

DEDICATED

TO THE REMEMBRANCE OF ANN HAWKES HAY.

CITIZEN OF HAVERSTRAW PRINCINCT,

YOUNG MAN EXTRAORDINARY OF THE

AMERICAN REVOLUTION,

COLONEL OF THE THIRD REGIMENT OF

THE ORANGE COUNTY MILITIA,

SPIRITED COMPEER OF THE YOAST-MABIE MEETINGS

THAT DRAFTED THE ORANGETOWN RESOLUTIONS,

DELEGATE TO THE NEW YORK CITY

ELECTORAL CONVENTION,

MEMBER OF THE SECOND PROVINCIAL CONGRESS,

SELF-SACRIFICING QUARTERMASTER,

LOYAL FRIEND OF WASHINGTON,

A LOCAL MAN WHOSE LIFE SHED

A BRILLIANT LUSTER ON THE FOUNDERS' PLEDGE OF

"OUR LIVES, OUR FORTUNES AND OUR

SACRED HONOR."

From the plaque reproduced in the Haverstraw High School Annual

LATER LINES

Since "The Family of Hay" was published in 1908, several generations have been added to the clan and this appendix is an attempt to bring the lines down to include the last additions to the family.

Some of the descendants could not be reached. Therefore several blank pages are left at the back of the book so that those desiring to do so, may bring down their lines in writing as our grandparents did in the old "Family Bible."

COLONEL ANN HAWKES HAY YOUNG MAN EXTRA-ORDINARY

From The RECENSIO, the annual of the Haverstraw, N. Y. High School. Written by Mr. Harry Hale Smith, historian of Haverstraw. Col. Ann Hawkes Hay is featured in the 1957-58 issue.

(The Banners are dancing;)
The red shields advancing,
The Hay, the Hay, the Hay!
Mac Garadh is coming;
Give way, give way!
The Hay, the Hay, the Hay!
Cry Hollen Mac Garadh!
Give way!

When the great families of the British North Country assembled for their periodic "gatherings", it was customary to show prowess by military exercises and by athletic games, but there were always, it may be assumed, contests in poetry as well, for the gathering itself must be celebrated in verse. At the head of this column is a fragment of verse adapted from "A GATHERING" written by Captain James Hay in 1715. It gives their battle cry and celebrates their warlike tradition. Captain James Hay himself borrowed from an earlier poem of the clan in Gaelic.

Of such a military tradition were the Hays of Erroll and Lochloy, and of such a tradition came the man who was the eyes and ears of General Washington in the Haverstraw precinct—then consisting of what is now Stony Point, Ramapo, the present Haverstraw township and Clarkstown. (The other Precinct in "Orange County South of the Mountains" was Orangetown. The Haverstraw

precinct was set up by the province in June, 1719.) This scion of the Hays of Erroll and Lochloy was the center of military intelligence and communication, the bureau of purchase and a forwarding agency, as well, for the Continental forces in this district. He was the center of recruitment, the active commander of a company of volunteers, as well as the commander of the Third Regiment of Orange County Milita, having the defense of the West Shore of the Hudson from Stony Point to Ft. Lee as his assignment. He was our delegate to the New York City Convention that elected our representatives to the Second Continental Congress, and he was the statesman who headed the Provincial Congress Committee which apportioned among the several counties, the number of recruits to be furnished to the Continental Forces.

General John Morin Scott called him, in a letter to Washington, "a gentlemen uncommonly spirited in the publick cause", and General Washington himself wrote of him as a "faithful and indefatigable officer".

This man with a back-breaking assignment of duties, this man who received and merited the high praise of his superiors—this Haverstraw man was—Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay. He was a young man at the time of all these enumerated duties—and a young man whom the enemy appreciated and respected, for twice he was offered a Commission in the Royal Army by the British authorities in this county, and not improbably through the efforts of some of his Tory-in-laws. Colonel Hay declined the commissions with emphasis. He was the son of Michael Hay, a wealthy Jamaica planter, born in Edinburgh, Scotland. His mother, Esther, was the daughter of Kingston's Judge Martin Wilkins by his first wife, Ann Sharpington.

All the records indicate that the Hays were people of wealth and substance. The Hay who was to lead a New York township into and through a great war was born in August 14, 1745. He was, therefore, thirty-one years old in 1776. Like many another islander the man who was to become Colonel Hay came to New York City to be educated. He came with his half uncle, but two years older; moreover, like many another college boy, he married when eighteen, while yet in school. His choice of wife was Martha Smith, daughter of Judge William Smith, Sr. of the Provincial Courts, who was born in the Isle of Ely, England and came to New York in 1715. As an attorney he had, until disbarred, defended the accused in the famous Peter Zenger case, and laid the ground work for Andrew Hamilton of Philadelphia who succeeded Smith as Zenger's attorney. Martha Smith was the sister of Tom, Hett, John and William Smith of Haverstraw. This family fact accounts probably, for Hay and his wife coming to Haverstraw at all. He had lived in Jamaica at first, after his marriage, but

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the Hays there lost their first three children. They came to the scattered community on the Hudson for reasons of health and to be near his wife's relatives.

When Colonel Hay came to Haverstraw, he was a man of means, but being general Quartermaster did not add to, but drained his fortune. In order to purchase supplies, at all, so distrustful were the Whig farmers of the Continental Congress that it was necessary for Colonel Hay to guarantee payment. This necessity together with furnishing transport depleted his funds.

After the treason of Arnold, the British instituted the policy of burning the homes of the Militia officers, and one day a landing, in force, was made, when the family was away and help was not near, Colonel Hay's house was burned. The family had anticipated this as a possibility, and had buried their silver and other valuables and family records, and other papers in the garden; but an intimidated slave belonging to the Hays revealed the hiding place, and all these buried articles were carried off by the British. Colonel Hay's no inconsiderable property in Jamaica was then confiscated by the Crown. Carried away by the British were, it appears, the family genealogical records, which it was left for later generations of Hays to reconstruct from the archives in Scotland. Through about thirty-four generations, the family traces its lineage to Cedric, the Saxon, who flourished in 495 A. D., and this lineage would also include, of course, Alfred, the Great, of England.

Through seven years of war, Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay continued zealous in behalf of the land of his adoption, and left an example, applauded by such thoughtful writers as Paulding in his LIFE OF WASHINGTON, and Abbott in his CRISIS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

Colonel Hay died suddenly in New York in the year 1786 leaving a large family (twelve children), which shortly divided. (The first 3 had died in infancy.) Some moved to the South and some to Northern New York State.* The descendants of this substantial Revolutionary stock still flourish in the Carolinas and in Clinton County in up-state New York.

How pleasant in the ears of Americans should be the oath of association which at that time of greatest danger, this man signed:

At the time of his death, Colonel Hay was not altogether without property, though we should probably say now that he was "land poor." He had acquired in 1769 a tract of land in two parcels—one of 13,500 acres and one of 15,500 acres—on South Hero Island, Lake Champlain, and in the Township of Chazy in what is now Clinton County, but the title was clouded by conflicts of state claims and by the claims of actual squatters. Ultimately this inheritance was visited by two of Colonel Hay's sons—Michael and Thomas, and eventually part of this inheritance was recovered through the advice of their attorney, Aaron Burr. Descendants of Colonel Hay still live in Clinton County,

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He found few inhabitants then. The roads were mostly paths cut through the woods and traveling was usually on foot and on saddle horses. The country, for the most part was covered with a thick growth of forest trees, infested with bears, wolves and panthers, and through it all, the red man roved at will.

Michael Hay died about nineteen years ago. He was very charitable and so did not accumulate a large property but managed to leave each of his sons an inheritance.

Your affectionate cousin.
Lafayette Hay

COLONEL ANN HAWKES HAY

Ann Hawkes Hay was born on the 14th day of August, 1745, at Kingston, Island of Jamaica, West Indies, being the only child of his father, Michael Hay of Scotland, by his wife Esther Wilkins, daughter of Judge Martin Wilkins. He came to New York about the year 1760 to be educated at King's College, now Columbia University.

Michael Hay—the father—along with other brave Highland Lairds were "out for the Stuart in the rising," and after the defeat of the Highlanders at Culloden, took refuge in the British Indies; his cousins, the Earls of Carlyle and Kinnoul having been governors of the island.

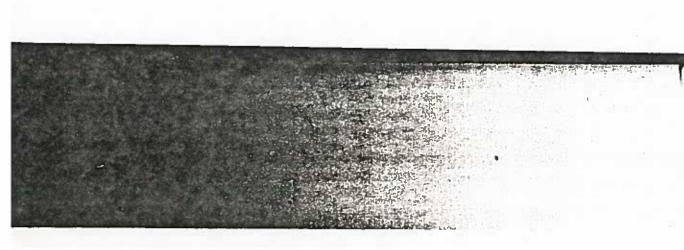
Along with Michael went his cousin Thomas, Lord Erskine. In Hone's Year Book of 1832, I find:

In May 1732 died John Erskine the eleventh earl of Mar. He was knight of the thistle, twice secretary of state, a promoter of the Union, and had been repeatedly returned as one of the sixteen peers to represent Scotland in Parliament.

The earl of Mar was twice married. His first lady was Margaret, daughter of Thomas Hay, earl of Kinnoul, by whom he had issue John, who died an infant, and Thomas, Lord Erskine. His second countess was Frances, daughter of Evelyn Pierrepont, duke of Kingston.

While still at College in New York, Ann Hawkes Hay married Martha Smith, daughter of William Smith, Judge of the court of the King's Bench, New York. After College the couple spent a few years in his home at Kingston, Jamaica, but losing their first three children on the Island, they moved to Haverstraw, New York, where her family, the Smiths lived. The site of the Hay home and Hay's Landing on the River may still be seen.

When war between America and England threatened Ann Hawkes enthusi-



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sh Government English Army burned his home at Haverstraw overlooking the Hudson River—a Negro slave betraying the place where the family silver was buried, they even took that too. His private fortunes he had sacrificed to equip his regiment in the Continental Army, so that this young Scotsman lost everything through esponsing the cause of American independence.

On October 5, 1763, while at college, Ann Hawkes Hay married Martha Smith, the daughter of Judge William Smith of New York and his wife, Mary Hett Smith. Both were just 18 years of age. They had the following children: 1, 2, 3—the first three died as infants.

- 4. Michael Hay, second son born in Haverstraw July 30, 1768, married and his descendants moved to Clinton County, New York.
- 5. William Smith Hay, third son born at Cornwall, Orange County, December 18, 1769, died young.
- Samuel Hay, fourth son, was born September 8, 1771 at Haverstraw and later moved to South Carolina where he practiced law in Beaufort. He married Elizabeth Mary Kenney, daughter of Colonel John Kenney.
- 7. Thomas Hay, fifth son, born at Haverstraw on October 25, 1773, married his first cousin, Sarah, daughter of Joshua Hett Smith. He died in New York.
- 8. Janet Scott Hay born November 3, 1775 at Haverstraw married Mr. Campbell and moved to Louisiana.
- Martha Hay born in New Jersey November 22, 1777 came to South Carolina and married William Main Hutson and left children.
- 10. Lewis Scott Hay born at Fishkill, New York on May 2, 1780 moved to South Carolina and married Harriet Yonge Johnson.
- 11. William Hay born at Haverstraw August 26, 1782.
- 12. Frederick Jay Hay born at Haverstraw March 5, 1785—one month before his father's death. Samuel Hay had established a law practice in South Carolina and sent for his widowed mother and baby, Frederick Jay Hay—so they moved to South Carolina and Frederick married there, Susan Cynthia Brown. The other children followed to the South, Michael remaining in New York State.

(Detailed Lines Follow)