

William Cool was the first Deacon in the Consistory of the Machackemeh Church of whom we have any record. His name appears in 1741. In 1742, he was one of the committee to raise money for building the Church. In 1745, he was chosen Elder and in 1746, he is recorded as the oldest Elder in the Consistory. His signature written "William Cool" appears in connection with that of Jan Kortrecht, Jan Van Vlied, and Abraham van Camp signed to the celebrated letter sent by the consistories of the Minisink Churches to the Rochester Church, rebuking the latter for having made a call to their minister, the Rev. J. C. Freyenmoet, whom the united churches had educated.

William Kool, Cool or Cole, as his name is variously written, appears to have been one of the most active and influential men in the new settlement. He was the third largest landowner in what is now the Town of Deerpark, according to his assessment in 1739. He was born in Ulster County, probably at Marbletown, about 1689, and was the youngest son of Leendert (Barentse) Kool and Marritje Cornelis. His wife was Catryntje Dubois, by whom he had ten children. Their baptisms all appear on the Kingston Books, although the entry of a daughter, Maria, is given as having been baptized at Minisink in 1734. The names of the children baptized and the dates of their baptism are: David Jan. 6, 1712; Johannes Feb. 21, 1714; Elizabeth Oct. 21, 1716; Josias Feb. 8, 1719; Benjamin June 25, 1721; Catrina Jan. 19, 1724; Willem June 26, 1726; Sara March 2, 1729; Maria June 18, 1734; Corneliaatje May 4, 1737.

The first son, David, is no doubt the person referred to in Gumaer's History Of Deerpark, as one of the families who first settled on the farm of the late Thomas and Levi Van Etten. (The present Willis Simpson Jr. Farm at Black Rock 1967). This David Kool married Lenora Westfall and their daughter, Sara, married Simon Westfall. Their daughter, Margretje, married Harmannus Van Inwegen.

The Holland ancestor of the Kool family was Jacob Kool. His son, Barent Jacobsen, emigrated to America before 1605, and married Marritje Leenderts, and his name and that of Leendert Kool first appears in New Amsterdam Records 1630 and 1633. Their son Jacob Barentsed Kool married Marritje Symons, and they resided at Kingston. They had eight children of whom the fourth, Leendert (Leonard) was baptized Dec. 1, 1647. He married Marritje Cornelis and resided at Marbletown. Of their seven children Harmanus, baptized 1681, probably settled in Montague or Sandyston Township, New Jersey, and Willem or William baptized 1689 came to what is now Deerpark and is the person about whom this article is written.

September 20, 1745.

The following persons were received as members of the "Low Dutch Reformed Church" in the presence of William Cole, Elder of Mackackemeh, David Cole and Allenora Westfael, his wife.

David Cole was the eldest son of William Cole (Kool) and Catryntje Dubois, and was baptized at Kingston Jan. 6, 1712. He was the fifth generation from the emigrant Barent Jacobsen Kool whose name first appears in the records of New Amsterdam in 1630. Allenora Westfael, the wife of David Cole, was probably the daughter of Jacob Westfael and Margrieta De Duyster who resided near the present Black Rock in the town of Deerpark. She was baptized Oct. 22, 1721 as Elenora. He was chosen as an Elder of the Machackemeh Church in 1746 and his name is attached to a resolution at that time ordering that all the money of the Church of Magheckemach may and shall be put out to interest at five percent.

Dominie Freyenmoet's name also appears on the resolution. The children of David and Eleanora and the dates of their baptism were: Catryntje May 30, 1738 married Martynus Kuykendal, Josias June 17, 1740, Margrietje Jan. 17, 1742, died in infancy. Sara January 20, 1745 married Symen Westfael and resided in the Old Stone House in the lower part of the present Matamoras, Jacob Sept. 21, 1746, Margrietje June 27, 1747 married Harmanus Van Inwegen of Peenpack, Benjamin Oct. 29, 1749 and Samuel Nov. 18, 1751. In later issues of Church Life are given records of descendents of the Cole Family.

The homestead of William and Catryntje was the present site of Cole St. in Port Jervis. The site of Cole's Fort, according to Sauthier's map of 1779, was about the intersection of the Present E. Main St. and Jersey Ave. where the present school stands. Here, a historical plaque states the date of the place. The Old Macheckemach Cemetery is located nearby. From the location of the gravestones and the direction in which they point, the Church must have stood about in the center of the present highway.

The fort was probably a stockaded enclosure as were the other forts in this area. That they were efficient, is attested to by the report of Joseph Brant who raided the valley July 20, 1779. In this report, he stated that "He was hindered in his efforts by the many stockades into which the settlers were always ready to run like woodchucks." He was unable to take the one at Fort Van Auken after laying before it for a couple of hours and losing two men in the engagement.

He burned the Cole Fort, the Thomas Dekker Fort which stood two miles to the northeast and the Martinus Dekker Fort, the location of which is marked by the present Stone House in West End of Port Jervis. This building, still standing and in good condition, is the only building in the area marking the site of a fort. Remnants of the posts which formed the stockade were uncovered when tracks were laid for the Port Jervis Trolley System in the late 1890's.

The Twin Mountain peaks above Port Jervis were named for William Cole and Peter Kuykendal whose homestead embraced the location of the present Elizabeth Street. Mount William is the southerly peak and the street below leading from Washington Street to East Main Street also bears the name of Mount William.

Omitted in the December issue was the name of Mrs. Julia W. Totsworth, 44 Vernon Ave., Hamburg, N.J., who contributed the Tietsoort data which appeared in the Newsletter of that date. We extend our sincere appreciation for her assistance.

*We
Welcome
as
new
members*

RICHARD WALKER, Port Jervis, N.Y.
MRS. SARAH M. WALLACE, 165 No. 1st West Salt Lake City, Utah
H. D. WILLIAMS, 205 Penn. Ave., Matamoras, Pa.
MRS. ELLIS B. WAINSCOTT, RD #4, Dixon, Ill. 61021
MRS. H. K. MOODY, 1322 W. 98th St., Los Angeles, Cal.
DR. C. RALPH LETTEER, 730 N. Main Ave., San Antonio, Texas 78205

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY is extended to the families of our deceased members:
Mrs. Mary Britting, Huguenot, N.Y.
Mrs. Lee Labar, Huguenot Rd., Port Jervis, N.Y.
Mrs. Lester Woolsey, Elizabeth St., Port Jervis, N.Y.

The section of Route #84 from Smith's Corners to Tri-States has been completed and affords one of the finest scenic displays in the East. That of the Delaware and Neversink valleys is entrancing, particularly in the autumn when the leaves of the forest are in full colouration.