

From Records of the Ref. Dutch Church, Machackemeck, Deerpark, Minisink:

Baptisms:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Parents</u>	<u>Child</u>	<u>Witnesses</u>
3-11-1753	Joris Kimber Sara Westfael	Sara	Jacob Westfael Johanna Westfael
6-16-1754	Thomas Schoonhoven Marya Westfael	Samuel	Benjamin Thomson & wife Lisabeth Westfael
8-5-1750	Joris Kimbel Lisabeth Westfael	Petrus	Casparus Kimbel Lena Kimbel
1-27-1759	Benjamin Van Vliedt Johanna Westfael	Samuel	Johannos Deckker Debra Van Vliedt
1-27-1759	Cornelius Westfael Elizabeth Westfael	Cornelius	Cornelius Schoonhoven Grietie Deckker
8-26-1759	Thomas Schoonhoven Marya Westfael	Joris	Jacobus Davis Debra Schoonhoven
8-26-1759	Joris Kimber Sara Westfael	Petrus	Josias Cole & wife Margriet Mollen
7-7-1754	Cornelis Westfael Grietje Decker	Dievertje	Andries Decker & wife Divertje Kaul
2-16-1755	Joris Kimber Sara Westfael	Margriet	Philip Decker Margriet Westfael
2-13-1756	Cornelis Westfael Grietje Decker	Margrietje	Jacob Westfael Margrietje Cole
6-9-1762	Thomas Schoonhoven Maria Westfael	Josias	Josias Cool Margriet Cool
5-9-1763	Benjamin Thomson Elizabeth Westvaal	Catrina	Jacobus Rosekrans Catrina Rosekrans
2-18-1769	Cornelis Westvaal Elizabeth Westvaal	Zacharias b. 1/8	Samuel Kool Divertje Westvaal
8-27-1772	Jacob Schoonhoven Appolony Prys	Elizabeth	John Prys Lyntje Van Vliet
2-9-1773	Divertje Westvaal oneght	Cornelius	Jacob & Leonora Westvaal
8-3-1781	Cornelius Schoonhoven Melona Devor	Jacob b. 1-12-1780	
9-26-1784	Jacob Schoonhoven Appolonia Price	Janneke	Jacobus Swartwoud Janneke Swartwoud

MM-DRC 10/16/1762 Elizabeth Westvaal Johannis Johannis Westvaal
----- ----- Maragriet Westvaal

MM 1/19/1746 Benjamin Thomson y.m. -b Nieuw Engellant, to Lisaeth Westfael y.d.
-b Machackemech, both dwelling there md 2/9
5/9/1763 Benjamin Thomson Catrina Jacobus Rosekrans
Elisabeth westvaal ----- Catrina Rosekrans

MM-DRC 1/31/1768 Joseph van Aaken Abram Abram van Aaken
Elisabeth Westvaal 1/10 8 Maria van Aaken
8/28/1772 Joseph Van Aake & Elisabeth Westfael-- Isaac
9/1/1775 Joseph Van Aken & Elisabeth Westfael--Aploney
8/16/1782 Joseph Van Aken Sarah Jacobus van wickkle
Elisabeth Westfael ----- Sarah Van Aken

MM 10/29/1780 Solomon Middagh & Elisabeth Westfael--Solomon

Walpack DRC
5/23/1783 Leendert Divens Josip Abraham westvael
Elesabet Westvael ----- Maria Martesin

Clove DRC

11/20/1791 Josiah Cole Jr & Elizabeth Westfall- Lenah -b 10/20/179-
5/20/1798 Josia Cole & Elizabeth Westfall- John -b 3/16/1798
5/3/1801 Josiah Cole & Elizabeth - Leah -b 1/7/1801
5/31/1803 Josiah Cole & Elizabeth Westfall- Noomy -b 5/8/1803
8/16/1807 Josiah Cole & Elizabeth Westfall- Henry 12/25/1805
5/28/1809 Josias Cole & Elizabeth westfall--Moses -b 2/14/1809
Louis - David Dubois

David Cool bpt 1/6/1712 s/o Wm Cool & Catherine Dubois
Eleanor Westfall bpt 10/22/1721 d/o Jacob Westfall & Margrietjen de Luyscher
M-M DRC

10/31/1739	David Cool	Catryntje	Henrick Kuikendall	(md Martynus Kuykendall & Daniel Rosenkranz)
	Lenora Westval		Lisabeth Cool	(md Margaret Mullen)
6/17/1740	David Cool	Josias	Josias Cool	
	Elenora Westval		Mareitje Kemmel	
1/17/1742	David Cool	Margrietje	Cornelis Westfael	(Hermanus Van Enwegen)
	Lenora Westfael		Lisabeth Westfael	
1/20/1745	David Cole	Sara	Williams Cole Jr	(Simon Westfall)
	Lenora westfael		S ara Cole	
9/21/1746	David Cole	Jacob	Jacob Westfael	(Lydia Van Aken)
	Elleonora Westfael		Sara Westfael	
6/21/1747	David Cole	Margrietje	Cornelius Westfael	
rebpt	Leonora Westfael		Lisabeth Westfael	
10/29/1749	David Cole	Benjamin	Jan van Vliet	(Sarah Kimber)
	Eleonora Westfael		Jesyntje Swartwout-wife	
11/19/1751	David Cole	Samuel	Samuel van Vliet	(Jane Davis 2nd Ann Rizer)
	Eleonora Westfael		Johanna Westfael	

MM-DRC 6/2/1759 John Awets W.E.M -b Haretans to Elonara Westval w.e.v -b Maggemeck md
7/20 (both widowers)

8/5/1791 Manuel Westfal-Helenah Decker

12/4/1819 William Vannoy-Esther Westfall md in Upper Smithfield (Pike co Penn)

MM- Peenpack, NY 6/16/1821 Frederick Westfall-Margaret Cuddeback

²⁵²⁴
Jurian Westphael¹, the emigrant married Martije Hansen

²⁵⁴⁶
2 Johannes, married Maritje Cool, daughter of Jacob Cool of Kingston, Jan 26, 1683

Abell, bap. Sept. 25, 1661

✓ Symen, bap. Sept. 30, 1663 m. Neeltje Quackenbos ²⁵⁴⁸

Elsjen, bap. June 27, 1666 ²⁵⁴⁶

✓ Niclaes m. 1st Maria Moontagnje of Mombaccus, April 21, 1701

2nd Zara vanAken of Kingston, Oct. 20, 1712

2 Johannes Westphael² - Maritje Cool (Jurian 1)

³
10 Jurian bap. April 27, 1681 married 1st Christina vanKuykendaal ^B
dies ca. 1731 2nd Maryjen (Maria) Koddebek, daughter of
emigrant Jacob Koddebek

Naretie bap. Aug. 1685

12 Sara bap. May 26, 1691 m. Jacob vanKuykendaal of Menissing 1712

17 Jacob bap. April 23, 1693 m. Margrieta deDuyster, Nov 19, 1717

10 Abel bap. Feb. 9, 1696 m. Antjen Bogaart Feb. 25, 1717

✓ Niclaes bap. May 1, 1698

22 Claertje, born at Menissing bap. Oct. 31, 1700 m. Solomon Preer of Kingston
Sept. 22, 1721

Reymerick bap. June 13, 1708

Lena bap. Sept. 21, 1705 m. Cornelis Devoor of Menissing Mar. 14, 1723

Rachel bap. Sept. 11, 1709

10 Jurian Westphael³ - ²Jurian (Johannes², Jurian¹)
¹Stynijen (Christine) van Kuykendaal

⁴
10 Johannes bap. June 21, 1711 m. Apollonis Kortrecht

✓ Jacobus bap. Feb 8, 1713

10 Jacob bap. June 8, 1715

✓ Jurian Westphael³ - Maritje Koddebek

Benjamin bap. Jan 29, 1718 m. Annetie vanAken

✓ Marretjen bap. Jan 31, 1720 m. Jan vanEtten 1738

106 Daniel bap. Sept. 1, 1723 m. Maria Westbrook (daug. Johannes Westbrook)

Margrietjen bap. Jan 31, 1720

most dates from Kingston church records

- 1677 by J.C. Fryennuth unless otherwise stated
- 3/26/1738 Jan van Netten, j.m -b Nystfield, to Maritje Westfael, jd b Menissinck & 13
both living there wd by Anthony Westroeck, JP 4/13
- 6/13/1743 Simon Westfael jm -d Dutchess co. dwelling Smithsfield Bucks co to Jannetje Westbroeck jd b Mornel dwelling Menissinck md 4/17 by Peter Kuyckendal, JP
- 1/19/1746 Benjamin Thomson jm -b Nieuw Engelant, to Lisabeth Westfael jd -b Machackemech both dwelling there md Feb 9th
- 3/24/1746 Jacob Westbroeck jm -b Gilsford, dwelling Menisinck to Lydia Westfael jd -b Duyiches co. & dwelling Shepponkonck, Apr 11th
- 3/1/1747 Abram van Aken Jun jd -b Nevenack to Margriet Westfael jd -b Montelink, the first living Bucks co. & last at Menissinck md 29th
- 10/11/1747 Cornelis Westfael jm -b Machackemech to Lisabeth Westfael jd -b Sineaquan both dwelling there md 11/20 at Machackemech
- 3/20/1748 Daniel westfael jm -b Machackemech to Maria Westbroeck jd -b Gilsford both dwelling Menissinck md Apr 8th at Machackemech
- 10/30/1748 Abram van Aken widower of Margriet Westfael to Catharina Rosenkranz jd b Rochester both dwelling Theeshacht md Dec 1st
- 12/11/1748 Benjamin Westbroeck Vernoy jm -b Wawarssinck & dwelling Namenak to Lydia Westfael jd -b Machackemech & dwelling there md 1/8/1749 #2162
- 8/27/1749 Joris Kimber jm -b Long Eylant & dwiling on verdroncken lant (Drowned lands) to Sarah Westfael jd -b Machackemech & dwelling there md 10/5
- 5/24/1752 Cornelis Quick jm -b Shippenkonk & dwelling Upper Smithfield to Mary Westfal jd -b Menssinck & dwelling ther md 6/14
- 3/4/1753 Cornelis Westfael jm -d Machackemech & dwelling there, to Grietje Decker jd -b Menissinck & living there md Apr 6th
- 3/31/1754 Petrus Kortrecht jm -b Namenak to Maria Westfael jd -b Teeshact & both dwelling Menissinck md Apr 19th
- 8/4/1754 Abram Kittel j.m. -b Wawarsink to Christina Westfael jd -b Hennisink & both dwelling there md 30th
- 8/25/1754 Petrus Westfael jm -b Machackemech & dwelling there to Arriaentje Rosenkranz jd -b Teeshachte & dwelling there #2522
- 9/29/1754 Juriaen Westfael jm -b Machackemech to Catharina Terwilligen jd -b Wallkill both dwelling Machackemech md Oct 25th

Marriages by Anthoey Van Etten JP

- 4/16/1757 Benjamin Van Vliet jm -b Pinpek to Johanna Westval jd -b Sidneyaequan & both dwelling there
- 7/23/1757 John Lyde jm -b Penselvane to Arriyantie Rosenkrans widow -b Tyscbag & both dwelling there md Aug 19th (widow of Peter Westfall) KBI
- 7/16/1757 Johannis Wesval widower of Ploni Cortregt to Marigrita Queck widow of Johannis Van Garden both b Manissink & dwelling ther md 9/21?
- 7/6/1758 Dirck Van Etten jm -b Namenock to Husye Westvae -b Pekeepsingh & both dwelling there md 8/11
- 6/2/1759 John Awts widower -b Haretans to Elonara Westval widow -b Maggemek md 7/20 (Awets)

By Rev Thomas Romeyn

- 12/7/1764 Petrus Hoogtaling-Sarah Westvaal
By Rev E. V n Bunschooten
- 12/21/1785 Daniel Westfaal-Marla Westbroeck
- 4/6/1786 James Westfall-Catj van Campen
- 5/7/1788 *Sara Westfall
- 5/14 Josias Cool-Rosina Westfall
- 5/5/1787 Henry Westfal-Margret Brinck
- 1/24/1788 Petrus Swartwout-Jannite Westfal
- 10/10/1788 David Westfal-Jacamyntic Cuddeback
- 2/8/1789 Samuel Westfall-Anny Lane
- 6/16/1789 John Van Aken-Grietie Westfall
- 8/5/1791 Manuel Westfal-Molenah Decker
- 12/19/1791 Ruben Westfal-Tyatie Culkendal
- 4/27/1794 Daniel Cortrecht-Plomy Westfall
- 12/20/1795 Henry Van Etten-Maria Westfal

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From the Kingston NY bapt & marriage records of the Old Dutch Church (R. R. Hoes, NY 1891) & Minisink Valley Reformed Dutch Church Records (Dol. of NY Gen & Bio Soc. Vol V 1900)

I. Juriaen van Westphalen came to America from Leyderdorp (near Leyden), Holland in 1642. He first settled at Rensselaerwyck (now Albany, NY). Nothing has been discovered about Juriaen's parentage. The "van" in his surname was soon dropped, & the spelling in the records varied with the passage of years, depending on how the different Dutch domines & English officials wrote it down: Westvall, Westvael, Westphael, Westvael, Westphal, Westfall, etc. But so far as can be learned, Juriaen was the only Dutch colonial immigrant of that name, however spelled; & all present day Westfalle, Westphala etc of colonial ancestry in this country are his descendants. (???)
Juriaen Westvael (Dutch spelling most often used) was a farmer. In 1654 he, along with some former tenants of the van Rensselaer patroonship, bought a tract of land in the Esopus region of the Hudson Valley, about half way between Fort Orange (Albany) & New Amsterdam (NY)

Sometime within the next 6 years, Juriaen married Maretjen Hansen. Due to the remote frontier conditions & the disruptions caused between the Indians war which swept over the Esopus community, the church records before 1666 are very meager, so not all the baptismal records of Juriaen's children have been found. Subsequent records & the customary family associated of names among baptismal sponsors, give obvious proof that Juriaen Westvall & Maretjen Hansen had 6 children. Juriaen died probably in 1669.

Children & Juriaen Westvall & Maretjen Hansen:

- a. Nicolaus bpt Kingston?
- b. Johannes, bpt Kingston?
- c. Rymerick bpt Kingston: md Thomas Quick
- d. Abel bpt Kingston Sept 25, 1661
- e. Symen bpt Kingston Setp 30, 1663
- f. Elsjen bpt Kingston June 27, 1666

a. Nicholas Westvall (Juriaen¹) was -b sometime between 1660 & 1670 probably in 1664. He md (1) Marytje Montagne at Kingston, & by her had one child, Jurian bpt Kingston My 10, 1702, which apparently died in infancy. After the death of his first wife, Nicolaus md (2) Oct 20, 1712 Zarah van Aaken, bpt Kingston Feb 12, 1681, d/o Marinus van Aaken & Pieternelle des Prez. Their chn:

1. Peterrella bpt Aug 30, 1713 Kingston; md Nicolaas Schoonhoven
2. Juriaen bpt Sept 23 1716, Kingston (he -b Machamech-ams)
3. Maria bpt May 24, 1719 Minisink
4. Elizabeth bpt Nov 18, 1722 Minisink md Benjamin Thomson Feb 8/1746 Minisink
5. Lydia bpt Jan 16, 1726 Minisink md Benjamin Westbrook Vernoy at Minisink
6. Petrus bpt Minisink? He was born after his parents moved to Machackemeck (Port Jervis) probably between 1726-1730

Notes: During the century after immigrant Juriaen Westvaal's death, & under English rule, the settlers pushed deep into the wilderness, thru the Namakating & Neversink valleys to the Delaware & established a Dutch frontier community around where NY-NJ & Penn now join at Port Jervis. This region under the Dutch colonials was called the Minisink, after the island headquarters there of the Minisink Indians. In time, three DRC were organized in this area: one at Machackemeck (Port Jervis), the other 2 further down the Delaware on the NJ called Minisink & Walpeck churches. Since the marriage & bapt records of all 3 churches have been published together, no distinction will be made here in referring to each, but all will be included in name Minisink

V
DECKER FORT
HOME OF MARTINUS DECKER
BURNED BY BRANT'S RAIDERS
JULY 20, 1779. REBUILT 1793
HEADQUARTERS OF JOHN B. JERVIS
1826-1828

#3220
The above sign at 127 W. Main St., Port Jervis, is one of the many historical signs erected in this area by the Minisink Valley Historical Society a few years ago and calls attention to the old, familiar landmark known as the Decker Fort and The Old Stone House which occupies the site of a previous structure erected some years previous to the Revolutionary War by Frederick Hayne, a native of Holland. He came to America about 1760 and had a trading post at this place where he did a thriving trade with the Indians. That it was also a military post enclosed in a stockade, of dimensions sufficient to house several families, is attested by the fact that in these troublesome times families of nearby settlers sought its walls for protection, according to the History Of That Ancient Trail by Mrs. Amelia S. Decker. On page 82, she describes the Decker Fort as a rude structure of logs, mud and stone with a thatched roof which provided shelter for half a dozen families besides that of its owner

That it was enclosed by a stockade is borne out by workmen excavating for the roadbed of the Port Jervis Traction Company, the Electric Light and Power Company, and also in digging a cellar for an adjoining building where they came across remnants of logs which formed the stockade.

Frederick married Catharina Dekker, a daughter of Peter Dekker and Magdaalena Oosterhout who came from Kingston and were the first settlers of Deckertown, now Sussex, N.J. Peter and Magdaalena had a family of 12 children, one of whom was Martinus who later became owner of this property. According to an article published in the Port Jervis Union, May 26, 1893, in which data on this place was given by Rev. S. W. Millis, pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, 1857-1871, and President of the Minisink Valley Historical Society from the time of its inception in 1889 until his death which occurred in 1902 and others who had known the people who lived at this place, the original building was a blockhouse constructed of logs after the fashion of other log houses, the crevices between the logs being filled with an improvised mortar and the roof composed of saplings ingeniously wound and twisted together and covered with those of a larger growth, the interstices being filled with gravel covered with a thick coating of clay. This rendered it impervious to the elements and to fires caused by flaming arrows, spears, darts etc. It was a favourite tactic with the attacking forces of Indians to set the roof on fire and thus drive the occupants out in the open. Loop holes for ventilation and defensive purposes were located at chosen spots in the building.

Frederick and Catharina had three children of record: Margaret bap. 1759, Peter bap. 1760 and Huldah born 1761. Margaret, when a girl in her teens, was abducted by an Indian while playing near her home. He was taking her to the river nearby where another Indian waited with a canoe when young Wilhelm or William Westfall, who was on a scouting trip, arrived on the scene. He killed the Indian who had hold of Margaret, but the one by the canoe escaped while William was reloading his rifle. He secured the canoe and returned Margaret to her home unharmed.

The trading post and buildings were destroyed and burned July 20, 1779 when a large war party of Tories and Indians raided this section of Minisink which was called the Lower or Over The River Neighbourhood, a name given to the area east of the Neversink (Then the Magheckemach) River from the present site of Huguenot to what is now Port Jervis. Frederick, his wife and family being notified of the raid, escaped by crossing the river and fled to New Jersey and to Wantage where they settled. They left behind a trusted negro servant to bury the family valuables as the Indians did not harm a black man. The year following

the raid, 1780, William and Margaret were married. He was a Captain of militia during the Revolutionary War and they afterward settled at Papakating in Sussex County. Their children baptized at Macheckemach were Cathrina bap. Oct. 29, 1780, Altie bap. Sept. 6, 1781 and Lidia bap. Apr. 20, 1784. Two other children, Nancy and John, were born Sept. 27, 1795. Their births are recorded in the Clove and Smithfield Church records, indicating that they were born in New Jersey. After his death, his wife received a Revolutionary War pension. Tradition states that she was blind during the later years of her life.

Title to the property of Frederick and Catharina Hayne, as previously stated, soon after the war, passed to Martinus, a brother of Catharina, for he rebuilt the old home, using stone for the walls of the entire building. The work was completed in 1793, according to the inscription on a large, smooth block of bluestone mounted in the gable on the north end of the house, on which is inscribed in quaint lettering

M.D. & M.D.

C.D. Maso.

A.D. 1793

Martinus was a Lieutenant of militia during the Revolutionary and French and Indian Wars. He is buried in the Old Macheckemach Cemetery on lower East Main St. opposite the Jersey Ave. School. Inscription on his gravestone states

1733 Martinus Decker departed this life April 24, 1802.

Martinus married Jenneke, daughter of Johannes Dirks Westbroek and Sarah Tack who came from the Kingston area and settled at Woodbourne, Sussex Co., N.J. Johannes and Sarah had 4 children whose births are recorded in Macheckemach Church records. They were Petrus, bap. June 29, 1760, Johannes bap. Apr. 27, 1765, Richard and Jenneke bap. Sept. 23, 1747.

The children of Martinus and Jenneke were:

Peter, bap. June 29, 1760; Sarah, born 1762, married Martin Caskey.

She died July 23, 1796 and is buried near her father.

Johannes bap. Apr. 27, 1765 married 1. Sarah Lambert 2. Mary Turner.

Richard who married Caty Brink

Martin who married Huldah Coykendal in 1812. He died in 1829.

The farm of Martinus consisted of 2 parcels of 124 and 41 acres respectively, according to his will recorded in the Surrogate's Office in Goshen, N.Y. His wife, Jenneke, must have died previously, for in the will he bequeaths to his wife, Mary,

His moveable estate, household furniture, horses, cows, sheep, hogs, fowls and "What Not" and likewise her hunting saddle. His real estate was given to his sons, John (Johannes) and Richard, sons-in-law Martin Caskey and Martin Decker Junior.

The property later came into the possession of John Kent, who occupied the dwelling and, in 1819, sold it to Benjamin Dodge and Stephen St. John for \$5000. A year later, Dodge disposed of his one half interest to Stephen St. John for \$2500.

The new building erected in 1793 was first occupied by Martin Junior and family who lived there for a number of years and, in 1810, Richard succeeded to the occupancy of the building, at which time Samuel Stickney conducted a crude grocery business there. In 1820, Stephen St. John took possession and lived there until 1836, when he built a fine residence along the mountain where Cornelius Cuddeback III now resides. St. John resided there until his death.

The old landmark was the headquarters of John B. Jarvis during the construction of the Delaware and Hudson Canal and later came into the possession of a Mr. Youmans. It has changed hands many times since. In 1865, John Cannon purchased it and later sold to a Mr. Patrick Noonan who, with his family, occupied the dwelling for some time.

The newspaper article of May 26, 1893, describes the building thus:

The Wilhelmus or William Westfael mentioned in the September newsletter, who married Margaret Hayne, was the son of Zymen or Simon Westfael born 1718 and died April 21, 1805. His wife was Jannetje or Jane Westbroek baptized at Kingston Jan. 10, 1720. They lived on what is now South Maple Avenue, Port Jervis where Simon, in 1755, had a grist mill, several houses, barns and other buildings on the brook known then, as now, The Mill Brook. There were other mills along this stream, one just below where the Steeney Kill enters this brook about 1 1/2 miles below Tri-States. A few years ago city employees at this site uncovered some of the masonry of the old mill. Many people still remember the mill operated by the Cox family which was built across the stream and derived its power from that source and later by electric power. The old building was destroyed by a spectacular fire some years ago and C. J. Marion constructed a large stone building on the site occupied until recently by the Chevrolet Sales and Service Agency.

The mill, houses and other buildings of Simon and Jane were destroyed in Brant's raid of July 20, 1779 and all members of the family forced to flee. They had a son, Simon or Simeon, who married Sarah Cole and lived on the homestead. When Sarah heard the Indians were coming, she hastily buried some of the family valuables in a cornfield nearby. Included was a pair of shears, a prized family heirloom and which were a rarity in those days. After the Revolutionary War, she and Simeon moved across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania opposite the homestead of Simeon's father. There they erected a stone house along the river which is still standing. The reef of rocks in the river was called Sim's Clip in memory of Simeon. Sarah's parents, David and Eleanor Westfall Cole, lived there for a number of years.

Successive owners were Col. Samuel Fowler, Simeon Westfall (Grandson) and Oliver Dimmick who kept a hotel and a ferry in upper Matamoras in the middle 1800's. He acquired the ferry across the Delaware River built by Simeon Westfall, a grandson of Simeon and Sarah, whose father David Westfall owned at one time, nearly all of the present Matamoras and lived on what is now Heater's or Christian Hill, later to be the site of the County Alms House and the home of the VonKarner family who at the time of World War #2 had a factory on lower Jersey Ave. (location the present Grand Union Market) and manufactured flares and signalling products for military and commercial use. The site of the home of Simeon who built the ferry is that of the old building on the river bank just above Driller's Brook.

David and his wife, Jemima Cuddeback, had a large family, the youngest of whom was Sarah, born March 29, 1802. She married James W. Bennet who lived at Tri-States on a part of the land previously owned by Sarah's ancestors, Simon and Jane Westfall. The old house was on the easterly side of the brook and was burned by the Fire Dep't of Port Jervis a couple of years ago as a fire hazard. At one time, the site was thriving farmland. James' son had this to say about his father's wedding, and the events which followed: "The day following the wedding, my father came for his bride and the vehicle was a two-horse lumber box wagon with a spring seat. The wedding procession to the groom's home was the said wagon with the bride and groom on the spring seat, the groom driving and the body of the wagon piled high with choice feather beds and pieced bed quilts, filled in with wool instead of cotton, homespun blankets and blue and white bedspreads, linen sheets and pillow cases, tablecloths and coverings etc. woven by the bride, churn, tables, the tops of which when turned over revealed a seat. The bride carried on her lap a mirror with quaintly carved frame; Biblical characters painted on the upper portion of the glass and the whole surmounted by Cherubim carved in the wood. She also carried a large family Bible, leather bound, for daily use in the new family and for the keeping of family records. Following the wagon were the bride's father and mother and one of her brothers driving a small herd of cows and a number of sheep. This was the visible dowry of the bride as a daughter of a well-to-do farmer. There was a gathering of the numerous wedding

guests at the home of the groom that night. Numerous guests, from the fact that naturally they invited their relatives and that included about all the old families in this portion of the Delaware and Neversink valleys. This reception at the groom's house was called an "Infair".

The people of that time were unanimous in opinion for proprieties and ceremonials. The minister was a most reverent gentleman and at his pastoral visits all the members of the household gathered to give grave but most courteous greeting to hear him read the Scriptures and the prayer invoking the blessing of God on the household. A part of the ceremonial, not to be overlooked, was the offering of cake and wine or whiskey to the Dominie. (This was over 100 years ago).

When a death occurred in the family, two young men were selected to go on horseback through the valley and invite the people to the funeral and only those invited attended the funeral. On the day of the burial, these same two young men stood in the outer hall and offered everyone a drink of wine or whiskey. One held the decanter and the other, the glasses and a pitcher of water. Friends, for a considerable distance up and down the valley, were expected for dinner. These customs have not been in vogue for nearly a century. Church observances were equally strict. Every old Dutch family was represented Sundays at the Old Mackechemach Church and ordinarily the head of the family was there and sat in the front end of the pew. In those early days, they usually had morning and afternoon services with a long noon spell for the people to eat their lunches and visit. The church was not heated and many brought metal foot stoves filled with hot coals and all were welcome at the home of Cornelius Cole, who lived nearby on the present Cole St. In winter, the worshippers at church were warmly clad, their clothing being of homespun woolen. The men's clothing was made by a tailor who visited annually the homes in the valley, cutting the garments from cloth woven by the women of the household of wool, sheared from their own sheep and dyed in their own dye pots. The women usually made their own dresses of Linsey-Woolsey, woven by themselves, but wore silk dresses for state occasions made by a seamstress who visited their homes. The stockings for winter wear for both men and women were knit by the women and the stout calfskin boots were made from skins of animals raised on their own farms and sent away to be tanned. A shoemaker made annual visits and fitted them out for the year. My mother said they were very choice of those fine calfskin shoes and in the summer time carried their linen stockings, fancy open work, as at present, and shoes in their hands until near the church.

The older generation had their share of fun also. As above stated, members of the Westfall families that lived in Pennsylvania had to ford the river to get home from church or use the ferry. One of them was a young man in his early manhood and to him a certain spinster in the congregation took an especial liking much to his disgust. She was so eager to get married that the young men avoided her, but on one Sunday afternoon after the services in the Mackechemach Church she insisted on riding home with him and meeting his folks. He explained to her that the mare he was riding was tricky and would not carry double, but all to no avail. So he helped her up on the saddle cloth behind the saddle and they started for the river, she with her arms around him lovingly.

All went well until the ford was reached not far from his home and he told her to hold fast for the mare was getting nervous. About midway across, in the deepest water of the ford about up to the mare's belly, he dug his heel in the mare's flank and her heels came up and both riders landed waist deep in the river as he put it "like a pan of milk from off a top pantry shelf." The mare ran away and they both waded to shore, she saying some vigorous things about "That Mare". He escorted her to his home to get a change of clothing. She returned to the New York shore by the ferry.