



GENEALOGY
OF THE
DOWNING
FAMILY
AND
IMMEDIATE
COLLATERAL RELATIONS:
WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL
REFERENCES AND NOTES:
1509 to 1901

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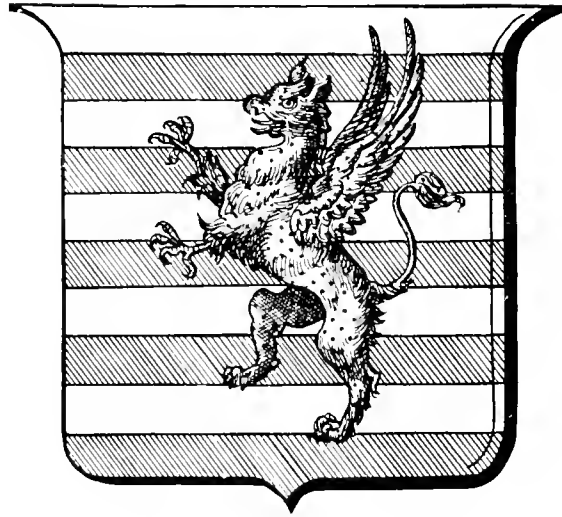
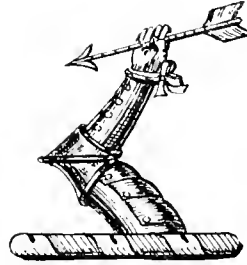
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DOWNING.



DOWNING

GENEALOGICAL
CHART
 AND
COATS OF ARMS
 OF THE
 FAMILIES OF
WINGFIELD, DOWNYNG,
DOWNING,
DOWNING COLLEGE,
COLWELL, LAFFERT,
ADDIS, KNIGHT,
DICKSON.

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Downing

AS TO THE FAMILY OF DOWNING (Anglo-Saxon, "DUNE, DE DOUNE, LE DOWNE; early English, DOWNYNGE, DOWNYNG; and, modern English, DOWNING"), as recorded in genealogical documents and authorities, is of ancient origin, descended from very distinguished forebears, and was of considerable distinction in the history of England and Ireland.

With reference to the origin of the name, genealogical authorities state that it is an old Anglo-Saxon name from Dune = a hill. In the parish of Axminster, County Devon, is North Wyke, once the residence and inheritance of the ancient and knightly family of Dune, De Doune, Le Downe, or Downyng—the original stock from which sprang the branch about to be detailed. In Domesday Book (the oldest and most valuable record in all England), mention is made of RALPH DE DOUNE, a "KING'S THANE,"* and he is described as holding "two manors"† in County Devon. From him descended GEOFFREY DOWNYNG.

* THANE, a title of honor among the Anglo-Saxons. In England a freeman not noble was raised to the rank of a thane by acquiring a certain portion of land—five hides (500 acres) for a lesser thane—by making three sea voyages, or by receiving holy orders. Every thane had the right of voting in the Witenagemot (assembly of the wise), not only of the shire, but also of the kingdom, when important questions were to be discussed. With the growth of the kingly power the importance of the king's thanes (those in the personal service of the sovereign) rose above that of the highest gentry, ealdormen (elderman, senator) and bishops forming an inferior class. On the cessation of his actual personal service about the king the thane received a large grant of land. After the Norman conquest (1066) thanes and barons were classed together. In the reign of King Henry II (1155) the title fell into disuse.

† Originally a piece of territory held by a lord or great personage, who occupied a part of it, as much as was necessary for the use of his own immediate family, and granted or leased the remainder to

Downing

The Anglo-Saxons invaded England in the fifth century (449). They belonged chiefly to the portion of that great nation, or confederacy of nations, whose territories lay on the shores of the Baltic. They settled in the southern and central parts of England—Counties of Sussex, Essex, Middlesex, Hertford, Surrey, Hants, Berks, Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

The DOWNINGS are found in the Counties of Cambridge, Devon, Cornwall, Sussex, Essex, Gloucester and Norfolk, and through the alliance of the family with that of WINGFIELD (as will hereafter appear) they became directly descended from the Plantagenets (King Henry III).

The Baronetcy of the Wingfields became extinct in the reign of King George II. "They were," saith Camden, "a family famous for their knight-hood and ancient nobility," of which were, Sir John, a renowned warrior of the time of King Edward III (1327-1377) and Chief Counsellor to the "Black Prince" (the eldest son of King Edward III); Sir John of Letheringham, created a Knight of the Bath in 1461; and Sir Anthony, Esquire of the Body to King Henry VIII, installed a Knight of the Garter in 1541.

The armorial bearings of the Wingfield family, as recorded in the heraldic authorities, are :

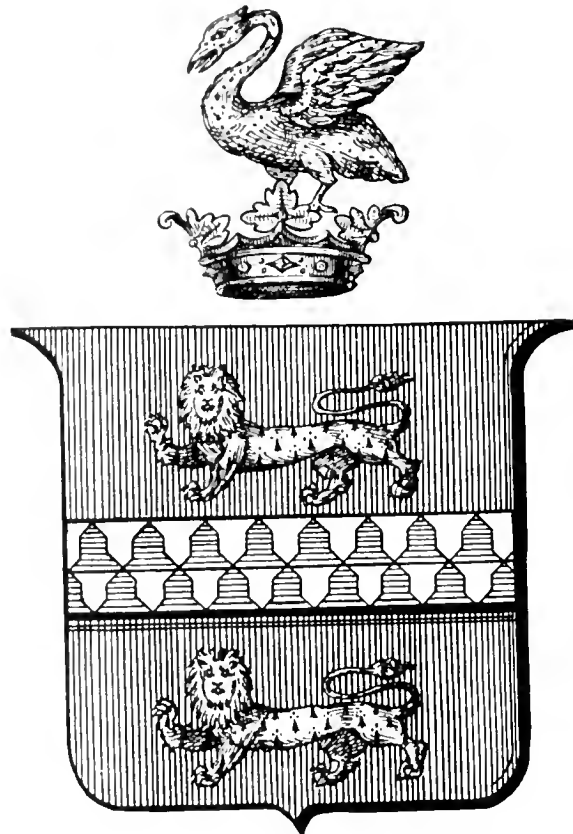
Argent, on a bend gules, cotised sable, three pairs of wings conjoined, in lure of the field.

tenants for stipulated rents or services. Manors were also called baronies, as they still are lordships, and the lord was empowered to hold a domestic court, called the court baron, for punishing misdemeanors, settling disputes, etc., within his manor.

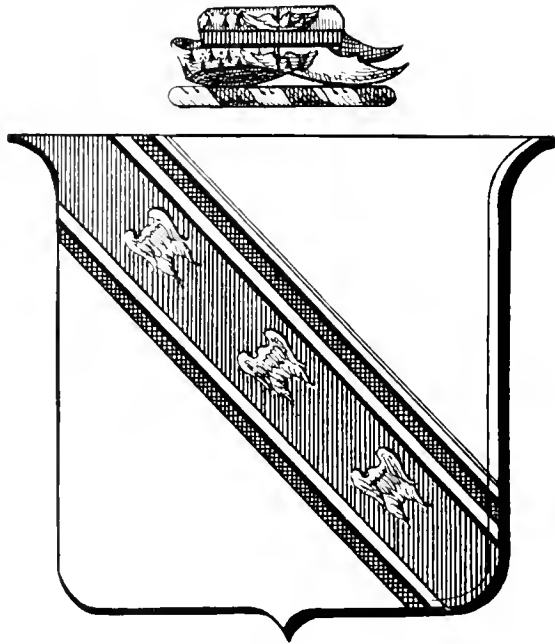
Downing

Crest: A cap, per pale, ermines and argent, charged with a fesse gules, between two wings expanded, the dexter of the second, the sinister of the first.

The records of the time of King Henry VIII (1509–1547)—show the ancestors of the Downing family settled in England at Pynest—their country seat in County Essex, the head of the house (Geoffrey Downyng) being described as a person of rank and fortune.



DOWNYNG



WINGFIELD

Downing

I GENERATION (the first of whom detailed information can be obtained):

Geoffrey Downyng of Pynest, Poles Belcham, County Essex, gentleman. Born March 7, 1524; married, October 8, 1549, **Elizabeth Wingfield**, daughter of Thomas Wingfield of Great Dunham, County Norfolk, who was the son of Sir John Wingfield of Great Dunham, County Norfolk, the grandson of Sir John Wingfield, Knight of the Bath, of Letheringham, County Suffolk, and the great-grandson of Sir Robert Wingfield, Knt., of Letheringham, County Suffolk. (See chart, page 6).

The armorial bearings borne by the family of Geoffrey Downyng, as recorded in the heraldic authorities, are:

Gules a fesse vair, between two lions passant, guardant ermine.

Crest: Out of a ducal coronet, a swan, or.

He died September 17, 1595.

Issue:

Arthur Downyng, born 1550; married 1573; died 1606.

II GENERATION:

Arthur Downyng of Lexham, County Norfolk, born August 1, 1550; married, June 10, 1573, **Susan Calybut**, daughter of Thomas Calybut of Castle Acre, County Norfolk.

He died September 19, 1606.

Issue:

1. Calybut Downyng, born 1574; married 1594, 1604; died 1642.

Downing

2. John Downyng, born 1581; died 1617.
3. Dorothy Downyng, born 1584; married 1606; died 1651.
4. Anne Downyng, born 1586; married 1610; died 1658.
5. Susan Downyng, born 1589; married 1609; died 1642.

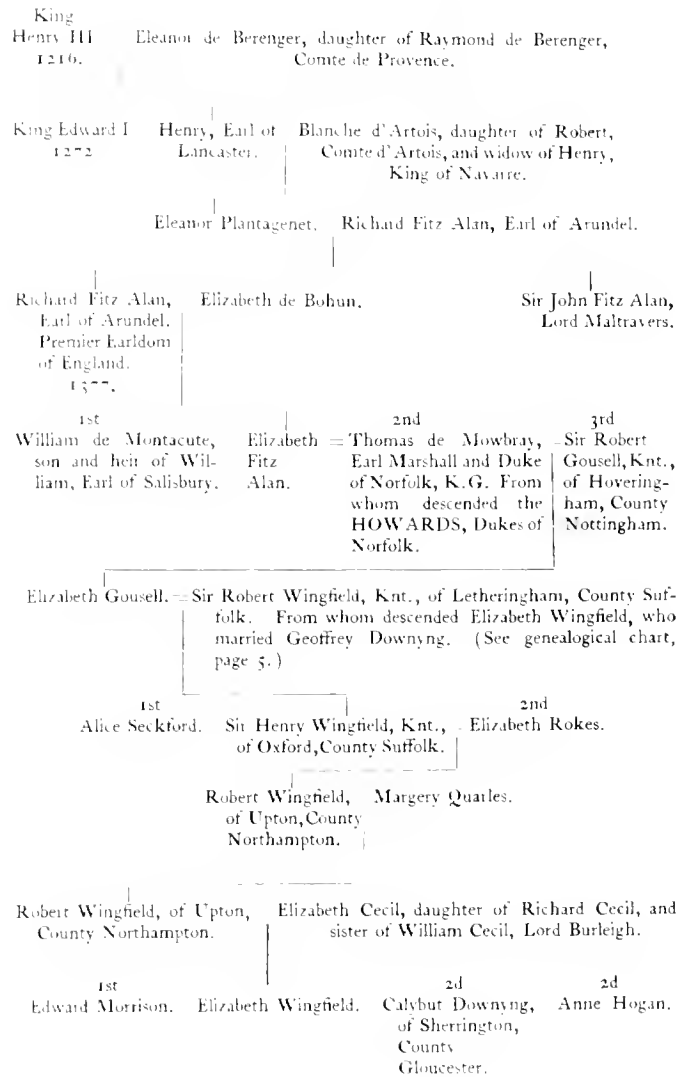
III GENERATION :

Calybut Downyng of Sherrington, County Gloucester, born June 1, 1574; married (first), January 8, 1594, **Elizabeth Wingfield (Morrison)**—she having been previously married to Edward Morrison—daughter of Robert Wingfield of Upton, County Northampton, by Elizabeth Cecil, daughter of Richard Cecil and sister of William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, who, for forty years, was principal Secretary of State, and confidential friend and adviser of Queen Elizabeth, which position he held until the day of his death, August 4, 1598.

He married (second), August 8, 1604, **Anne Hogan**, daughter of Edmund Hogan of Hackney. He died February 3, 1642.

The marriages of Geoffrey Downyng (I) and Calybut Downyng (III) brought about the direct descent from the Plantagenets (King Henry III) as shown by the genealogical chart (page 5) and the following pedigree :

Downing



Downing

Issue :

1. Emanuel Downyng, born 1594 ; married 1614, 1622 ; died 1676.
2. Calybut Downyng, born 1596 ; married 1624 ; died 1644.
3. Elizabeth Downyng, born 1598 ; married 1618 ; died 1660.
4. Susan Downyng, born 1601 ; married 1623 ; died 1651.

IV GENERATION :

Emanuel Downyng of Sherrington, County Gloucester ; Dublin, Ireland ; Salem, Mass. ; and London, England ; born December 10, 1594 ; married (first), June 7, 1614, **Miss Ware** of Dublin, Ireland, daughter of Sir James Ware. They had several children, but no records can be found. He married (second), April 10, 1622, **Lucy Winthrop**, daughter of Adam Winthrop, of Groton, County Suffolk, and sister of Governor John Winthrop of Massachusetts. Upon the invitation of Governor John Winthrop (his brother-in-law), he and his family came to New England in 1638. His children attended the public school at Salem, Mass., afterwards (George, Nicholas and Henry) at Harvard College, of which George Downing (1642) was the second graduate. In 1646, they returned to England. It is doubtful, however, whether the children by his first wife (Miss Ware) returned with him.

He died July 26, 1676.

Downing

Issue :

1. George Downing, born 1623; married 1654; died 1684.
2. Nicholas Downing, born 1627; died 1698; unmarried. He bequeathed his entire estate, in Drummond, County Derry, Ireland, to his nephews (the children of his brother, Henry), Adam, John, George and Daniel.
3. Henry Downing, born 1630; married 1665; died 1698 (see page 37).

The armorial bearings borne by the family, as recorded in the heraldic authorities, are :

Barry of ten argent, and vert, over all a griffin segreant or.

Crest: An arm embowed in armour, tied round the wrist with a bow argent, holding in the hand proper a broad arrow or, feathered and headed of the first.

GEORGE DOWNING of East Hatley, County Cambridge, born 1623, was fortunate to gain as his wife, in 1654, a lady greatly distinguished for her birth and beauty: FRANCES HOWARD, fourth daughter of Sir William Howard, Knt., of Naworth Castle, County Cumberland, and sister of Colonel Charles Howard, first Earl of Carlisle, and a descendant of that unfortunate Thomas Howard, fourth Duke of Norfolk, who was arraigned and convicted upon charges of high treason and rebellion, and beheaded, by order of Queen Elizabeth, on June 2, 1572, for

Downing

tenderness shown to, and arrangements made to marry, Mary, Queen of Scots.

Sir George Downing's progress to power was undoubtedly greatly advanced by his matrimonial union with "the blood of all the Howards."

He was Knighted in May, 1660, and created a Baronet July 1, 1663.

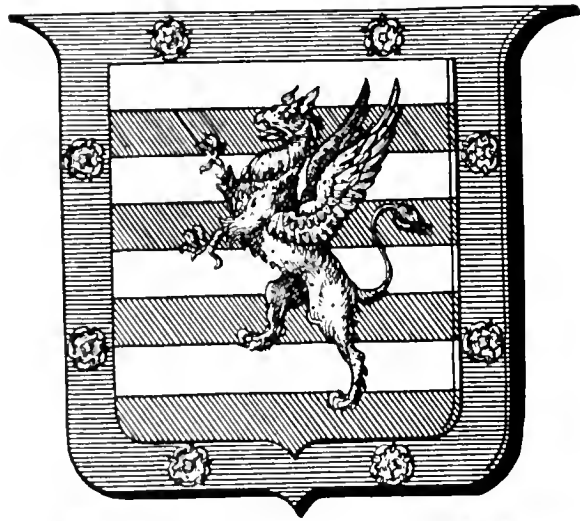
He died July 2, 1684.

Issue :

1. George Downing (Sir) Second Baronet of East Hatley, County Cambridge, one of the Tellers of the Exchequer, time of King James II (1685); married, 1682, Catharine Cecil, eldest daughter of James Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, and had an only son :

George Downing (Right Honorable Sir) of Gamlingay Park, County Cambridge; born 1684; third Baronet, Knight of the Bath, and founder of Downing College, Cambridge. He married, 1700, Mary Forester, daughter of Sir William Forester, Knt., of Watling Street, in Shropshire, and died in 1749. He represented Dunwich in Parliament.

The circumstances connected with his marriage were singularly unfortunate, leading to unhappiness and, subsequently, to litigation. Four years after his birth, in 1688, he lost his mother, and, his father being of weak intellect, he was brought up



QUÆRERE VERUM

DOWNING COLLEGE

Downing

chiefly by his uncle, Sir William Forester, who had married Mary, third daughter of James, Earl of Salisbury. In February, 1700, this uncle took the opportunity of secretly marrying him, then a lad of fifteen, to his eldest daughter, Mary, who had just attained her thirteenth year. Soon afterwards he went abroad, and, on returning home after about three years' absence, refused either to live with or acknowledge his wife.

By his will, dated December 20, 1717, he devised his property to his cousin and heir, Sir Jacob Downing, grandson of Sir George Downing (I) by Charles, his third son—with a provision that in case his line failed his trustees should purchase ground and erect a college at Cambridge. This event took place in the year 1800, after much litigation, as the estate was in the possession of Lady Downing, and, afterwards, of her devisees, without any title; and, in consequence of the opposition raised by them, the grant of the charter was delayed for more than thirty years. The college was eventually founded, and known as "Downing College" in accordance with the directions in the will of the founder.

The arms of the college were granted in the year 1801, certain charges being taken from those of the Downing family:

Barry of eight, argent and vert, a griffin, segreant or, within a bordure azure, charged with eight roses of the first seeded and barbed proper.

Motto: "Quarere Verum."

Downing

2. William Downing—died without issue.
3. Charles Downing, Comptroller of Customs, married Sarah Garrard, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Garrard, Baronet, and died April 15, 1740, leaving a son:

Jacob Downing (Sir), referred to as the son of Charles, third son of Sir George Downing (I), who succeeded his cousin, Sir George Downing, as fourth Baronet (see page 17). Jacob Downing married Miss Price, but died without issue, in 1764, when the baronetcy became extinct. His widow married Admiral Sir George Bowyer, Baronet.
4. Frances Downing married John Cotton, son and heir of Sir John Cotton, Baronet.
5. Philadelphia Downing married Sir Henry Pickering, Baronet.
6. Lucy Downing married Sir Richard Bulkeley, Baronet.
7. Mary Downing married Thomas Barnardiston, Esq.
8. Anne Downing (no further trace).

Downing

SIR GEORGE DOWNING was a man of a proud and insolent spirit. He was keen, bold, subtle, active and observant, and very imperious, naturally preferring menace to persuasion ; reckless of the means employed and the risk incurred in the pursuit of a proposed object ; and fore-armed with a fierce determination not to be foiled or overreached ; but, withal, no one could deny his abilities. He acted a prominent part in the eventful period in which he lived. He was sent, during the Protectorate (1654), as Ambassador to the States General of Holland ; sat for a number of years (1654-1683) in Parliament ; and, in May, 1667, became Secretary of the Treasury. He was one of the Tellers of the Exchequer, and one of His Majesty's Commissioners of Customs. He was one of those who headed the movement for offering the Crown to Cromwell. He served in the army, and, when not more than twenty-seven years of age, had risen so fast as to become a confidential member of Cromwell's staff. In 1650 he held the important position of Scoutmaster-General to the army in Scotland. He was at the Battle of Worcester, September 3, 1651, which Cromwell called his "crowning mercy."

He was one of the most important correspondents and advisers of Parliament.

His chief services during the Protectorate were in the execution of Cromwell's foreign policy. In 1655, when the massacre of the Vaudois took place, he was despatched to France to represent

Downing

Cromwell's indignation to King Louis XIV, and also to make further remonstrances at Turin.

On his appointment as Resident Minister at the Hague, in December, 1657, his letter of credence was written by no less distinguished a man than John Milton, who says: "He is a person of eminent quality, and, after a long trial of his fidelity, probity and diligence in several important negotiations, well approved and valued by us." Whilst with strange contrast, Clarendon (his most bitter enemy) wrote of him that "he goes to Holland, as he pretends, for thrift, but in truth to be a spy."

He was reappointed to his post in Holland by the Rump Parliament in June, 1659, and again in January, 1660.

Like other public men of his time and generation, so soon as the Restoration became a certainty—and whilst still in Holland—he caused influence to be brought to bear upon King Charles II, through Thomas Howard (a relative), brother of the Earl of Suffolk, transferred his "allegiance," and, April 5, 1660, made peace with the King, was graciously received, knighted, and, July 1, 1663, was created a Baronet. At the Restoration he received a large grant of land in London, near Whitehall, and was continued by the King as Ambassador at the Hague, until 1665, when the war with Holland obliged him to return to London.

As to his intentions with regard to the Restoration, Pepys, who was in his office as a clerk, writes in his Diary that he (Downing) was convinced that an effort would be made to put

Downing

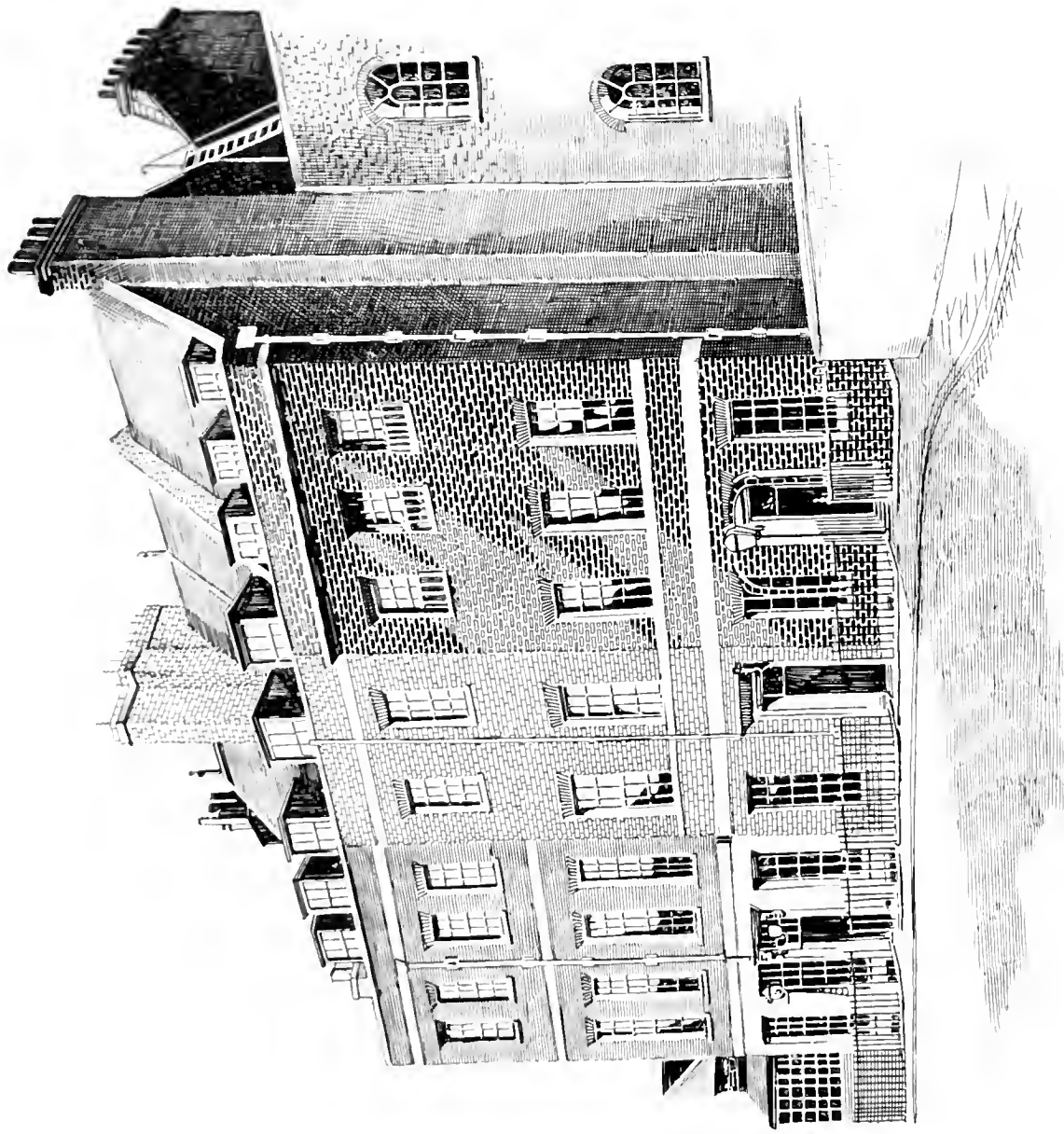
King Charles II into power, and that "hee be-thought himself how hee might have a reserve in the King's favor." He also wrote of him as a perfidious rogue, and has recorded in his Diary, in 1660, the year of the Restoration, a visit to Sir George Downing, "the first visit I have made him since hee came. . . . hee is so stingy a fellow I care not to see him."

When the Treasury was put in commission (May, 1667) the Commissioners chose him as their Secretary. "I think, in my conscience," comments Pepys, "that they have done a great thing in it; for he is active and a man of business, and values himself upon having of things do well under his hand." (Pepys was of a very changeable disposition, governed entirely by circumstances.) Sir George Downing, who represented, at different times, Edinburgh, Morpeth, Carlisle and Haddington, was a frequent speaker on financial and commercial subjects in the sessions of Parliament. In the autumn of 1671, when King Charles II had again determined to pick a quarrel with Holland, no fitter person than he could be found to replace the conciliatory Sir William Temple at the Hague. In addition to his official instructions ordering him to urge all the reasons for complaint which the States had given England since the treaty of Breda, he was secretly informed by the King that he was so offended by the conduct of the Dutch towards him that he had determined to treat with the King of France for declaring war at the earliest

Downing

possible moment ; that therefore he sent him, not to obtain satisfaction, but rather to employ all his wit and skill to embitter matters, so that the English might desire this war and concur in it with good heart. His great unpopularity in Holland was well known when he was chosen for this dangerous mission. When the King named him for that employment, one of the Council said, "The rabble will tear him in pieces ;" upon which the King smiled and said, "Well, I will venture him." After about three months' negotiations he suddenly left the Hague, fearing the fury of the mob. On reaching England he was sent to the Tower (February 7, 1672) for leaving his post contrary to the King's direct orders, but was released before the end of March. In the House of Commons, in 1672, he defended the royal "declaration of indulgence," and, in 1673, spoke against the condemnation of Lord Arlington. In a tract published in 1677, and often attributed to Marvell, he is said to have received at least £80,000 by the King's favor, and described as "the house-bell to call the courtiers to vote."

On part of the land at Whitehall granted to him by King Charles II, Downing Street was built ; a street which has become famous by reason of the official life of Ministers of the Crown. About the year 1689 it is described as a "pretty, open place—especially at the upper end, where are four or five very large and well built houses, fit for persons of honor and quality, each house having a pleasant prospect into St. James's Park, with a terras walk."



THE HOME OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.
No. 10 DOWNING STREET.

Downing

FROM THE PALL MALL MAGAZINE,
LONDON, FEBRUARY, 1901 :

“TO BE LET:—The Four Large Houses, with Coach House and Stables, at the upper end of Downing Street, Westminster; with back fronts to St. James’s Park, and with a large Terras Walk before them next the Park. Enquire of Charles Downing, Esq., Red Lyon Street.”

This was a notice that met the eyes of the readers of the London *Daily Courant* on the morning of February 26, 1722. The “four large houses” included the one now so famous as “10 Downing Street” (large double house); and a somewhat similar notice, worded more in accordance with the changed conditions of the age we live in, might be inserted in our own daily papers every five years or so. For “10 Downing Street,” the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, is practically to let whenever a dissolution of Parliament has taken place, since it is not at all certain—generally otherwise—that the occupier at that time will be the occupier during the next Parliament.

We were allowed to spend some hours one day, a few weeks ago, under the guidance of a competent guide, in looking over this old historic house, which has so many attractions, not for Englishmen alone, but for foreigners from all parts of the earth. We do not intend to deal here with the house from the architectural side so much as from its relation to the present and immediately preceding occupants. Yet a few words, bringing its story down to our own times, are necessary.

Downing

We are not told what tenant first took it after the advertisement given at the beginning of this article. But, after the death of Baron Bothmar, who was in it in 1734, George II offered the house as a gift to Sir Robert Walpole, then Premier and First Lord of the Treasury. Walpole refused it on that condition, but agreed to accept it—the King consenting—upon another stipulation: that it should become the permanent official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury from that time. And on September 23, 1735, Sir Robert Walpole and his family moved into the house, since which time "10 Downing Street" has played an important part in the history of England.

Horace Walpole, Sir Robert's son, was very fond of the place. He says in a letter to a friend, in June, 1742: "I write this in one of the charming rooms towards the park, on a delightful evening I enjoy the sweet corner." And since his time many other celebrated men have enjoyed that same view and corner. Let us call to mind the wonderful array of names that have been associated with this house: William Pitt, Lord North, Earl Grey, Canning, Melbourne, Spencer Perceval, Peel, Palmerston, Gladstone, Disraeli, Rosebery, Balfour—most prominent these amongst many others which are also nevertheless celebrated in political annals.

Before we deal with the house as it is to-day, let us jot down a few interesting recollections of it under some of the men whose names are mentioned in the list just given. It was here that Lord

Downing

Grey sat by the fire during those stormy days of the Reform Bill in the early thirties ; here he sat whilst the county "gentlemen" of England abused him right and left for the new proposals he had just made! No name was bad enough for them to call him—they called him, indeed, everything but a "gentleman"! Yet, on one of those stormy nights, there came to see the Earl a man named Stuart, who owned an influential London newspaper, and this man explained that he was willing to "turn over" his paper from Tory support to that of Whiggism and the Earl, on condition of receiving the Treasury patronage. The Earl was astounded. But it was the impudence of it all that took his breath away—the very shame that such a proposition should be made to him! He rose, called the footman, and, in a terrible voice, bade him "Show that person at once out of doors!" Ah, well! times alter, and men, too. Mr. Stuart went the wrong way about the matter, as some diplomatic and wiser newspaper owners could easily have shown him.

Again, it was in this house that the great Pitt "felt at home," as he used to say. He never cared to live elsewhere. He used to boast that, during all the long years he was in power, he never slept a single night away from this house except under the direst necessity. He confessed that, during the time when he was out of office, he was always looking forward to his return to his beloved "10 Downing Street." Here he paid those bills of innumerable tradesmen, bills so enormous in

Downing

their totals that even to-day curious inquirers stand aghast and "wonder where all the stuff went to!"

Grey was a second Pitt in his love for the spot. He seldom lived away from it when Premier. Lord North was just as bad—indeed, perhaps, worse, in so far that he even became so attached to certain rooms that more than once he actually went in and sat down there when they really belonged to some one else! During his own period as First Lord he had a number of rooms on the ground floor; and when, in later life and more aged days, he accepted a Secretaryship of State as a relaxation from the severer post he had formerly held, and when he had offices appointed in the same house, but on the second floor, it was by no means uncommon for the clerks of the then First Lord to find the late Premier come strolling into the old chambers and sit down at the old desk before he suddenly remembered his changed position and retired in confusion.

Every tenant did not love "10 Downing Street," so much as these three or four Premiers. Palmerston once allowed a favorite secretary to live in it; Mr. Gladstone, during his first administration, did exactly the same. But subsequently both these famous Prime Ministers came themselves to live in the historic house, and took great pride in it. Lord Beaconsfield not only lived at Downing Street during his second term of office as First Lord of the Treasury, but he spent a large sum of money in renovating the various rooms. They

Downing

were decorated and furnished in the style of George I's time, and ran up a bill of nearly £3,000 in paying for them. We shall see some of the alterations that Lord Beaconsfield made when we deal with the different rooms as they are to-day.

It may be interesting to know that one First Lord never lived here at all. He was the late Mr. W. H. Smith. He used the place as an office, but he was too much attached to his ordinary country residence to leave it for this one in a *cul-de-sac* off Whitehall. And equally interesting it may be to learn that there is one Premier who has never lived at 10 Downing Street. He is the present one, the Marquis of Salisbury. With these two exceptions, every Prime Minister and every First Lord of the Treasury since the days of Walpole, in 1735, has been at some period or other a tenant of the house.

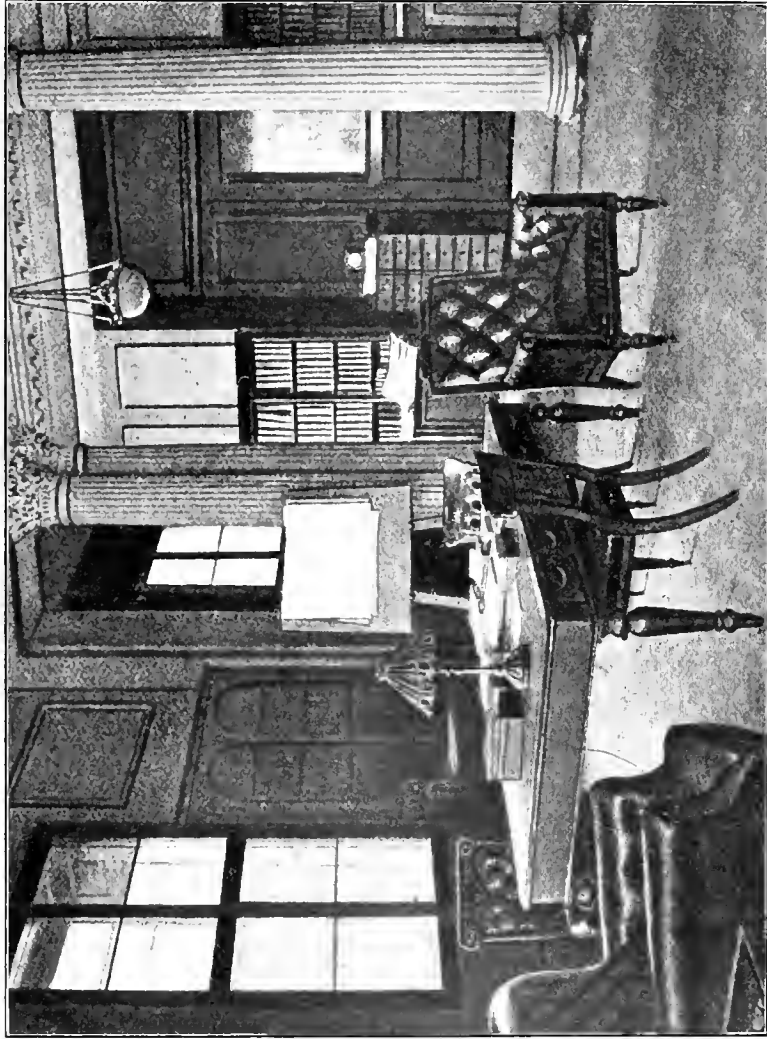
Having thus come down to our own times, let us accompany our guide through the chief rooms of "10 Downing Street," as they are to-day. When one has successfully passed the guardian of the law posted outside the house in Downing Street, and then further satisfied the custodian inside the entrance hall, one has opportunity to look 'round this hall itself. An old eight-day clock, which adorns it, has evidently been a fixture here for many years, and could doubtless tell some strange tales.

Passing along through corridors and rooms which are now all used for business purposes, we

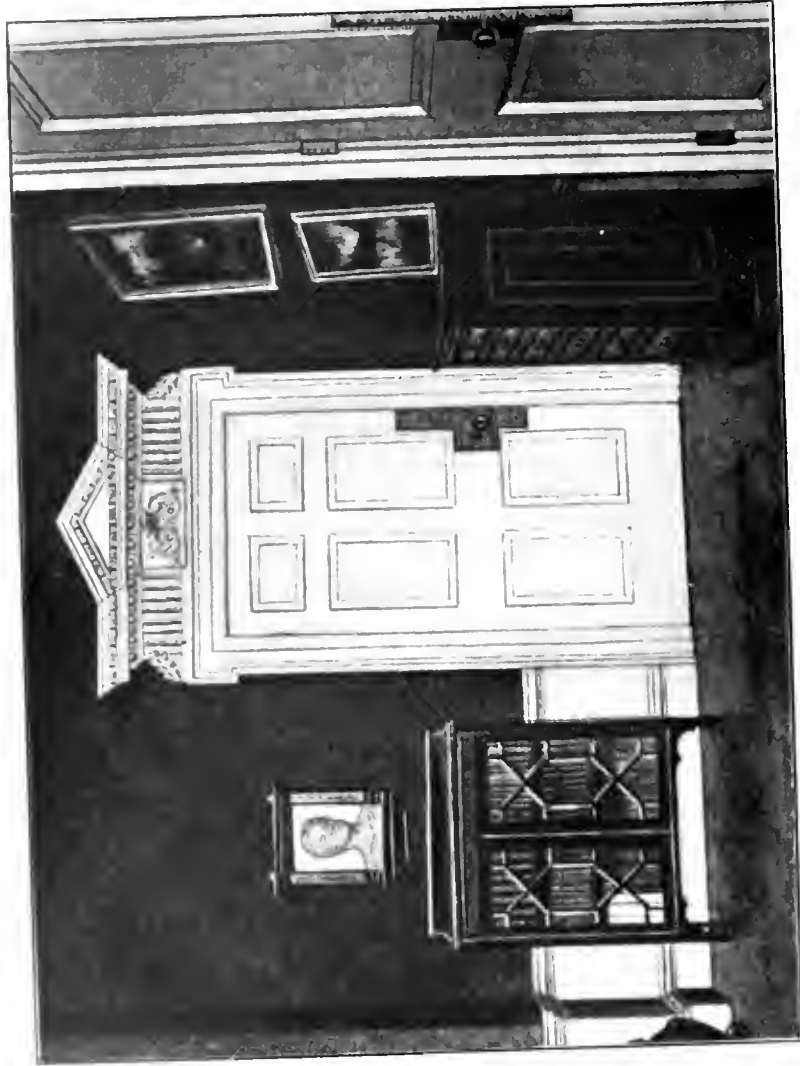
Downing

come at length to the room of a private secretary. This present secretarial room is decorated in pale green, and is a light, cheerful apartment. Here everything suggests work. Piles of pamphlets ; statistical books ; guides, and similar paraphernalia ; scores of newspapers, including all the principal morning and evening ones each day : these meet the eye at every turn. There is nothing haphazard, however, about them. The newspapers are all set out in due order, as if on a railway bookstall, their titles all visible at a glance, ready for the first Lord of the Treasury to pick up whichever he fancies, or has his attention drawn to by his secretaries. In this room, which is far from being the least comfortable one in the place, a secretary is always ready when wanted, for the next room is the First Lord's work-room.

And this next room, separated by double folding doors from the one just described, is the celebrated "cabinet chamber," as well as Mr. Balfour's work-room. This room could tell more of Britain's political history during the past two centuries—or, rather, of the resolutions which caused that history—than any other room in the world. It is impossible to speak of a tithe of the memorable Cabinet meetings that this room has seen. And as to what has transpired at them—the silence of the grave is supposed to hang around all Cabinet meetings. For under no circumstances whatever is any official not of Cabinet rank allowed inside that room, or within earshot, when a Cabinet Council is taking place. It may be that, very



NO. 10 DOWNING STREET.
THE COUNCIL-ROOM.



A CORNER IN ONE OF THE RECEPTION ROOMS.
No. 10 DOWNING STREET.

Downing

occasionally—once in a hundred times—the presence of a minor member of the Government is requested by the Cabinet, or, even more rarely, a private secretary is called in for a few moments to answer important questions. But the traditional records of secretaryship here give only one case where any person, not a Cabinet Minister, ever dared to enter the room without leave during a Council. It is said that the news of the fall of Sebastopol came to a secretary's hand whilst a Cabinet meeting was being held, and that, in his excitement, he burst in upon the astonished Ministers with the glorious information, and was forgiven for his rashness owing to the good import of his news.

Double doors, double windows, double locks—this room is indeed well protected. In the centre of it used to stand a long, heavy table, and round this were placed chairs for the members of the Cabinet. One side of the chamber looks out upon the Horse Guards' Parade; another leads to the small terrace outside the house, of which more anon. Until this past decade or so, when Lord Salisbury's Cabinet has generally met at the Foreign Office, practically all the Cabinet Councils since 1856 have been held in this "Council Chamber," or in a room above.

To-day it is the regular work-room of Mr. Balfour; and a plain high desk, littered with papers and notes, stands at its farther end, by the windows looking upon the gardens. It may be interesting to know that the present First Lord of the

Downing

Treasury stands up at the desk when he is working there, and very seldom indeed sits down to write. The general scheme of decoration of the room is of terra-cotta color, and the carpet is of thick velvet pile.

Outside the door at the farther end of the Council Chamber are two small rooms, also appropriated by private secretaries of the First Lord.

On the floor above we come to the chief reception room, which lies exactly over the Cabinet room. This drawing room is a fine apartment, and it was one of the rooms which Lord Beaconsfield had re-decorated at much expense to himself. Its color is now cream-and-gold, and it is elaborately adorned, both on the walls and ceiling. Here are many portraits of former celebrated First Lords, including those of Mr. Gladstone, Lord Rosebery and Mr. Disraeli. The most notable one is supposed to be that of Lord Portland, dated 1633.

The second drawing room has a fine white marble mantel, and a splendid old mirror which reaches from the mantel to the ceiling. The room is papered with a terra-cotta-colored paper, and has rich gilt mouldings,

From the drawing room last described we pass into the morning room. This room has a fine view all over St. James's Park from the windows, and it is very cheery in its general appearance. There are many evidences in it of the tenant's personal tastes. In one corner there were some half-dozen golf-clubs, which stand ever ready to

Downing

hand for Mr. Balfour's use. And the open piano, with the sheet-music, suggested that he is as keen on his indoor recreation as on the outdoor one.

On the corridor past this room are others, two of which are devoted to private use. And then there come spare rooms for visitors, so many and so mixed up that the tenants of 10 Downing Street, themselves seldom know exactly how many there are, and where they end. For the next house is that of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the offshoot rooms—if we may call them so—of the one building run amongst those of the other building in most delightful confusion. Both houses have been added to as necessity required, so that all styles and fashions of architecture and rooms are represented there, and the result is a pretty medley.

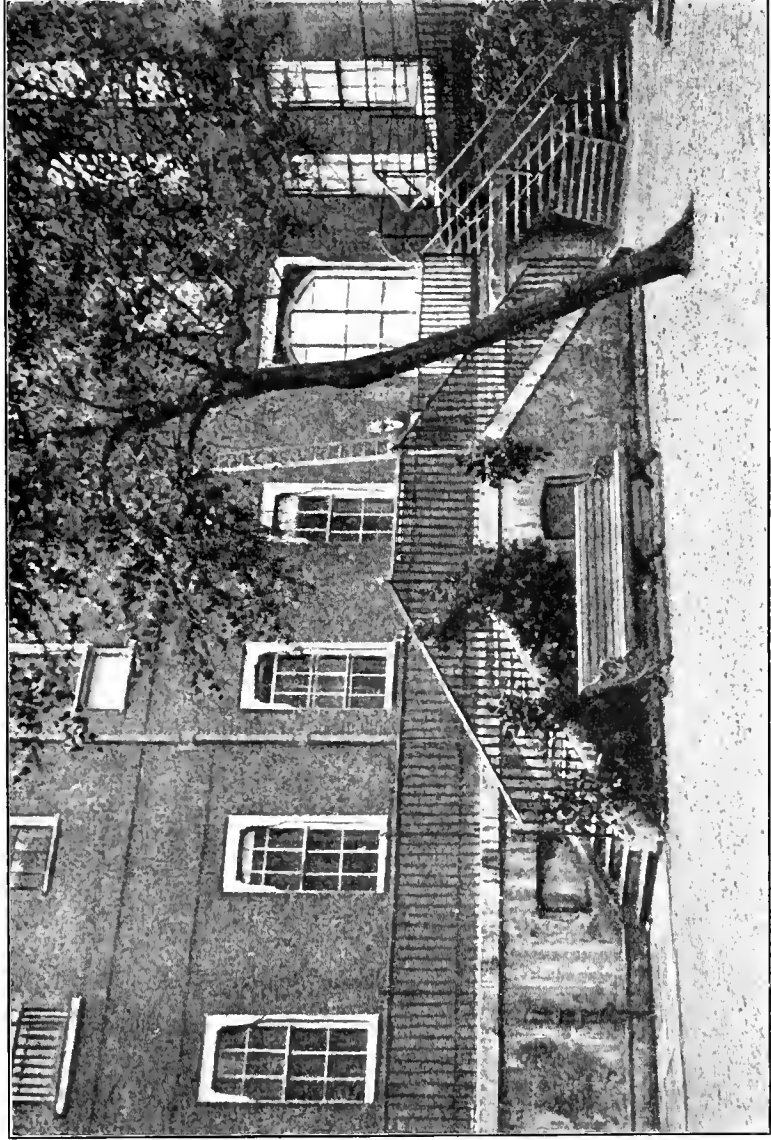
If we cross the ante-room we come to what is known as Pitt's dining room. This is one of the finest apartments in the house. It was built by the great Prime Minister whose name it bears; and a fine large portrait of him adorns the mantel in it. On the walls are several works of the late Sir Edward Burne-Jones. Most of the Ministerial dinners given before the opening of Parliament take place in this room, as they have done ever since Lady Hester Stanhope kept house here for her famous relation who built the room. It is here also that the Queen's speech is generally first read to the more important supporters of the Ministry who gather to the dinner. The ceiling of this room is one of the finest in the

Downing

house, its mouldings being far superior to most of the others. The room itself is high, with large windows that overlook the back of the house, or rather the side running at right angles from Downing Street as we approach it. And down below is Pitt's kitchen—certainly, in its architecture, one of the finest apartments in the place.

The guide passes with us into the small gardens outside the house, bordering the Horse Guards' Parade. These gardens are more interesting from their associations than from their beauty, as they have to serve for the two houses, the First Lord's and the Chancellor of the Exchequer's.

What tales these gardens could tell if they had the power of speech! What private talks have had place here, upon which, undoubtedly, the destinies of nations have hung! What little "jobs" planned, so dear and so common to every political party during its term of office! Here Melbourne mused as to how the new accession in 1837 was likely to affect him; here Peel probably first pondered on the dubious course of changing his Corn Laws policy. Along these walks Palmerston must often have strolled, deep in the anxiety that the Crimean War brought; and into this garden came Lord Beaconsfield in triumph after the Berlin Conference and the famous "Peace with Honor." Gladstone must have often trodden these paths with sturdy stride whilst meditating on the great "Home Rule" change; and here Lord Rosebery has doubtless frequently recog-



No. 10 DOWNING STREET.
THE TERRACE IN THE GARDENS.

Downing

nized the real truth of the poet's line, slightly altered—"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown."

It is said that there was a cockpit here in the days of King Henry VIII, and indeed Cromwell's wife frequently wrote him letters headed "The Cockpit, Whitehall." Even many of the Treasury letters were headed with the same words until as late as the year 1750. It has been said that the cocks themselves were kept in a low dungeon under the Treasury buildings, where the latter touch these gardens at the back.

The terrace in the gardens is not imposing, yet it has some claim to attention. When the First Lord of the Treasury or the Chancellor of the Exchequer gives garden parties, the guests are very fond of sitting out on this terrace, which can thus boast of having held the most famous men that England has known for two centuries.

The present American Ambassador, Mr. Joseph H. Choate, in his famous speech at the last Lord Mayor's banquet, referred to Sir George Downing, from whom the street took its name, and humorously suggested that, from Sir George's connection centuries ago with both England and America, Downing Street even now might be regarded as the link between the Old World and the New World of Anglo-Saxons. His wish will find an echo, certainly, in many hearts on both sides of the Atlantic. And if this be so, then, surely, 10 Downing Street may be taken as the centre of that link itself!

Downing

On the whole, however, "10 Downing Street" may be said to live greatly on its past. It must ever be interesting to the lover of history or to the politician. As a piece of architecture it is bad; its chief attraction being its excellence as a place for playing hide-and-seek—which, after all, is not an uncommon part of a First Lord's business when importunate suitors call.

Downing

In addition to the historical records of England, most careful researches through local Church and Parish records in Ireland have resulted in the discovery that, from 1622, the Downings were settled in Dublin, at Downing, County Cork, at Money-more and Drummond, County Derry, and at Coagh, County Tyrone.

The historical authorities relating to Ireland, about this period, indicate that the Downings were engaged in the wars which were carried on during the period of the Commonwealth (1649-1659), and those subsequent thereto.

In the time of Cromwell is found the enrollment of the adjudication in favor of the "1649" officers, formerly denominated "the 49 Lots" preserved in the office of the Chief Remembrancer of the Exchequer, at Dublin. These adjudications refer to the arrears due to the commissioned officers who served King Charles I in the wars of Ireland.

Included in the names of the commissioned officers are those of:

Hugh Downing,
Lieutenant John Downing,
John Downing.

In 1656 the list of proprietors of lands within the County of Cork who forfeited their property to the Commonwealth in "the late horrid Rebellion" includes:

"County Cork: Barony of Carberry, Teig Carty, alias Downe (now rendered Downing)."

Downing

Among the Connaught “certified transplanter” (1653-4) is the name of Robert Downing.

In the abstract of the Acts of Settlement and Explanation (1661-1665) passed in the reign of King Charles II, the name of Robert Downing is to be found among those of persons entitled to grants under the said Acts of Settlement.

Downing

V GENERATION :

Henry Downing of East Hatley, County Cambridge, born March 10, 1630 (third son of Emanuel Downyng: see page 15); married, June 2, 1665, **Jane Clotworthy**, of a very ancient Devonshire family. He held a commission in the guards of King Charles II, and was living in London, in 1666.

He died September 25, 1698.

Issue :

1. Adam Downing, born 1666; married 1696; died 1719.
2. John Downing, born 1667; died 1736.
3. George Downing, born 1668; married 1690; died 1729.
4. Elizabeth Downing, born 1669; married 1692; died 1740.
5. Daniel Downing, born 1670; married 1696; died 1733.
6. Anne Downing, born 1672; died 1674.
7. Margaret Downing, born 1675; married 1696; died 1723.
8. Anne Downing, born 1678; married 1702; died 1757.

VI GENERATION :

Adam Downing of Downing Street, London, born March 18, 1666; married, November 15, 1696, **Margaret Jackson** of Coleraine, County Derry, Ireland, of the noble family of Waterford.

COLONEL ADAM DOWNING was a distinguished partisan of King William III, and

Downing

went to Ireland with him in 1690. He held the rank of Colonel in his army, raised a body of men at his own expense, and was present at the siege of Derry, where he gave early and signal proofs of his courage, participating in the Battle of the Boyne (July 12, 1690), and contributing eminently by his gallantry and skill to the success of the party with which he was engaged. He received the appointments of Deputy Governor of the County of Derry, Colonel of the Militia, and was one of the Commissioners of Array. He was also granted by the King a large tract of land in County Derry. He died May 17, 1719, and was buried at Bellaghy. The inscription on his monument mentions his descent from the ancient Devonshire family of Clotworthy.

Issue :

1. Henry Downing, born 1697; died 1712.
2. John Downing, born 1700; married 1727; died 1762.

VII GENERATION :

John Downing of Dawson's Bridge, Bellaghy and Rowesgift, County Derry, born April 16, 1700; married, June 10, 1727, **Margaret Rowe** of Rowesgift, County Derry, who was descended from an ancient Devonshire family. Inheriting the spirit of his father, he raised, during the Rebellion of 1745, at his own expense, a body of men to serve his King and country in a moment of great difficulty and danger.

He died September 3, 1762.

Downing

Issue :

1. Clotworthy Downing, born 1728; married 1753; died 1801.
2. Dawson Downing, born 1739; married 1762, 1778; died 1808.
3. John Downing, born 1740; died 1792.

DAWSON DOWNING of Dawson's Bridge, Bellaghy and Rowesgift, County Derry, born March 17, 1739; married (first) April 3, 1762, CATHARINE FULLERTON, the only child of George Fullerton, and niece and heiress of Alexander Fullerton of Ballintoy Castle, County Antrim, descended from a branch of the ancient Scottish family of that name, who settled in Ireland in 1603; he had by her an only son :

GEORGE ALEXANDER DOWNING, who was born at Ballycastle, November 30, 1775. He inherited considerable property from his maternal great uncle, assumed, in compliance with that gentleman's testamentary injunction, the surname and arms of Fullerton, quarterly with those of Downing, and became of Tockington Manor, Ballintoy.

He married, November 30, 1796, MARY ANNE PEACOCK, and had by her three sons and five daughters.

He died June 4, 1847.

DAWSON DOWNING married (second), January 8, 1778, SARAH CATHARINE BOYD of Ballycastle, and had by her six daughters and four sons.

He died December 23, 1808.

His will was proved in Dublin in 1809.

Downing

VIII GENERATION :

Clotworthy Downing of Dawson's Bridge, Bellaghy and Rowesgift, County Derry, born April 4, 1728; married, June 14, 1753, **Elizabeth Giffard**.

He died November 13, 1801.

Issue :

1. William Downing, born 1754; married 1784; died 1803.
2. John Downing, born 1760; died 1820.
3. Giffard Downing, born 1762; died 1830.

IX GENERATION :

William Downing of Dawson's Bridge, Bellaghy and Rowesgift, County Derry, born March 13, 1754; married, August 5, 1784, **Jane Colwell** of Moneymore, County Derry.

He died April 10, 1803.

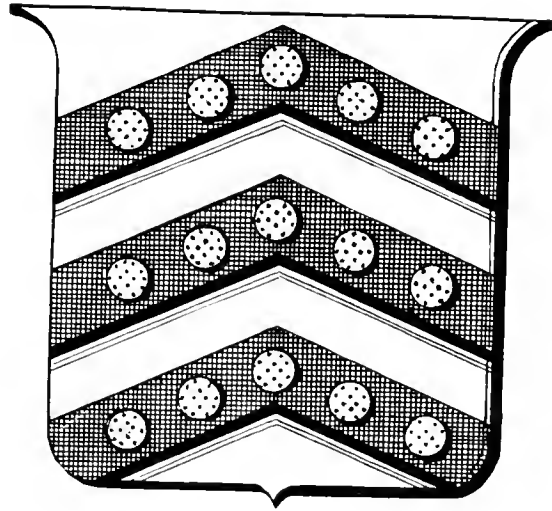
Jane Colwell Downing married (second), July 18, 1805, Felix Devlin, and had by him two children, whose descendants are settled, some in Ireland and others in America. She is buried in the family lot at Moneymore.

The armorial bearings of the Colwell family, as recorded in the heraldic authorities, are :

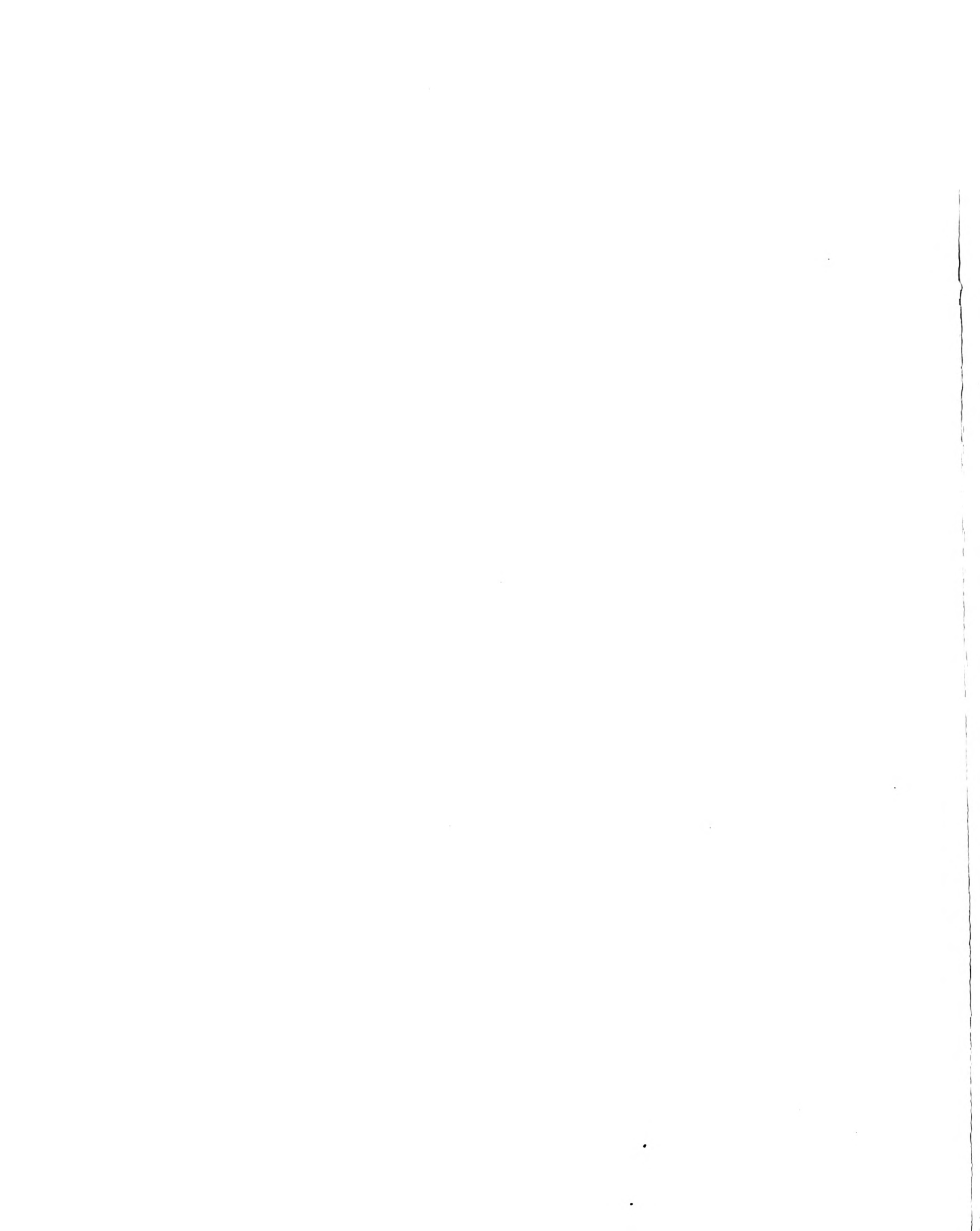
Argent, three chevrons sable, each charged with five bezants.

Issue :

1. William Colwell Downing, born 1786; married 1811; died 1868.
2. James Downing, born 1798; married 1830; died 1874.



COLWELL





JAMES DOWNING.



MRS. JAMES DOWNING.
(SEE ELIZABETH BROWN.)

Downing

X GENERATION :

James Downing of Moneymore, County Derry, born November 10, 1798 ; married, October 20, 1830, **Elizabeth Brown Duff**. (See pages 129, 130 and 131.)

He died February 14, 1874.

Issue :

1. **Robert William Downing**, born 1835 ; married 1854, 1887.
2. **Jane Elizabeth Downing**, born 1837 ; died 1839.

Downing

XI GENERATION :

Robert William Downing of Wallingford, Delaware County, Pa., and 1624 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa., born January 22, 1835 ; married (first), March 8, 1854, **Elizabeth Lefferts Addis**. (See page 68.)

He married (second), February 1, 1887, **Catharine Parker Dickson** of Pittsburg, Pa., his second cousin (see page 133), she being the granddaughter of his mother's sister, Mary Brown. (See page 129).

ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING served in the Civil War as a non-commissioned officer of the 17th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry.

Downing

This regiment was known as the "Quaker Regiment" on account of the drab felt hats worn by them, which were presented to the regiment by patriotic citizens of Philadelphia.

No troops had passed through Baltimore since April 19, 1861, and no attempt had been made to force a passage to the Capital at Washington. The necessity of holding the direct route had become imperative, and it was determined, at all hazards, to open it. The 17th Regiment was ordered to proceed to Perryville on May 8th, there to be joined by Sherman's Light Battery and five companies of the 3d Regular Infantry, all well armed and supplied with ample ammunition, and thence to embark on transports for Baltimore. Landing at Locust Point, Colonel Patterson of the 17th Regiment made such disposition of his force as to enable him most successfully to repel attack, and commenced his march through the city of Baltimore, which for nearly three weeks had been subject to mob rule. Each man of the regiment had his rifle loaded, and in addition thereto had sixteen rounds of ball cartridges, prepared for an attack by the citizens, but no such attack occurred; they arrived at Camden Station of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and, shortly thereafter, at Washington. At first, the regiment was quartered in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol. Two days later it was ordered into camp on Kalorama Heights, about two miles from Washington. On July 8, 1861, the regiment was assigned to the 7th Brigade of the 3d

Downing

Division. On July 15th, the whole division marched to Bunker Hill, Va., the 17th Regiment forming the advance guard, with Company A deployed as skirmishers, and on the 17th made a rapid march to Charlestown, in which it formed part of the advance guard, with Companies B, G and F as skirmishers.

The term of service (three months) for which the regiment was mustered having nearly expired, the men were appealed to to remain after the expiration of the period of enlistment, if their services were needed, which was acceded to with unanimity. On July 21st the regiment was presented with a beautiful stand of colors, consisting of United States and State flags, the gift of the women of Philadelphia. On the same day the division moved to Harper's Ferry. When the news of the defeat at Bull Run was received, a general willingness was expressed by everyone to remain longer in the service, if needed. Forging the Potomac on July 23d, the command marched to Sandy Hook, Va., where, no call having been made from Washington for the regiment to remain in service, it was ordered to Philadelphia, and was received by an imposing civic and military display, and, on August 2, 1861, was mustered out of service.

After the war, Companies A and F (originally the old Artillery Company, Washington Grays of Philadelphia) were merged with the 1st Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry, as Company D.

Downing

ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING was a member of Select Council of the City of Philadelphia from 1871 to 1875 and was President of that body, 1874-75. Was one of the Commissioners for the erection of the Public Buildings; a member of the Fairmount Park Commission; member of the Board of City Trusts; member of the Board of Prison Inspectors, Philadelphia County; a School Director of the Fourteenth Ward, and Comptroller for the same ward in the Board of Education. He was appointed Assistant Comptroller of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in February, 1872, and elected Comptroller, in May, 1874, which official position he still holds.

Issue :

1. Charles Gardner Downing, born 1854; married 1876.
2. Frank Taggart Downing, born 1857; married 1882.
3. Robert Brown Downing, born 1858; died 1858.
4. William Colwell Downing, born 1860; married 1883.
5. Lillian Downing, born 1861; married 1882.
6. Robert William Downing, Jr., born 1864; married 1886.
7. Spencer Brown Downing, born 1893.
8. Roberta Brown Downing, born 1895.



ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING.



MRS. ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING.
(NÉE ELIZABETH LEFFLERS ADDIS.)





MRS. ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING.
(NÉE CATHERINE PARKER DICKSON.)





SPENCER BROWN DOWNING.



ROBERTA BROWN DOWNING.



RESIDENCE OF
ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING,
WALLINGFORD,
Delaware County, Pa.

Downing

XII GENERATION AND ISSUE :

1. **Charles Gardner Downing** of Wallingford, Delaware County, Pa., and 3926 Spruce Street, West Philadelphia, Pa., born December 26, 1854; married, June 28, 1876. **Mary Leah Brown** of Philadelphia, Pa., born September 17, 1857.

Issue :

1. May Brown Downing, born May 7, 1877.
2. Charles Robert Downing, born January 21, 1886.
3. Beatrice Leah Downing, born September 26, 1888 ; died October 15, 1888.



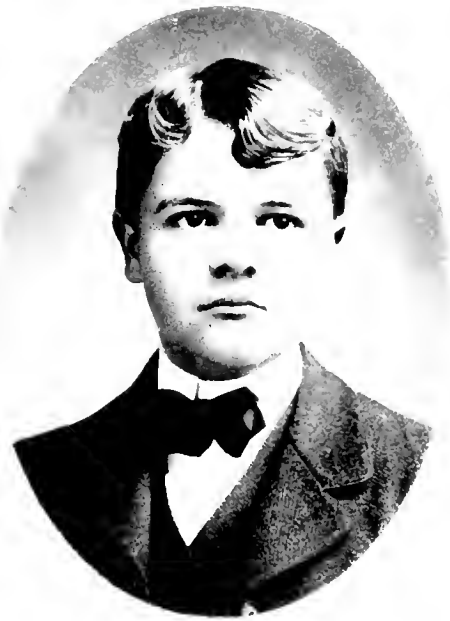
CHARLES GARDNER DOWNING.



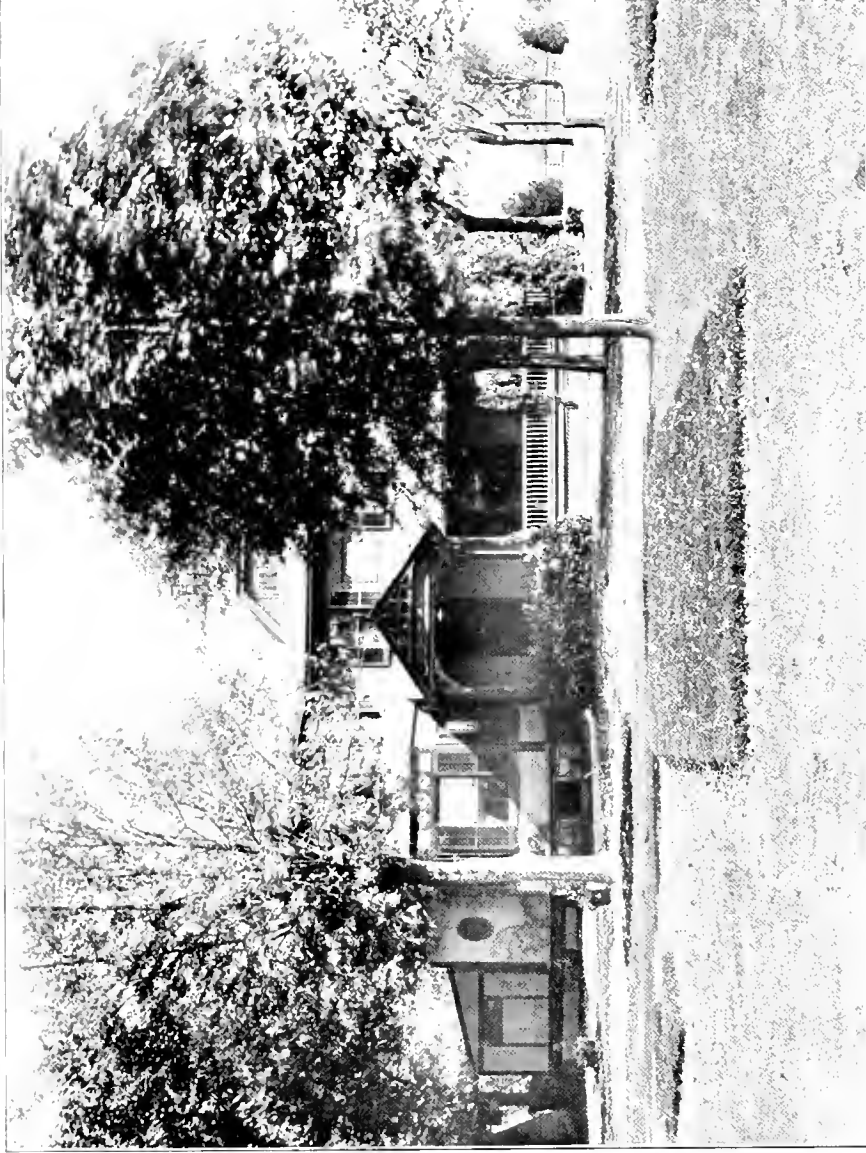
MRS. CHARLES GARDNER DOWNING.
SEE MARY LEAH BROWN.



MAY BROWN DOWNING.



CHARLES ROBERT DOWNING.



RESIDENCE OF
CHARLES GARDNER DOWNING,
WALLINGFORD,
Delaware County, Pa.



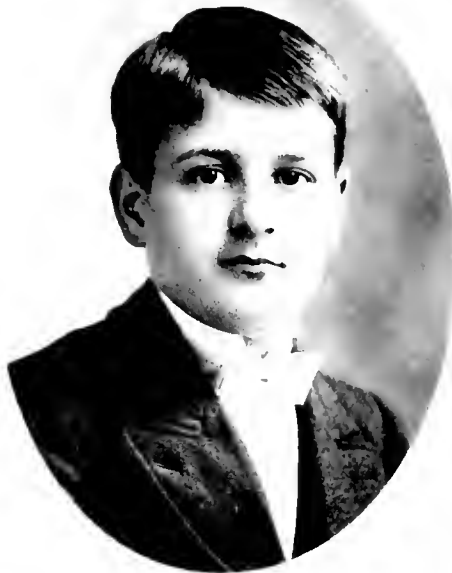
FRANK TAGGART DOWNING.



MRS. FRANK TAGGART DOWNING.
(NÉE BELLE BARK HOWARD.)



ELIZABETH ADDIS DOWNING.



ADDIS HOWARD DOWNING.



ISABEL DOWNING.



RESIDENCE OF
FRANK TAGGART DOWNING,
MOYLAN,
Delaware County, Pa.

Downing

XII GENERATION AND ISSUE :

IV. **William Colwell Downing** of Upsal, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., born April 16, 1860 ; married, October 10, 1883, **Martha Jane Taylor** of Philadelphia, Pa., born September 11, 1861 (sister of Francis Granello Taylor—see page 49).

Issue :

1. Leffert Lefferts Downing, born October 1, 1884.
2. Keith Travis Downing, born January 23, 1889.



WILLIAM COLWELL DOWNING.



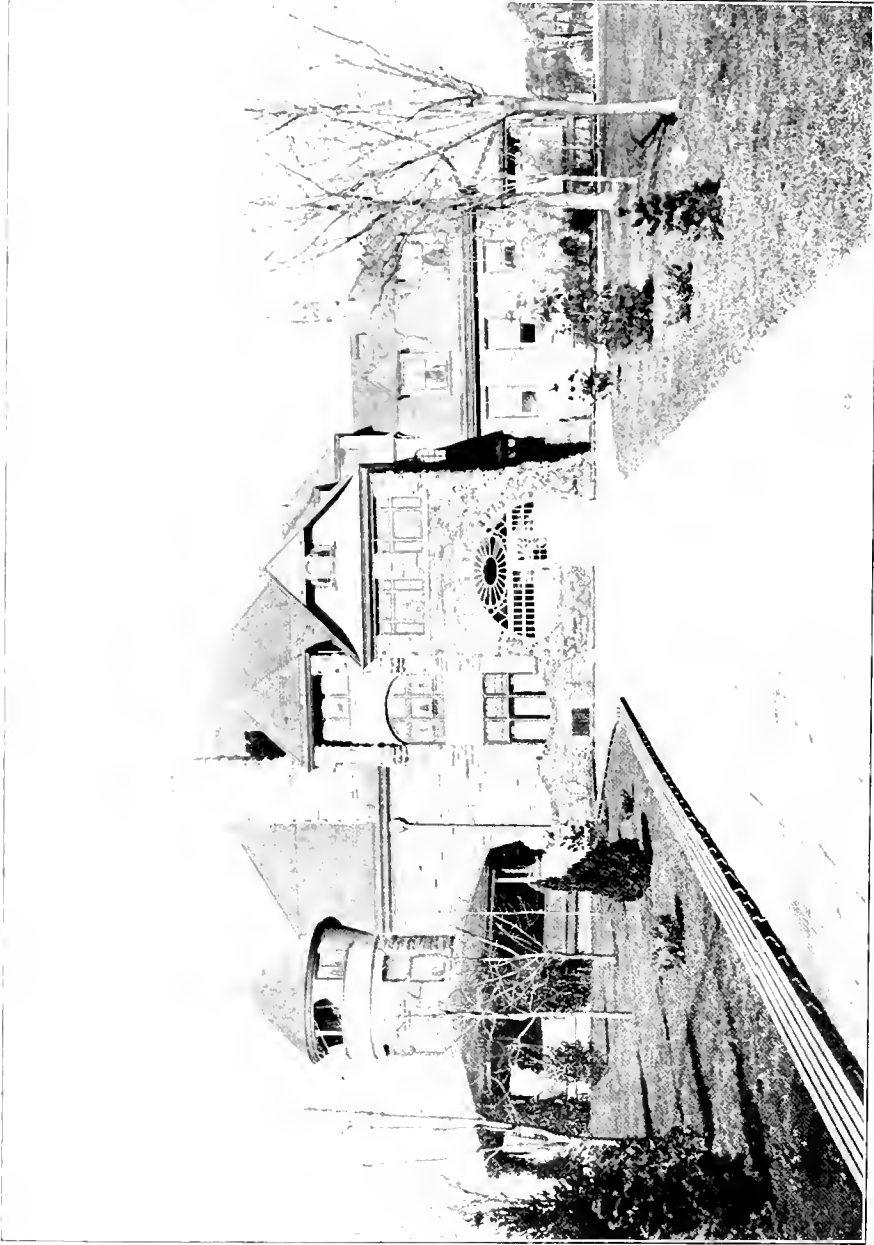
MRS. WILLIAM COLWELL DOWNING.
(SIC MATHIA JANE TAYLOR.)



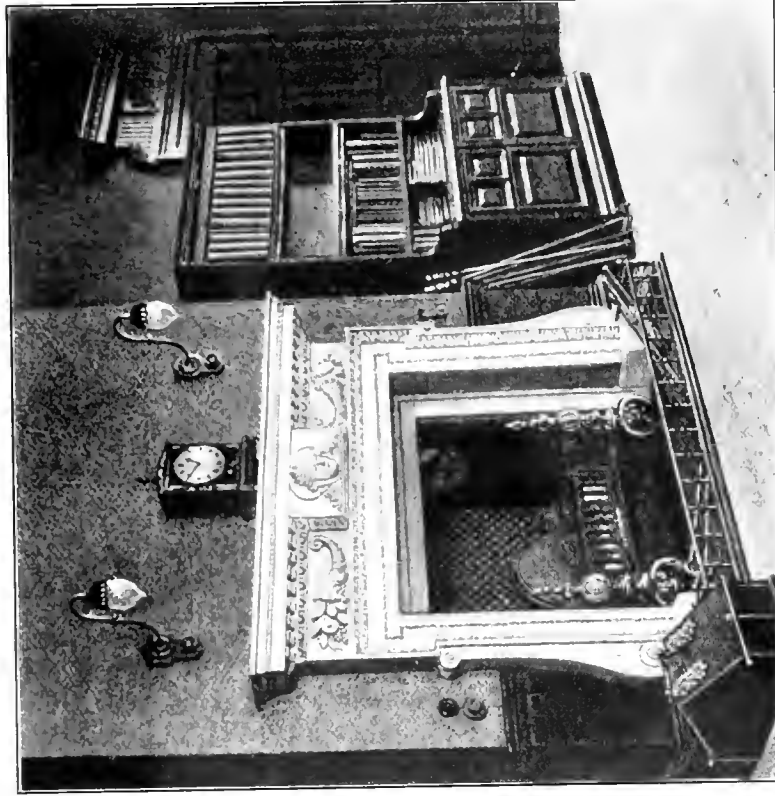
LEFFERT LEFFERTS DOWNING.



KEITH TRAVIS DOWNING.



RESIDENCE OF
WILLIAM COLWELL DOWNING,
GREEN AND JOHNSON STS.,
Germantown, Philada.



No. 10 DOWNING STREET.
A SUGGESTIVE CORNER IN SITTING-ROOM.



No. 10 DOWNING STREET.
THE GARDENS, SHOWING THE TREASURY BUILDINGS.

Downing

XII GENERATION AND ISSUE :

V. **Lillian Downing** of Lansdowne, Delaware County, Pa., born September 15, 1861; married, January 17, 1882, **Francis Granello Taylor** of Philadelphia, Pa., born April 1, 1860 (brother of Martha Jane Taylor—see page 48).

Issue :

1. Robert Downing Taylor, born January 24, 1883.
2. Frances Lillian Taylor, born January 17, 1885.
3. William Henry Taylor, born February 5, 1887.
4. Katherine Taylor, born April 23, 1892.



FRANCIS GRANELLO TAYLOR.



MRS. FRANCIS GRANELLO TAYLOR.
(SEE ILLUSTRATION.)



ROBERT DOWNING TAYLOR.



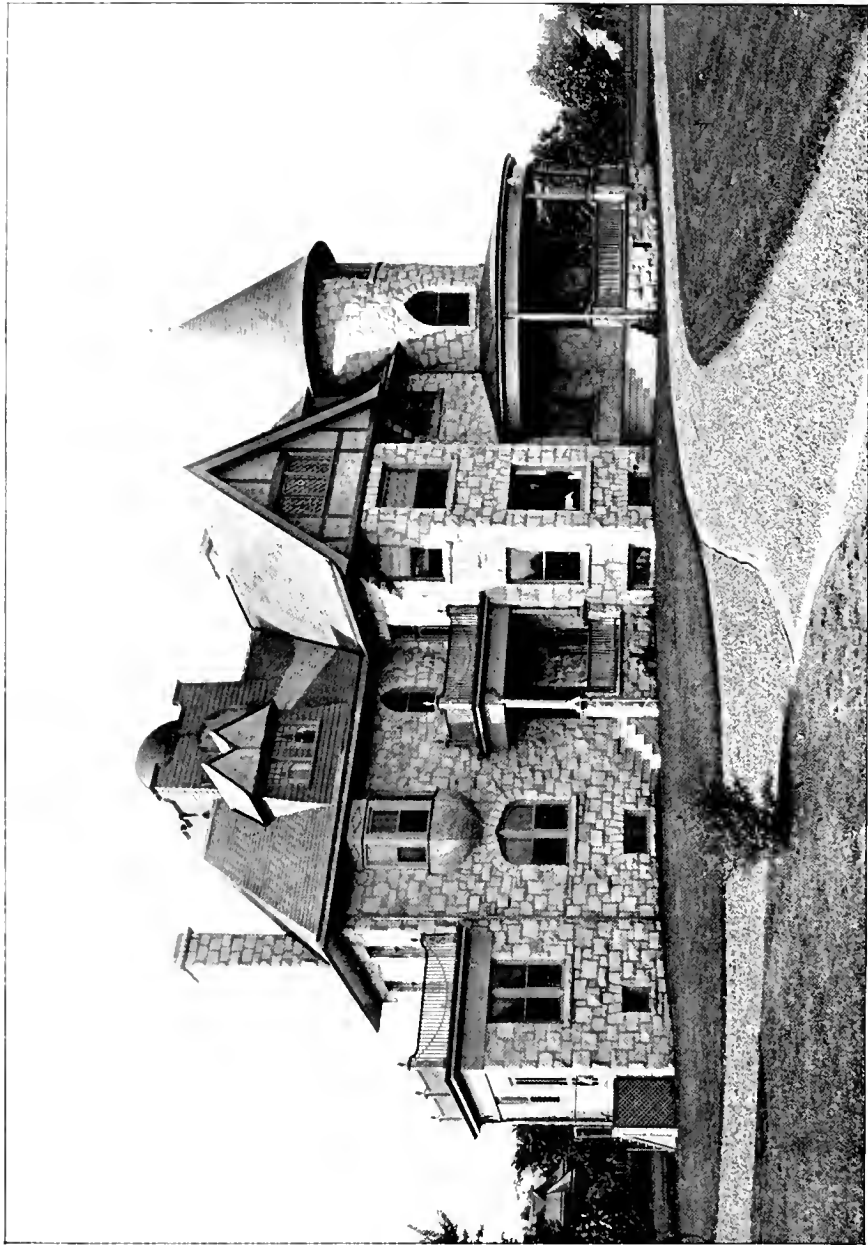
FRANCES LILLIAN TAYLOR.



WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR.



KATHERINE TAYLOR.



RESIDENCE OF
FRANCIS GRANELLO TAYLOR,
LANSDOWNE,
Delaware County, Pa.

Downing

XII GENERATION AND ISSUE:

VI. **Robert William Downing, Jr.**, of 268 West Walnut Lane, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., born August 26, 1864; married, November 9, 1886, **Charlesanna Heritage Myers** of Philadelphia, Pa., born August 5, 1866.

Issue:

1. Anita Downing, born April 5, 1889.



ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING, JR.



MRS. ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING, JR.
(NÉ CHARLESANNA HERITAGE MYERS.)



ANITA DOWNING.



RESIDENCE OF
ROBERT WILLIAM DOWNING, JR.,
268 WEST WALNUT LANE,
Germantown, Philada.



WILLS TAYLOR.



MRS. WILLIS TAYLOR
(NEE MARGARET HICKMAN.)



FRANCIS GRANELLO.



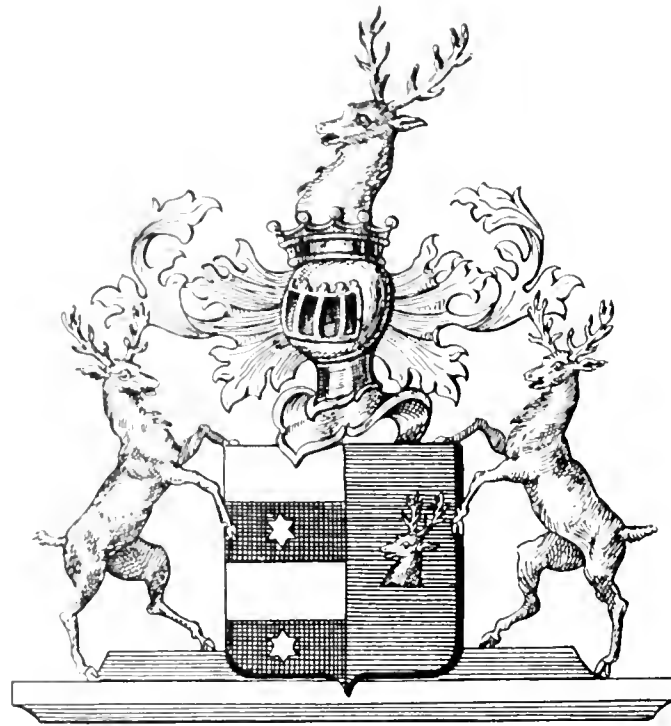
MRS. FRANCIS GRANELLO.
(NÉE HANNAU TRAVIS.)



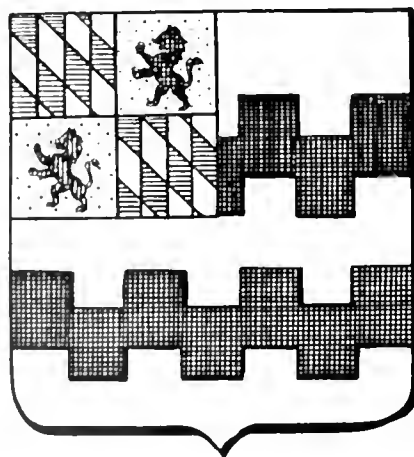
WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR



MRS. WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR.
(NÉE NINA GRANLLO.)



LAFFERT



HOOGWOUDE

Lefferts

I GENERATION (the first of whom detailed information can be obtained):

Leffert Pieterse of Flatbush, L. I., was an agriculturist. He married, in 1675, **Abigail Janse** (daughter of Auke Janse Van Nuyse, generally known as Auke Janse). She was born in 1654, and died July 19, 1748.

Leffert Pieterse van Haughwout, Hauwert, Houwaard, Houvert or Havert or Leffert, son of Peter from Haughwout or Hoogwoude, a village one and a half hours north of Hoorn, in the Province of North Holland, came to America with his parents in 1660, and settled in Midwout (Flatbush), on Long Island, where he was assessed in 1675. Leffert Pieterse's name appears on the Patent for the part of Flatbush known as New Lotts, of Governor Andross (March 28, 1677). His name appears among the patentees of Flatbush on Dongon's Patent of November 12, 1685.

Dr. Stiles, in his "Brooklyn," states that "Leffert, Laffert, Lefford" signifies loaf or bread giver, which is also the root of the English word "Lord." In the "Armorial Général," by Rietstap, there is a coat of arms of the Laffert family (Barons), Hanover, Mecklenberg :

Party per pale—dexter banded of four pieces argent and sable, each band sable charged with a star argent—sinister azure charged with a deer's head argent, branched gules.

Casque crowned.

Crest : Deer's head proper.

Lambrequin : Argent and azure.

Supporters : Two deers argent, branched gules.

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Beyond a similarity of names, no evidence has been discovered of Leffert Pieterse's connection with this Baronial family, which appears to belong to Germany and not to the Netherlands. Even if a connection existed, which, in the remote past, is possible, in consequence of intercourse with relatives in the Fatherland having for so long a period ceased, it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to prove it. This coat of arms is here inserted, therefore, for reference only.

In 1687, after the final possession of the colony by the British, Leffert Pieterse took the oath of allegiance, from which it appears that he had been twenty-seven years in the country.

January 1, 1689, his name appears on the list of grand jurors in attendance at the Court of Sessions, and, April 2, 1689, as serving on the petit jury in the same court.

On the census of 1698, he is entered: one man, one woman, nine children and three slaves.

May 14, 1700, for £15, he bought of Thomas Lamberse, of Bedford, land in Bedford. On the division of his estate these premises came into the hands of Jacobus Leffertse, his son, and were the foundation for the large tracts held by his descendants in that locality.

In 1702, William Dockwra, Chief Secretary to the proprietors of East New Jersey, conveyed to Gerardus Beeckman and "Lafford Peterson," jointly, for £396, a tract of eighteen hundred acres on the south side of the Raritan River, which ran two miles up the river, and was bounded: north, by

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the Raritan River; west, by Covert's and Brokaw's; and, southeasterly, by other lands of Dockwra.

May 24, 1703, Gerardus Beeckman, Leffert Pieterse and Evert Van Wyckelyn, of Kings County, for £200, bought of Thomas Cardell of Jamaica, Queens County, L. I., a tract of four hundred and fifty acres, on the Raritan River, in Middlesex County, N. J.

Leffert Pieterse died December 8, 1704.

Issue :

1. Aeltie Lefferts, born 1676; died 1735.
2. Auke Lefferts, born 1678; married 1703, 1735; died.....
3. Pieter Lefferts, born 1680; married 1712; died 1774.
4. Rachel Lefferts, born 1682; married; died.....
5. John Lefferts, born 1684; married.....; died.....
6. Jacobus Lefferts, born 1686; married 1716; died 1768.
7. Isaac Lefferts, born 1688; married 1722; died 1746.
8. Abraham Lefferts, born 1692; married 1713; died 1767.
9. Madalina Lefferts, born 1694; married 1719; died.....
10. Anne Lefferts, born 1696; died 1782.
11. Abigail Lefferts, born 1698; died 1704.
12. Leffert Lefferts, born 1701; married 1724; died 1774.
13. Benjamin Lefferts, born 1704; died 1707.

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II GENERATION :

Pieter Lefferts of Flatbush, L. I., born May 18, 1680; married, February 10, 1712, **Ida Suydam** (daughter of Hendrick Suydam) of Flatbush. She was a descendant of Hendrick Rycke, or Rycken, the common ancestor of the Suydam family, who came to America, in 1663, from Suyt-dam or Zuyt-dam, in Holland, meaning south of the dam, from which the family derive the name of Suydam, having dropped the surname of Rycken.

She died September 25, 1777.

In 1715 his name appears on the roll of the Flatbush Militia Company as "Pieter Hagewoutt."

Pieter Lefferts occupied his father's farm in Flatbush, of which town he was Supervisor, from April, 1726, to April, 1727.

The following advertisement appeared in the *New York Gazette, October 8, 1733*: "Stole at Flatbush on Long Island. One Silver Tankerd, a piece of Money in the Led of King Charles II, and the Led all engraved, with a Coat of Arms, marked on the Handle P. L. One Silver Tankerd plain, with a piece of Money in the Led, marked on the Handle P. L. or A. L. One cup with two twisted ears chased with Skutchens marked P. L. One Tumbler marked P. L. One Dutch Beker weighs about 28 ounces; Engraved all round, marked P. L. All the above was made by Mr. Jacob Boele, Stamped J. B. One large Cup with two cast Ears, with Heads upon them, and a Coat of Arms Engraved thereon.

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One Cup with two Ears, a small Hole in the Bottom. One Pair red Leather Women Gloves. One black Girdle lined with blue Callico. And two Pair Shoe Clasps new cleaned. Whoever can inform Pieter Lefferts of Flatbush on Long Island, or Abraham Lefferts in New York, so that they may be had again, shall have Fifteen Pounds Reward and no Questions asked. There is a suspicion of Two young Men taken to be Irish, that have been seen lately near the aforesaid Place, of a middle Stature, brown Hair, the one had a blue Homespun Coat, and a Pair of Wash-leather Breeches; the other a coarse grey Coat and Linnen Trousers."

In 1737 Pieter Lefferts was appointed County Treasurer by the Board of Supervisors, at a salary of thirty shillings per annum, which office he held until 1772, the salary, before the expiration of his service, having been increased by an act of the Colonial Assembly.

On the census of slaves, in 1755, Pieter Lefferts of Flatbush is entered as owner of negro slaves named Ben, Dyne and Isabel.

August 24, 1767, Pieter Lefferts of Flatbush, for the consideration of £1400, conveyed to his son, John Lefferts, the dwelling house and land in Flatbush, beginning at the north-west corner of land of Evert Hegeman, thence northerly to easterly along the road which leads from Flatbush to Bedford to a division line between heirs of Michael Van Der Veer and said Pieter Lefferts, thence northerly along said division line to the

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bounds of Brooklyn, thence easterly along the bounds of Brooklyn, to a wood lot of said Evert Hegeman, thence southerly along the division of said wood lot and land of said Pieter Lefferts to the southernmost end of said lot to land of said Evert Hegeman, thence westerly along the division between the land of said Evert Hegeman and said Pieter Lefferts to beginning. Also wood lots Numbers 28, 29 and 31, in the third division of Flatbush wood lots. Also one and one-half lots of meadows in the Flatbush meadows. Likewise one-half part of all the right of said Pieter Lefferts in the common brewhouse, with the half of all the utensils thereunto belonging.

On the same date he conveyed to his son, John, all his stock and farming utensils, to take effect on the day of his death. The above premises appear to be the northerly portion of the homestead farm of John, son of said Pieter Lefferts.

August 24, 1767, Pieter Lefferts, in consideration of natural love and affection, in writing, granted to his son, John, all his "Horses, Waggon, Plows, and all other my Farmers' Tools and Utensils," to have and to hold forever, with a proviso "that Nothing shall pass by this Gift or Grant until the day of the decease of me, the said Pieter Lefferts."

The following is an abstract from the *New York Mercury*, August 14, 1769, showing the remarkable longevity of the Lefferts family at this period:

"There is now living at Flatbush a Mr. Lef-

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ferts, aged ninety-two years, and his wife, aged eighty-one years. They have been married upwards of sixty years, and are hearty and well. They are very good, virtuous and pious people, and so are all the persons thereabouts reported to be—who mostly originated from the Holland Dutch who first settled there.

Three years ago Mr. Lefferts had five brothers, whose united ages were four hundred and thirty-six years. Now there remain : himself, ninety-two ; his next brother, ninety ; and a third brother, eighty-six years of age ; all attractive, hearty and well.

His mother died at the age of ninety-five.

The wife of the aforesaid Mr. Lefferts said that she had six sisters now living, who do their daily house-work, aged seventy-nine, seventy-five, seventy-three, sixty-eight, sixty-four and sixty-three years, respectively. Their parents lived beyond the age of eighty."

This Mr. Lefferts must have been Pieter, a son of Leffert Pieterse, at this date in his ninetieth year.

In 1770, in consequence of inability produced by old age, Pieter Lefferts placed the management of his property in the hands of his son, John, as will appear by the following agreement :

Articles of Agreement between Pieter Lefferts and his son, John Lefferts, made December 1, 1770, as follows: I, Pieter Lefferts, in consequence of my great age and unfitness to continue the management of my plantation, have seen fit

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no longer to meddle with the same, and to give the control thereof to my son, John, to cultivate for his benefit, and I also give him all the right I yet have in the cattle on the said plantation, in the grain already gathered and in the grain in the fields, on the condition and consideration that my son, John, pay for the same the sum of three pounds, which I have now received, and my son, John, promises to pay for the same the additional sum of $\text{£}4\ 10s.$ every three months in each year, commencing on this date, amounting to $\text{£}18$ annually, during my life. And further promises my son, John, that he, during this agreement, myself and his mother will furnish with fire-wood, flour, milk, butter, eggs, fowls and whatever else is cultivated on the plantation, in such reasonable quantities as may be necessary for us to use; also promises my son, John, that, whenever any of our friends or acquaintances come to visit us, that he will furnish them with victuals and drink, as has heretofore been customary in the family; also that I and his mother shall have free liberty in the garden, orchard and plantation, to gather and to be allowed to gather and enjoy; and also as much flax as we may desire to have spun for our use; and further promises my son, John, that he my old negro, Ben, and negro wench, Isabel, will keep during this agreement or during my life; and further is my son, John, held to allow me the use of a horse and chaise and the help of his servants, by night and by day, as we may have needful; and further promises and agrees my son, John, to

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furnish us with candles to burn, and whatever we desire cooked for us, we having the right to eat at his table of whatever food may be thereon.

In Witness Whereof we have subscribed this :

PIETER LEFFERTS.

JOHN LEFFERTS.

Pieter Lefferts was at this date ninety years old, and lived four years after the date of the agreement, on the back of which are the regular entries of the payments called for, the last being dated March 1, 1774.

The following is an exact copy of a bill, dated September 22, 1777, for the funeral expenses of old Ben, the negro slave of Pieter Lefferts referred to in the aforesaid agreement :

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
For the coffin, - - - - -	0	10	0
For 5½ qts. rum at 2sh. per qt., - - -	0	10	0
5 papers tobacco at 4 coppers, - - -	0	1	6
1 lb. sugar at 1sh. 2d., - - - - -	0	1	2
4 doz. pipes at 10d. per doz., - - -	0	3	6
1 sheat at 6sh., - - - - -	0	6	0
Cash paid to Thomas for tending, - - -	0	7	0
	£ 1 19 2		

On the farm of Pieter Lefferts were erected, at an early period, two brick kilns, one on the back of the farm, and another near the large pond, not far from the main road, which pond from this circumstance has obtained the name of "Steenbakkery."

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The name of "steenbakkery" was still applied as late as 1876 to the large pond formed by the digging out of clay for the bricks. The clayey soil made it almost impossible to drain the pond, and it was used by the school-boys in the town as a skating pond in Winter, and always was known by them as the "steenbakkery." An attempt was made to drain it, by means of a large well or pit, penetrating through the clay to the underlying sand, in which the water was led to drain off, but failed. It was not until the hollow was filled up to make a causeway for the railroad from Nostrand Avenue to Flatbush Avenue that the pond began to disappear.

Pieter Lefferts's will is dated August 1, 1755, and probated July 25, 1774, on which date letters testamentary were granted to Jacob Lefferts and John Lefferts, the surviving executors, by Carey Ludlow, Surrogate of the City and County of New York, said will being on file in said Surrogate's office and not recorded. In it he devises to his wife, Ida, room in his dwelling house, furniture, food, etc., for her maintenance. To his eldest son, Leffert, for his birthright, £10, also £100 due by him, and his negro wench, Beth, now in his possession. To his son, Jacob, £100, due by him, one lot of meadow, one-half of his right in the common brewhouse, and his negro boy, Tom. To his son, John, his great Bible and weaver's loom and tools, his negro, Henry, two of his best horses, one-half of his right in the brewhouse, and £100 of the money due by his son, Leffert,

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and all his houses, lands and meadows not previously disposed of, on condition of his paying for the same to his executors £1400, in four equal annual payments, and maintaining his mother. To his grandson, Barent Janse (son of his daughter, Cynthia), £50. To his daughter, Adrianna, his negro wench, Neny. To his daughter, Anne, his negro wench, Lies. To his daughter, Abigail, for an outfit, as much as his other daughters had when they were married, and to buy a wench for her, or else his negro boy, Isaac. The remainder of his estate to be divided equally among his children, and his grandson, Barent Janse. He appointed his brother, Abraham Lefferts, his sons, Leffert Lefferts, Jacob Lefferts and John Lefferts, executors.

In addition he bequeathed to his son, Leffert, a legacy, making the same a charge upon the real estate he devised to his son, John. Leffert died before his father, there being an entry in Pieter (son of John) Lefferts's books of May 1, 1775, of having paid to his uncle Leffert's children £185 4*s*. 10*d*., due their deceased father. In this entry there is an item of the date May 1, 1774, of "£10 for their father's firstborn right in the will," Leffert being the oldest son. In addition to the legacy, Leffert also appears to have been entitled to a share of the personal property of his father. Among the papers in possession of John Lefferts of Flatbush (1893), a descendant of the above mentioned John, having a reference to the settlement of the estate of the first Pieter Lefferts, and the legacy he bequeathed to

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his son, John Lefferts, are : A receipt of May 6, 1775, of Leffert Lefferts (son of Leffert) for £26 9*sh.* 7*d.*, received from Jacob and John Lefferts, executors of his grandfather, Pieter Lefferts, for "his share in full of all the money now due me out of the estate of my grandfather, Pieter Lefferts." A receipt of May 30, 1776, from said Leffert to the same parties, for £12 4*sh.* 6*d.*, for his proportion of the payment on the 1st inst., on the legacy to his father. A receipt of May 30, 1776, from Leffert Lefferts, Abraham Lefferts, James Lefferts, Syche Lefferts, Edith Lefferts, Peter Lefferts and Arthur Lefferts, in which is set forth that "Pieter Lefferts, grandfather of the undersigned, bequeathed to our father, Leffert Lefferts, £233 6*sh.* 8*d.*, to be paid by our uncle John Lefferts for the consideration of his real estate." And a receipt of May 30, 1783, of Leffert Lefferts (son of Leffert), to Peter Lefferts for £54 14*sh.* 4*d.*, in which he sets forth that his grandfather, Pieter Lefferts, by his last will and testament, did bequeath to his father a legacy in different payments to be paid by his uncle, John Lefferts, for the consideration of his real estate, which sum is the last payment in full: "I do hereby discharge the said John Lefferts's heirs and successors forever from the above mentioned legacy, and do hereby bind myself, heirs and successors, forever to keep harmless and clear from any lawful claims either or any of my brothers or sisters could make upon the heirs of my said uncle."

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The following is an exact copy of a memorandum of the funeral expenses of Pieter Lefferts, of Flatbush, who died March 13, 1774 :

- 20 gallons good wine.
- 2 " spirits.
- 1 large loaf of lump sugar.
- ½ doz. nutmegs.
- ½ gros long pipes.
- 4 lbs. tobacco.
- 1½ dozen of black silk handkerchiefs.
- 6 loaves of bread.

At the appraisement of his property, the value of the table service of dishes and plates was as follows :

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
25 pewter plates, - - - - -	1	5	0
37 earthen plates, - - - - -	0	10	0
9 pewter dishes, - - - - -	1	16	0
8 earthen dishes, - - - - -	1	0	0
6 sets china cups and saucers, -	3	0	0
27 delft plates, - - - - -	0	13	6
	<i>£</i> 8	04	6

The success of the American cause in Boston proved a severe misfortune in and around New York, for, after the English fleet had retired from the New England city, its course was ultimately directed towards Sandy Hook. Staten Island was taken, and a campaign planned, involving the capture of New York. For this purpose a British army of some twenty thousand men was landed at New Utrecht, L. I., and, in three columns, it gradually advanced on Brooklyn—one by way of

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Gowanus, another through Flatbush, and the third around to the rear of General Putnam's little army, by way of the Jamaica turnpike.

The melancholy story of the Battle of Long Island (August 27, 1776) has been often told—a stubborn but unsuccessful fight on the part of the weak and half-drilled patriots against the well-trained soldiers of many wars. The masterly retreat under the guidance of Washington prevented what might have been a fatal blow to the cause of American liberty.

Flatbush had been for some time prepared for the arrival of hostile troops. Many families had retired to Queens County or to New Jersey; the cattle were driven northward beyond the hills, and the grain stacked, preparatory to burning on the approach of the enemy.

For purposes of defense a crescent-shaped fortification was thrown up across the main highway of the village, and the pass to Brooklyn through the hills was obstructed by the felling of a large tree of white oak, which had, for many years, marked the boundary line between the two towns. It was located in what was known as Valley Grove, afterward called Battle Pass (in Prospect Park). As the English army advanced, a regiment of Pennsylvania troops, which had been guarding the seacoast, retired behind the intrenchments in Flatbush, but finally fell back to the pass in the hills, after burning much of the grain in the northern part of the town, as well as the old Lefferts homestead.

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From this point of defense the central column of the approaching army, composed mostly of Hessians, under General Delleister, was held in check for a time by this regiment, assisted by other American troops, under General Sullivan. But, while the little army of patriots were engaging what was supposed to be the entire force of the enemy at Flatbush and Gowanus, the main body of the English troops made the detour to the rear, which resulted in the complete victory that made Valley Grove a scene of carnage.

The houses burned during this engagement were those of Jeremiah Vanderbilt and Pieter Lefferts, on the west, and Evert Hegeman, on the east side of the road.

Pieter Lefferts died March 13, 1774.

Issue:

1. Leffert Lefferts, born 1712; married 1738; died 1773.
2. Jacobus Lefferts, born 1717; married 1741, 1777; died 1802.
3. John Lefferts, born 1719; married 1746, 1765; died 1776.
4. Cynthia Lefferts, born 1721; married 1743; died 1747.
5. Adriaentje Lefferts, born.....; married 1747; died 1800.
6. Anne Lefferts, born 1728; married 1748; died 1782.
7. Gertrude Lefferts, born 1731; no further trace.
8. Abigail Lefferts, born 1735; married 1758; died.....

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III GENERATION :

Leffert Lefferts of Flatbush, L. I., born November 16, 1712; married, in 1738, **Anne Vanderbilt** (daughter of Arthur Vanderbilt) of Flatbush. Anne Vanderbilt was born in 1718 and was a descendant of Jan Aertsen Vanderbilt, who came to America at an early period, and probably came from De Bilt, a village on the Biltsche Graft (canal) in the Province of Utrecht. He resided in New Amsterdam as early as August 18, 1653, from whence he removed to Flatbush.

Leffert Lefferts was an agriculturist, and, in 1738, with the Cornells, visited Bucks County, Pa., on a prospecting tour. He returned there with William Cornell, and, June 7, 1739, bought of Isaac Pennington a tract of four hundred acres in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., for £492, on which he settled. The tract he bought was part of six hundred and fifty-one acres which William Penn granted to Edmund Pennington, the father of Isaac Pennington. About this period, quite a number of the descendants of the early Holland settlers of Long Island located in Bucks County, Pa.

He died soon after October 6, 1773 (the date of his will).

Issue :

1. Peter Lefferts, born 1739; married 1770; died 1823.
2. Ida Lefferts. No further trace.
3. Arthur Lefferts, born 1742; married 1767; died.. ..

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4. Leffert Lefferts, born 1745; married 1778; died.....
5. John Lefferts, born 1752. Was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and died without issue, at his home, of camp fever.
6. Abraham Lefferts, born 1754; married 1783, 1788; died 1819.
7. Cynthia Lefferts, born 1756; married 1778; died.....
8. James Lefferts, born 1760; married 1787; died 1825.

IV GENERATION :

James Lefferts of Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., born August 24, 1760; married, September 8, 1787, **Elizabeth Knight** (a descendant of Giles and Mary Knight, of Gloucestershire, England, who came to America with William Penn, in 1682. See pages 120 and 127).

He died February 1, 1825.

Issue :

1. Mary Lefferts, born 1788; no further trace.
2. Charles Lefferts, born 1789; no further trace.
3. Simon Lefferts. No further trace.
4. Anne Lefferts, born 1794. No further trace.
5. Eliza Benoni Lefferts, born 1803; married 1823; died 1864.
6. Susanna Lefferts, born 1807; married 1830; died 1865.

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V GENERATION :

Susanna Lefferts of Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., born March 5, 1807 ; married, June 20, 1830, **Joseph Addis** of Southampton Township, Bucks County, Pa. (See page 116.)

She died January 21, 1865.

Issue :

1. Alexander Addis, born 1832 ; died 1848.
2. Hannah Addis, born 1834 ; died 1838.
3. Elizabeth Lefferts Addis, born 1836 ; married 1854 ; died 1885.
4. Charles Lefferts Addis, born 1838 ; married 1863 ; died 1881.
5. Sarah Knight Addis, born 1841 ; married 1863.
6. Isaac Addis, born 1843 ; died 1845.
7. Amos Knight Addis, born 1844 ; married 1866.
8. Joseph Henry Addis, born 1848 ; married 1871.

VI GENERATION :

Elizabeth Lefferts Addis of Philadelphia, Pa., born March 8, 1836 ; married, March 8, 1854, **Robert William Downing** of Philadelphia, Pa.

She died December 13, 1885.

Issue : (See XI Generation of the Downing family, page 45.)

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AS TO THE FAMILY OF LEFFERTS:

Leffert Pieterse (Pietersen) was one of two children who came to America with their parents from Haughwout (Hoogwoude), near Hoorn, in North Holland, in 1660. His father, whose surname was Peter Janse, having died, his mother, on October 15, 1662, applied for the appointment of a guardian for him under the name of Leffert Pieterse, and his brother, Pieter Pieterse.

There was a Pieter Pieterse Haeghwolt (or Hagewout) on Staten Island, in 1678, probably the brother of Leffert Pieterse, who, with Cornelia, his wife, were living as late as 1717, and whose descendants, under the surname of Hagewout, yet reside on the north side of Staten Island.

There was also a Leffert Stephanse Haughwout among the early settlers of Hempstead, who may have been a relative of Leffert Pieterse, some of whose descendants continue to reside in Queens County, bearing the surname of Lefferts.

In consequence of many persons at that time having no family or surname, it was customary among the Hollanders, and other northern European nations, for a man to add to his Christian or baptized name that of his father, to distinguish him from others, which, when continued from generation to generation, made it very difficult to trace families. Thus, if Jan had a son, Jacob, he would be called Jacob Janse; if Jacob Janse had a son, Pieter, he would write his name

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Pieter Jacobse, if Pieter Jacobse had a son, Leffert, he would write his name Leffert Pieterse; and if Leffert Pieterse had a son, Auke, he would be known as Auke Leffertse. This practice continued among the descendants of the Hollanders in this country until the beginning of the eighteenth century, when it was discontinued, and the surname which then happened to be in use was generally retained. Some families added, in addition to the name of the father, that of their place of residence, retaining the latter as their surname. When the custom of discontinuing the addition of the name of the father took place, it appears to have been a question among the descendants of Leffert Pieterse whether they should use Hagewoutt, the name of the village or locality from which their father came, as their surname, or Leffert, his Christian name. This may be inferred from the entries on the roll of the Flatbush Militia of 1715, in which three of the sons of Leffert Pieterse are entered as follows: "Pieter Hagewoutt," "Jacob Hagewoutt" and "Isaac Hagewoutt." Hagewoutt, however, appears to have been discontinued by the family, and the surname of Lefferts adopted and continued ever since.

The following is a letter, published in 1859, by the Hon. H. C. Murphy of Brooklyn, N. Y. It was written during his stay in Holland, is dated from the Hague, and is given herewith in full:

"In order to show what difficulties the peculiar systems adopted in this country [Holland], and

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continued by the settlers in our own, have thrown in the way of tracing genealogies, it is to be observed that the first of these in point of time was the patronymic, as it is called, by which a child took, besides his own baptismal name, that of his father, with the addition of *soon* or *sen*, meaning son. To illustrate this : if a child were baptized Hendrick, and the baptismal name of his father were Jan, the child would be called Hendrick Jansen. His son, if baptized Tunis, would be called Tunis Hendricksen. The son of the latter might be Willem, and would have the name of Willem Tunissen. And so we might have the succeeding generations called successively Garret Willemsen, Marten Garretsen, Adrian Martensen, and so on through the whole of the calendar of Christian names ; or, as more frequently happened, there would be repetition in the second, third or fourth generation of the name of the first ; and thus, as these names were common to the whole people, there were in every community different lineages of identically the same name. This custom, which had prevailed in Holland for centuries, was in full vogue at the time of the settlement of New Netherland. In writing this termination *sen*, it was frequently contracted into *se* or *s* or *s*. Thus, the name of William Barentsen, who commanded in the first three Arctic voyages of exploration, in 1594, 1595 and 1596, is given, in the old accounts of those voyages, Barentsen, Barentse, Barentz, Barents—sometimes in one way, sometimes another, indiffer-

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ently. Or, to give an example nearer home, both of the patronymic custom and of the contraction of the name, the father of Gerritt Martense, the founder of a family of that name in Flatbush, was Martin Adriense, and his grandfather, who came from Amsterdam, was Adraen Ryerse. The inconveniences of this practice, the confusion to which it led, and the difficulty of tracing families, led, ultimately, to its abandonment, both in Holland and in our own country. In doing so, the patronymic which the person originating the change bore, was adopted as the surname. Most of the family names thus formed and existing among us may be said to be of American origin, as they were first fixed in America, though the same names were adopted by others in Holland. Hence, we have the names of such families of Dutch descent among us as Jansen (*anglice* Johnson), Garretsen, Cornelisen, Williamsen or Williamson, Hendricksen or Hendrickson, Clasen, Simonsen or Simonson, Tysen (son of Mathias), Arendsen (son of Arend), Hansen, Lambertsen or Lambertson, Paulisen, Remsen, Ryersen, Martense, Adrian, Rutgers, Everts, Phillips, Lefferts and others. To trace connection between these families and persons in this country, it is evident, would be impossible, for the reasons stated, without a regular record.

Another mode of nomenclature intended to obviate the difficulty of an identity of names for the time being, but which rendered the confusion worse confounded for the future genealogist, was

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to add to the patronymic name, the occupation or some other personal characteristic of the individual. Thus Laurens Jansen, the inventor of the art of printing, as the Dutch claim, had affixed to his name that of Coster, that is to say *sexton*, an office of which he was in possession of the emoluments. But the same addition was not transmitted to the son; and thus the son of Hendrick Jansen Coster might be called Tunis Hendricksen Brouwer (brewer), and his grandson might be Willem Tunissen Bleecker (bleacher). Upon the abandonment of the old system of names this practice went with it; but it often happened that, while one brother took the father's patronymic as a family name, another took that of his occupation or personal designation. Thus originated such families as Coster, Brower, Bleecker, Schoonmaker, Stryker, Schuyler, Cryger, Snediker, Hegeman, Hofman, Dykman, Bleekman, Wortman and Tieman. Like the others, they are not ancient family names, and are not all to be traced to Holland as the place where they first became fixed. Some of them were adopted in our own country.

A third practice, evidently designed, like that referred to, to obviate the confusions of the first, was to append the name of the place where the person resided—not often of a large city, but of a particular limited locality, and, frequently, of a particular farm or natural object. This custom is denoted in all those family names which have the prefix of *Van*, *Vander*, *Ver* (which is a con-

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traction of *Vander*), and *Ten*, meaning, respectively, *of*, *of the* and *at the*. From towns in Holland we have the families of Van Cleef, Van Wyck, Van Schaack, Van Bergen, and others; from Guelderland, those of Van Sinderen, Van Dyk and Van Buren; from Utrecht, Van Winkel; from Friesland, Van Ness; from Zeeland, Van Dayne. Sometimes the *Van* has been dropped, as in the name of Boerum, of the province of Friesland; of Covert, of North Brabant; of Westervelt, of Drenthe; of Brevoort and Wes-sels, in Guelderland. The prefixes *Vander*, or *Ver*, and *Ten* were adopted where the name was derived from a particular spot, thus: Vanderveer (of the ferry), Vanderberg (of the hill), Vanderbilt (of the bildt—that is, certain elevations of ground in Guelderland and near Utrecht), Vanderbeck (of the brook), Vandervoort (of the ford), Vanderhoff (of the court), Verplanck (of the plank), Verhulst (of the holly), Verkerk (of the church), Ten Eyck (at the oak), Tenbroeck (at the marsh). Some were derived, as we have observed, from particular farms; thus, Van Couwenhoven (also written Van Cowdenhoven—cold farms). The founder of that family in America, Wolphert Ger-rissen Van Cowenhoven, came from Amersfoort, in the province of Utrecht, and settled at what is now called Flatlands, in Brooklyn, but what was called by him New Amersfoort. Some names in the classification which I have attempted have undergone a slight change in their transfer to America. Barculo is from Borculo, a town in

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Guelderland; Van Anden is from Andel, in the province of Groningen; Snediker should be Snediger; Bouton, if of Dutch origin, should be Bouten (son of Boudwijn, or Baldwin), otherwise it is French. Van Cott was probably Van Cat, of South Holland. The Catti were the original inhabitants of the country, and hence the name. There is one family which has defied all my etymological research, and that is the name of Van Brunt. It is evidently Dutch, but has most likely undergone some change. There is no such name now existing in Holland. There are a few names derived from relative situation to a place; thus, Voorhees is simply *before*, or in front of, *Hess*, a town in Guelderland, and Onderdonk is *below Donk*, which is in Brabant. There are a few names more arbitrary, such as Middagh (midday), Conrad (bold counsel), Hagedorn (hawthorn), Bogaert (orchard), Blauvelt (blue field), Rosevelt (rosefield), Stuyvesant (quicksand), Wyckoff (parish court), Hooghland (highland), Dorland (arid land), Opdyke (on the dyke), Hasbrook (hares' marsh), and afford a more ready means of identification of relationship. The names of Brinkerhoff and Schenck, the latter of which is very common here, may be either of Dutch or German origin. Martin Schenck was a somewhat celebrated general in the War of Independence.

Ditmars is derived from the Danish, and Bethune is from a place in the Spanish Netherlands near Lille. Lott is a Dutch name, though

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it has an English sound. There is a person of that name, from Guelderland, residing in the Hague. Pieter Lots was one of the Schepens of Amersfoort in 1676, and I infer from the patronymic form of his name that Lott is a baptismal name, and is derived from Lodewyck or Lewis, and that Pieter Lots means Peter, the son of Lodewyck, or Lot, as the former is often contracted. Some names are disguised in a Latin dress. The practice prevailed at the time of the emigration to our country of changing the names of those who had gone through the university and received a degree, from plain Dutch into sonorous Roman. The names of all our early ministers were thus altered. Johannes or Jan Meckelenburg became Johannes Megapolensis; Evert Willemse Bogaert became Evarardus Bogardus; Jan Doris Polheem became Johannes Theodorus Polhemius. The last was the founder of the Polhemus family of Brooklyn. The records here show that he was a minister at Meppel, in the province of Drenthe, and, in 1637, went as such to Brazil, under the auspices of the West India Company, whence he went to Long Island. Samuel Dries, who, by the way, was an Englishman, but who graduated at Leyden, was named Samuel Drisius. It may, therefore, be set down as a general rule that the names of Dutch families ending in *us* have thus been Latinized.

There were many persons who emigrated from Holland who were of Gallic extraction. When the bloody Duke of Alva came into the

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Spanish Netherlands, in 1567, clothed with despotic power over the provinces by the bigoted Philip II, more than a hundred thousand of the Protestants of the Gallic provinces fled to England under the protection of Queen Elizabeth, and to their brethren in Zeeland and Holland. They retained their language, that of the ancient Gauls, and were known in England as Walloons, and in Holland as Waalen, from the name of their provinces, called Gaulsche, or, as the word is pronounced, Waalsche provinces. The number of fugitives from religious persecution was increased by the flight of the Protestants of France at the same time, and was further augmented five years later by the memorable massacre of St. Bartholomew. When the West India Company was incorporated, many of these persons and their descendants sought further homes in New Netherland. Such were the founders of the families of Rapelye, Cortelyou, Dubois, Debevoise, Duryea, Crommelin, Conselyea, Montague, Fountain and others."

August 8, 1724, Leffert Lefferts (son of Leffert Pieterse) bought of William Van Nuys of New Utrecht, for £438, a house, three lots and a part of a lot of the New Bushwick lots, containing about seventy acres, bounded, south, by land of Auke Rynerse; east, by land of Charles Durje, Cornelius and David Van Catts and Francis Titus; north, by land of Arent van Stockholm and Frederick Symouse; and, west, by land of Jan Lequier: also ten acres of woodland in

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Bushwick. This is probably his first purchase in Bushwick, and the farm to which he removed and on which he continued to reside.

October 1, 1728, for £420 he bought of Auke Rynerse a tract in New Bushwick, known as two New Bushwick lots, bounded, north, by the land of said "Leffert Leffertze;" south, by land of Abraham Derje; east, by land of said Abraham Derje; and, west, by woodland of Jan Van Noostrant and Isack Remse; also a lot of woodland in Brooklyn, known as No. 61, in the third division, and a lot of woodland in Newtown.

In 1732 and 1747, he was Supervisor of Bushwick.

In 1737, on a list of the inhabitants of Bushwick, he is entered: four white males above ten; one white female above ten, three under ten; one black male above ten, and one black female above ten years of age.

May 2, 1744, he bought of the executors of Tunis Polhemus a negro wench, for £20 4*sh.*

December 6, 1753, for £239 19*sh.*, he bought of Johannes Duryee, Jacob Duryee and Abraham Schenck, twenty-seven acres in Bushwick, bounded, south, by land of Abraham Duryee; west, by land of "Leffert Leffertse;" north, by David Van Catts; and, east, by woodland of Jacob Duryee.

In the *New York Mercury of August 26, 1754*, is advertised for sale, on October 3d, the plantation of "John Dorlant," deceased, in Somerset County, N. J., at a place called Nishenick, between

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the lands of Hendrick Pipenger and Abraham Van Voorhees, containing two hundred and seventy-five acres, etc. All persons having demands against the estate of the deceased are requested to present their accounts to Leffert Lefferts or Isaac Lott, of Kings County, L. I. This John Dorlant was the father-in-law of Leffert Lefferts.

From 1756 to 1776, inclusive, Leffert Lefferts was appointed one of the three freeholders to defend the patent of Brooklyn, town rights, etc., and from 1761 to 1776, inclusive, he was elected Town Clerk. During the Revolutionary War no regular town records were kept.

March 20, 1761, John Wesbit had a suit pending against him, in which he claimed £10 damages.

From 1761 to 1777, his name generally appears among the assistant justices of the County courts.

Among the cases before the Court of Sessions in April, 1775, was an indictment of Leffert Lefferts for an assault on Cornelius Vandervoort. At the time Lefferts was one of the justices of the court, and the probability is that, in consequence of the military occupation of the island in the stormy days of the Revolution, the case was never tried, the records showing nothing further in relation thereto.

At a general Town Meeting, regularly called, at Brooklyn, May 20, 1775, the magistrates and freeholders met, Leffert Lefferts, Esq., being Clerk, "taking into serious consideration the

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expediency and propriety of concurring with the freeholders and freemen of the City and County of New York and other colonies, townships and precincts within this Province for holding a Provincial Congress, to advise, consult, watch over and defend, at this very alarming crisis, all our civil and religious rights, liberties and privileges," it was resolved, that two deputies be elected, and that, "confiding in the wisdom and equity of the Convention, they agree to observe all acts, associations and orders of the said Congress."

(Signed) LEFFERT LEFFERTS, Clerk.

Leffert Lefferts was Town Clerk of Brooklyn, acting in that capacity at a meeting on May 22, 1775, to elect deputies to choose members to represent Kings County in the Provincial Congress. As Town Clerk he had the custody of the town records, which were removed, during his absence, shortly after the battle of Long Island, by John Rapalje, a former clerk of his, and a prominent citizen, under the pretense of taking the papers to a safe place, and afterwards taken by Rapalje to England, and never recovered by the town. In consequence of Rapalje's being an active Tory, or supporter of British supremacy, his lands were confiscated, and his farm in Brooklyn sold to Joshua and Comfort Sands.

On April 16, 1776, John Lefferts and Leffert Lefferts were chosen, amongst others, to make a

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representation out of their body for the Provincial Congress.

The people of Kings County, after a few had been persuaded or forced into rebellion, were abandoned by their countrymen to all its penalties. Accordingly, they lost no time in seeking to make their peace with the King's Commissioners, and, in November, 1776, addressed to them a petition, in which they state: "That we bear true allegiance to our rightful sovereign, George III, as well as warm affection to his sacred person, crown and dignity, to testify which we and each of us have voluntarily taken an oath of allegiance, and that we will defend his crown and dignity. That we esteem the constitutional supremacy of Great Britain over these colonies, as essential to the union, security and welfare of the whole Empire, and sincerely lament the interruption of that harmony which formerly subsisted between the parent State and these, her colonies. We, therefore, humbly pray that your Excellencies would be pleased to restore this County to his Majesty's protection and peace."

Signed

{ LEFFERT LEFFERTS,
HENDRICK LEFFERTS,
JACOB LEFFERTS,
BARENT LEFFERTS,
NICHOLAS LEFFERTS.

The following was presented to William Tryon, Esq., Governor: "We, the members of the Provincial Congress, the County Committee and

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the committees of the different townships, elected for and by the inhabitants of Kings County, feel the highest satisfaction in having it in our power to dissolve ourselves, without danger to the County being desolated, as it was, by repeated threats, some short time ago. We do hereby accordingly dissolve ourselves, rejecting and disclaiming all power of Congress and committees, totally refusing obedience thereto, and revoking all proceedings under them whatsoever, as being repugnant to the laws and Constitution of the British Empire, undutiful to our sovereign and ruinous to the welfare and prosperity of this County. We beg leave to assure your Excellency we shall be exceeding happy in obeying the legal authority of the Government whenever your Excellency shall be pleased to call us forth, being, from long experience, well assured of your Excellency's mild and upright administration."

(Signed) LEFFERT LEFFERTS, AND OTHERS.
December 4, 1776.

"His Majesty observed with great satisfaction the effusions of loyalty and affection which break forth in the addresses of his faithful subjects upon their deliverance from the tyranny and oppression of the rebel committees."

On July 17, 1780, an address to Governor Robertson, on his accession, was presented in behalf and at the request of the inhabitants of Kings

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County, assuring him of their loyal endeavors for his Majesty's service.

(Signed) LEFFERT LEFFERTS, AND OTHERS.

In Gaines's Gazette, January 6, 1783, Leffert Lefferts offers a reward of two guineas, and all reasonable charges, for two colts (branded L. L. on near side), stolen or strayed off the common about Bedford, last Summer.

Leffert Lefferts's will is dated April 15, 1799, and probated April 10, 1806. He devises his Queens County lands to his son, Jacobus, and his homestead to his son, Leffert.

On the census of 1738, the family of Isaac Lefferts of Flatbush is entered: one white male above ten, two under ten; two white females above ten; two black males above ten, and one black female above ten years of age.

In 1702 an appraisement of the property of Peter Lefferts (grandson of Leffert Pieterse), deceased, was made by John Van der Bilt and Samuel Garretsen, for division. A few of the articles, with their value, are thus given:

	£	s.	d.
25 pewter plates, 1s. each,	1	5	0
37 earthen plates,	0	10	0
9 pewter dishes, 4s. each,	1	16	0
8 earthen dishes, 2s. 6d. each,	1	0	0
2 waffle-irons, 6s. each,	0	12	0
1 musket,	0	16	0
1 saddle and bridle,	3	0	0
10 keelers [wooden tubs used for milk],	1	0	0
6 spinning-wheels, 12s. each,	3	12	0

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	£	s.	d.
1 pair kitchen andirons,	0	8	0
2 bookcases, 1s. 6d. each,	0	3	0
1 bed, bedstead and curtains,	10	0	0
1 dining-table,	0	16	0
1 looking-glass,	1	10	0
15 Windsor chairs, 6s. each,	4	10	0
12 rush-bottom chairs, 2s. each,	1	4	0
4 mahogany chairs, 8s. each,	1	12	0
8 old chairs, 6d. each,	0	4	0
1 mahogany dining-table,	4	0	0
1 writing-desk,	0	10	0
1 cupboard,	0	16	0
1 large chest,	0	16	0
1 looking-glass,	1	0	0
1 large Dutch cupboard,	4	0	0
1 bed, bedstead and curtains,	15	0	0
1 wild cherry dining-table,	1	0	0
1 looking-glass,	1	5	0
1 eight-day clock,	14	0	0
1 looking-glass,	5	0	0
1 desk and bookcase,	20	0	0
1 mahogany tea-table,	2	0	0
1 bed, bedstead and curtains,	10	0	0
1 Dutch Bible,	2	0	0
1 English dictionary,	1	0	0
1 parcel of books,	7	0	0
6 sets of china cups and saucers,	3	0	0
27 delft plates,	0	13	6
1 silver tankard,	15	0	0
1 silver sugar-cup,	14	0	0
1 silver milk-pot,	4	0	0
13 silver table-spoons,	13	0	0
	£172 18 6		

“Some time in the month of February, 1775,
a party of the Minute-men of the County of
West Chester, under the command of Colonel

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Drake, came to the country house of your memorialist; and upwards of thirty of them were quartered upon him at his house, where he frequently furnished them with many necessaries and conveniences — viz^t firewood, vegetables, cider, etc. That the said men have continued at his said house until now, or very lately. That, after they had been there for some time, the said men, by order of Engineer Smith (as he supposes), went upon the woodland of your memorialist, which he had purchased for his own particular use, to supply his family with firewood, and cut down and destroyed a great part of the trees then growing on the said land, and almost entirely ruined the young wood there. And, though the said wood may have been cut down to be used in building the fort at Hoornshook (as your memorialist supposes it was), yet, as he has sustained great loss and been put to great expense by the said men having been quartered upon him, and having cut down and destroyed his wood, whereby greater part of the burthen hath fallen upon him than is his part in proportion with his fellow-citizens, he prays the Congress, or Committee of Safety, to take the matter into their consideration, and to grant him such redress and compensation as they in their discretion may think reasonable and adequate to the loss and damage he hath sustained.”

(Signed) DIRCK LEFFERTS,

May 1, 1776.

Lefferts

October 15, 1754, in pursuance of an Act of Assembly in relation to counterfeit coin, eleven shillings and six coppers in halfpence, of counterfeit coin, was brought into the Court of Sessions, who ordered the same to be lodged for safety in the hands of John Lefferts, one of the assistant justices. On April 15, 1755, the Court ordered the said counterfeit coin to be melted down by assistant justices John Lefferts and Carel Debevoise, and the product to be produced at their next meeting. On the meeting of the Court in the following October, Lefferts produced the product of the false halfpence and farthings, amounting to seven shillings and one penny, of which the Court ordered "that every one should have his proportion of the same," from which it may be inferred that the object of the law was to gather in and take out of circulation a large amount of counterfeit coin, which had been by some means introduced.

After repeated complaints of the Sheriff of the insufficiency of the County jail, the Court of Sessions, in October, 1768, appointed Jeremiah Vanderbilt, Englebert Lott, Philip Nagel and John Lefferts, Esq., "to have the court-house and jail of the County put in good repair, and lay the costs before the Supervisors of the County."

From 1773 to 1776, John Lefferts was Town Clerk of Flatbush.

May 22, 1775, he was elected a delegate from Kings County to the Provincial Congress of New York.

In 1754, the Board of Supervisors audited a bill

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of £1 8*sh.*, and another of £1 19*sh.*, in his favor, for prosecuting vagrants: also, in 1765, a bill of £1 11*sh.*, for trying a free negro man and having him whipped.

For the purpose of showing the value of property at this period, and of the personal estate of one of the wealthiest inhabitants of the County, the following is a copy of the inventory of the estate of John Lefferts, March 11, 1776:

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
16 head cattle,	208	0	0
7 yearlings,	42	0	0
2 horses,	28	0	0
1 horse,	12	0	0
1 horse,	8	0	0
7 slaves, by name:			
Harry,	60	0	0
Anne,	60	0	0
Ben,	60	0	0
Dick,	60	0	0
Bram,	30	0	0
Dyna,	16	0	0
Isack,	10	0	0
2 ploughs,	2	0	0
1 iron tooth harrow,	2	5	0
1 iron crowbar,	0	16	0
1 grinding stone,	1	5	0
1 dung fork,	0	9	0
1 spade,	0	6	0
1 riding chair,	14	0	0
1 wagon,	19	0	0
1 wagon,	11	0	0
2 hogs,	2	0	0
brass kettle,	1	15	0
churn, tubs and keelers,	0	18	0
2 looking glasses,	2	0	0

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	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2 feather beds,	12	0	0
2 feather beds,	8	0	0
2 sets curtains,	9	0	0
2 sets curtains,	5	0	0
2 rugs,	4	10	0
6 woolen sheets,	6	0	0
1 blanket,	1	4	0
6 pillows,	6	0	0
3 cushions,	3	0	0
2 hand irons,	1	6	0
2 iron pots,	1	10	0
1 frying pan,	0	8	0
1 trammel,	0	8	0
1 tea kettle,	1	10	0
1 eight-day clock,	18	0	0
20 pewter plates,	1	10	0
6 pewter dishes,	1	4	0
china and earthenware,	2	10	0
1 silver tankard,	22	0	0
9 silver spoons,	9	0	0
6 tea spoons,	0	18	0
50 bushels corn,	17	10	0
25 bushels wheat,	15	0	0
Cash in hand,	159	17	0
Cash in Congress Continental,	45	14	0
Cash in New York lawful,	14	0	0
Cash in New Jersey lawful,	129	1	5
Cash in Connecticut lawful,	13	6	8
Cash in Pennsylvania lawful,	9	0	1
Cash in New York Provincial Congress,	6	8	0
Cash in Massachusetts, Maryland and lower Counties,	4	17	4
	£1183	6	6

BONDS DUE THE ESTATE:

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Abraham P. Lott,	157	12	0
Hendrick Goelet,	250	0	0

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	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Samuel Forman,	100	0	0
Peter Covenhoven,	500	0	0
Roelof Schenck,	50	0	0
Lott and Lefferts,	50	4	3
Peter Oudwater,	125	0	0
Elbart Adrianse,	100	0	0
Barent Smack,	434	0	0
John Van Deveer,	110	0	0
John Van Sicklen,	53	0	0
Abraham Bogart,	15	2	6
John Covenhoven,	100	0	0
Garret Lefferts,	100	0	0
In Bedminster store of John Lefferts, deceased, .	200	0	0
Tunis Denyse,	100	0	0
Bond in the hand of Garret Covenhoven, due by Philip French to the estate,	75	0	0
Jacobus Stryker,	220	0	0
Note of John Voorhees,	150	0	0
Tunis Schenck,	280	18	0
Lot of Locust woodland in Township of Brooklyn, .	100	0	0
	£4454 3 3		

By his will, dated August 6, 1767, probated January 13, 1778, he devises his estate to his wife, Lemmian, while she remained his widow; to his children, Garret, Peter, John, Ida and Sarah, his personal estate; to Peter, his real estate in Kings County, except what was located in Brooklyn, subject to the payment of £1600 to his personal estate; to John, his real estate in Brooklyn and Albany; and appoints his brother, Jacob Lefferts, and brothers-in-law, Gerret Kouwenhoven and Leffert Martense, his executors.

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Jacobus Lefferts (son of Leffert Pieterse), born June 9, 1686. Settled on the land his father bought in Bedford, to which he added a large tract, and resided in a house on the southwest corner of the Jamaica and Clove roads.

In 1715 his name appears on the roll of the Militia Company of Flatbush as "Jacob Hagewoutt."

From 1727 to 1755, inclusive, he was one of the three freeholders appointed by the town of Brooklyn to defend their patent, town rights, etc.

In 1755 he is entered on the slave census as the owner of one male and two female slaves.

In 1760 he was a Commissioner of Highways in Brooklyn.

In the *New York Mercury* of September 19, 1763, appeared the following obituary:

"On Thursday, the 8th instant, departed this life at Bedford, on Long Island, in the 83d year of his age, Mr. Jacobus Lefferts, and, on the Saturday following, was decently interred in the family vault. He was remarkable for his humanity and goodness of heart to all ranks and degrees of men; his love of justice and equity justly entitled him to the regard of all that knew him; and he was always esteemed an honest, judicious man.

There are three of Mr. Lefferts's brothers yet living, each of them older than he was."

In 1754, Jacobus Lefferts (son of the before mentioned Jacobus Lefferts) was a Commissioner of Highways of Flatbush.

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His name appears on paper or currency issued by the City of New York, as a specimen of which the following is a copy: "No. 2085. This note shall entitle the bearer to the sum of four shillings current money of the Colony of New York, payable on demand, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New York, at the office of Chamberlain of the said City, pursuant to a vote of the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of this date. Dated the Twenty-fifth day of August, in the year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

By Order of the Corporation:
JACOBUS LEFFERTS."

In a scroll at the head of the bill, are the words "New York Water Works." The bills of this corporation were, however, signed by other parties as well as by Jacobus Lefferts.

May 1, 1775, the name of Jacobus Lefferts appears on the list of the General Committee of the City of New York, consisting of one hundred persons who favored independence. Among other representatives of the descendants of the settlers of Kings County, on this list, were, Abraham P. Lott, Henry Remsen, Abraham Duryea and Jacob Van Voorhies.

In 1770, he was Assistant Alderman of the East Ward, and Alderman in 1771, 1772, 1773 and 1774, in which year he resigned, and, on September 30, 1774, David Matthews was elected in his place.

Lefferts

When the city was taken by the British army, he appears to have left. At this time, he and Captain Kennedy owned one of the wharves, which was taken possession of by Colonel William Butler, Assistant Deputy Commissary-general, for the use of the British forces. Colonel Butler, by orders of his superiors, took an account of all the property found in the different houses and stores that were abandoned by the owners, and also of vacant dwelling and store houses, and lots of ground and wharves, and reported to General Robertson, the Commander of the City. Captain Kennedy, being within the British lines, was allowed a dollar a day by the Commissary-general for his half of the wharf, but Jacobus Lefferts, being without the lines, was allowed nothing. After the war, Colonel Butler being one of the few officers in the British service who left any estate in this country, Jacobus Lefferts commenced a suit against him in the Mayor's Court, for the use and occupation of a dwelling house and dock.

It appears, by the *New York Mercury of October 27, 1777*, that a British expedition swept the Hudson River, from Fort Vaughan to Red Hook, destroying much valuable property, and among other acts of vandalism burnt the town of Esopus, or Kingston, containing between two hundred and three hundred houses, except that of "Mr. Lefferts," which appears to have been spared. This was evidently the dwelling of Jacobus Lefferts, for, on June 25, 1783, the farm of ninety-two acres

Lefferts

at Esopus, occupied during the war by Jacobus Lefferts or Abraham Brinckerhoff, was advertised for sale.

In 1786, Jacobus Lefferts was among the associates who took measures for the establishment of an academy in Flatbush, for which he subscribed £50, the highest subscription being that of John Vanderbilt, of £100. On its incorporation, November 20, 1787, his name appears among the first trustees.

In 1776, with his neighbors, he took the oath of allegiance to the British. At one period he was assessed for three acres, one slave, one horse and six cattle. He wrote his name "Jacobus Lefferze."

Among the deputies from Kings County, who met in the City of New York, in convention, April 10, 1775, for the purpose of choosing delegates to the first Continental Congress, was John Vanderbilt, who, from his being subsequently a member of the Senate of the State, was called Senator John, to distinguish him from Judge John Vanderbilt. Among the delegates chosen by this Convention, to represent the County in that Congress, were no less than three from the town of Flatbush, viz: Johannes Lott, John Lefferts and John Vanderbilt. These delegates convened at New York, on May 22, 1775, and continued to meet at different places, from time to time, till the adoption of the Constitution of the State, in April, 1777. John Lefferts was also a member, from Kings County, of the Provincial Congress, which

Lefferts

met on June 30, 1776. His son, Peter Lefferts, was one of the two delegates, from Kings County, to the Convention which met at Poughkeepsie, on June 27, 1778, to adopt the Constitution of the United States. He was, subsequently, also a member of the Senate, in which he appeared in a suit made entirely of homespun cloth, but of so fine a texture and finish that it attracted special notice. His son, John Lefferts, was a member of Congress, from Kings County, and also a delegate to the Convention of 1821, which met for amending the Constitution of the State of New York.

“The amount of money loaned to the State by the Whig inhabitants of Flatbush cannot be fully ascertained. We should be glad to name all who thus favored their country’s cause, but, strange to say, no record of these transactions has been made or preserved. We can only mention one which has come to our knowledge, without designing to cast any reflection upon others. The mother of the present (1848) old Mrs. Lefferts advanced £500. On one occasion, when counting out the money to the person who was about to take it to Major Wyckoff, a British officer entered the house, and she came near being discovered and apprehended.”

Barent Lefferts was an agriculturist and large land-owner, residing on the northeast corner of the Jamaica and Cripplebush roads, in Bedford, in the house previously owned and occupied by his father-in-law, which was torn down, in 1836,

Lefferts

by his son, Rem, and a new and costly mansion built on its site.

Prior to the Revolution, Barent Lefferts was First Lieutenant of a militia company in Brooklyn, and, in November, 1776, he was among those who signed the declaration against England, and took commissions under the Provincial Congress.

After the battle of Long Island, like his neighbors, he took the oath of allegiance to King George III.

November 25, 1783, Barent Lefferts, with other leading freeholders and inhabitants of Kings County, united in an address congratulating General Washington for the "glorious and ever memorable era of the sovereignty and independence of the United States of America."

Peter Lefferts (son of Leffert Lefferts), while fighting for the liberty of his country in the Revolutionary War, was taken prisoner by the British. His wife (Lamitie Van Arsdalen) rode on horseback a long distance to the prison, with provisions for him, passing by the army of the enemy that lay encamped in the vicinity, the soldiers of which, at almost every step threatening to shoot her, saying, as they pointed their guns at her, "let's shoot her."

March 11, 1776, the name of Lieutenant Peter Lefferts of Flatbush (grandson of Leffert Pieterse), appears on the list, returned by Colonel R. Van Brunt, of those who refused to enter voluntarily in the service of the Provincial Congress to fight for

Lefferts

independence. He, however, soon changed his views, for, in April of the same year, his name as First Lieutenant of the Flatbush Militia Company appears on the list of those who signed the declaration for resistance and had taken their commissions.

Peter Lefferts is registered, in 1782, as of Newtown, Bucks County, Pa., and as the owner of two slaves. His will is dated January 1, 1822.

In the War of the Revolution the name of "Oukey Leffertsen" appears among the four hundred and thirty residents of Monmouth County, N. J., who signed articles of agreement for the purpose of retaliating on the Tory marauding parties of the County.

The following town offices of Jamaica, Queens County, were held by Isaac Lefferts: 1783, Collector of Taxes; 1786, Assessor; 1787, 1788 and 1789, Appraiser of Estates of Intestates; 1798, 1802 to 1807, and 1814 to 1816, inclusive, Fence-viewer; 1815, one of the committee to ascertain and report what common lands belonged to the town; and, in 1817, with Nicholas Wyckoff and Daniel Smith, a committee to meet the committee from Flatbush to regulate the bounds between their respective towns.

In 1791, Isaac Lefferts received three hundred and forty-five votes, as one of the three Republican (or, as would now be called, Democratic) candidates for members of Assembly of Queens County, but was defeated.

Lefferts

In 1792, he subscribed £5 towards building an academy in Jamaica, of which he was one of the first trustees.

In 1806 and 1808, he was again one of the three defeated Republican (Democratic) candidates for Assembly in Queens County.

May 8, 1810, the house of Isaac Lefferts, near Jamaica, was broken open in the night by George Ellis Ryerson, and robbed of a small chest, containing \$1500 in bank bills, \$350 in silver, twenty gold eagles, a gold watch, chain, key and seals, and a number of valuable papers; \$200 reward was offered for the apprehension of the robber and recovery of the property.

In October, 1823, he was a Republican delegate from Jamaica to the Convention for the nomination of members of Assembly.

Catharine Lefferts, born July 30, 1750; died April 17, 1783, single, by an accidental discharge of a holster pistol she was placing on the top of a closet, out of the reach of children.

The following, relative thereto, is from *Gaines's Gazette of April 28, 1783*: "Last Thursday, Catharine, daughter of Leffert Lefferts, Esq., in Bedford, a very amiable and accomplished young lady, having observed to her mother that a loaded pistol left by a drover who had been watching his cattle with it the preceding night, upon a chest of drawers, was rather dangerously placed, and that some of the children might get hurt by it, proceeded to remove and put it in a holster that hung close by; but in the operation the pistol



BEDFORD CORNERS IN 1770.
HOMESTEAD OF THE LEFFERTS FAMILY.

Lefferts

Court. In 1799, 1800 and 1801, he practiced law in the City of New York, keeping his office at No. 7 Pine Street. On April 5, 1800, he was appointed County Clerk, which office he held to February 24, 1816, keeping his office on the upper floor of his own residence in the old house on the southwest corner of the Bedford cross-roads ("Bedford Corners"). In 1805 he was appointed a Commissioner in Chancery, and, February 10, 1823, First Judge of Kings County, his predecessor being William Furman, a layman. He was elected the first President of the Long Island Bank, the first bank in Brooklyn, which was incorporated in 1824, and held the office until 1846.

In 1813, he was the Federal candidate for Congress, and was defeated by his kinsman, John Lefferts of Flatbush, the Republican candidate. In 1815, he was the Federal candidate for Senator, and was defeated by Jacob Barker, the Republican candidate. In September, 1830, on the formation of the Kings County Temperance Society, he was elected its President.

Leffert Lefferts (who, to distinguish him from others of the same name, was generally known as "Lawyer Leff") had the confidence of the people, especially of the farmers of Kings County, and was highly esteemed for his honor and integrity. He died March 22, 1847.

Remsen Lefferts was a very eccentric man: for a long time, it is said, he kept in his house a \$1000 bill of the Long Island Bank, of which his neighbor, Judge Lefferts, was President, on whom he would

Lefferts

call at the bank when he was short of funds for a discount, in preference to parting with the bill, the Judge at the time being aware of Remsen having the bill in his possession.

He was in the habit of handing this same bill to the tax collectors, which, in those days of low taxes, was a large sum, which they were not prepared to change, and thus obtain time and delay. Samuel Doxy, on being elected collector, being aware of this, broke up the practice by carrying with him the necessary change for the \$1000 bill, to save which Remsen soon produced the proper change.

The following is a copy of an old bill for a piano bought in 1812 :

MR. JOHN LEFFERTS

To JOHN GEIB & SON, Dr.

1812.

Sept. 19.

To an elegant patent Piano-forte, with drawers and two pedals.....

\$270 00

Received payment.

JOHN GEIB & SON.

August 17, 1822, John Lefferts manumitted his slave, Susan.

John Lefferts, born December 14, 1785 ; married, June 3, 1823, Maria Lott Lefferts, daughter of Jacobus L. Lefferts of New Utrecht. She was born August 20, 1786, and died September 23, 1865.

He owned, resided on and cultivated the homestead of his ancestors, a large tract in Flatbush ; was highly respected, of good judgment, fine



HOMESTEAD OF THE LEFFERTS FAMILY.

SIDE VIEW.

1900.

Lefferts

ability, and held many important trusts, which gained for him the confidence of the whole community. From October, 1811, to September, 1813, he was County Treasurer, the salary of the office being then only thirty dollars a year—honor and not profit being the object. Was the Democratic candidate for Congress in 1813 and elected, his opponent being his kinsman, Judge Leffert Lefferts of Bedford. He was elected and served as a member of the Constitutional Convention of the State of New York in 1821, and, from 1821 to 1826, was a member of the State Senate, and known as "Senator John," to distinguish him from others of the same name in the County. While a member of the State Senate, it was proposed, at the session of 1824, to take from the Legislature the power of electing Presidential electors and invest the same in the people, in favor of which change a bill was reported by the committee to whom the subject was referred. The opponents of the measure, fearing to vote directly against it, in consequence of its popularity with the people, after various ineffectual efforts at amendments, finally disposed of it by postponing its consideration until the first Monday in November, a virtual defeat. He was one of the seventeen Senators who thus defied popular opinion and they were long known as the "immortal seventeen."

Unswerving honesty, uprightness and strict integrity characterized his public and private life, and, by his early death, not only was his imme-

Lefferts

diately bereaved in the loss of an affectionate husband and father, but the County lost one of its most active members and a noble and public-spirited man. He died September 18, 1829.

His will is dated September 23, 1827, and in it he devises his Flatbush farm to his son, John, and his Queens County lands in Jamaica to his daughter, Gertrude.

His wife (Maria Lott Lefferts) was a woman of fine appearance, courtly manners, and exceedingly attractive, which caused her to be long remembered by observers. In 1838, President Van Buren, when casually passing her residence, called to pay his respects to her on behalf of her deceased husband, with whom he had been associated in public business, and remarked, to a friend of Gertrude Leffert Lefferts, that she was one of the finest women he had ever met.

Issue :

1. Gertrude Leffert Lefferts.
2. John Lefferts.

Gertrude Leffert Lefferts, born April 16, 1824 ; married, July 8, 1846, Judge John Vanderbilt of Flatbush, a lawyer by profession. He was born January 28, 1819 ; died May 16, 1877 ; and had

Issue :

Leffert Vanderbilt, born January 8, 1848 ; married, November 3, 1870, Charlotte T. Spofford, daughter of Charles Nelson Spofford.

The large farm of John Lefferts (son of John Lefferts and Maria Lott Lefferts) was unbroken

Lefferts

by streets at the time that Dr. Strong's map was published, in 1842. It then contained three hundred acres, stretching from the Cortelyou farm on the south to the Clove road on the north, and from the Flatbush road on the west beyond the road leading to Canarsie on the east.

He sold some lots on the southwest corner of his farm to Jeromus J. Johnson, who built there the handsome house of Milwaukee brick, standing south of Fenimore Street. This property again changed owners, and, passing from one person to another, finally was purchased by Dr. Homer L. Bartlett, in whose possession it still remains.

Close upon the road in front of where Dr. Bartlett's house now (1901) stands, there once stood one of the earliest-built houses in Flatbush. It was burned down during the Battle of Flatbush. It would have been a curious relic of the past could it have been preserved, as it was built of brick, and was, up to that time, in an excellent state of preservation. The subbase in the principal rooms was tiled to match the fire-places; the heavy beams above crossed the ceilings. It had two front doors opening upon the long stoop in front; indeed, all the characteristics of the old Dutch houses were peculiarly brought into prominence. The furniture would have been no less curious than the house itself, as some of it came from Holland. This house is mentioned in Dr. Strong's history of the town of Flatbush. It is also spoken of by T. W. Fields, in his allusion to the Battle of Flatbush, as "the heavy old Dutch structure, built

Lefferts

in the ponderous style in fashion among the Dutch colonists."

Had it been still standing, it would have descended, as did the land on which it was built, to John Lefferts, through his grandmother, Mrs. Femmetia Lefferts, who was born in this house in 1753.

Mrs. Maria Lott Lefferts lived in the "old homestead" until her death, which occurred September 23, 1865. Her son, John Lefferts, did not modernize the house, although many of the present improvements and conveniences were introduced by him. It is one of those long, low, heavy-roofed houses, which were built prior to the War of the Revolution. It was burned at the Battle of Flatbush, but not wholly destroyed, and was rebuilt upon the old timbers, so that the form of it remains as before. (See pages 99, 100 and 104.)

On an old grant, signed by Governor Peter Stuyvesant, bearing date April 12, 1661, and still in possession of the Lefferts family (reproduction herewith), to whom the land was given, the name of the town appears as Midwout. The first provincial seal of the New Netherlands is upon this grant: a shield bearing a beaver, proper, surmounted by a count's coronet, and encircled by the legend "Sigillum Novi Belgii." In another old Dutch writing of the same character, bearing date 1677, Flatbush is called Vlackebos.

Within the recollections of the present generation there were three large farms in Bedford, one



HOMESTEAD OF THE LEFFERTS FAMILY.

FRONT VIEW.

1900.

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a letter or a page from a manuscript. The text is dense and covers most of the page. It appears to be a personal or official communication, possibly in French or a related language. The handwriting is somewhat faded and difficult to read in many places.

Handwritten text at the bottom left of the page, possibly a signature or a closing phrase. It is less legible than the main body of text.

Handwritten text at the bottom center, possibly a name or a title.

Handwritten text at the bottom right, possibly a date or a reference.





JOHN LEFFERTS.

Lefferts

in Flatbush and two in New Utrecht, occupied and cultivated by Leffertses, who were among the wealthy, respected and successful cultivators in Kings County. At present there is but one held by an individual of that name, that of John Lefferts of Flatbush, a worthy successor of his ancestors, occupying premises held by the family since 1661. (See pages 99, 100 and 104.) The males of the Lefferts family in the vicinity of Flatbush (although not so in other localities) appear to be decreasing, while those of most of the other European pioneers continue to multiply and increase, so that there is a probability that the day is not far distant when the family name of Lefferts will disappear from Flatbush, and will have to be sought for elsewhere in this country.

Long chests, standing upon huge ball feet, were considered by our Dutch ancestors as a necessary and valuable bit of property to the householder. They were made of cherry or some dark, hard wood, and were about five or six feet long and two and a half feet wide. These were similar in size and shape to the elaborately carved coffers which one sees in the museums of the German and Italian cities, but, in the simple homes of our Dutch ancestors, they held no costly treasures of jewels and gold; they were receptacles for the rolls of homespun linen from which the bed-linen, table-linen and toweling were cut. When the young wife was about to leave her father's house, it was from these stores that she received the linen for her new home,

Lefferts

and, if some of it was not of her own spinning, it was because she was a bride too early in life to have assisted her mother and sisters at the spinning-wheel. There are some of these chests still remaining in the old houses ; they have been banished to the garret or to the linen closet ; but the housekeeper of to-day finds them as useful as they ever were, as they form a commodious receptacle for the curtains, the blankets, and whatever storage the changing seasons make necessary.

One of these old chests in the wide garret of the house of John Lefferts was found to have a false bottom. When the discovery was made, it contained a large amount of Continental currency. At the time it was so carefully secreted, it was, of course, redeemable, but, when found, it was about as valuable as are now the bills of the Southern Confederacy.

It is probable that these chests are referred to in the old English story of the bride who playfully hid in the great chest in the lumber room, and was made prisoner by the spring-lock, until, a century after, her bones were found and identified by her wedding finery.

Every old Dutch family owned a waffle-iron ; these were larger and deeper than those now made, and had two long handles, for the purpose of holding them with more ease over the beds of hickory coals on which the waffles were baked.

In an old newspaper of March 16, 1772, is an advertisement, as follows :

Lefferts

“Hard and soft waife-irons, for sale by Peter Goelet, at the Golden Key, Hanover Square, New York.”

There was another cake which must be considered exclusively Dutch, as the irons for cooking them have never been seen anywhere except in families who are descendants of the Dutch settlers. These cakes were so thin as sometimes to be called wafers; they were also known as split cakes, because, thin as they were, they were split open and buttered before being sent up to the table. The name by which they were correctly known was “izer cookies”; this might have reference to the iron in which they were baked—“yzer,” or it may be a corruption of “eitzaal,” a dining-room. On going to housekeeping, it was customary to have one of these wafer-irons made with the united initials of the bride and groom, and the date upon it, so that the impression of the letters and figures was made on the cakes when baked. The letters P. L. and F. L., with the date, 1790, are to be seen in an iron which is still in use among the great-grandchildren of Peter Lefferts and Femmetia Lefferts.

Lefferts

At its settlement, in 1651, Flatbush was variously called Midwout, Midwoud and Medwoud. It is difficult to say why or when the change was made to Flatbush. Various opinions have been offered as to the meaning of the name.

In a paper read before the Historical Society of the State of New York, December 31, 1816, there is a conjecture offered to the effect that, as Breuckelen and Amersfoort were, from their proximity to the water, earliest settled, and a space intermediate and about equidistant between them remained as woodland, it was, therefore, designated by the Dutch words "woud" or "bos," signifying woods, thereby becoming, "med woud," or middle woods. Or, as it was a plain, "vlachte," in order to distinguish it from the wooded heights, "gebergte," between this plain and Brooklyn, it was called the "vlachte bos," or the wooded plain.

Medwoud and Oostwoud, now Flatbush and New Lots, were both named after villages in North Holland. There are others who give the name a different derivation, and say that it does not come from "woud," a forest, but from "woon" or "woonen," to dwell, having reference to the people who lived in the middle district, between the two settlements of Breuckelen and Amersfoort.

In the town records of 1681, New Lots is called Oostwoud, and Flatbush, Medwoud.

At a convention, held at Hempstead in 1665, Long Island and Staten Island were erected into a shire, and divided into districts called ridings ;

Lefferts

Flatbush was in the West Riding of Yorkshire. It has been said that the name of Medwoud was changed at that convention. If so, the change was not generally accepted, for it was called Medwoud after that on many public occasions, and in many public documents.

All these names, Medwoud, Midwoud, Midwout and Vlachte Bos, appear upon the old town records; and in all the public writings they seem to be used interchangeably, as we shall see.

“There were many prisoners on parole in Flatbush, during the early part of the War of the Revolution. It is needless to say that time hung heavily on their hands, so on one cold midwinter day a happy thought came into the mind of a young officer, and found immediate acceptance with those to whom he communicated it.

The beautiful fields that they had roamed through all the summer, the woods in which they had gathered walnuts, butternuts, hickory nuts and chestnuts, were now all draped in pure white snow. Icicles were pendent everywhere, and snow and ice wrapped everything in lines of beauty. The outlines of the fields were indistinguishable, save where the surface drainage had made long ponds, and here, on these shallow bits of ice, the little children were at play, sliding on the glittering surface or dragging their little sleds across the frozen snow.

This gave to the young officer the happy suggestion, on which he at once acted. Why not have a carnival upon the ice?

Lefferts

On the northeastern portion of the Lefferts farm there was a large pond. At the settlement of the country it had been formed by using the strata of clay for the manufacturing of bricks. It was known by its Dutch name, the Steenbakerie, or "stone bakery." It offered the irresistible attraction of several acres of clear, smooth, pure ice. (See map, page 103.)

The young officers went to the woods nearby and cut down a tree. This they planted in the middle of the pond, leaving about four feet of it extending above the surface of the ice. At right angles to this they fastened the rest of the main body of the tree with an iron bolt, which would revolve very rapidly when moved by someone standing close to it. On to this crosspiece there were attached many little sleds, with ropes of various lengths, and when one was stationed in the center to turn this crosspiece, the velocity with which all these sleds were whirled round and round the pond was very great. It was a sort of Winter merry-go-round, and to this all the young people, far and near, were invited. Of course they all accepted the invitation and went, and a right merry time they had. The rotary motion communicated by the revolving piece to which the little sleds were attached was exhilarating. It might be accelerated at the will of the party who controlled the crosspiece, and there is no reason to think that the motion was retarded.

I can see them now—cannot you? The rosy-cheeked Dutch girls from the village, their young

Lefferts

friends and brothers; the prisoner officers, and perhaps one older person, here and there, to look on and see the fun! I can just imagine how they looked, each one clinging closely to his or her sled—shouting, as they passed each other, shrieking, as at times a sled was upset, laughing, as each recognized the other in the swift whirl.

Perhaps on some of the sleds there were two persons—all the more fun for the two—but tradition does not tell us that; sometimes they went so swiftly as to be almost lifted from the ice; round and round they flew, happy in their innocent merriment, and enjoying it all as only young people can. They kept it up through all the full moon, and even until the warmer breath of Spring began to weaken the ice. They were loath to leave it—the clear air was so invigorating, the motion so exhilarating, the companionship so delightful. Neither history nor tradition ventures to hint, but I myself think that there is not much risk in stating that some of the weddings which came off after the war might have been traced to the meetings on those moonlight nights—in the frolics of the young people on the ice pond.

I went past that spot quite recently. The dump cart of the city contractor was trying to fill up the pond, but there is a portion of it still left. The trolley cars of the Nostrand Avenue line pass it daily, as they turn into Malbone Street to reach the entrance to Prospect Park.

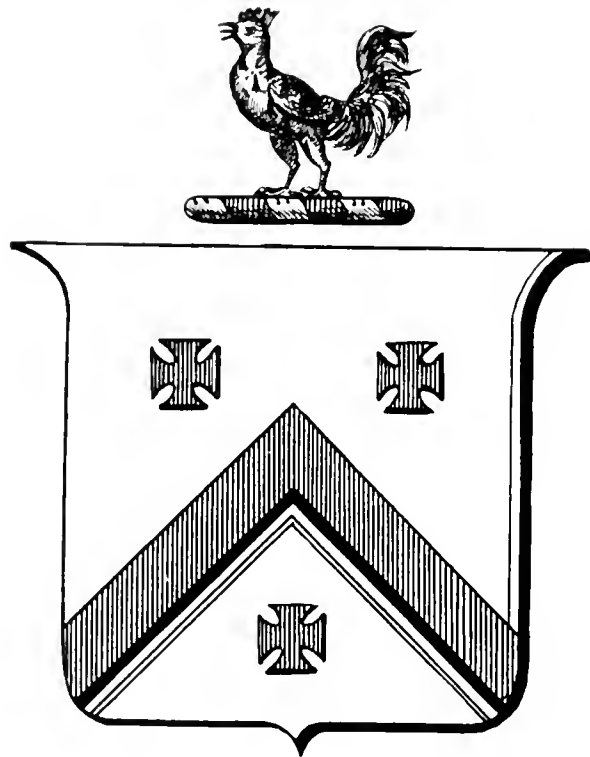
If you should ever go to Flatbush, look across the Lefferts farm for what is still left of the old

Lefferts

pond, and, as you do so, recall the picture it presented over one hundred years ago, of the American prisoners on parole and the young and pretty Dutch maidens, snatching a short season of pleasure amid the uncertainties of war, and unconscious of the fate that might be awaiting them before the war should be brought to its close.

The moon passing over may find a small portion of it even yet, but the city is creeping up to obliterate what is left of it, just as surely as the green grass has covered from sight the soldiers' graves, which were then fresh, and forever effaced the lines of the battle-field which then could be traced."

To Holland the early settlers felt a deep, unalterable, hereditary attachment. Nor have the vicissitudes of time extinguished that sentiment in their descendants. Two and a half centuries have scarcely weakened the veneration which citizens of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, of Dutch lineage, proudly cherish toward the Fatherland of their ancestors.



ADDIS

Addis

AS TO THE FAMILY OF ADDIS: It is of English origin, and they appear to have been Quakers. They were settled in various parts of England, arms having been recorded in the Heralds' Visitations of London, in 1633; and also for another branch of the family in County Stafford, descended from Sir Degory Addis, Knt., who died in 1521.

The armorial bearings of the family, as recorded in the heraldic authorities, are:

Argent, a chevron between three crosses, pattee, gules.

Crest: A cock ermine.

The firing of the British frigate, "Leopard," on the Chesapeake, in 1807, caused such an outburst of patriotism among the Bucks County militia as to produce efforts to form volunteer companies. A meeting was held in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., of which Enoch Addis was Chairman, and John Lefferts, Secretary, to raise a volunteer troop of horse. John Lefferts was the Chairman of a committee appointed to prepare an address to the soldiers of the 48th Regiment of Militia, to stimulate them to immediate action.

Addisville is a hamlet in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., named after Amos Addis, its "chiefest citizen," and was so called in 1817, a number of building lots being laid off by him a short distance from the "Bear" Tavern, on the Bristol road.

Addis

IV GENERATION :

Joseph Addis of Southampton Township, Bucks County, Pa., and Philadelphia, Pa., born November 16, 1801 ; married (first), November 16, 1820, **Anne Marple**. She was born August 9, 1802. He married (second), June 20, 1830, **Susanna Lefferts**. (See page 68.)

He died June 20, 1863.

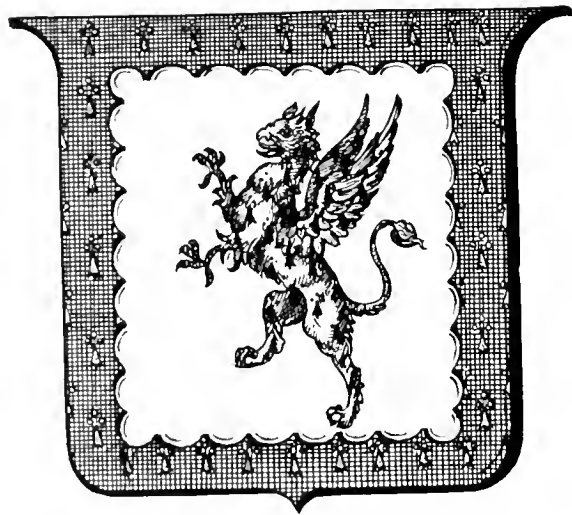
Issue:

1. Martha Jane Addis, born September 16, 1821 ; married, October 15, 1846, Alexander B. Erwin, born 1824 ; died December 3, 1852. She died May 23, 1885.
2. Amos Addis, born October 24, 1824 ; died June 22, 1825.
3. Mary Anne Addis, born December 11, 1827 ; died April 2, 1828.

Issue of JOSEPH ADDIS and SUSANNA LEFFERTS, see V Generation of the Lefferts family, page 68.



MRS. JOSEPH ADDIS.
(NÉE SUSANNA DEFFERTS.)



KNIGHT

Knight

AS TO THE FAMILY OF KNIGHT:

It is of very ancient origin in the West of England, and was conspicuous more than three hundred years ago, as the following will show:

BRISTOL, COUNTY OF SOMERSET:

Francis Knight, Sheriff, 1579; Mayor, 1594.

Francis Knight, Mayor, 1613.

George Knight, Sheriff, 1625; Mayor, 1639.

Sir John Knight, Mayor, 1663.

John Knight, Sheriff, 1664; Mayor, 1670.

John Knight, Vicar of Banbury, 1665.

Sir John Knight, Sheriff, 1681; Mayor, 1690.

With reference to the coat of arms of the Knight family, a report has been obtained from the Heralds' College, made by the Pursuivant, bearing the title of "Bluemantle," and dated 1574, as follows:

Argent, within a bordure, engrailed sable, semee of ermine spots, or, a griffin, segreant ermine, armed gules.

In the Heralds' Visitations of Gloucester, 1684, there is a seven-generation pedigree of Knight of Bristol, the arms being subsequently allowed from a contemporary visitation, and the pedigree was continued down to 1793.

The Genealogy of the Lefferts Family, by Bergen, pages 82 and 130, contains a statement to the effect that Jacobus, or James, Lefferts of Bucks County, Pa., baptized August 24, 1760, married Elizabeth Knight, with a foot-note that she was a

Knight

descendant of Giles and Mary Knight, who came to America from Gloucestershire, England, in 1682.

August 30, 1682, Giles Knight, his wife and son, Joseph, embarked at Deal, on board of the ship "Welcome," with William Penn and about one hundred other passengers. About eight weeks afterwards, October 24th, they were within the Capes of the Delaware. Thirty of the passengers died on the way over.

Giles Knight was a grandson of Edward Knight, a cloth merchant of Rodburgh, County Gloucester, who was among the petitioners regarding the decay of the cloth trade in 1621—during the reign of King James I. John Knight, the great-grandfather of Giles Knight, was one of the Gloucestershire Recusants in 1557—during the reign of Queen Mary. Many persons of the name were among the early converts to the doctrines of George Fox, and, in *The Records of the Sufferings of Friends*, during the reign of King Charles II, are the names of Giles Knight of Chesselborough, County Somerset; Thomas Knight of Cirencester; William Knight of Hampshire; George Knight and Mary Knight of London; and Robert Knight of Oxford. Many of the Quakers were apprehended at religious meetings, and, for refusing to take the oath of allegiance (at that time they were not allowed by law to affirm, and their religious creed prohibited them from taking an oath), they were committed to prison, and were subjected to great difficulties

Knight

and embarrassment through the intolerance and persecuting spirit of those times. When William Penn opened a prospect of a peaceful settlement in Pennsylvania, many gladly embraced the opportunity to remove, with their families, to a country where they might freely enjoy the unmolested exercise of their conscientious convictions. Three half-brothers of Giles Knight came to Pennsylvania in 1683. They were Benjamin, Abel and John. Benjamin settled in Bensalem Township, Bucks County, Pa. Abel went to North Carolina, where his descendants still reside. John went to Massachusetts, and his descendants, who are quite numerous, may be found scattered all over New England and Canada. There were upwards of twenty of the name of Knight on the Revolutionary pension roll.

Knight

I GENERATION (the first of whom detailed information can be obtained):

Giles Knight of Rodburgh, County Gloucester, born in 1653, married, February 24, 1679, **Mary English**, at the meeting house at Nailsworth, in the Parish of Avening, County Gloucester; he being described as of Rodburgh, County Gloucester, and she of Horsley, in the same County. They were both members of the Society of Friends, and record of their marriage is to be found at Somerset House, London. He met William Penn and George Fox at Bristol, in 1673, when Fox returned from America. Fox was full of enthusiasm of his travels; the strange things he had seen in his adventures, and perils of the wilderness, and the zeal and steadfastness of the American Quakers. They had two sons born in England—Joseph, in 1680, and Giles, in 1681.

He came to America with William Penn, in the ship "Welcome," in 1682.

The father of Mary English purchased a tract of five hundred acres in Byberry, on the Poquessing Creek, from William Penn, and gave one-half of it to his son-in-law, Giles Knight, and the other half to his son, Henry English. Giles Knight lived in a cave, which the Indians taught him how to construct, for six weeks after his arrival, and then built a wigwam, in which he resided for several months; he then erected for himself a log house. These caves were dug in the ground, to the depth of about three feet; the roofs were formed of timber and

Knight

limbs of trees, and were usually covered with sod or bark; the chimneys were built of stone, and mortared with clay. They were damp and gloomy abodes, yet served to protect their inmates from the weather.

The Indians welcomed the early settlers to Byberry, and were ever ready and willing to lend their white neighbors a helping hand when in distress. At one time, Giles Knight and a neighbor went among them to procure some beans and other vegetables; these were kindly furnished, along with instructions for cultivating them. He was very prosperous in his business, and, some time afterward, bought the adjoining lands of John Tibby and Thomas Cross, making, altogether, a tract of six hundred acres. The log house first erected being too small to accommodate his increasing family, he built a larger one on the Tibby tract. From the records of the township it is learned that he was one of the leading men of the neighborhood, and that he was highly esteemed for his integrity, good judgment and correct life.

He possessed considerable literary attainments, and his library contained a number of books relating to civil government. He was repeatedly elected a member of the Assembly at Philadelphia (representing the township of Byberry), and, in this capacity, was very liberal in his views, and did much to promote public improvements.

In 1712, he erected a bolting mill, on the stream of water passing through his meadow.

Knight

No flour was made at this mill, but his neighbors took their grain to the Pennepack or Poquessing mills, and, when it was ground, hauled it to his mill to have it bolted.

Knight's mill is on the Byberry and Andalusia turnpike, in the southern part of Byberry Township, Philadelphia County, Pa. It is on the Poquessing Creek, and was erected about 1770, and rebuilt in 1815.

Knightsville is situated on the Byberry and Bensalem turnpike road, where the Moreland road crosses it, near the thirteen-mile stone. It is a village, containing a number of dwelling houses and other buildings. A school was formerly kept at this place.

July 8, 1717, Giles Knight and his wife went to England. The Abington Monthly Meeting of Friends, of which they were members, gave them a certificate of recommendation to "friends and brethren in the truth" at Nailesworth, County Gloucester, describing him as "our ancient friend, Giles Knight." They returned in 1718.

Giles Knight mentions in his will, dated August 10, 1726, his wife's name, Mary English, and those of his children: Joseph, Mary, Thomas, Anne, Jonathan and Daniel; and, after certain specific bequests and devises of lands, he gave the remaining part of his estate to his four sons.

He died August 20, 1726, aged seventy-three years; and Mary, his wife, died July 24, 1732, aged seventy-seven years. Both were buried in their garden. It is said they had twelve children,

Knight

three of whom died in infancy. Two of these were buried in the garden, near the Poquessing Creek, close to Knight's mill-dam, and the other was the first person interred in the old graveyard at Byberry Meeting.

Issue :

1. Joseph Knight, born 1680; married 1718; died 1762.
2. Giles Knight, born 1681; died 1682.
3. Mary Knight, born 1683; married 1704; died 1759.
4. Thomas Knight, born 1685; married 1711; died 1774.
5. Anne Knight, born 1687; married 1710; died 1764.
6. Jonathan Knight, born 1690; married 1721; died 1745.
7. Daniel Knight, born 1697; married 1719, 1728, 1777; died 1782.

No trace of any other children can be found in the County, Parish or family records.

II GENERATION :

Joseph Knight of Byberry Township, Philadelphia County, Pa., born in England, in 1680; married, September 10, 1718, **Abigail Antill**. They first settled in New Jersey, but returned to Byberry, in 1729.

He was a man of little or no enterprise, and was content with a very plain way of living. He thought his farm too large, and accordingly sold about one hundred and forty acres of it to Thomas

Knight

Walmsley, retaining his buildings and only fifty acres of land.

They studied and carried out the principles of the most exact economy, and being content with very little, passed through life in a comfortable way and without any longings after those expensive luxuries experienced by many people. He was very careful to attend to all things in season, and suffered nothing to be wasted. He was a kind-hearted man, and a good citizen. His neighbors did not look upon him as a miser; but having been brought up in a new country, where he often suffered many privations, his habits of economy became settled, and continued with him through life. When he was a little boy the only food they had, often for weeks at a time, was "fish and pumpkins;" and on one occasion, when some of the neighbors paid them a visit and the conversation turned upon the good things left behind them in Old England, Joseph remarked "that he did not know anything about them, but that fish and pumpkins were good enough for him." On one occasion, some one asked him how to make money, when he replied, "Thou knowest how to make it better than I do, but thou dost not know how to keep it."

He died April 26, 1762.

Issue:

1. Giles Knight, born 1719; married 1737, 1768; died 1799.
2. Mary Knight, born 1723; married 1751; died 1794.

Knight

III GENERATION :

Giles Knight of Bensalem Township, Bucks County, Pa., born November 17, 1719; married (first), June 10, 1737, **Elizabeth James**. He married (second), August 4, 1768, **Phebe Thomas**.

He was well educated, had a vigorous mind, and conducted his business with energy and success. He early turned his attention to politics, and, from being in comfortable circumstances, of known integrity and sound judgment, he soon became prominent as a politician, and was for several successive years a member of the State Legislature, and, afterwards, one of the Commissioners of Bucks County. Of his appearance and manners, it is recorded that he was a venerable old patriarch in full dress of velvet and broadcloth, with buttons and buckles of silver, a full bottom wig, and first-rate beaver hat turned up behind and on each side before, all which seemed to belong to a class that did not mix with ordinary characters; and, together with an austere, commanding countenance, and dignity of manners and deportment, which induced an apprehension and belief that he was one of the great men of his day and generation.

He died December 19, 1799.

Issue :

1. Joseph Knight, born 1738; married 1762, 1770; died 1819.
2. Susannah Knight, born 1740; married 1761; died 1810.

Knight

3. Abigail Knight, born 1742; married 1764; died 1802.
4. Giles Knight, born 1745; married 1765; died 1796.
5. Rebecca Knight, born 1747; married 1768; died 1800.
6. Mary Knight, born 1750; married 1773; died 1820.
7. Elizabeth Knight, born 1752; married 1772; died 1797.
8. Abel Knight, born 1755; died 1777.
9. Sarah Knight, born 1757; died 1824.
10. Israel Knight, born 1760; married 1782; died 1810.
11. Asa Knight, born 1770; married 1795, 1802; died 1840.
12. Evan T. Knight, born 1771; married 1794; died 1841.
13. Phebe Knight, born 1773; married 1798; died 1837.
14. Rachel Knight, born 1775; married 1799; died 1846.
15. Jesse Knight, born 1779; married 1800; died 1851.
16. Anne Knight, born 1781; died 1786.

IV GENERATION :

Joseph Knight of Abington, Montgomery County, Pa., born December 14, 1738; married (first), June 18, 1762, **Rachel Townsend**. He married (second), January 8, 1770, **Elizabeth Woolston**.

He died August 18, 1819.

Knight

Issue :

1. Charles Knight, born 1763; married 1784; died 1831.
2. John Knight, born 1764; died 1765.
3. Susannah Knight, born 1765; married 1784; died 1795.
4. Rachel Knight, born 1766; married 1789; died 1815.
5. Elizabeth Knight, born 1770; married 1787; died 1840.
6. William Knight, born 1771; married 1792; died 1832.
7. Sarah Knight, born 1772; married 1795; died 1837.

V GENERATION :

Elizabeth Knight of Abington, Montgomery County, Pa., born October 15, 1770; married, September 8, 1787, **James Lefferts** of Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pa.

She died November 16, 1840.

Issue: See IV generation of the Lefferts family, page 67.

**AS TO THE FAMILIES OF MACCORD,
MACINTYRE, CARSON, BROWN, CAMP-
BELL, DUFF, DICKSON and SPENCER :**

I GENERATION (the first of whom definite information can
be obtained):

John MacCord of County Derry, Ireland,
married **Mary MacIntyre**.

Issue :

Mary MacCord.

II GENERATION :

Mary MacCord of County Derry, Ireland,
married **John Carson** of County Tyrone, Ireland.

Issue :

Margaret Carson.

III GENERATION :

Margaret Carson of County Tyrone, Ireland,
married **John Brown** (son of William Brown and
Isabella Campbell—see page 130) of County
Tyrone, Ireland.

Issue :

1. **William Brown**, married Sarah Brown of
County Tyrone, Ireland, and came to
America, in 1811. They sailed in the ship
"Conastoga," and landed at New York,
subsequently settling at Hinckson's Cor-
ner (on the Providence road, half way
between Chester and Media), Delaware
County, Pa.

Issue : A very large family.

2. **James Brown**, married Eleanor Jane
Thompson of County Tyrone, Ireland,
and came to America, in 1835, settling,

Brown

first, at Philadelphia for a short time, subsequently permanently locating at Pittsburg, where they both died.

Issue: Five daughters and one son.

3. Robert Brown, came to America, in 1811, with his brother, William, and married Sarah Ladlie of Virginia.

Issue: A large family. Two of the sons (William and Robert) settled near Lexington, Ky., and another son (James) settled at or near Mansfield, O.

4. Mary Brown, married Thomas Dickson of County Tyrone, Ireland, and came to America, in 1832. After staying two months in Philadelphia they moved, and permanently settled at Pittsburg, Pa., where they both died.

Issue: twelve children. (See page 132.)

5. Elizabeth Brown, born November 9, 1793; married (first), July 7, 1814, James Duff of County Tyrone, Ireland (see page 130), and came to America, in 1815, settling at Hinckson's Corner, close to her brother, William, subsequently moving to Philadelphia, Pa. James Duff died February 18, 1824. She married (second), October 20, 1830, James Downing of Philadelphia, Pa., formerly of Moneymore, County Derry, Ireland. (See pages 41 and 131.)

She died January 15, 1891.

Issue: See pages 41 and 131.

Brown-Duff

6. John Brown—died in infancy.
7. Margaret Brown—died aged four.

The paternal great-great-grandfather of John Brown (who married Margaret Carson—III) left Scotland, with the Campbells and numerous other Protestant families, in the 18th century, owing to religious persecution, and settled at Coagh, near Lake Neagh, in the extreme eastern part of County Tyrone, Ireland. John Brown's father was William Brown, who married Isabella Campbell of County Tyrone, Ireland. (See page 128.)

ISSUE OF WILLIAM BROWN AND ISABELLA CAMPBELL :

1. James Brown, who, after returning from America, married Mary Beatty.
2. Catharine Brown, married James Routh.
3. Joshua Brown, went to America, settling at or near Mansfield, O.
4. Anne Brown, married John Magee of County Tyrone, Ireland, and joined her brother, Joshua, in America.
5. John Brown, married Margaret Carson (III). (See page 128.)
6. Rosa Brown, married Samuel Young of Coagh, County Tyrone, Ireland.

IV GENERATION :

Elizabeth Brown, born November 9, 1793 ; married (first), July 7, 1814, **James Duff** of County Tyrone, Ireland. (See page 129.) She

Duff-Downing

married (second), October 20, 1830, **James Downing** of Philadelphia, Pa., formerly of Monymore, County Derry, Ireland. (See pages 41 and 129.)

She died January 15, 1891.

Issue:

1. John Duff, married Hannah Paxon of Philadelphia, Pa.
2. Matilda Duff, married John McDaniel of Philadelphia, Pa.
3. William A. Duff, married Margaret Smylie of Philadelphia, Pa.
4. James Duff, married Sarah Fields of Philadelphia, Pa.

Issue of ELIZABETH BROWN DUFF and JAMES DOWNING, see X Generation of the Downing family, page 41.

Brown-Dickson

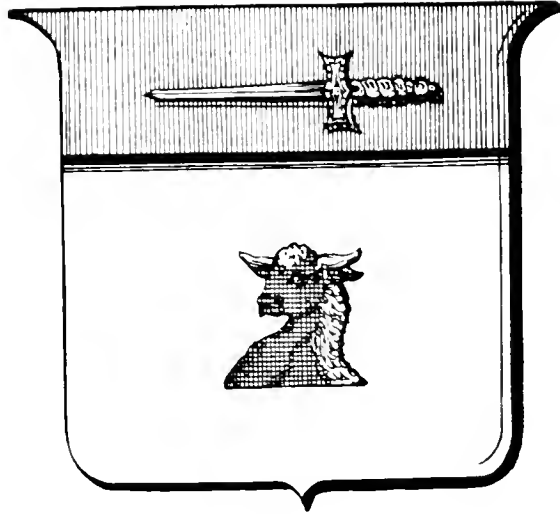
MARY BROWN (the daughter of Margaret Carson and John Brown—see page 129), married THOMAS DICKSON of County Tyrone, Ireland. They came to America, in 1832, and permanently settled at Pittsburg, Pa.

The armorial bearings of the Dickson family in Ireland, as recorded in the heraldic authorities, are:

Argent, a bull's head sable, crined or, on a chief gules, a sword fessways of the field pommel and hilt of the third.

Issue:

1. John Dickson, born 1811; married 1853; died 1881.
2. William Brown Dickson, born 1813; married 1835; died 1876.
3. Margaret Dickson, born 1815; died 1815.
4. James Dickson, born 1817; married 1842; died 1887.
5. Robert Dickson, born 1819; married 1838.
6. Elizabeth Jane Dickson, born 1821; married 1845.
7. Mary Dickson, born 1823; married 1839; died 1884.
8. Rachel Dickson, born 1825; married 1844.
9. Thomas Campbell Dickson, born 1827; married 1857.
10. Margaret Dickson, born 1829; married 1848.
11. Hannah Dickson, born 1831; died 1832.
12. Joseph Carson Dickson, born 1833; married 1856; died 1884.



DICKSON



THOMAS DICKSON.



MRS. THOMAS DICKSON.
(NÉE MARY BROWN.)

Dickson-Spencer

THOMAS CAMPBELL DICKSON (See page 132), born October 1, 1827; married, October 8, 1857, MARGARET SPENCER of Winlaton, County Durham, England.

Issue:

1. Mary Ella Dickson, born August 22, 1858; died October 24, 1861.
2. Elizabeth Downing Dickson, born February 21, 1861; married October 2, 1883, and July 21, 1900.
3. Catharine Parker Dickson, born March 30, 1863; married February 1, 1887.
4. William Brickell Dickson, born April 13, 1865; married October 23, 1887.
5. Edward Spencer Dickson, born August 12, 1867.
6. Albert Graff Dickson, born August 31, 1871; died January 24, 1875.
7. J. Walter Dickson, born November 6, 1873; married February 14, 1899.
8. Franklin Dake Dickson, born November 11, 1882.
9. Helen Dickson, born July 13, 1884.



THOMAS CAMPBELL DICKSON

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MRS. THOMAS CAMPBELL DICKSON.
(NEE MARGARET SPENCER.)



COPY OF THE MAP
OF THE
TOWN OF FLATBUSH.
IN DR. STRONG'S HISTORY,
1842.

OLD TOWN

GOWANUS

Rush Pond
Old washed site
the site of the mill
Washburn
at stone
Road to New Utrecht
Socrates's Swamp
Peters's Farm
Corner of Flatbush & Jones

NEW UTRECHT

GRAVESEND

TOWN OF FLATBUSH

Ballard Ave
Shanklin
M. Stroker
V. Doyce
K. Vanover
L. Vanover
Little Flat
Overland
White oak
Bostwick Kill

EAST BROADWAY

VERSON AVENUE

Road to Canarsie

FLATLANDS

KEUTERS HOOK

Stevenson
Schemck
Heron Church

Black Oak

Twillars Flats

County
House

M. Stroker

Carlvars Flat

White oak

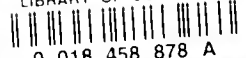
Bostwick Kill



AUG 7 6



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