and Indian pudding. Samuel's program was more advanced, as befitted a white boy headed for college. In the fall of 1761 Samuel journeyed to the Mohawk country at his teacher's suggestion, taking with him a Mohawk youth, Joseph Brant. Their main purpose was to recruit new students for the school. They did not succeed in this, but Samuel was inspired to learn the Mohawk language with the help of his fellow traveler.

By the following fall, Kirkland had gone as far as he could in More's School. Wheelock, in grooming him as an Indian missionary, felt that he needed a year's advanced study to fit him for the task. Wheelock undertook to pay his way at the College of New Jersey (Princeton). The year's study extended into two, after which Samuel, at Wheelock's instigation, became the first white missionary to live among the Senecas, the most hostile of all the Iroquois.

With recommendations from Wheelock and Sir William Johnson Superintendent for Indian Affairs

Robert¹ PARKE — Thomas² PARKE — Dorothy³ PARKE



in the colonies, he proceeded to Canadasaga, the Senecas' principal village. Here he was adopted into the chief sachem's family, and remained there for two years, learning the language instructing his neighbors, and making acquaintances throughout the tribe. This period had some per, as many braves were suspicious and hostile, but his courage and tact gradually won them over.

In 1766 Kirkland was ordained in Lebanon, and returned to establish his permanent mission in Canowaroghare (Oneida Castle) among the Oneidas. In this vicinity he ministered to the Indians for the next 40 years. He established a vigorous church, taught the people industrious habits, and persuaded them to prohibit liquor sales in their territory.

Samuel spent the summer of 1769 in New England, regaining his health after extreme exposure and hardships. He was married to Jerusha Bingham, a niece of Wheelock's. As he returned to his mission, he was now supported by the Scottish Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge and by Harvard College. He found means to erect a church, set up mills, and obtain oxen and tools for the Indians. Making reports to his supporters was the prime purpose of for keeping journals. From his writings, he was

instrumental in preventing a general Indian uprising during Lord Dunmore's War in 1774-5. A general war at that time would have forced the colonists to look to England for aid, and thus would have suppressed the revolutionary movement.

Kirkland's second great service to the colonists followed in 1775. He persuaded the Oneidas to issue a formal declaration of neutrality; soon after that, this declaration was extended to the Six Nations. The authorities in Albany were not able to complete the work Kirkland had so ably begun. The western tribes were unwilling to remain spectators while a war went on. During the war the Oneidas were scattered, and the mission was suspended.

The war years found Samuel directing Oneida Scouts, securing valuable information on enemy movements, serving as chaplain at Fort Schuyler (Stanwix), and with Gen. Sullivan's expedition. His aid was formally recognized by Congress and by the legislatures of Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York. He assisted at the treaty of Fort Stanwix (1784), and helped to persuade the Senecas to accept the government terms.

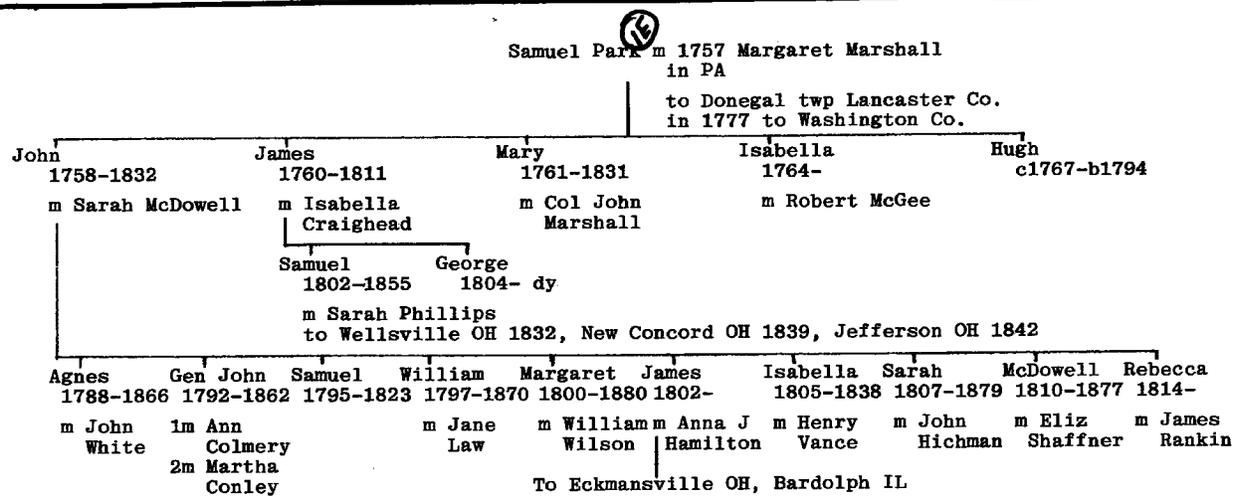
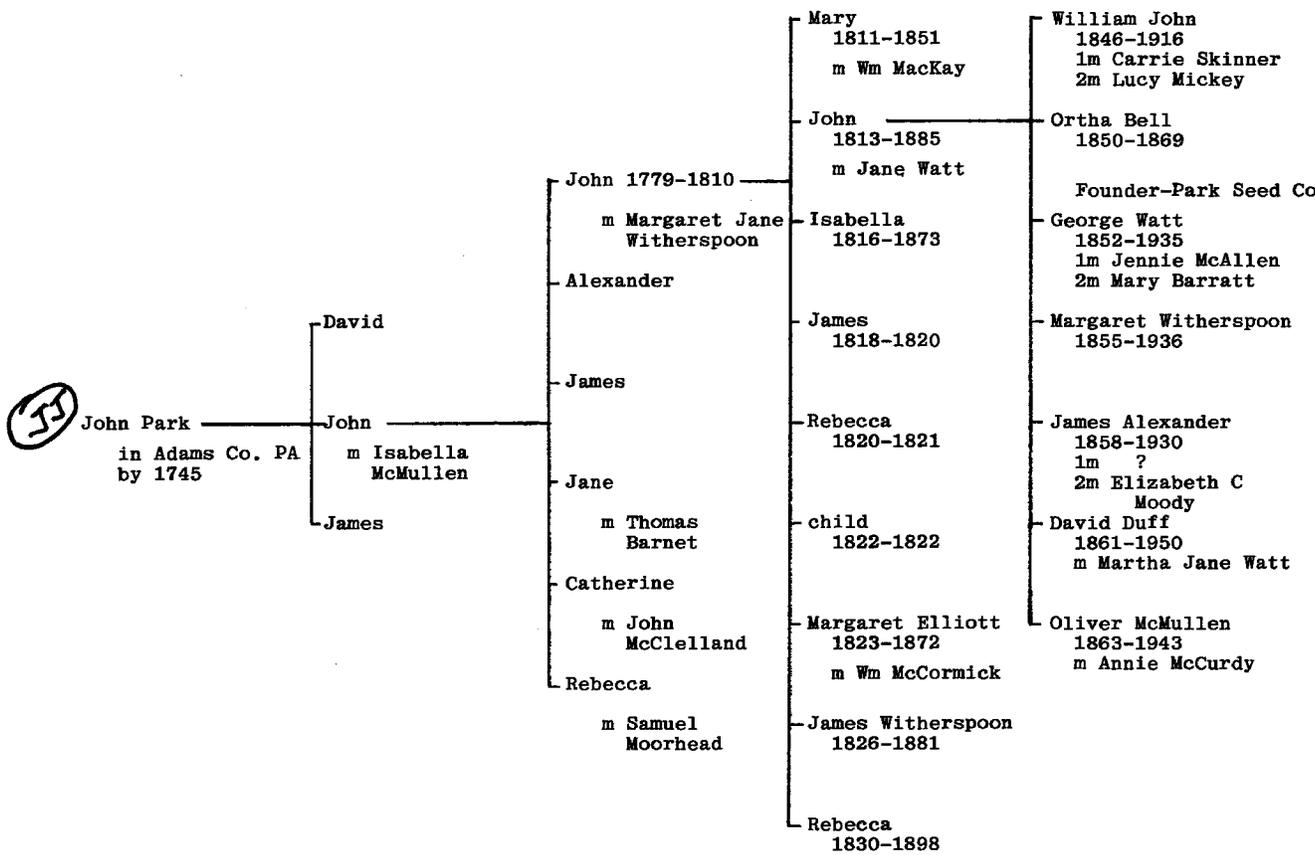
With the end of hostilities, the impoverished Oneidas returned to their villages to find them destroyed. They were utterly dependent on the

State and national government. Kirkland's description of his charges was extremely discouraging: "The are, in plain English, filthy dirty, nasty creatures, a few families excepted." By working tirelessly, however, in 1786 his mission was again functioning. The emphasis of his mission continued to be: control of drunkenness, education for the young, and encouragement of agriculture, all in addition to his exhaustive preaching in many small Indian villages throughout the region.

In the summer of 1788, Kirkland toured the Seneca country, developing plans for the Indians' welfare. He counseled the Six Nations in the business of the Phelps and Gorham purchase. In recognition of his services, the Indians and the State of New York granted him some 4000 acres of wild land on the boundary of the Oneida territory, just west of Utica.

Four years later, following hostile activities among the Ohio Indians, the Secretary of War, Gen. Henry Knox, asked Kirkland to discourage the Six Nations from joining the fighting. He succeeded in bringing together a council in spite of threats from the western Indians, and persuaded them to send a large delegation of chiefs

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also lived in Pennsylvania for many years before moving west. As one travels about the state, one sees evidence of earlier Park/e/s settlers. Only a short distance from Lancaster, where our Society will meet in August, is the borough of Parkesburg. (see Vol XIV p17)

Also just outside Philadelphia are Parkland and Parkside. Farther west in Indiana Co. is Parkwood. Many of our members have ancestors buried in the Parke cemetery in Bradford Co. In the south-western corner are descendants of Andrew Park, who moved from

the south while that portion was still considered part of Virginia. (see map on p27 in the last issue). It seems fitting this year that the Society should take note of the part that the Park/e/s have played in the development of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

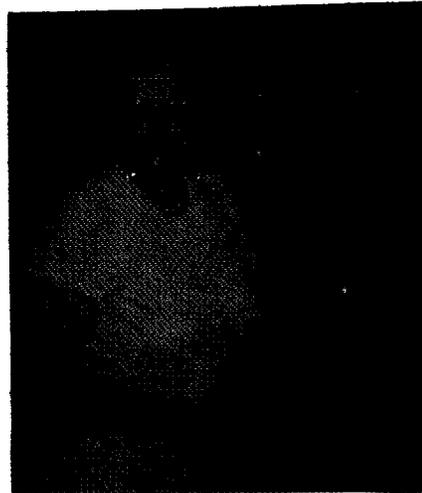
Seattle WA.

Reading is "first and foremost" among her leisure time activities. An enthusiastic traveler she has been in all 50 states and many parts of the world. Her genealogical hobby has her researching the Cross family in preparation of A Lineal Genealogy of the Wilson Cross Family and Allied Families. Contrary to many authors she has traced the female lines to their immigrant ancestors as well.

Her lineage from Robert¹ is through Thomas to Dorothy. Then, Dorothy Morgan, Joseph Witter, Hannah Witter, Elizabeth Branch, Samuel Booth Elizabeth Booth, Mary Agnes Davis to Albert Davis Cross.



Caroline Louise (Shaver) Parks (442) is the grandmother of our Historian. Born in Niverville NY before the turn of the century, her father was Edward David Shaver, a machinist and inventor. In May 1912 she married Elba Keefer Parks in the small Dutch hamlet of Muitzeskill NY. Her husband's lineage is from Richard¹ through



Caroline (Shaver) Parks Richard²⁻³, Jonathan⁴, Whiting⁵⁻⁶, Jonathan⁷, Alonzo Hunt⁸, to Philip Stephen⁹.

Mrs. Parks trained as a nurse at the old St. Peters Hospital in Albany and has served the American Red Cross as a case worker. Her home has been besieged by the young people of the community working on 4H projects. She proudly wears a 40 year Clover.

Living on the farm where she settled in 1912 she is still active in the Dutch Reformed Church, the AARP, and has had a lasting interest in genealogy for 50 years.

Pennsylvanian Jane Patterson Tyrrel (441) was born in Harrisburg in 1901. Following her attendance in the city schools she went to Drexel Institute's School of Library Science. For the next 10 years she served in the Pennsylvania State Library as cataloger and as assistant genealogist.

In 1935 she moved to Casper WY as ass't librarian and later at Wheatland as librarian. She married a rancher, Walter Samuel Tyrrel in 1949. He died in 1975.

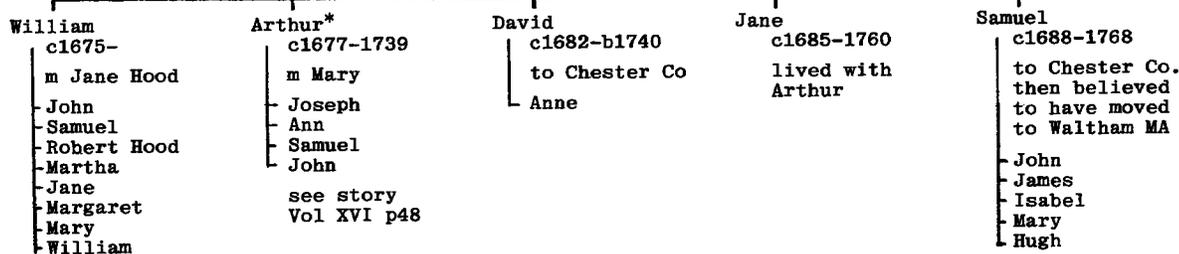
Walter was the Parke descendant with the following lineage: Robert¹, Samuel², William³, Isaac⁴⁻⁵, Abijah⁶⁻⁷, Anna Marie⁸, Franklin Y Tyrrel, Samuel Parks to Walter.

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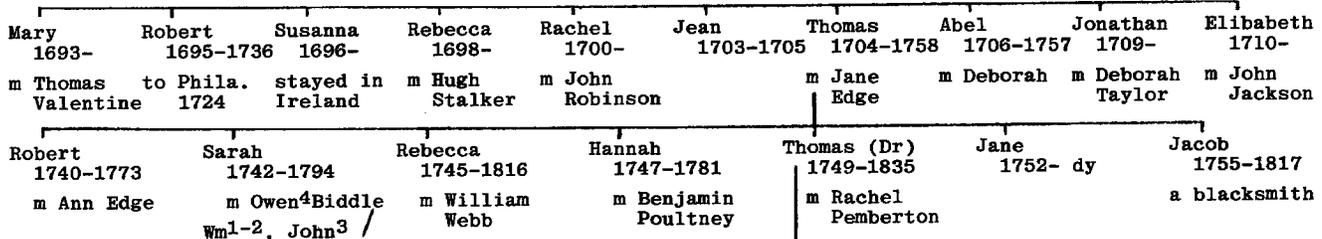
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William Parke of Ballybegley, Co. Donegal, Ire.



Thomas Park m Rebecca Hooper (?)
1660 -1738



A founder of the Philadelphia College of Physicians - Pres. 1818-

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Historian's Corner

Theodore E. Parks
PO Box 590, Milwaukee WI 53201

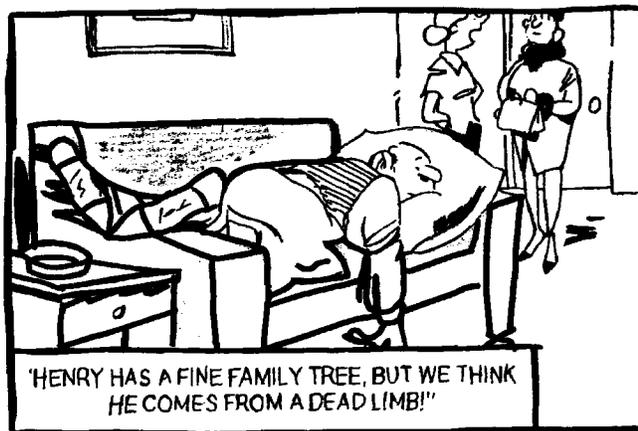
Greetings to the Society! It is a privilege and a challenge to take over the office of Historian of this Society, and to try to match the results achieved by my predecessor, David Parke. When I met David last August, I was overwhelmed by the amount of work accomplished and the volume of records and data he had accumulated for the Society much of it original research that endless search and research of books, documents, and records to find and catalogue pertinent facts for future use. Although I had, after some thought, agreed to become Historian (and also, by default, Registrar) I almost backed out when I saw the size of the task and the duties it would entail. Fortunately I found that we both largely agreed as to the Society's function, and as to what the Historian-Registrar should accomplish. After several enjoyable days of earnest discussions, I fully agreed to undertake this responsibility.

I therefore feel that it would be appropriate to discuss here the Society's principal goals and aims, which will guide my work as your Historian-Registrar. Although the Society has a social function (promoting fellowship among Park/e/s descendants) its main purpose according to our Constitution (Article I, Section 3) is to perform historical and genealogical research concerning the various Park/e/s ancestries, and to publish this information in books and pamphlets. My job as your Historian and Society genealogist is to help accomplish this by organizing, cataloging and critically analyzing data submitted by both Society members and outside sources.

All members probably know that organizing and cataloging data is a major task in itself. When multiplied by the 30 or more individual Park/e/s lines we are currently tracing, the task

becomes monumental. Even more important is the critical analysis of all data as to its quality, consistency, and apparent accuracy when compared to already known data. I feel fortunate that my academic training has taught me to be precise, meticulous, orderly, and always questioning. One can gather masses of data, but without careful review and documentation, it may have little or no value now or for future generations.

classes: Original Entry documents, Family Group Sheets, and published and unpublished books and manuscripts. While these are THE source materials, their weakness is that they cannot be cross-referenced easily. This is where the Given-Name-Indices will prove invaluable. As David has earlier explained, each card when complete will index one member of the family tree with his/her vital statistics and the source where further



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To reach our main goal, we must be able to publish our collected data, confident that to the best of our knowledge and ability it is indeed accurate. This requires standards of research and documentation. Establishing such standards within the Society is one problem area about which I am currently concerned. In a later column I will discuss more fully the whole issue of standards.

Organization of materials, though secondary, is extremely important. (Many amateur genealogists get these priorities reversed, resulting in a nicely organized mass of questionable information and data.) Unlocatable materials are worse than useless: they are mind-boggling. You know you have them, but where? One would prefer to know one did not have them at all, than find oneself in this predicament. The Society has a great deal of information, roughly categorized in three

information can be obtained. In a sense they will be individual "group" cards. This will be a vital research tool not only for the Historian, but for all Society members. With these cards filed alphabetically by given name and birth date the Historian will no longer need to rely on his/her memory to locate information about any family member. For me this will be a God-send. Unlike David, who has been in the Society for years and has been in on the ground floor of much of the Society's information gathering, I confess that I have been rather parochial in my own genealogical work. Until now I have been mainly concerned with the Richard Parke (1635) line. I was quite aware of the Robert Parke (1630) line, as well as Arthur and a few others, but not the 30 or so lines on which I find we are currently working. We must

also realize that no one person will always be Historian-Registrar, and as these duties change hands, written data is inevitably lost. Several of you have already contributed time to this project, while others have indicated an interest in assisting in this work. If I have not already contacted you, I will soon be in touch. I will probably work on some newer lines myself, to become fully familiar with them, and be able to do them justice.

Cataloguing becomes important only when you have a large collection of materials of various types, to be used by a large group of people. The Board of Trustees of the Society hopes someday to be able to have a single place where all pertinent documentation, records, and files, as well as historical artifacts may be safely stored, and put on display for examination and use by Society members and other interested parties. As Historian I am interim caretaker of much of this material, so I must establish necessary cataloguing system. In a future column I hope to list for your information the various books and manuscripts in the Society's possession, their value to you in researching individual lines, and how you might obtain access to them. Establishing safeguards for the materials is also a very important aspect of catalog-

uing. We have already taken steps to see that no single disaster would cause irreparable harm to the Society, and we plan to explore this further.

Although I had hoped to be able to do some original research for the Society, I now know that I will have no time for that. My most important task is to help you analyze and organize your data and to supply you with any extra information in the Society's files. As you can see, there is an important relationship between you, the individual members of the Society, and me. You are the Field Researchers, each interested in one particular line, and working to answer all questions concerning that line; I am the collator of this information, supplying it to other members (with due credit to the original researcher) to aid their own work, and vice versa. This makes a family historical society like ours really vital. We all work toward that one goal, full delineation of all Park/e/s descendants. I am very proud to be part of this effort, and thankful that I no longer need seek alone to find new data and sources concerning my own family line.

I mentioned earlier in this article that I am also by default, the Registrar. The Registrar (Standing Rules #7a) is the certifier of membership papers, for want of a better term. He/she reviews

the membership and lineage papers, and assigns the Society membership number. The Registrar also prepares the necessary entries for the card files to integrate new information about a family line into that already in the Society's possession. This is why it is vital for new members to complete their lineage papers fully. Each new member adds new, often crucial facts. Personally, I feel that the Trustees made an excellent decision in broadening the membership base to include ALL Park/e/s lineages. One never knows when we can match this suddenly appearing Josiah with another Josiah who vanished earlier. Although we may not all have the same blood running in our veins, though ever many times diluted, we are truly united in our common ancestral name Park/e/s, however spelt.

A final word: Society correspondence takes much of my available time, probably much more than originally anticipated. If your letters are answered at all, the least I can do is to respond in kind, with useful information. Since I, like David, am not yet quite a retiree. I beg your indulgence for any delay in answering your inquiries. If you have written some time ago, with no reply, please write again, specifically mentioning this fact, and I will pay special attention to it. Until the next column, Have a Good Day!

Kirkland from page 41

to Philadelphia to negotiate with the federal government. As a result, the Six Nations continued friendly with the United States.

Kirkland now set about accomplishing a long-cherished goal to his: to form an academy on the boundary between the Indian lands and the white settlement for coeducation of Indians and white boys. With President Washington's approval and

Alexander Hamilton's promised support, he obtained a charter for Hamilton Oneida Academy. He gave of his land and personal funds for this cause, but the public was not convinced that Indians were worth educating. So the school proved of more value to the whites.

Misfortune which then befell him seriously sapped his strength. While on his way on horseback to hold services for the Indians, a low hanging branch hit him in the face. He was blinded in one eye which gave him

several years of great pain.

In 1796 he married his second wife, Mary Donnally, a friend of his late wife. The last entry in his Journals was dated 4 Feb 1807, only a year before his death. These writings reflect the diminished effectiveness of his ministry efforts, due to poor eyesight and failing health.

The next issue will tell of his son, John Thornton Kirkland, who became President of Harvard, and of his nephew, Joseph Kirkland, the first mayor of Utica.

“Memorandum Made by John Henry Park [himself]”

John Henry⁸, John⁷, Elijah⁶,
Simeon⁵, Eleazer⁴, Thomas³⁻²,
Robert¹.

The following "memorandum"
was received from Mrs. Grace
B. Allen #160.

24 May 1896

This day commences my
seventy-fifth year. On my
seventy-fifth birthday I
chopped wood with John Duncan,
and stood the work as well as
usual. To all inward and out-
ward feelings, I am as well as
at fifty, with two exceptions;
a breach and the aczema,
neither of which seem to
impair my general health,
and both seem not to get
any worse up to date.
Breach caused by raising
girt at arms length over
the head at the raising of
the Saw Mill at Lordstown
in ---. Memory beginning
to weaken especially on
names. Eye sight good,
can see well without
spectacles as with them,
but consider it best to
use them when I read or
write. Hand trembles at
times when writing. Can
stand to work ten hours
daily at most any kind of
work, but get tired. Over
night rests me; rise in
the morning at 4:30;
retire at 8. Only one
tooth in each jaw.

It is recorded that I
was born on elevated land
between two small mountains
in Vermont, Rutland Co.,
Wells township. My father,
when I was about five years
old, got money enough to
emigrate across Lake
Champlain into Moriah,
Essex Co., New York about
seven miles west of Lake
Champlain and near the east
terminus of the Adirondacks
where he and Grandfather
Broughton bought a small
stream of water on which

they built a Saw Mill and
lumbered, raised a few
potatoes and turnips and
a little hay and oats.

My father put up a
small house and opened a
Hotel of small dimensions,
and did quite a good
business in the winter.
My brothers and myself
went about three miles to
school some 3 months of the
year. The balance of our
time we helped Bartlet hunt
and trap bears, wolves and
smaller game.

Samuel, Cephas, John H.,
Rachel Ann and Servetus
were the members of Father's
family. Samuel and John H.
found much time to construct
little dams and mills on the
small brooks, and many a
cuffing John H. got from
his older brother for grati-
fying his curiosity now and
then, taking a private
survey, and perhaps trying
the capacity and speed of
Samuel's mills. Nevertheless,
John H. managed to find out
the streams and by following
them up, generally became
almost as well posted as the
older brother. I was all
right. Boys learn much in
their childhood play.

Father and Mother, by
close application, found
they were bettering their
condition quite rapidly, and
they concluded that they
could better the condition
of five children and them-
selves by making another
move West.

At that time, Ohio was
considered the far-off Garden
of Eden, so in the year 1830,
Mr. Folsom and my father
started for Ohio. Sometimes
rode in the stage, and on
canal boats some of the way.
They finally arrived in
Warren, Trumbull Co., Ohio,
a nice county seat well
started and well situated on
the Mahoning River, and
having some relatives in
this place who were anxious

to have them stop a few days
and who volunteered to go
around and show them the
beautiful lands, streams and
forests. They went down the
Mahoning and about four miles
below Warren, struck on a tract
of about 360 acres which so
pleased them that they made
the purchase of the whole
tract at about \$5.00 per acre.
Father and Folsom returned
greatly pleased with their
trip and purchase. This
tract belonged to the Salt
Spring 4000 acre tract and
had been reserved for its
timber to boil salt, but by
this time other salt works
much better were discovered
and in operation. There
were at this time four fam-
ilies on the land who had
built houses and cleared and
girdled a small piece each.
Much of their living came
from the wood, as at that
time there were deer, coons,
opossoms, hogs, squirrels,
rabbits, turkeys, pigeons
and quail, all quite easily
secured.

Father drew his business
to a close in Moriah as
fast as possible and got
ready to start in the early
fall of 1831. The day or
month I do not recollect.
I was in my tenth year. I
remember father procured
too good horses, Bone and
Fille, a good wagon with
long pine box with canvas
or cotton cloth roof the
whole length, put in a few
of his best goods, leaving
room for himself in time
of storm, and he was ready
to start. We boys gave our
mills, rocks and brook,
pines and cedars goodbye,
and were ready to go to
the Promised Land. Father
was about 38 years old,
Mother about 36, Samuel 14,
Cephus 12, John H. 10,
Rachel 7, and Servetus 2.

Concluded in next issue.