

NOTES ABOUT OUR IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR, CAPTAIN JOHN HUNTER

The Immigrant, John Hunter, was born 1666, the son of Peter and Ann, of East Collingwith, Aughton Parish, Yorkshire, England. His biographical sketch from the "two Hundredth Anniversary of the old St. David's Episcopal Church", Radnor, County of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and a record of being a vestryman at the same time, 1725, as his friend, Anthony Wayne, also a record of his burial in the church-yard of the Church appears; (GS 974.S14/R1 K2p, pp. 278, 346) JOHN HUNTER, son of Peter and Ann of Yorkshire, Yeoman- from Wicklow Co., Ireland and to Newtown about 1722 with Isaac and Anthony Wayne, Landowner, Delaware Co., Newtown. It is also stated in this book that the foundation of the church was laid May 9, 1715.

Captain JOHN HUNTER'S father was a prominent member of the Established Church of England. They lived in a time of bitter conflict between members of the Catholic, which had held supreme power in Europe for several centuries, and those who wished to purify the doctrines and practices of the Catholic faith, who were called Protestants.

Upon the accession of King James 11 to the throne, he moved to Rathdrum, Wicklow County, Ireland, to escape observation. John was then about twenty-one years of age. Mary then became Queen of England, ruling jointly with her husband, the former William of Orange. Their armies followed the fugitive, James 11, into Ireland. John Hunter joined the Protestant Army, joining the Seventh Regiment of Horse, in Jan. 1689 at Newcastle.

The Earl of Marlborough led the forces of William and Mary. John was married between Jan. and Aug. 1689, in Derbyshire, as his regiment, known as Coy's Horse, were enroute to Liverpool.

They arrived in Ireland Aug. 1689, shortly after the seige of Derry (Londonderry), in which a wealthy member of the family, Captain Henry Hunter, had fought. They resided at Londonderry until at least the end of 1690, when the Corporation of Derry's 1690 Commission was prepared, on which John and Margaret's signature are to be found. Both he and Captain Henry Hunter, and his life-long friend, Captain Anthony Wayne had fought at the Battle of the Boyne River, in Meath Co., Ireland, July 1, 1690. John was Cornet in cavalry of King William's Army. On the return of Coy's Horse to England in 1692, John Hunter remained in Ireland with his family, in the Fifth Royal Regiment of Irish Dragoons.

1693: Captain of same horse troop. He left for France that year.

1694: Both Captain John Hunter and Captain Anthony Wayne served at Malphaquet, 2 Feb 1694. John became Quartermaster that year. They also took part in the seige of Namur, and were two of the British Grenadiers who freed the city of Namur, (which event is commemorated in a famous song.)

1695: Quartermaster, Also a Quartermaster in Ireland in 1702 First Troop. He was commissioned Cornet Nov. 1702; Lieutenant 24 Feb. 1708, First Troop, Brigadier Ross's Regiment of Royal Irish Dragoons. Six Troops of above regiment were employed beyond seas, and the remaining two troops in Ireland in 1702. This regiment served beyond seas, and the remaining two troops in Ireland in 1702.

1704: This regiment served under Marlborough at Blenheim in 1704 and throughout the remainder of Marlborough's campaign. (The battle of Blenheim was later immortalized in a poem by Robert Southey). John was wounded at Blenheim in the hip which caused a slight lameness the rest of his life. The great battle of Blenheim, a town on the River Danube, was fought against the French and Bavarians. It was a famous victory, but 37,000 lives were lost.

1706: Served at Ramillies.

1707: Served at Oudenard.

1708: Lieutenant to an additional troop in the same regiment 34 Feb 1708.

1713: John Hunter to be Captain of Foot, 9 June 1713. Marlborough was dismissed with disgrace that year and the war across the seas, in which John Hunter fought, ended the treaty of Utrecht.

The first engagement immediately above the battle of Boyne made the strongest impression on Captian Hunter, for it was the one remembered among his descendants. At this time he was a standard bearer in the cavalry of the English Dragoons, who fought against the Irish Dragoons. (Irish Catholic rebels under the command of the fugitive King James 11). Its outcome was the final decisive defeat of James 11 and the Catholic cause in England.

From the beginning of his reign, James 11 (1685-1688) had been determined to restore Catholicism to England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland. The English parliament was determined that all England would remain Protestant. So they plotted to bring William of Orange, the leader of the Protestant forces in Europe, to come to their rescue. William was also offered naval and military support in his efforts to prevent the return of Catholicism to the Low Countries, the Palatinate, and the Germanic peoples. William of Orange came to England in 1680. James' army revolted and he fled to his Catholic cousin Louis XIV in France. The English parliament was now in full control. They rewrote the

Sutus (?) remarks, that they were the ancestors of the Faltons, whose history belonged to Northumberland, rather than to Durham. Their arms are two lions passant, within tressure (border) or (?) of (?) Scotland are of peculiar beauty. They occur on Hilton Castle, and on Bishop Hadfield's tomb, Medomsley being held by Mead money for payment, and not by knights services. It does not take much position in the story of the Episcopal franchise. No one connected with it occurs in the list of Durham knight present at the battle of Lewes, and there is reason to think its owners were absent for considerable period, at all events substantial evidence is found in it from early time. Among these one of the most interesting was William the hunter, who married a woman of the Darrienes of Whittonstal. His ancestors appear in the early court rolls of the manor and whose relationship to each other is now difficult or impossible to define. One family eventually became owner of the manor itself, after it had passed from Falton by blood to Hastings; from Hastings by sale to the wealthy Carrs of New Castle and from them by sale to the well-known Ducks of Durham from the heirs of Lady Duck it was acquired through purchase by the ancestors of General Martin Hunter. G.C.M.G. He was the gallant, youthful Lord and Father of the Hunter commemorated by his brother officers in Durham Cathedral, The Carrs lived at Medomsley, as a country seat; Their old house was opposite to the pleasant acres of Anton Hill. A scion of these Hunters was prominent in the early days in the Quaker persecution. The Lords figured with those of Greencroft, in the throwing out of the first attempt to enclose Lancaster Common, claiming Medomsley fell along the boundary. The Hunters of Morninggate as superior residence; now known as Medomsley Hall. Its boundary H Lane keeping up the ancient association, have successfully held the inheritance which by blood is now in the Allgoods, Dr. Christopher Hunter, the eminent antiquary was of the Morninggate family. Another antiquarian member of the family made a sort of duplicate parish register, describing a member of a third Hunter family as Crafty Hunter. Craft's descendants are unknown, but his lands were sold to the Lords and retained his name, as were those of Allendale. 1 Allendale was the predecessor of a fourth stock of Hunters, who settled in Northumberland and whose representative committed himself irrevocably in the Rebellion of 1716, but who made his escape. An Andrew Hunter, owner of other lands, seems to be meant by the letters A.H. on an ancient gravestone in the churchyard. On the corbeiled heads of its chancel, we see the same rare arrangement which we find at Lancaster church. The work, like that of Lancaster, is of the early 13th century, but was not altered when Lancaster church became collegiate. In 1283 the mother church of Lancaster had to be adapted to the new constitution. The unaltered church of Medomsley church is of a singular elegance, and is pronounced by Billington to be a little early, English gem. It was built in 1280 and is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene. It may be attributed to the owner of the estate living at the time of Bolden Book, or his immediate successor. It seems to have suffered much from inroads of the Picts and Scots. None but Hunters are buried there.

Medomsley is in the west division of Chester ward and north division of Durham County. It existed as early as 1185 A.D. It is about ten miles by water from Gateshead, and about twenty-five miles west of Newcastle, a seaport at the mouth of the Tyne River. The Hunter estate comprising two thousand acres was granted to them for special service to the king. The manor house, known as Medomsley Hall was still standing in 1902, and in good condition. It was kept as a country seat. It is near the old Roman wall built about A.D. 121-211. It has been in possession of the family since 1584. Many prominent names of the family are recorded in the Medomsley church; Sir Thomas, Sir John; Sir William; General Martin Hunter; and a long list of others. Some were proprietors of the mine. Several old families of Hunters have for many generations dwelt in the valley of Derwent, and were all more or less intermarried with each other. Thomas Hunter, about the end of the century, married

Margaret Layton, heiress through her mother, of the family of Alanshields of Alanshields. A century later, quite a small clan of the Hunters were resident up and down the valley, but principally at Medomsley. Here in 1675 was born Dr. Christopher Hunter. Ref. "Memorials of old Durham," by Henry R. Leighton, P.249. Oscar F. Hunter, son of the 3rd Presiding Bishop tells--A deed, of the early part of the 13th century gives an incident of family history which may inliven the dryness of legal and territorial details. A landowner, by the name of Richard (of Durham Liber Vitae, p. 101. 'Richard cum loccis, his wife Matilda, their sons Robert, Alan and William, and their daughter Beatrix and Cassandra) to whom, in order to distinguish him from other people of the name, the addition of 'cum lockis' was made. We can picture him and perhaps have known persons whom the cognomen would fit), lived on the hill on the opposite side of Derwent, within sight of Whittonstall, at Medomsley. He had married a widow, apparently an heiress, called Guenilda, and had a stepson William. William, who had married Ysabella, the granddaughter(neptis) of Bernard de Hareines, had given her a dower, a third part of Medomsley, which was confirmed by Richard 'with the locks, and his wife Quenilda. Richard had granted probably before then, with the consent of his wife and William, her heir, fifteen acres of land in the field of Medomsleia, nearest to the land of Ebbecesterdene, towards the west, to the almoner of the convent of Durham. The gift was confirmed by Guenilda's son, who calls himself in the deed, 'Willelmus filius Willemi ventoris' and on the seal 'Willemus de Medemeleie' (Dur, Treas, No.3. The seal is round, 1 3/4 inches in diameter, with the device of a hunting horn slung by a strap and with the legend Sigill Willelmi de Medmeslei. Medomsley has been for centuries, and still is in possession of two branches of the family of Hunter, which can scarcely be a doubt, descend from William the Hunter and his mother, the heiress Guenilda. Ref: "A history of Northumberland," p. 181. Thomas Hunter, about the end of the 14th century, married Margaret Layton, heiress through her mother of the family of Alanshields of Alanshields.

OUR EMIGRANT PROGENITOR, CAPTAIN JOHN HUNTER came to America with his family in ;1722. He brought with him a number of families of Redemptionists. These Redemptionists were bound to him until they had earned their freedom by certain years of personal labor in his service. He also brought materials and tools for building. John's daughter Mary had married William Hill and emigrated to America in 1717. He decided to join this daughter. Anthony Wayne, was a life-long companion of John Hunter. He and John came over in the same ship. They settled in the same county. The old Waynesborough Farm, the old Wayne Mansion at Paoli, is now occupied by the fifth generation to bear the name William Anthony Wayne. Ref: the Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan.1939 John Hunter, with his family first went to Downington, Chester Co. Pa. about twenty-five miles west of Philadelphia. At that time, this place was so far from settled parts that his wife was unwilling to remain there, and the place was given over to his son John. The elder John bought a large part of the Daniel Williamson estate, a tract of 1,000 acres in Newtown Square, Chester Co. Pa. about twelve miles from Philadelphia, taking title Mar. 17, ;1723, whereon he settled and passed the remainder of his life. Captain Anthony Wayne was the grandfather of General Anthony Wayne of the Revolutionary War. He commanded a troop of horse at the Boyne Water. Captain Anthony Wayne and John Hunter were vestrymen and perholders together in St. David's Episcopal Church at Radnor, Dealware Co. Pa. in 1725. It was build in 1715. It is one of the oldest in Pa. and the East. It has been rebuilt preserving the original pleasing lines, and style of archi-

ecture. It is still being used. It is constructed of stone, and is beautifully landscaped with large trees, shrubs, vines, etc. It is a shrine which is visited each year by many tourists. Within the building, the family pew, which was shared by the Wayne family may still be seen, marked with their names—John Hunter died in April 1934. He is buried near a James Hunter, whose wife was Hannah Hunter. His grave is to the left of John Hunter's grave. To the right is one of Anthony Wayne, John and James, his son, were church wardens, the latter being a warden, 1748-1768-69; and a vestryman

in 1738-81.	William Hunter, vestryman	1739	
	John Hunter, Sr.	"	1794-97, Warden 1798-8121
	John Hunter, Jr.	"	1838 " 1820-40
	John G.	"	1725

Delegate to Diocesan Convention 1821-39

Mary Hunter participated in some activity in 1845

Ann	"	"	"	1845 and also in 1857
George	"	"	"	1785.

The inscription on John Hunter's tombstone reads, "In Memory of John Hunter who departed this life Apr. 1734, in the 67th year of his age." This monument erected by his his son James. About two score of Captain John Hunter's descendants are buried

in this graveyard.

Jan. 1, 1939 was the 194th anniversary of the birth of General Anthony Wayne, one of the most colorful of Revolutionary war heroes. Known as "Mad Anthony," because of his reckless bravery at Stony Point, and other battles. He later proved cautious, resourceful and patient, in conquering the Indians of Northwest Territory. Wayne was born in Easttown, Pa., and educated in Philadelphia. Although his bones were cremated in his own kettle, the legend persists that every year Wayne rises from his grave, mounts his steed "Nancy" and dashes up and down the highways of Paoli, Pa., brandishing his sword. This was the scene of a massacre during the Revolution. So vividly has this spectral sight of Anthony's ghost played upon the imagination of the natives, that the police have often been called in.

A famous old drawing depicts Wayne, though wounded in the head, gallantly leading his troops at the storming of Stony Point, on the Hudson, July 16, 1778. His reckless daring so inspired his men that they won a glorious victory. This triumph won him a gold medal and the thanks of Congress.

At Wayne blockhouse, on the shore of Lake Erie, Erie Co. Pa. the general died of the gout, Dec. 15, 1796. Here also is his original grave. At his request he was buried at the foot of the flagstaff of the fortress. His bones were dug up at the request of his son, Isaac in 1809 and boiled in his own kettle. After which they were buried in old St. David's Churchyard, where a monument is erected. Thousands visit his shrine yearly. His other earthly remains are interred in his original grave. Ref: "The Philadelphia Inquirer. Jan. 1, 1939.

Descendants of both Captain John Hunter and Captain Anthony Wayne were destined to serve their country in a military capacity. John's sons, James and Peter fought in the French and Indian War. James was a Captain in Colonel William Moore's regiment, Chester Co. Pa., troops, while his grandsons, John and James, sons of the above James served in the Revolution. John was a captain of the 4th co., Sixth Battalion, Chester Co. Associate Sarah, great granddaughter of the emigrant, John Hunter married William R. Van Leer, he was a great grandson of the emigrant Captain Anthony Wayne. Their grandson, Isaac Wayne Van Leer was mortally wounded in the Battle of Seven Pines in the Civil War.