

Received 7/21/02

Clearing - house for research on all Parke/s immigrants from the British Isles.
Promoting Fellowship, Genealogical Research and the Preservation of our Heritage.

Parke Society 2002 Convocation Set for July 25-28 in Arlington, VA

This year our Convocation will have a new format, in the language of the flyer, "specially planned to afford a maximum of time to take advantage of the great genealogy resources in the city of our Nation's Capitol." Details are set forth on the Parke Society website, <http://www.parke.org>, under "Announcements," and in the flyers inserted in the last issue of the Newsletter, 2002 Vol. 39 No. 1. Perhaps the most important difference from past convocations is that no Society Research Room will be set up this year. This was a difficult decision for the Society's Trustees but was deemed justified by the changing nature of genealogical research and the need to use resources more efficiently.

For those who may want a reminder, check-in is Thursday night, July 25, at The Crown Plaza-Washington, 1489 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. That's in the Crystal City area of Arlington, not far from the Crystal City Metro station and the Reagan Washington National Airport. The Annual Meeting of the Corporation and the Trustees' Meeting will take place at The Crown

continued on page 32

James Parks Last Will and Testament

By Jean Churchill PS#934

Parke Society member C. Carson Parks PS#745 (descended from John Parks (1733-1788) of York Co., PA) of Waynesville, Haywood Co., N.C., brought a copy of this Will and its envelope to our Salisbury, N.C., Parke Society Convocation in July of 2000. It had been found behind a baseboard in a house and given to him by Betty Worley of Haywood County. The members who looked at it did not find anything to remind them of their families. I brought it home where it rested in a file until it traveled with me to the Society's Fort Wayne, IN, Convocation, in July of 2001. Again, there was no response but before I put it away, I again checked the Society given name file, trying North Carolina this time, and I did find a James Parks.

James Parks was born in 1810 in Mecklenburg Co., North Carolina, and died in 1897 in Haywood Co, NC. The lineage key given was MX, a provisional line which has been merged into the "K" lineage of Roger Parke (N.J. 1682). The book *Moses Park of Rowan and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina* (1995) (pp. 264-275), by Percival D. Park PS#140, gave me the information I needed to place this individual in his correct lineage.

James Parks was a son of George and Elizabeth Sharp Parks of Mecklenburg County, and a grandson of Moses and Mary Hill Park. His first marriage was to Mary Matilda McCulloch on 13 December 1832. They had three children: Jane, William, and Mary. Mary Matilda died on 31 May 1838. Mecklenburg is in south central North Carolina, just north of Charlotte.

James's second marriage was to Louisa R. Parks in February 1854. Although they were of the same surname, there is no evidence that there was any relationship. Louisa may have been of a Burke Co., NC, family which was a branch of the family of John and Sarah Wingfield Parks of Amherst Co., VA, and Wilkes Co., NC.

continued to page 29

In This Issue:

Parke Society 2002 Convocation / James Parks Last Will	17
Welcome / Thoughts From Your Editor	18
In Memory / New E-Mail Address	19
Congratulations Centenarian / My First Convocation	20
Research NY State Archives and County Seats	21
Dana Parks Jr. Memorial Circulating Library	22
Possible Irish Roots of Hugh Parks of Rowan Co., N.C.	23
Learning About My Father: Part 2	24
Family of Rev. Hervey Coke Parke, Jr.	26
A Shackleton Connection	28
My Adventures on the Internet	30
Queries	32

Welcome New Members!

1399 Charles William Parkes
California, MO

1402 James William Parke
Lancaster, PA

And welcome back to a member
who has become active again:

1400 James Parke Laughlin
Chesterfield, MO

1403 Donna Marie Fletcher Gillig
Watsonville, CA

511L Terry Dennis Parks
Reseda, CA

1401 Gail Louise Hammann Park
Laurel Springs, NC

1404 Patricia Ann Glenn Maney
Newport News, VA

Some Thoughts from Your Editor

Since I became editor, several correspondents have commented that they weren't sure what address to use to contact the Society. They just picked one or another of the addressees identified in the Newsletter, at the bottom of the second page of each issue or elsewhere. That is in fact the correct procedure to follow.

Unfortunately, the Society has no permanent facility to serve as a central headquarters to receive and reply to all communications and to serve as a repository for Society records on which replies might be based. Different areas of responsibility are assigned to different Society officers, scattered literally all over the United States. The best help I can offer is to explain the major assignments. In addition, I have revised the standard Newsletter information that appears at the bottom of the second page of each issue.

Complaints go to our President, Jeanne Reisler #514L. Dues payments and questions about same are for our Secretary, Arlene Callahan #396. Membership applications are for our Registrar, Lyle Orem #606L,

and address changes for Executive Director Tad Parks #425H. All Library matters are handled by our Librarian, Jean Churchill #934. Editorial matters are my province. As for genealogical questions, we are all more or less in the business, but you should contact the Lineage Leader first if one is assigned to the lineage of interest to you. Beyond that, Tad Parks and Jean Churchill have the largest collections of Society genealogical records, and access to the Givename Index. David L. Parke #13H, in addition to his institutional memory covering every subject, is particularly expert concerning the lineage of Robert Parke (MA 1630).

For all other matters, you are welcome to contact whomever you think best, and we will do our best to respond or else refer your query or comment to the person best able to deal with it. We all share information as necessary. So please continue to feel free to contact any of us about any Society business. We are glad to hear from you!

PDP

Published by the Society for its members three times per year. Copies sent to libraries and genealogically oriented societies on request. Articles on research, historical records, as well as news items and queries always welcome.

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The Parke Society serves as clearinghouse for research on all Park/e/s immigrants from the British Isles. Regular membership is open to any descendant. Associate membership is open to any interested person. Inquiries and requests for membership should be directed to the Registrar.

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In Memory

Patricia Gagan Parks

Patricia Gagan Parks passed away on May 16, 2002, at her home in Glenview, IL. She was the wife of William "Bill" Wilson Parks #1367 (LK=TZ). Pat was born on February 2, 1923, at Chicago, IL, the eldest of three daughters of Raymond Joseph Gagan and Celia Clara Crowley Gagan. When she was about three years old, her family moved to Oak Park, IL, where she was raised through graduation from Oak Park & River Forest Township High School in 1940. Pat studied at the University of Illinois at Champaign, IL, where she earned various honors including election to Phi Beta Kappa, graduating with a liberal arts degree in 1944.

In February of 1945, Pat married William Leon Harden, of Clarksdale, MS, who had been a fellow student at the University of Illinois. He died of Hodgkins disease in March of 1946. Pat entered the workforce, at first as a booking agent for Colston-Leigh, a talent agency, and several years later with Marshall Field & Co., where she eventually became Director of Special Events and Publicity.

On September 19, 1959, at Oak Park, IL, Pat married Bill Parks #1367. She resigned from Field's in 1960 to devote her time to home life in Glenview, IL. The Parks' daughter, Julia Margery Parks (marr. David L. Soxman), was born at Glenview in March of 1961. Pat resumed working for Field's on a part-time basis in 1964, continuing until 1984. She was active in many civic and cultural organizations, and traveled extensively with her husband, often by sailboat.

Interment was at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Hillside, IL, following a funeral at the N. H. Scott Funeral Home in Glenview. Pat is sadly missed by her family and friends.

Bill Parks #1367 is a descendant of James and Elizabeth Davis Parks, of Belmont County, Ohio. James Parks (ca. 1781-1861) was not an immigrant ancestor as far as can be determined, but he is treated as the founder of the TZ lineage. Bill's lineage is as follows: James (1), John B. (2), Adam S. (3), Ostrander Johnson (4), Paul Brownlee (5), and William Wilson (6). A history of this family was written by Lois Iams Blake, *James Parks (1781-1861) and Elizabeth Davis (1782-BEF. 1869)*, reviewed by Jean Churchill #934, Librarian, in the Newsletter at 2001 Vol. 38 No. 1, p. 5. Jean also wrote an article on the current state of research concerning the family's origins, "Missing Link Three," at 2001 Vol. 38 No. 1, p. 8. Bill and his brother Richard Rohan Parks have also contributed an article, "An Investigation of the James Parks/Elizabeth Davis Line," 2001 Vol. 38 No. 3, pp. 39, 48.

In Memory

Charles Edward Wingate #1119

Word has been received of the death of Charles Edward Wingate (Jr.) #1119 (LK=KR), of Angleton, Texas, on December 13, 2000. He was born on October 28, 1926, near Houston, Texas, a son of Charles Edward Wingate, Sr. (1887-1951) and Hilda May Vargas Wingate. His earliest known Park ancestor was Edwin Park (1), born in New York ca. 1800, who married Harriet Banta in Tippecanoe Co., IN. Harriet was born in Preble Co., Ohio, in 1813. They moved to Texas, where Edwin died at Chapel Hill in 1852, and Harriet at Cypress, TX, in 1885. Their daughter Malinda Park (2) (1848-1935) married Joseph Rowan, and their daughter Annie Laura Rowan (3) (1870-1954) married John Edward Wingate. The Wingates were the parents of Charles, Sr. (4).

Charles, Jr. (5) married Lula Mae Ferguson, daughter of Robert and Lula Karm Ferguson, and they had five children: Harry Wayne Ralls Wingate (b. 1945), Harvey Edward Wingate (b. 1947), June Marie Wingate (b. 1949), John Lee Wingate (b. 1951), and Janet Lynn Wingate (b. 1953). Charles joined The Parke Society in 1993.

New E-Mail Address

Our editor emeritus and publisher, David L. Parke #13, and Cecilia Parke #535, lineage leader for Roger Parke (NJ 1682), want all their friends to know that they have a new e-mail address: davcel080@aol.com. This replaces their former address, davcel@gate.net which is no longer functional. David and Cecilia are well, and continue to live at 7162 Cambridge St., Spring Hill, FL 34606-4201.

In The Next Issue

- Report on Convocation 2002
- John Parks (1733-1788) of Allegheny County, PA
- Confusing Variations in the Spelling of Surnames
- And Much More!

Congratulations, Centenarian!

Our very warm congratulations to Mrs. Alice Crandall Park #466, of Washington, D.C., who celebrated her 100th birthday on October 4, 2001. In writing to advise our Librarian, Jean Churchill #934 of this milestone, she called the announcement a "Delayed Obituary"! We are happy to dispute that characterization, as Mrs. Park is very much in the land of the living, and we hope she will be with us for a long time to come.

Mrs. Park was born Alice Mary Crandall at Loda, Illinois, a daughter of Frederick Adam and Sarah Elizabeth Clemens Crandall. On Aug. 29, 1925, she married Lee Isaac Park #121 (1895-1979). He was a tax attorney and senior partner of the Washington, D.C., law firm of Hamel, Park, McCabe & Saunders. (Newsletter, 1978 Vol. 15 No. 3, p. 40; 1979 Vol. 16 No. 1, p. 2.) Mr. Park was a descendant of Nathan Park and of Nathan's son Charles, Sr., both of whom came from Hunterdon Co., N.J., to settle in eastern Rowan Co., N.C., in the 1770's. Although we do not know Nathan to have been an immigrant, he is given the number (1) for convenience, and the lineage is thus: Nathan (1), Charles (2) and (3), James Q. (4), Guilford Benton (5), Thomas Benton (6), and Lee Isaac (7).

Nathan's origins continue to be a mystery to many Park researchers. In 1975, Alice C. Park, in cooperation with Avis Park Voss, published *Park/e/s and Bunch on the Trail West, with Allied Families: Benton, Duvall, Foster, Greenwall, Jones, Loveless and Tally* (432 p., indexed, with charts; Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore). (Newsletter, 1978 Vol. 15 No. 2, p. 22.) It has been assumed in the past that Nathan and his son Charles belong to the lineage of Roger Parke (NJ 1682), because they came from New Jersey and they, or at least Charles, acquired land in the Jersey Settlement area of eastern Rowan County, that later became Davidson County, next to the land of Allen, Ebenezer, and Timothy Park, and a few miles east of land belonging to Moses Park. (Newsletter, 1984 Vol. 21 No. 3, pp. 40-41; 1986 Vol. 23 No. 1, p. 5.) It is hard to imagine that Nathan and Charles might not have been related to these other Parks. However, to date, no connection has been found. (Ref. Cecilia B. Parke #535, *Descendants of Roger Parke, Immigrant, 1648-1739* (2000).)

Mrs. Park has two children, Lee Crandall Park, M.D. #834, of Lutherville, MD, and Nancy Alice (Mrs. John W., III) Kern of Westgate, MD, and several grandchildren. Mrs. Alice C. Park can be reached at: 4200 Cathedral Ave., N.W., No. 314, Washington, D.C. 20016. A very happy birthday to her!

My First Convocation

By Barbara Parkes Kohler #1365 (LK=WQ)

Having just joined the Parke Society, I was thrilled that the convocation was planned for Ft. Wayne, Indiana, July 26-29, 2001. (See Newsletter, 2001 Vol. 38 No. 3, pp. 40, 41, 44.) Since my cousin Betty Parkes Tober (our dads were brothers) lives in Ft. Wayne, and it's been 18 yrs. since we were together, this would be a wonderful opportunity to see her while being a part of the Parke Society activities. We recently discovered we both were doing family research from various parts of the country. Our dads have one sister left in Connecticut so time is of the essence in gathering information from her. I had to do some finagling with my work schedule, but off I flew to Ft. Wayne via Chicago.

For some reason, I had the Parke Society address in my files since the late 1970s. After my mother Edna Irene Tallerdy Parkes died in December 1998, I discovered a July 1966, issue of the *Park/e/s Family News*. That year the annual meeting was held in North Stonington, Connecticut (my birth state), and David L. Parke #13 was president. In fact, all of the officers that year resided in Connecticut. I don't know why Mother never joined, but she kept the publication in her family notes.

The Ft. Wayne Convocation gave me an opportunity to learn about the Society and to observe the corporate meeting. As a new member, I needed to know about the By-Laws, the organizational structure, the various offices and the profit and loss statements. Even more, it was interesting meeting all of you and listening to your various stories and the unique ways you've procured information needed to complete your family trees.

I thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Allen County Public Library and researching in the Genealogy Library. The tour of the Lincoln Museum was indeed an interesting journey back in time. The highlight for me was the presentation by Curt Witcher of the Historical and Genealogical Department of the Allen County Public Library. The information he presented on the various websites available on the Internet was thorough and most helpful. Those of us who need information from overseas were given useful suggestions as well.

My only regret is that I did not join the Parke Society sooner – like when I was much younger! It took the death of my mother to force me into serious family research. Then it took me months to sort through her genealogy papers. (I dumped the paper stacks in boxes and mailed them from Connecticut to my home in Washington State.) There were tiny bits of paper, hand scribbled notes on napkins and envelopes, pictures,

continue on page 30

Research in the New York State Archives and County Seats

By Jean Churchill #934, Librarian

Orange County, New York, is an important area for genealogy because of its geographic location. It has a very active genealogical society which is located in the 1841 Historic Courthouse at Goshen. The Orange County Genealogical Society is not only very researcher-friendly but also presents a yearly series of lectures. Mr. Roger D. Joslyn, CG, FASG, a genealogical writer whose articles have appeared in *The New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, *The American Genealogist*, *The New England Historic & Genealogical Register*, and several other major genealogical publications, has frequently been the Society's speaker.

Mr. Joslyn's lecture of December 2, 2000, "*Born in New York, But Where in New York?*" focused primarily on researching New York records of the 19th century, which is a problem area for many family historians. One of his opening comments was, "If you are not having trouble with your New York roots, you are doing something wrong!"

If your family surname is not too common, the speaker suggested first using the Census Index to plot the surname geographically on a New York state map, then visit the area for a more in-depth search of local records such as deeds, tax records, newspapers, etc. Also the researcher should check for movement of other family surnames which may turn up in these same locations.

Mr. Joslyn offered other research suggestions, such as:

1. The Tax Assessment Roll for the period 1799-1804 arranged by county and by town on microfilm is worth examining. An individual may be on the Assessment Roll but not the 1800 census.
2. Veterans of the War of 1812 were given awards of Bounty land for their service, but many sold their land immediately without ever seeing it. During the period 1850-1860, the State of New York made available its Index to Awards on Claims for War of 1812. This index gives addresses for the petitioners.
3. In 1847, a listing of births, deaths, and marriages was created from both local and county census records.
4. The Albany State Archives has Vital Records, births, marriages, and deaths, from 1881 through 1925.
5. The New York State Census for 1855 is particularly helpful because it is the first detailed census and lists people's relationship to the head of household, their number of years in the community, their birthplaces, and whether they were naturalized voters.
6. State census records often have more complete information than the Federal Census. Mr. Joslyn gave as an example the New York State Census for 1865 for Horseheads,

N. Y., which lists wives' maiden names.

7. Another point made by the speaker was that three successive versions were made of the United States Censuses for 1850, 1860, and 1870. The original was left with the county clerk, the first copy of that original went to Albany (where it was lost in a fire), and the second went to the federal government. This second copy is the one usually examined, but its contents are questionable because each version was made by a different individual. Variations crept in, so Mr. Joslyn strongly suggested checking the original county copy.
8. The United States Census for 1880 had both a long and a short form. The short form was left in the offices of the county clerks.
9. Civil War records for New York can be found both throughout the state and at the Archives. The G.A.R. records for New York are now at Albany.
10. The "Town Clerk's Reports of Officers, Soldiers & Seamen" are on microfilm at the State Archives, and are available for sale. These reports are a very useful source because the Civil War veteran was asked for his full name (first, middle, last), the time and place of his birth (if foreign, usually including the name of the town), and the names of both his parents.
11. The New York Public Library has the records of the Immigrant Bank for 1850. These records contain a lot of personal information.
12. Other search areas suggested by Mr. Joslyn are: Social Security Death Index, 1920 Census Index for New York, the 1905, 1915, and 1925 New York State Census Indexes, Ship Records, Border Crossing Index (from Canada into New York), the New York Times Index, the Revolutionary War Printed List, the Loyalist Printed Colonial List, the County Tax Lists (predating the Revolution), New York Wills (up to 1780), Vital Records (from colonial New York up through 1784), cemetery books, and church records.

The presentation was excellent, the more so as Mr. Joslyn provided examples of the fruits of his searches. Especially notable were the differences between the county original and the federal copy of the census records for the same year.

While census records are a valuable research tool, it is wise to use them in conjunction with other documentation, because mistakes were occasionally made. For example, the 1920 census for the Town of Barton, Tioga County, N. Y., listed one member of my family twice, first with grandparents and then with the member's father.

Dana Parks Jr. Memorial Circulating Library

Jean Churchill #934, Librarian

221 S. Wyomissing Ave., Shillington, PA 19607-2535

e-mail: churchill@talon.net

Egle, William H., M.D., M.A.; 1886/reprint; index (loan fee-\$3).

Pennsylvania Genealogies Scotch-Irish & German. 929/EGLE

This reprint was donated by PS#934. Researchers will need to read it carefully both because of its small print and also because it was published in 1886 and so may contain some errors. There are no Park/e/s genealogies, but the Parks surname appears in the Index so it should be possible to check for their connections to other families.

Park, W.D. PS#1305 & Park, W.H. II PS#1299; pub. 2002 (loan fee-\$3).

PARK & COBB FAMILY HISTORY 1999-2001 ESTILL, MADISON, BOYLE, LINCOLN, & CLARK CO'S, KENTUCKY, Ed. IV. 000/PARK Lineage Key = K

This is the latest update from Doug Park (The Mystical Gravehunter) and his father who are tracing the descendants and allied families of the pioneers Ebenezer Park (1747-1839) & Tabitha Mills (1752-1826). Percival Park, our Newsletter Editor, and also a 6th cousin to these researchers, will be reporting more fully on this excellent manuscript in future issues.

I was very much impressed with the following statement written by Doug Park on the appreciation of one's family history: "*Whether or not the blood of these ancestors flows through your veins is immaterial in many respects to the realization that the most important, though least recognized need of the human soul, is to be 'rooted' - whatever your lineage be. The more you know about your ancestry, the more you will come to value and understand about yourself and the role your own family played in the history of America and the land from which they came.*" (p.89)

New York State Historical Association; donated by PS#934 (loan fee-\$3).

New York State Historical Research Library 026/BOOK

The NYSHA Research Library is located in Cooperstown, NY. It is open to the public year round, with a user fee of \$3.00 per day. This manual consists of a grouping of library notes prepared by several genealogists who have used this repository to research the following New York counties: Chenango, Delaware, Herkimer, Oneida, Otsego, Montgomery, and Schoharie. There is a map of each showing the towns within the county. I have also included a general overview of their available materials (85,000 volumes) along with a listing of all the state census records that they have. Briefly, the Library has federal census records for New York from 1790 to 1920, and most state census records from 1825 to 1925. Each county does have its own state census record but only for that county; so if you are unsure where an ancestor was living, it is much easier to make a general search at one location. The state censuses are not indexed. The inhabitants are listed under the town within a particular county. A painstaking search may be required, but it is worthwhile because of the census questions asked. Two of the most helpful are: "name your place of birth," and "how many years residing within this county."

Helen Hill Miller; 1989; 232 pg.; (loan fee-\$3.)

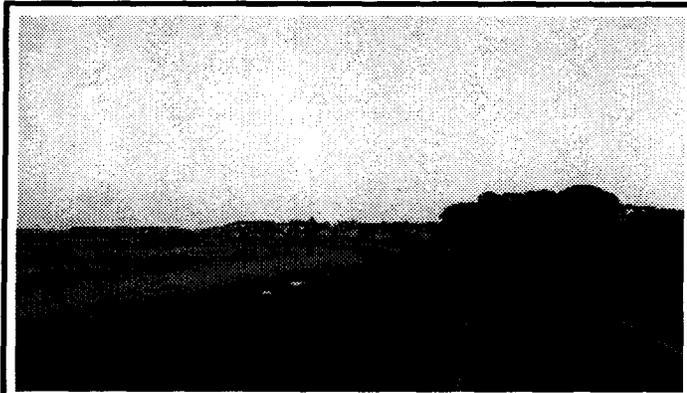
Colonel Parke Of Virginia, The Greatest Hector in the Town 920/PARK

This biography was donated by PS#1174 Lyle (Doug) Sexton. The subject's lineage is William¹ (VA 1633), Daniel², Daniel³. This was a distinguished colonial family but Daniel Parke II is remembered for his notorious, reckless behavior both here and abroad. He has been the subject of several writings in the Newsletter, e.g., 1979 Vol. 16 No. 3, p. 33; 1980 Vol. 17 No. 1, p. 5; 1991 Vol. 28 No. 3, p. 43. For her book, Ms. Miller has researched records in the United States, England and Bavaria for documentation which she has used to provide an excellent biography of Daniel II. She also fills in the historical background to provide the reader a broad understanding of the various relationships both here and aboard.

Possible Irish Roots of Hugh Parks of Rowan Co., N.C.

By Percival D. Park #140

In the last issue of the Newsletter (2002 Vol. 39 No. 1, p. 1), we considered Hugh Parks (Sr.) (1716-1780) (LK=FT) of old Rowan County, N.C., and his family, as



View of Ballywalter, County Down, N. Ireland, home of Hugh Park (1) (ca. 1633-1717) and his family

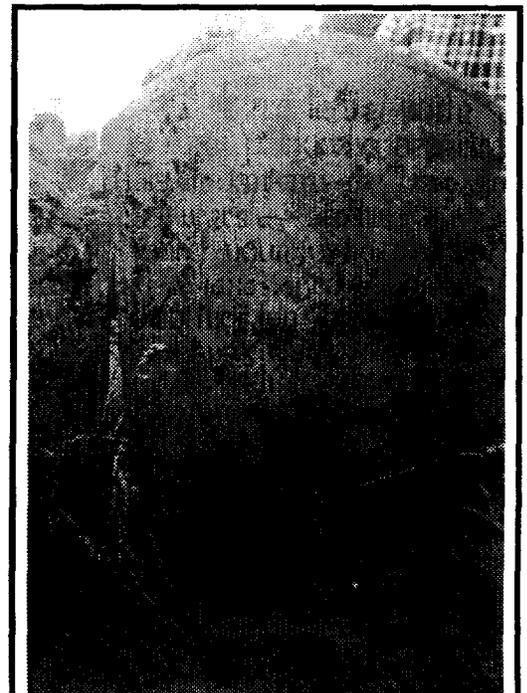
presented in a book by Hugh's descendant Mrs. Betty Jo McDowell Garrett #1028 of Salisbury, N.C., *Hugh Parks (1716-1780) of Rowan Co., N.C., First Five Generations* (2001). We focused particularly on evidence indicating that Hugh and his wife Margaret Young Parks were from Ireland, and that Hugh therefore is the immigrant ancestor for this lineage. We had planned to continue our account of the family with an article on the family of Hugh Parks, III, grandson of Hugh, Sr. However, we now intend to save that for another time, as some interesting new information has come to light.

Clarence D. Stephenson #949 (LK=JZ), of Marion Center, PA, is also looking for Park ancestors in Ireland. He is descended from Robert Park (1) (d. ca. 1795, PA) who, with his wife Jane Bailey Jackson Park and their son John (2), came from near Ballywalter, County Down, Northern Ireland, to Pennsylvania in the late 1700's. (The line continues with Jane Rebecca Park Sutor (3), Rufus Alexander Sutor (4), Grace Marcella Sutor Stephenson (5), and Clarence (6).) With the help of the Ulster Historical Foundation in Belfast, Mr. Stephenson has found information about a Park family in County Down which could have been the family of his Robert Park (1). From the County Down Wills Index and Registry of Deeds, and inscriptions on gravemarkers in the Whitechurch Graveyard at Ballywalter, he has constructed a family chart for the Ballywalter Parks, as follows:

Hugh Park (I) (b. ca. 1633, d. Jan. 7, 1717) marr. Janet Young (b. ca. 1642, d. Sep. 11, 1686). They had at least four children.

1. John Park (b. ca. 1667, d. Apr. 8, 1733).
2. Hugh Park (II) (b. ca. 1683, d. Jan. 26, 1765) marr. Ann Englith (b. 1685, d. Dec. 23, 1757). They may have had four children.
 - a. Elizabeth Park (b. 1712, d. Feb. 28, 1733).
 - b. Possible daughter, name unknown, married William Allen. They had a son, possibly named Robert Allen (b. ca. 1746).
 - c. John Park (b. ca. 1714, d. Apr. 2, 1754). He may have married and possibly had a son, ROBERT PARK (b. ca. 1745-1755, d. ca. 1793-1795, Philadelphia, PA), immigrant ancestor of Clarence D. Stephenson #949.
 - d. Mary Park (b. ca. 1730).

3. Robert Park (b. ca. 1684-1685, d. Apr. 25, 1763), who married and had at least two children, one of them a daughter Janet, who died while still a child.



Grave marker for Hugh Park (1) (ca. 1633-1717), Janet Young Park (ca. 1642-1686), and some of their children, in the Whitechurch Cemetery, Ballywalter, County Down, N. Ireland.

4. James Park (b. ca. 1686, d. Mar. 21, 1758) marr. Bafreg (or Batreg) Brown. They had at least five children.
 - a. Hugh Park (b. ca. 1716, d. Mar. 1, 1720).
 - b. Jean Park (d. 1720).
 - c. Mary Park (d. 1730).
 - d. Elizabeth (b. ca. 1716, d. Mar. 27, 1733).
 - e. John Park (b. ca. 1725, d. Dec. 7, 1733).

continued on page 27

Learning About My Father: Part 2

David L. Parke #13

As I left the story in the last issue (2002 Vol. 39 No. 1), my father, Rev. Hervey Coke Parke, Jr. (formerly Hervey Willard Parke), was the rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Amherst, Massachusetts. The doctors had found him to be with tuberculosis that they considered would be terminal within a year. The climate and services at the TB sanitarium to the east of San Diego, California, might prove helpful. So he was soon moved out there.

A local clergyman, the Rev. Dr. John Gayner Banks, D.S.T., often visited the sanitarium and thus met Father. Several years earlier Dr. Banks had moved to the United States from England.

He said that he had been surprised to find little mention of the healing ministry among the clergy in this country. Father admitted that this was not emphasized during his seminary days. Dr. Banks noted that Jesus wanted his followers to go out to teach, to preach, and to heal in His Name. Before he left that day Dr. Banks anointed Father with holy oil, offering a prayer of faith asking for God's healing love.

Father believed very strongly in what Dr. Banks had talked about and in the anointing that he had received. Yes, God's healing touch was upon him. I suspect that during later visits, the discussion and anointing had continued. Father soon experienced much change in his body, mind and spirit.

And so it was that within a year Father believed that God was guiding him to return to His service. He wrote to the Bishop of Los Angeles asking where he might be put to work. Yes, the healing of Father was most evident, even to the local doctors. The response to Father's message was that he could become the vicar of the Bishop's Chapel in the village of Garvanza on the edge of the city. It was on land that had been part of a Scotsman's sheep ranch covering more than 2000 acres. The rancher had sent an architect to Scotland to learn how to duplicate the church he had been brought up in. It is now the Church of the Angels.

I was now only two years old when the family made plans to come west to join Father. A beautiful English Tudor style house near the church served as the vicarage. Father could

see that it wouldn't be large enough for his five children. His older half-sister Sally Parke, of Monterrey, California, while down to welcome Father to his new charge, saw that the house could be enlarged. She promptly ordered work started as her gift.

Had the TB taken Father, as the doctors predicted, I would never have come to know him. His life in God's service now continued for another 26 years! We were moved and settled in the vicarage within the next year. What I have reported up to now about Father, was all learned from the family and others. I spent the next 11 years there in California until



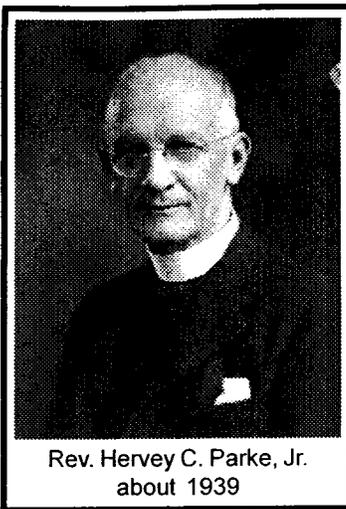
The Parke Family in 1939. Left to right: Hervey (PS#162), Priscilla (PS#41), Mary (#61), Father, Mother, David (#13), John (PS#62).

Father's retirement in 1935.

A good deal of what I want to share now has to do with Father's active service as the vicar. During the next few years there were many visits from Dr. Banks coming some 100 miles north from San Diego. In fact the guest room became known as "Gayner's Room" and even in my early years I looked forward to his visits. He was looking to Father as a guide to putting him in touch with those in the national church who might help in spreading awareness of the healing ministry.

I can well remember the first healing mission held by Dr. Banks at our little church (it held around 100). The mission was conducted over a weekend. However, on Friday afternoon, after I and other students were home from school, there was a special service at 4:00 p.m. especially for young people. Dr. Banks gave us a very clear idea of the message from the Gospel of St. Luke. So it is now some 70 years that I have taken part in what has now become the International Order of St. Luke the Physician. Here in Florida, where I now live, there are 31 chapters of the Order helping to spread the news of God's healing power today.

Father's ministry was far more than serving the local congregation and bringing more people into an awareness of the healing ministry. The Church of the Angels, being small and in a park-like setting, was found to be ideal for weddings. It was only 4 miles from Hollywood! Although



Rev. Hervey C. Parke, Jr.
about 1939

the Episcopal Church permits remarriage of some divorced people, Father did not have the means to check their credentials. So he would not marry anyone who had been divorced.

Before marrying a couple, Father gave them three to four hours of instruction, this being a Christian marriage, not just civil. He told them that they were no longer free to act

independently of each other. "You actually belong to each other and are to cultivate a mutual way of thinking and acting. After your marriage you are one flesh and are to live one life." He emphasized that as husband and wife they would enter into a relationship that has precedence over all other relationships. I now learn that this instruction was most unusual at that time.

There were occasions when couples decided to postpone their marriage until they had thought over what he told them. A little book he published in 1928, "The Marriage Service and After," was perhaps no more than 6000 words, less than a chapter in most books. The Bishop of Los Angeles stated that he found this little book most valuable not only for couples about to be married, but for clergy as well. It was a pattern for what should be impressed upon all candidates for Christian marriage. In the 11 years he was at that church, Father conducted over 850 marriages. It was not unusual for him to have correspondence with many of them years later.

Within our family I was exposed to Father's daily schedule. Before breakfast there was a Bible reading, prayers for the day, and then grace. Meals were set promptly for 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 6:00 p.m., grace before and after each one. We were to be on time! Time was important to Father. If his gold watch lost half a minute a week, he took it to the jeweler to have it adjusted. Perhaps he wouldn't agree with that comment!

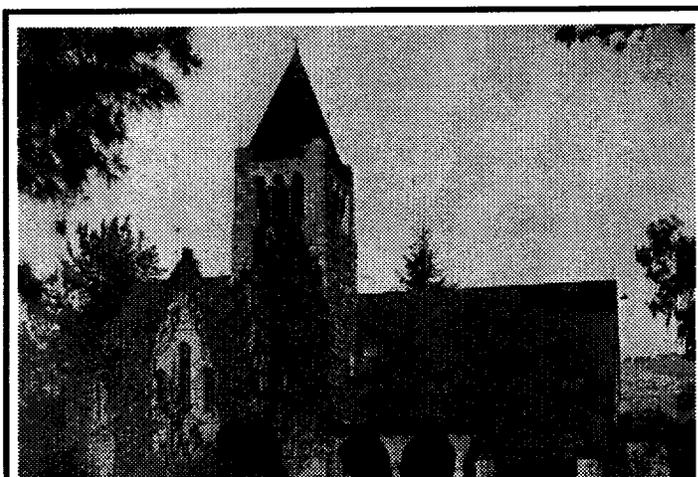
Sometimes Father unintentionally tortured Mother with his exact timing. When we went on vacations, Mother would shepherd us all to the station in good time. Father would check his watch and say, "I've just got time to run for a paper." And off he'd go. On the platform we'd hear the train coming, and no Father. Then he'd stride up just as the train stopped.

As with other clergy in retirement, it was quite usual for Father to assist active clergy, though I don't recall any more weddings other than in our own family. Although he wasn't a

regular card-player, he would try to join the rest of the family briefly after dinner. I found him a very serious person, especially when he had called me into his study to point out my errors.

In 1936, Father, now in retirement back in our Amherst home, started something quite unusual. All of us children were no longer at home. He typed a letter, making some ten copies using carbon and thin paper. No copiers or computers then! We were all expected to write home every week. In addition to his own comments, he mentioned the special things of interest in our letters. Copies went to each of us and to aunts and uncles. He never missed a week. In fact his last letter was in process in his typewriter the day he died in 1951. I felt strongly that this practice should continue. Letters were sent to Mother who forwarded them to me and later to Pris. We just copied the letters. The letters were periodically collected and bound until Mother died in 1967. More recently the family letter is e-mailed and reaches over 30 families. Quite a permanent family record.

I do believe that Father has been an inspiration to each of us five children. Mary made her commitment to become a missionary to China. Priscilla studied to be a registered nurse, serving with the Army in the South Pacific, and later



The Church of the Angels, Pasadena, CA, built 1885; originally known as the Bishop's Chapel

becoming one of the first to teach the practice of caring for premature babies. Hervey got his doctorate in pharmaceutical chemistry and spent his working years with Parke, Davis & Company. John, as a clergyman, served as an Army chaplain in Europe, then served churches in the east and west, later becoming the national warden of the Order of St. Luke.

As for me, David, I served three years in the Navy, as chaplain among other duties on a small ship. On my return I guided a small commercial stationery manufacturing firm and later, after selling the company, was one of the first to become a certified financial planner. To be sure, I also have spent some time with the Parke Society over the last 35 years!

FAMILY OF REV. HERVEY COKE (WILLARD) PARKE, JR. (1873-1951)

JOHN PARKE (b. 1760, Chatham, CT; Rev. War; d. 1819, Manlius, NY), 6th gen. desc. of Robert Parke (MA 1630) (Thomas 2, Nathaniel 3, Joseph 4, 5), marr. (1784) Bathiah Smith (b. 1762, d. 1802, both at Middle Haddam, CT). John and Bathiah had five children, including:

EZRA SMITH PARKE (b. 1793, Chatham, CT; d. 1846, Byron, MI), son of John and Bathiah Smith Parke, marr. (1821) Rhoda Sperry (b. 1795, Northfield, CT; d. 1846, Byron, MI). Ezra and Rhoda had five children, including:

HERVEY COKE PARKE (SR.) (b. 1827, Bloomfield, MI; d. 1899, San Diego, CA), son of Ezra and Rhoda Sperry Parke, marr. 1st, Frances Anna Hunt (d. 1868), had five children; marr. 2nd (1872) Mary Melinda Mead (b. 1849, Almont, MI; d. 1915, St. Clair, MI), had five children including:

REV. HERVEY WILLARD* PARKE (b. 1873, Detroit, MI, son of Hervey Coke Parke (Sr.) and 2nd wife Mary Melinda Mead Parke) (*changed middle name to COKE in 1893) (d. 1951, Northampton, MA) marr. (1904) Ethel Margaret Cushman (b. 1877, New York, N.Y.; d. 1967, New York, N.Y.) They had five children:

1. Mary Allerton Parke #61 (b. 1909, New York, N.Y.; d. 1996, Fargo, N.D.) marr. (1940) Rev. Leslie Lindsey Fairfield. Mary was a missionary to China. Their son, Rt. Rev. Andrew H. Fairfield, became Episcopal bishop of North Dakota.
2. Priscilla Cushman Parke #41 (b. 1911, New York, N.Y.) never married.
3. Hervey Cushman Parke, Ph.D. #162 (b. 1914, New York, N.Y.) marr. (1942) Mary Carpenter Gage (b. 1915). They had five children:
 - a. Hervey Coke Parke, III #56 (b. 1943) marr. (1970) Stephanie Davenport Cotter (b. 1945).



Family of Rev. Hervey C. Parke, Jr., in 1945. Left to right, back row: Rev. John H. Parke (PS#62), David Parke (PS#13), Hervey Cushman Parke, Ph.D. (PS#162). Front row: Mary Parke Fairfield (PS#61), Rev. Hervey C. Parke, Jr., Mrs. Ethel Margaret Cushman Parke, Priscilla C. Parke (PS#41)

- b. Constance Kimball Parke (b. 1945) marr. (1965) Reuben Miller Waterman, Jr.
 - c. Mary Virginia Parke #185 (b. 1950) marr. 1st (1972) Kenneth Eugene Keefer; marr. 2nd (1975) Paul Kevin Jordan (b. 1948).
 - d. James Cushman Parke (b. 1952) marr. (1977) Lana Ming Olsen (b. 1954).
 - e. John Gage Parke (b. 1957) marr. (1987) Elizabeth Howard Nimick (b. 1956).
4. Rev. John Holbrook Parke #62 (b. 1916, Amherst, MA) marr. 1st (1942) Joan Lee Cole (1915-1981). They had four children. Rev. Parke marr. 2nd (1982) Eleanor Bowdoin Anderson.
 - a. Rev. Richard Parke (b. 1943).
 - b. David Cole Parke #52 (b. 1944) marr. (1975) Janice Marie Wieman (b. 1945).
 - c. Robert Cushman Parke, M.D., COL, USAF, #1154 (b. 1945) marr. 1st (1971) Eve Merike Ekker; marr. 2nd (1981) Beverly Ann Salomon West (b. 1948).
 - d. Emily Vera Parke (b. 1947) marr. (1974) Gene Barry Chase, Ph.D.
 5. David Livingstone Parke, Sr. #13 (b. 1922, Amherst, MA) marr. 1st (1949) Susan Warren Green (1924-1980); marr. 2nd (1981) Julia Parks Bowden Bowers #14 (1923-1997) (NOTE 1); marr. 3rd (1998) Cecilia B. Parke Kasberg #535 (b. 1924) (NOTE 2). David and Susan Green Parke had two children:
 - a. David Livingstone Parke, Jr. #38 (b. 1951) marr. (1973) Caroline Ann Mayo (b. 1952). Children: (a) Natalie Jeanne Parke; (b) Thomas Allerton Park #650 (b. 1984).
 - b. Elisabeth Cushman Parke #200 (b. 1953) marr. (1978) Robert Lewis Hayes. Children: (a) Shelley Lynn Hayes #420 (b. 1979); (b) Gwyneth Erin Hayes; (c)

continued on page 27

It remains to be proven whether these Parks comprise the family from which Mr. Stephenson's ancestor Robert (1) came. However, while caution about drawing conclusions is in order, the location and the use of similar names make this a reasonable hypothesis pending further research.

What about Hugh Park, Sr., of Rowan County? We do not know where in Ireland he hailed from. However, it is impossible to ignore the prevalence of the name Hugh in the Ballywalter family, along with other shared names such as John. In addition, both Hugh (I) of Ballywalter and Hugh, Sr. of Rowan married women whose maiden name was Young, about eighty years apart. Certainly that is a frequently occurring name, but its repetition may have more significance than coincidence in a time when marriage among cousins was commonplace because of limited mobility. As with Robert, we have no proof of a connection, but the possibility is certainly worthy of further investigation in the absence of any stronger lead.

Mr. Stephenson also raises the possibility of a quite different connection which will be the subject of a future article. According to oral tradition in Mr. Stephenson's family, his ancestor Robert Park (1) "asserted his consanguinity with the ancestry of Mungo Park, the noted traveler in Africa." (C. Stephenson, *The Park Family of Pennsylvania 1793-1993*, p. 4.) Mungo Park (1771-1806) achieved renown for his explorations in Africa, and in fact died there. A native of Foulshiels, Selkirk, Scotland, he was a son of Mungo Park, Sr. (1714-1793), and a grandson of Archibald Park (1682-1751) of Galashiels, Selkirk, Scotland. Several Parke Society members claim descent from Mungo, Sr. More information about this family will be presented in a future issue.

No connection between Robert (1) and Mungo, Jr., has yet been found. Documentation available so far shows only that Robert's family was in Ireland, and Mungo's in Scotland. And as far as we know, the family of Hugh (I) and Janet Young Park was entirely Irish. At present we have no record of a member of Mungo's family moving from Scotland to Ireland at any time that suggests a connection with Robert (1) or Hugh (I). But more than a few Scots have made that journey down through the centuries, so anything is possible.

What does any of this have to do with Hugh Parks, Sr., of Rowan Co., N.C.? Possibly nothing; but if future research should establish that Hugh, Sr. and Robert (1) share the same lineage, then Robert's claim of relationship to Mungo, Jr., would apply to Hugh's descendants as well. Admittedly, this is a stretch. However, with more people from all three families available to research the claim, we might be able to settle it.

Family of Rev. Hervey Coke Parke, Jr. - continued from page 26

Robert Louis Hayes; (d) Roy Benevides Hayes.

NOTE 1. Julia "Jill" Parks Bowden Bowers Parke #14 (1923-1997), daughter of William M. and Susan Dorothy West Bowden, was a 12th gen. descendant of Robert Parke (MA 1630), through Thomas 2, Nathaniel 3, Joseph 4, Daniel 5, 6, Solomon 7, Barzilla 8, Solomon Augustus 9, Julia Amelie Parks West 10, Susan Dorothy West Bowden 11 #4. Julia marr. 1st (1945) Anderson Bowers, Jr. (1921-1969). They had four children: (1) Deborah Bowers; (2) Anderson Bowers, III #615 (1950-1995); (3) Jonathan McEchron Bowers; (4) Emily Jessup Bowers #616 (b. 1958) marr. (1979) Anton Welyczko (b. 1951).

NOTE 2. Cecilia Bertha Parke Kasberg Parke #535 (b. 1924), daughter of William McKinley and Sophia Bernice Obst Parke, is a 10th gen. descendant of Roger Parke (NJ 1682) through Roger 2, Joseph 3-4, Micajah 5, Joseph 6, Micajah 7, Joseph Thomas 8, William McKinley 9. She marr. 1st (1947) Charles Edward Sparks. They had one son, Richard Charles Sparks (b. 1948). Cecilia married 2nd (1957) Theodore Roosevelt Kasberg (1922-1982). They had three sons: (1) Randy James Kasberg (b. 1958); (2) Terry Robert Kasberg (b. 1960); and (3) Gary Michael Kasberg (b. 1962).

GENERAL NOTE. The immigrant ancestor of this family, Robert Parke (MA 1630), was a cousin of Daniel Parke I (VA 1650) (ca. 1628-1679), founder of a distinguished Virginia colonial family and great-grandfather of Daniel Parke Custis (1711-1757), first husband of Martha Dandridge, later Martha Washington. (Newsletter, 1991 Vol. 28 No. 1, pp. 8-9; 1991 Vol. 28 No. 3, p. 43.)

A Shackleton Connection

By Kathryn E. Parke #10, with additions by Percy Park #140

Recently revived interest in the life and exploits of the Antarctic explorer Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton (1874-1922) (two or three books, including Caroline Alexander's *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition* (1998), and *Shackleton's Way* (2001), by Margot Morrell and Stephanie Capparell; a *National Geographic* article; a documentary motion picture, "Endurance;" and most recently, another made-for-TV film, "Shackleton," with Kenneth Branagh in the title role, A&E Network, Apr. 7, 2002) sent me back to some records I've squirreled away concerning my great-grandmother, Mary Shackleton Park, the wife of Benjamin (8) Park of the family of Robert Parke (MA 1630) (1), in the line of Thomas (2), (3), (4), Josiah (5), Thomas (6), and Daniel (7).

Mary's original Shackleton immigrant forebear is said to have come to New Jersey many years before Sir Ernest's birth, so we may not claim any closer cousinship with the explorer than the sharing of a name—a name which is perhaps not very common.

Information about Sir Ernest is available from many sources. He was born in 1874 at Kilkee, County Clare, on Ireland's west coast. At the age of 16, he joined the British merchant navy. During the period 1901-1903, he made his first trip to Antarctica as a member of the Robert F. Scott expedition. From 1907 through 1909, Sir Ernest commanded his own expedition, noteworthy for its exceptional scientific achievements. His team located the south magnetic pole, climbed Mount Erebus, and came closer to the geographic South Pole than anyone before them. In 1909 he received his knighthood and published his first book, *Heart of the Antarctic*.

The explorer's next expedition, from 1914 to 1916, was notable for its disasters, beginning with the crushing of his ship in the ice, and even more for his great fortitude and skill in overcoming all difficulties and dangers to get every member of his team home safely. In 1919, Sir Ernest published *South*, his account of the expedition. Two years later, he started for Antarctica again, but died on the journey (1922), of heart failure—perhaps brought on by the extreme over-exertion which marked his 47 years.

A letter dated in 1937, from a distant cousin of mine, gives all the information I have about this collateral branch of my ancestral tree. Clara Shackleton, daughter of Frederick J. Shackleton, pastor of a church (possibly Methodist) in New York City for about 18 years before his death in 1928, wrote:

The family originated in the town by that name in Yorkshire, England. The name came from the Danish

probably and signified . . . a fastening or tethering yard for the horses of the raiding Danes. In the early days the local family were called the fighting Shackletons (or Sheckeltuns) as they used to attack the marauding Scots. Frobisher may possibly be one of your ancestors, as he belonged to this family.

The old Shackleton House was torn down in Yorkshire within the memory of man and part of the furniture is now at Fairport, Conn. [probably an error; must mean "Fairfield."] in the home of Mrs. Robert Shackleton—the Elizabeth of the travel books and a very delightful person to meet. The family of Robert Shackleton—he died about fifteen years ago—belongs to the same branch as the Sir Ernest family. Sir Ernest's grandfather—or great-grandfather—went to Ireland to turn the Catholics into good Quakers. He had been allowed to become a school master and had been educated to a higher degree than his husky relatives as his health was poor, and it seemed that he could do little else. Edmund Burke and Richard Shackleton, the son of the old schoolmaster, formed one of the most beautiful friendships that this world will ever know about. Mary Leadbeater, the daughter of Richard, visited Shackleton House in Yorkshire and her recollections and discomfort at the life in Yorkshire has been recorded in some of her delightful letters.*

How the Jersey branch of the family got to this country I have not been able to learn. Benjamin Shackleton married Mary Ogden in 1811 or 1812. The genealogy runs thus:

Ogdens of Hope, N.J.

Mary Ogden + Benjamin Shackleton

John O. Shackleton + Anna Maria Wintermute

John O. Shackleton lived on the road between Hope and Blairstown [New Jersey] before he moved to Waverly [New York].

John O. and Anna Maria Wintermute Shackleton were the parents of Mary Shackleton, who married Benjamin Parke (8) of Athens, Pennsylvania. Benjamin and Mary were my great-grandparents through their son William Dunham Parke (9) and grandson Howard Benjamin Parke (10). The Wintermute family apparently came from Germany to America in the 18th century, the Ogdens from the British Isles in the 17th. We have more information about both Ogdens and Wintermutes, than about our branch of the Shackletons.

continued on page 30

James and Louisa apparently moved west not long after their marriage to mountainous Haywood County, beyond Asheville. They had two children: Sarah and James. Louisa died on November 16, 1865, and James, on March 1, 1897.

Family of James Parks (1810-1897)

Moses Park (1738-1828) married (ca. 1770) Mary Hill (1749-1829). They lived in Rowan Co., NC, until 1788, when they moved to Mecklenburg Co., NC.

Their son George Park (1783-1827) married (1819) Elizabeth Sharp (1789-1844).

Their son JAMES⁶ PARKS (George⁵, Moses⁴, John II³, John I², Dr. Roger¹) marr. (1st) Mary Matilda McCulloch. Three children:

1. Jane Parks (1833-1883) m. 1856 Hugh Alexander Grey (1835-1898). They had nine children. After Jane's death, Hugh married second, Martha A. McMurray, and they had two more children. The Grey family was important in the history of Davidson College, Davidson, NC. Children of Hugh A. and Jane Parks Grey:

William Richard Grey; James Parks Grey; Hugh Alexander Grey, Jr.; Charles Lester Grey; John Hunter Grey; Lula Jane Grey; Three died in infancy.

2. William M. Parks (1835-1919) m. 1869 Mary 'Mollie' Rebecca Fincher Grier (widow). They had six children:

John Grier Parks (possibly son of Mollie by first husband John Calvin Grier, adopted by William M. Parks);

William Henry Parks; M. Ella Parks; Emma J. Parks; J. Walker Parks; and Charles E. Parks.

3. Mary E. Parks (1838-? bef. 1895) m. 1855 John W. Hunter

James⁶ Parks marr. (2nd) Louisa R. Parks of Burke Co., NC. Two children:

4. Sarah 'Sally' H. Parks (1854-) m. Mr. Boyd

5. James A. Parks (1856-1945) never married

Evidently, James' daughter Mary E. Parks Hunter died before 1895 without living issue because there is no mention of her or her children in the Will. Handwritten on the envelope is, "This envelope contains a copy of James Parks Last Will and Testament came to hand March 8th, 1897". The word "copy" suggests that the document was a duplicate. It was mailed from Jonathan, Haywood Co., NC, on March 4, 1897, to Mr. W. M. Parks, Union Co, NC, presumably James' son by his first wife to whom James bequeathed his telescope, \$600.00, and a share of the residue. Union is

southeast of Mecklenburg and the city of Charlotte. How the Will found its way back to Haywood is not known, but presumably members of James' family had lived in the house there where the Will was discovered.

The Handwritten Will

I James Parks, of the County of Haywood in the state of North Carolina, knowing that my earthly existence must soon terminate, and believing that my mind is unimpaired and believing that it is my duty to dispose of the little property I possess, do make this my last will and testament, revoking all former wills heretofore made by me.

Item 1: I will to Sarah Boyd the two beds and furniture she has already received.

Item 2: I will to James A. Parks two beds and furniture.

Item 3: I will to Sarah Boyd and James A. Parks my books to be divided as they may choose.

Item 4: I desire that my Son Wm. M. Parks residing in Union County NC have my telescope if in my possession at the time of my decease.

Item 5: I will that my son James A. Parks have the little personal property I possess and disposed of above such as my clock, writing table, bed and furniture, carpenters tools and all other articles of like character that may be in my possession at the time of my decease.

Item 6: I will that my executor (herein after named) pay my funeral expenses and all just debts (if any) out of the first money coming into his hands as part of my estate.

Item 7: I will to the children of my deceased daughter, Jane M. Grey (?) The sum of Six hundred dollars.

Item 8: I will to my son William M. Parks Six hundred dollars.

Item 9: I will to my son James A. Parks all the land I now own in Haywood County - provided he pays to Sarah Boyd the sum of Six hundred dollars

Item 10: I will that when my funeral expenses, just debts, and the sums mentioned in items 7 and 8, together with all necessary expenses incurred in settling up my estate, are all settled, that whatever assets remain in the hands of my executor belonging to my estate, be equally divided between the children of Jane M. Grey, Wm. Parks, Sarah Boyd, and James A. Parks, one fourth to each.

Item 11: I hereby appoint my son James A. Parks my executor, investing him with authority to collect all debts due my estate, to disburse funds collected according to the foregoing will, and to fully execute this my last will and testament. Jan 1st, 1895.

(signed) James Parks

Witnessed by: W.H.Owen & J.R. Leatherwood.

A little more information about Schoolmaster Shackleton may be found in an essay, "Crosses and Quakers in Carlow and Kildare," by Christopher Moriarty, in the periodical *Ireland of the Welcomes*.

*In the 18th century . . . Abraham Shackleton opened a school which welcomed all religions and educated people such as Edmund Burke, who would obtain world renown. Later, one of Shackleton's granddaughters, Mary Leadbetter, wrote The Annals of Ballitore, a diary of local events, which included incidents in the Rising of 1798. ** Her home by the riverside has been restored and opened as a museum.*

Mary Leadbetter, author of *The Annals*, is evidently the same as Mary Leadbeater, daughter of Richard Shackleton, mentioned in Clara Shackleton's letter.

Any direct relationship between Sir Ernest Shackleton and the Parke clan cannot be claimed at present. But it seems likely that he and Mary Shackleton Parke would have shared a common ancestor, perhaps in Ireland. Further research may someday establish their exact connection – if any. Readers who have information about the Shackleton family, or who know where it is to be found, are welcome to contact me at: kathrynparke@hotmail.com

*Edmund Burke (1729-1797), prominent English statesman, orator and writer, was famous for (among other things) a speech he made in Parliament in defense of the rebelling American colonies.

** The Rising of 1798 was a protest by the Irish people against worsening economic conditions occasioned by Britain's participation in the Napoleonic Wars.

My First Convocation - continued from page 20

newspaper articles, etc., that I had to organize and file for easy reference. Once I got that completed, I investigated the Parke Society and finally made the plunge. I'm not sure my present work schedule will allow me to attend the convocation every year, but I will do the best I can.

I am amazed at how the Parke Society has evolved all these years. Keep up the good work!

(Editor's note: Mrs. Kohler's immigrant ancestors are her grandparents, Edmund Henry Parkes, Jr. (NY ca. 1912) (1881-1943) and Jane Evans Parkes (1884-1966), both natives of Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England. She is married to Wayne Robert Kohler, and they live at Steilacoom, Washington. The Parke Society was founded in Connecticut in 1963 and its membership originally consisted entirely of descendants of Robert Parke (MA 1630). P.D.P.)

My Adventures on the Internet

By Barbara Parkes Kohler, #1365 (LK=WQ)

Grandparents: Edmund Henry Parkes, Jr. & Jane Evans Parkes

When the Ellis Island website became a reality in 2001, a new route was opened to me to check on my grandparents, Edmund and Jane Parkes (and their first two children) who arrived in the United States in 1910 on the *Lusitania* from Liverpool, England. However, when I typed in the Parkes name there was no listing. My dad's only living sister gave me the name of the ship and the date of its arrival. After much checking, I learned that my aunt apparently forgot to mention that my grandparents took the name of Yarrington (Grandpa's stepfather's name). Mr. Yarrington was supposed to be a "big shot" in Long Island, New York, and he insisted they take his name. My grandmother was furious so I am told. And, once they resided in Long Island, it turned out the "big shot" did not live up to his reputation.

I plugged in the name Yarrington, Edmund and Jane and children, Edmund III and Beatrice. Success! There on the screen was the confirmation I needed for my family research.

I requested a copy of the ship passenger arrival record from the National Archives (\$17.25 fee). The ship registry contains a wealth of information including: family name, given name, age, marital status, calling or occupation, ability to read/write, nationality, race or people, last permanent residence, name/complete address of nearest relative or friend in country where originated, final destination, whether having ticket to final destination, who paid the passage, whether in possession of \$50 or, if not, what amount, whether ever been in the U.S. before and if so, when and where, whether going to join a relative or friend and their complete name/address, ever in prison, whether a polygamist, whether an anarchist, health conditions, mental and physical, deformed or crippled, height, complexion, color of hair and eyes, marks of identification, place of birth, etc. With this information, I discovered that Grandpa had been to the U.S. before, in 1886 (as a child). Perhaps he came over with another relative or friend when his mother remarried in Long Island, New York (that's another puzzle). And then (don't know when) he went back to England some time after she died in 1890. In 1910, he returned to New York as a married man with two children.

continued on page 31

Great-Grandparents: Edmund Henry Parkes, Sr. & Jemina Garratt Parkes

My great-grandfather, Edmund Henry Parkes, Sr., was killed on the Midland Railway in England on July 17, 1880, eight months before his son (Edmund, Jr.) was born. That was the extent of the information I had. I didn't know if he was a railway employee, or just in the wrong place at the wrong time. To the computer I went! I found the Birmingham & Midland Motor Omnibus Trust in England and e-mailed them. Unfortunately, their museum specializes in buses and electric commercial vehicles. I then e-mailed the National Railway Museum Library Archive to see if they had information on railroad accidents. Their reply indicated no accident on July 17, 1880, but one on June 17, 1880. What are the odds this could be the same accident? This June accident involved a freight train on a bridge undermined by floodwater between Hereford and Brecon. The driver had been killed but was not identified in the official report. I needed to see the official report to find out if the driver was Edmund Henry Parkes, Sr. I e-mailed the Vintage Carriages Trust Museum of Rail Travel in North Keighley, England. Although they didn't have specific information on my particular accident inquiry, they indicated there were plenty of freight train accidents in those days. They contacted another person who sent me an e-mail suggesting I start with the County Archivist in the area of the accident.

Therefore, I sent a letter to England inquiring about the June 1880 accident. When the Worcestershire County Council sent me a copy of the newspaper article about the inquest, I learned the engine driver was a George Parker of Brecon, not Edmund Henry Parkes. Since they receive so many inquiries per year (20,000), they encourage people to call in person to review the records. It was out of the question for me to drop everything and fly off to England. Their second suggestion was to hire a professional researcher approved by the Council. The fees were given up front and the name of the researcher to contact. I signed the form (they do a research audit) and sent it off with my 20 English pound note (which just happened to be given to me by a friend who had one in her wallet).

The researcher obtained information from the 1881 Census, which showed my great-grandmother, a widow at age 20 and pregnant, living with her family in Wolverhampton. The census information included all those living at that address, marital status, age, occupation, and

birthplace. This was a fantastic find also!

Next, the researcher applied and received a death certificate copy for Edmund Parkes, Sr. which indicated he was a railway wagon examiner who died accidentally at the age of 22 from "crushes caused by his being run over by a railway wagon" in Oxley, England. (His birthday was unknown previously, but now an 1857/1858 birth certificate can be requested.) My English railway expert was able to clarify the terms used as well as the location of Oxley. He also stated that fatalities among railway workers were commonplace in the 19th century. In 1880 alone, 546 people were killed.

"Railway truck" is an old fashioned term for a railway wagon, which runs on rails. A railway wagon examiner is employed to check periodically that railway wagons are fit to run and have not developed any defects. It is the practice for all wagons to be examined when entering marshalling yards, so that any wagons found to have defects or requiring repairs can be put on one side. Marshalling yards are groups of sidings where wagons are sorted according to their different destinations. The examiner looks particularly at wheels, axle boxes (to check if they are running hot), brakes, couplings, etc.

I continue to seek copies of birth, marriage and death certificates for my English relatives. I hope one day to travel to England and see the places where my grandparents and those before them resided. For now, though, my researcher is continuously working on my list of names. I am thankful for her perseverance as well as the research resources of the Internet and email communications from afar. Not only am I learning more about my family, but the results have also become a history lesson for me to share.

(Editor's note: Mrs. Kohler's immigrant ancestors are her grandparents, Edmund Henry Parkes, Jr. (NY 1910) (1881-1943) and Jane Evans Parkes (1884-1966), both natives of Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England. Edmund was a son of Edmund, Sr., and Jemima Garratt Reading Parkes, also of Wolverhampton. Mrs. Kohler is a daughter of Charles William Parkes (1912-1977) and Edna Irene Tallerdy Parkes (1916-1998) of Bridgeport, CT. She is married to Wayne Robert Kohler, and they have two sons and live at Steilacom, Washington. P.D.P.)

QUERIES

John and Nancy Barr Parks of Orange Co., IN

Ms. Charlene Cleveland Shields #504 seeks any and all information about her ancestor **John Parks** (LK=RZ). John may have been born during the period 1795-1804. The earliest document found so far concerning him records his marriage to **Nancy Barr** on January 20, 1818, in Nicholas Co., KY. As of the federal census for 1830, John and Nancy were in Orange Co., IN. Estate records of Orange County show that John was dead by 1846. The family name is spelled "Park" or "Parke" in some records.

Other Parks are also listed in the 1830 Orange County census: Andrew, Samuel, and Thomas Parks. Their relationship if any to John is unknown. However, Samuel's grave marker states that he was from Fleming Co., KY. Fleming and Nicholas are side by side in northern Kentucky, about 40 miles northeast of Lexington.

John and Nancy Barr Parks had at least six children: Catherine, Robert, Miranda, Meredith, Maria, and Minerva. Catherine, Ms. Shields' next direct ancestor, married Acel Meredith Epperson Marlett on November 15, 1838, in Orange County. Ms. Shields' lineage is: John (1), Catherine Marlett (2), John A. Marlett (3), Blanche Marlett Cleveland (4), Charlene Cleveland Shields (5).

Ms. Shields can be reached by e-mail at: clevel@shawneelink.com Her postal address is: Box 149, Crossville, IL 62827-0149.

Moses Park (LK=K) Book Wanted

Rollie W. Taylor #900 would like very much to buy a copy of the out-of-print book Moses Park 1738-1828, His Descendants and Related Families Vaughan and Wilcher (1991: Gateway Press, Inc.), by Clara Cammack Park and Wilbur Goolsby Park, Sr. Rollie is offering \$50.00 and mailing costs for a copy of this book in good condition.

Moses Park (1738-1828) was one of several Park settlers in the eastern part of old Rowan County, NC,

Plaza on Friday, July 26. The annual banquet will commence at 6:00 p.m. that evening at Ruth's Chris Steak House on the eleventh floor of nearby Crystal Tower 3. Master Genealogist Jim Raywalt will speak on research opportunities in the Washington area.

Saturday, July 27, will be available for individual exploration of this fascinating area so rich in history, with such a diversity of museums and other cultural facilities. An informal get-together is planned for Saturday evening. Checkout is Sunday morning, July 28.

The local coordinator for convocation arrangements is Curtis H. Parks #1166, of Ijamsville, MD. Reservations may be made by sending the completed reservation form and a check for \$70.00 per person, payable to The Parke Society, to: Arliene P. Callahan #396, 324 Sullivan Rd., Schenectady, NY 12304-3625.

We hope that you will join us and take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to sample some of the many offerings and activities available in Washington, D.C., northern Virginia, and Maryland.

who are believed to have been descended from Roger Parke (NJ 1682) (LK=K). Moses married **Mary Hill** and they had eight children. In the 1780's the family moved from Rowan to Mecklenburg County, NC. Today they have thousands of known descendants throughout the United States, including Rollie. Clara Park, assisted by her husband Wilbur, compiled a history of certain of those lines of descent. Your editor also did some work on the history of the Moses Park family, emphasizing lines not dealt with at length by Clara and Wilbur. In an effort spanning several years, Rollie put all the information together on computer and added greatly to it; today he maintains a huge on-line file. However, the book by Clara and Wilbur contains pictures, family stories, and other items that Rollie does not have.

Rollie can be reached at: rolliet@pacbel.net His postal address is: 13170 Center Avenue, San Martin, CA 95046.