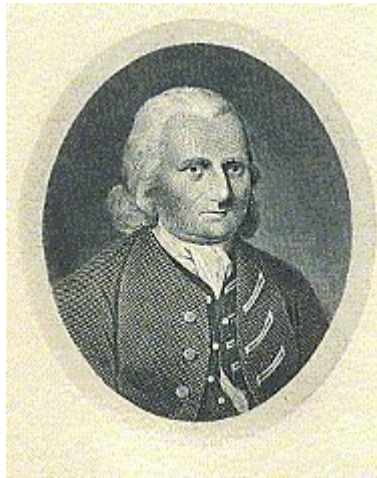


The Colden Family of Early America

The Coldenham Preservation & Historical Society has been formed in the Town of Montgomery to assist in preserving the home of Cadwallader Colden II, son of Alice and Cadwallader Colden. This structure is known as the stone castle, located on Rt 17K in the eastern part of the town. Other organizational goals include conducting research and providing education regarding this wonderful family.

Visit the society's web page here → <http://hvanaken.com/colden/>

This essay provides a brief overview of the accomplishments of the Colden family of colonial America, including their remarkable children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The main purpose of this document is to focus on the Colden family and will only briefly mention medicine, science and the official roles that this family played in colonial and post-war American affairs.



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Chapter 1 – Alice and Cadwallader Colden: The Early Years, an Introduction to the Coldens

Cadwallader Colden was the son of Rev. Alexander Colden of Dunce, in the Merse Berwickshire, Scotland. All of his ancestors were, to a degree, Scotch, but he was born in Ireland, his mother being on a visit there on February 7, 1687, when he was born. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh, funded by his parents with a view that he would minister in the Church of Scotland. He studied under the famed Regent, Dr. William Law, who taught his students many subjects, including the physics principles of Sir Isaac Newton. Colden graduated in 1705 and he then went to London to study mathematics, chemistry, anatomy and medicine before leaving for the American colonies in 1710 as a medical doctor. At this point, he resided with his aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Hill, in Philadelphia, widow of John Hill.

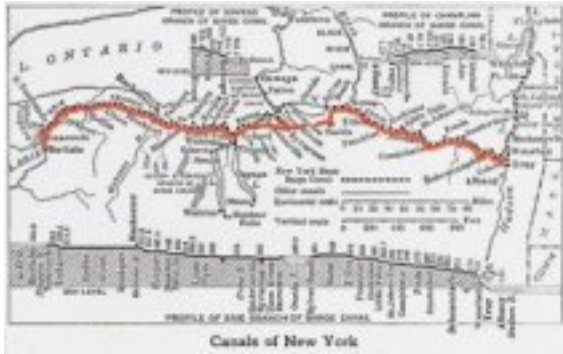
In 1715, he returned to Great Britain, where he quickly became known as a natural philosopher, even having presented a paper to the Royal Society, entitled *Animal Secretions*. He became acquainted with other “men of learning” in the fields of mathematics and science, including the famed astronomer and geophysicist, Dr. Edmund

Halley, who was the first to plot the orbit of the comet that was eventually named in his honor. Halley liked Colden's paper to the Society, having read it several times. The new scientific and mathematical environment suited Cadwallader Colden quite well but he knew that his future would lie in America.

On the 11th of November 1715, Cadwallader married Alice Christy at Kelso, Scotland. She was born on January 5, 1690 and was the daughter of a clergyman of that place and university educated in a manner befitting her status as such. One year later, they departed Scotland for America and he resumed the practice of medicine. He met James Logan, who originally came to America in 1699 as secretary to William Penn. Logan later made a fortune in real estate and fur trading. Logan liked Colden and he wrote a letter of introduction to New York Governor Hunter on his behalf. In 1718, Dr. Colden visited New York and called upon Governor Robert Hunter "as was usual for strangers to do" and he delivered Logan's letter. Colden stayed in New York only three days but was specially invited several times to the Governor's house. After Cadwallader and Alice returned to Philadelphia, he received a letter from Governor Hunter, inviting him to return to New York with his family to accept the offer of a Provincial office of profit. Upon his arrival in New York, he petitioned for a patent of 2,000 acres of land lying in the County of Ulster (now Orange), and the patent was awarded April 19, 1719. The following February, Governor Hunter issued a warrant to appoint Cadwallader as Surveyor of Lands and his Commission, with a seal that bears the date April 16 following.

The favorable view of Colden was continued by Governor William Burnet, who assumed office in September 1720, and on the 26th of the following November, recommended him and James Alexander to the Lords of the Trade as his Majesty's Counsellors. This was a committee designed to regulate mercantile trade in the colonies and this appointment was a high honor, and it tied Colden's name to Alexander's, which was to Colden's advantage, since Alexander was so highly regarded as a lawyer and statesman in the colony. In 1722, he was appointed to the Provincial Council, taking his seat in that body on May 30th of that year.

Cadwallader Colden made several trips to upstate New York as part of his surveying duties. He toured the lands of the Iroquois that lay between Albany and Lake Erie in northern New York. He noticed, as only a surveyor might, that this section of the province was particularly well suited for a canal to connect Lake Erie and the other Great Lakes with the Hudson River. He saw that the natural waterways could be enhanced to permit heavily laden boats to travel in both directions. He also recognized the economic benefit that America would realize if this new transportation feature was built. In 1724, Colden prepared a formal memorandum regarding the canal proposal and he presented this personally to Governor Burnet. It would take over a century, and the efforts of a Colden grandson, for Cadwallader Colden Sr.'s dream to become reality, as this essay will indicate. He built America's first canal on his



own farm. During his travels through the lands of the Iroquois, Colden became acquainted with the various tribes (nations) and their customs. He was especially interested in the Iroquois notions of democracy, which he fancied such that he wrote the first edition of the *History of the Five Nations* in 1727, with the second edition following by twenty years. This was America's first history book and it was widely read in America and in Europe, where any account of Native Americans was cherished. The Iroquois also liked the book once its content was made known to them since a good understanding of the Iroquois customs and policies would lead to a better line of communication and better understanding between the Natives and the Dutch and European settlers. The eastern-most nation in the Iroquois Confederacy, the Mohawks, adopted Cadwallader Colden and they gave him a Mohawk name, Cayenderonque. This was considered a high honor and Colden would become a true resource for colonial officials' understanding of Native American affairs.

Colden soon petitioned for another 1,000-acre patent, which he named Coldenham, today a hamlet in the Town of Montgomery, and he directed considerable energy to improve this wilderness in preparation for moving his family there. Colden cleared the land, cut wood, plowed fields and built a home and some outbuildings. The first entry in the

Colden *Farm Journal* is dated August 15, 1727 and it contains several detailed accounts of the harvest of that year. Cadwallader moved his family, Alice and six children, to the Coldenham farm early in 1828 to a home located on current Maple Avenue, just a short distance from the highway on the left side on the current Tin Brook stream. This would provide a healthy environment for the entire family, far from the unsanitary and unsafe city life of colonial New York.

During the period that followed, Cadwallader Colden would travel extensively due to his Provincial duties. It was his wife, Alice, who would run the family, operate the Coldenham farm and educate the children in language, mathematics and morals, which were a very important part of an education during that period. Both Alice and Cadwallader were almost uniquely equipped to meet the challenge of educating their children since both were university educated, an almost unheard of family situation in early America, but especially unique in the backwoods wilderness that was Coldenham. Both Alice and Cadwallader were also the children of clergy, which enhanced their attitude toward the moral behavior of their children. The following chapter will discuss how Alice and Cadwallader addressed the task of acting as educators.

Chapter 2 – Education of the Colden Children

In a 1749 letter to Benjamin Franklin, Cadwallader Colden said: *“It is a common argument that the power and strength of a nation consists in its riches and money. No doubt money can do great things, but I think the power of a nation consists in the knowledge and virtue of its inhabitants and, in proof of this history, everywhere almost shows us that the richest nations abounding most in silver and gold have been generally conquered by poor but, in some sense, virtuous nations. If riches be not accompanied with virtue, they on that very account, expose a nation to ruin by there being a temptation to invade them while luxury, the usual consequence of riches, makes them an easy prey”*.

Cadwallader was engaged in many intellectual pursuits like medicine, physics, mathematics and the wonders of the natural world. He would train his son, David, in the fields of physics and medicine, which resulted in Cadwallader to



view David as a medical doctor, capable of caring for the large family in his absence. Cadwallader also trained his daughter, Jane, in the scientific field of botany and he nurtured lavish gardens at his home. Colden accounted for 141 local plants, recording their value as herbs or spices and he sent his package to the great Carl Linnaeus of Sweden, who published this in 1743 as *Plantae Coldenhamiae*. Cadwallader also taught surveying and farming to his son, Cadwallader II (or Cad as the family called him). Each of these efforts proved to be successful as this essay indicates.

As earlier indicated, Alice Colden had the responsibility of running the family farm and educating each of their ten children. She would have managed to assign farm and household chores to the members of this growing family. Each child would have to work quite hard in this frontier farmstead in order for the family to succeed in providing food, clothing and shelter to all. This was a daunting task and, even when her husband was home, she still bore this responsibility. During the long periods when Cadwallader was absent from Coldenham, he and Alice would exchange letters. Alice could report on the health of

the children and the progress in their education. Cadwallader, in his own view as head of the household, offered advice to Alice on matters pertaining to the farm and the family.

To Mrs. Cadwallader Colden

May 6th 1736

My Dear

I have the Pleasure of yours by M^r Galatian wherein you tell me of your good health & of the Civilities you receive from your Friends & tho' I long to see you again I would not have you deny your self the Satisfaction you have in their Company & the Diversion it must give you after a tedious Solitaryness in the Country. We are all in perfect good health except Caddie who about an hour since was suddenly taken with a violent head Ach & Vomiting but is now a sleep & I hope it will be over when he awakes You see I do not keep any thing from you as you do to me but I tell you plainly how things are & which I think the best way to remove anxiety.

He seldom criticized Alice but on one occasion, he was angry that Alice might have withheld information about the health of one or more children in order to ease his worry while away from home. This May 1736 letter excerpt from Cadwallader to Alice shows how he scolded her for not being entirely truthful with him on like matters. He uses twelve-year-old

Cad (Cad II) as an example. Cad was with his father in Albany during this trip. Cadwallader noted how young Cad had a bad headache but was sleeping as the letter was being written. He notes how he keeps nothing from her and admonishes her to do the same. This was a rare disagreement between these folks but illustrates the difficulty of communicating in the early years when news of a child's ailment might be relieved even before the letter was delivered. Alice would obviously prefer to allay Cadwallader's anxiety while he was traveling and unable to directly deal with the problem.

The letters between Alice and Cadwallader are filled with discussion about their children. Topics include their health, education and moral standing. These letters are similar to the many letters that crossed the Atlantic among the extended family that included both sets of parents and the siblings of Cadwallader and Alice. These letters, too, are filled with particulars about the children on both sides of the ocean and they exude joy upon learning about a success or sadness upon hearing of ill health or, especially, the passing of a child. It is clear that the entire family held precious care for each member and this is particularly noticed when viewing the detailed questions, especially about the children, posed in virtually every letter. Good news certainly provided much joy. Cadwallader's father, the Reverend Alexander Colden, was particularly pleased to learn that Sandie (Alexander) was reading quite well at the age of six. The only departure from home schooling in the Colden family was the sophistication that Alice and Cadwallader wanted for their children in an urban environment. This included having groups of the children spend several weeks in New York City to study dancing, art appreciation and other subjects not easily taught in Coldenham. Alice, most often, would accompany the children to the city and she would act as chaperone, closely monitoring all activity.

It is clear that the Colden children were, one way or another, going to acquire the many skills they needed to advance as adults and that they would also acquire the moral fiber so necessary for them to be perceived as virtuous individuals, capable of being trusted and admired in the uncertain world of colonial America.

In this 1743 letter to her father, Cadwallader's married daughter notes the good council that he, and obviously Alice, provided in her education. Writing from her Westchester home, Elizabeth illustrates that she is ready to educate her own children in proper behavior, manners and morals as well as the communication skills of the day. This is characteristic of the manner in which the Colden children viewed the special care that their parents devoted on their behalf. The letters between the children and to/from their parents always reflect a high caliber and deep respect.

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From Mrs. Peter De Lancey

D^r S^r [March 24, 1743?]

Thursday last I had the pleasure of yours & my Mothers & Sister Alys & by Nox, I could'nt help being agreeably mov'd to find you testify your affections so strongly to me in your rejoicing at the account my last brought you It shall be my endeavour allways Sir to follow the many good counsils I have receiv'd from you & to endeavour what lays in my power not to forfeit any share I have in your affections which I esteem a very great blessing to injoy

Alice and Cadwallader Colden did not stop teaching when their children became adults. This was a lifetime effort and it extended into the lives of the grandchildren as well.

Alice and Cadwallader often visited with their grandchildren and they would, at every opportunity, share their perspectives about proper behavior and moral thinking.

If you can at this approaching time of life preserve the good habits acquired by your mother's care of you, you never will afterwards loose them. It was for this reason that I desired you to write to me on that subject that you might more carefully recall, to your memory the instructions you have received and have them more strongly impressed on your mind. I am exceedingly well pleased with both your letters because they shew that you have attended to what you have heard and read but you have not taken entirely the purport of what I proposed to your mother for the subject of your letters.

This letter was written by Cadwallader to Ann and Alice, daughters of Elizabeth, his daughter. It is extraordinary in that Cadwallader had originally asked each girl, then in their teens, to write to him in a manner that identifies the virtues that they learned through the teaching of their mother. Cadwallader shows approval of the letters from the grandchildren but he also scolds them

for not completely understanding his original request. This oversight is interesting and it shows the deep respect that

these children demonstrated toward their grandparents. As you will see in this essay, these efforts by Alice and Cadwallader were not in vain.

When Cadwallader II (Cad) was seventy-four years old, he wrote that his mother, Alice, was a “*well educated lady*” who “*was a capable as most women, giving the brightest example of virtue and economy*”. The contributions of Alice and Cadwallader to the proper development of this fine family would be felt for several generations to follow.

Chapter 3 - Children of Alice Christy and Cadwallader Colden, Sr

Alexander – born August 13, 1716 in Philadelphia and he died in December 12, 1774 at age 58. He married Elizabeth, second daughter of Richard Nicholls, Esq. of New York City. Richard Nicholls (variations of the name exist, Nichols, Nicolls, etc). Richard Nicholls was the grandson of Captain Mathias Nicholls, a kinsman of a seventeenth century Governor of New York. Elizabeth died March 4, 1774 at Springhill. Both were buried in the family vault in the Trinity Church yard. Alexander was appointed Ranger of Ulster County in 1737 when Montgomery (Hanover) was part of Ulster. He also operated a store in Coldenham at an early age and by 1743, Alexander owned a Newburgh store, wharf, sailing ships and the first mill on the Quassaick Creek. He dominated Newburgh commerce and he operated the first ferry to New York City and Fishkill, across the Hudson River. He became a very wealthy man. In 1751, he was appointed joint Surveyor General of New York and he became acting Surveyor General when his father became acting governor in 1761. He also became Postmaster of New York and vestryman at the prestigious Trinity Church in NYC. Alexander’s will is dated September 24, 1773 and he gave valuable rings and considerable funds, horses, pistols and other property to his children, brothers and sisters and other relatives, including his brother-in-law, Dr. William Farguhar, widower of his sister, Jane. The children of Elizabeth and Alexander Colden are identified later in this document.

Elizabeth born February 5, 1721 (Edwin Purple’s book indicates that Elizabeth’s birth date is 1719) – On January 7, 1737, at age 16, she married Peter, the third son of Stephen and Ann (Van Cortland) DeLancey. The marriage license was dated January 7, 1737 or 1738. Peter’s family was one of the wealthiest and best known in America and his mother was the daughter of the first Mayor of New York City to be born in America, Stephen Van Cortlandt (see summary below). Peter was born August 26, 1705 and he resided at Union Hill, West Farms (a sizable estate in Westchester County) where he represented the borough of Westchester in the NY Colonial Assembly from 1750 to 1768. Elizabeth’s Westchester property was seized by the Continental Army and used as a hospital during the war. Later the British captured the home and used it as the command post of General Heister, commander of the German troops. Her husband died on October 10, 1770, before the war and Elizabeth died soon after the war, in 1784, in Coldenham at the stone castle, living with her brother, Cadwallader II and Elizabeth Ellison Colden. The children of Elizabeth and Peter are identified later in this document.

Peter’s ancestor was Steven Van Cortland who was a French Huguenot born at Caen in Normandy on October 24, 1663. He fled his country to avoid religious persecutions that followed the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and he arrived in New York on June 7, 1686 where he engaged in mercantile pursuits and soon became one of the most noted and wealthy merchants in America. His store was located on the northeast corner of Broad and Pearl Streets, and his residence there during the latter years of his life was on the west side of Broadway, a short distance above Trinity Church. The children of Elizabeth and Peter De Lancey are identified later in this document.

Cadwallader II was born May 26, 1722 and died February 18, 1797 at Coldenham – Cadwallader II would technically be the third son of Cadwallader and Alice since a younger brother, David, died as an infant so there were actually two David’s. He married Elizabeth Ellison (born 1725, died July 10, 1815, aged 89) in 1745. Elizabeth’s father was Thomas Ellison, very prominent person who was one of the first settlers in Orange County. In 1847, Samuel Eager (Orange County’s first historian) wrote that Thomas Ellison had sloops that sailed to New York and beyond. Thomas Ellison allowed George Washington to use his stone mansion house (Knox’s Headquarters today).

Later Generals Horatio Yates and Henry Knox would stay at the Ellison home. During this period, Thomas Ellison stayed with his daughter, Elizabeth and Cadwallader II at Coldenham in the stone castle. Cadwallader II served at the first Supervisor of the Town of Montgomery along with his father in law. He held several judicial positions on the Ulster Court of Common Pleas and he was very prominent as a vestryman in the church at St. Andrew's. Cad also served as an officer in the local militia for twenty years and he was instrumental in building block houses along the Shawangunk Ridge for the protection of local farmers from Indian attack during the French and Indian War. This strategy proved to be a success and it resulted in saving the lives of many farmers in the remote region to the west of the Wallkill River. Cad's militia service ended in 1775 when he held the rank of colonel. During the Revolutionary War, Cadwallader II claimed neutrality and he was arrested by the New Windsor Militia, suspected of being a Loyalist, since his home militia in Hanover (Montgomery today) refused to arrest their former commander. The New Windsor folks were stirred to action by the Reverend Robert Annan who formed a church (Seceder Presbyterians) in Little Britain based on total intolerance of other religions. Rev. Annan saw Cadwallader II as the perfect target since he was from a prominent family linked to the British government and he was also an active member in the churches of St. George's and St. Andrews, viewed as Anglican and tied to the Church of England. Cadwallader II was instructed to report to several Safety Committees over a period of several years. He was often sent home since it was apparent that he was no threat. He was finally banished to New York City for the duration of the war for his own safety. He sought and received an appointment to the position of Commissary of Prisoners for the British. Shortly after his appointment, he was able to negotiate a prisoner exchange that freed hundreds of men on both sides of the conflict. He was instrumental in caring for prisoners on both sides of the conflict, often providing his wife, Elizabeth, with information about their neighboring patriots held in British prisons, including some New Windsor militia who had been instrumental in his arrest. He also interceded on behalf of Loyalist neighbors like William Bull, of the Hill Hold Estate, who was being held by the Continental Army in Fishkill. Elizabeth was able to freely travel between Coldenham and New York City to see her husband. This privilege was rare and it is a testament to the high regard she had with notables on both sides of the conflict. His role as Commissary was a non-combatant and humanitarian position, which earned him the right to return to his farm and family after the war. Elizabeth and Cadwallader II cared for many members of the Colden family, after the war, including the children of his siblings, as if they were their own. They split the estate such that the children and grandchildren could care for their own families through farming and hard work. In 1795, Cadwallader II said to his wife, Elizabeth: "*We have now lived together above fifty years, and I believe, no fifty years were spent happier by any other pair*". He died February 18, 1797. The children of Elizabeth and Cadwallader II are identified later in this document.

Jane (known to her family as Jenny) – born March 27, 1724 – She was America's first lady botanist whose scientific accomplishments were known throughout America and to several naturalists in Europe. She Married Dr. William Farghuar on March 12, 1759. Her only baby, identified by Ancestry.com as William Jr., died soon after birth. Jane was an incredibly gifted botanist/scientist at a time when ladies were not presumed to be capable of serious scientific thought. Many published works report Jane's accomplishments that she achieved in the primitive, rural environment of her home in Coldenham. Without even one day of formal education, Jane became known and respected on the International stage for her serious and ingenious contributions to the scientific field of botany, a field of science that helped promote enhanced health and nutrition throughout the world. To read more, go to <http://www.catskill.net/purple/jane.htm> to purchase a wonderful book on Jane.

Jane died March 10, 1760 at age 36 (some earlier reports that Jane died in 1766 were not correct). Her husband, Dr. William Farghuar, died in May of 1787. Among her many heralds is the following from the highly respected London merchant and budding scientist, Peter Collinson, writing to the famed Swedish Botanist Carl Linnaeus, as follows: "*I have lately heard from Mr. Colden. He is well, but what is marvelous his daughter is perhaps the first lady that has perfectly studied your system (ed: plant classification). She deserves to be celebrated.*"

It is certainly correct that national and international praise for Jane's accomplishments is long overdue.

Also see this blog by Lori Van Houten, dedicated to investigation and research about Jane.

<http://lookingforjanecolden.blogspot.com/>

An exceptional, scholarly article about Jane Colden, entitled *What Jane Knew*, was written by Sara Stidstone Gronim, Journal of Women's History - Volume 19, Number 3, Fall 2007, pp. 33-59

Also, please see Brian Altonen's web site, which is dedicated to science, medicine and history. The site contains considerable detailed information about the contributions of the Coldens, including Jane.

<http://brianaltonenmph.wordpress.com/>

Alice – born September 27, 1726, (Purple indicates her birth date was 1725) Married Colonel Isaac Willet. Her husband was a Loyalist who left his wife and fled to England after the war.

This postscript is from a letter from William Markham, Lt. Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, to Alice

P.S. I beg you'd Remember my Love to all the Children but Especially to M^r Jenny & M^r Elsy, if I were Certain of Returning I wou'd not part them or you as I did. it is now Saturday and I have not Seen the Sun Since Munday

[Addressed:] To M^r Alice Colden
att
Coldenham

Colden (wife of Cadwallader, Sr.) dated July 14, 1739. Mr. Marham asks that Mrs. Colden should remember him to her children, but especially Jenny (Jane) and Elsy (Alice), then aged twelve.

Children of Alice and Isaac Willet are:

- William who died very young
- Youngest daughter, Ann, married her cousin, Thomas, son of Cadwallader II.
- Son, Gilbert (b1755 d1831), He married Susan, the daughter of Robert Murray of Murray Hill, NY. Gilbert was a captain in Delancey's Third Battalion in the British Army. The wedding between Gilbert and Susan was delayed for four years because he was ordered to North Carolina with his regiment. Upon his return, he and Susan planned to marry although it was obvious that Susan's wealthy father would object since he was involved with the war and that would be risky for his daughter. The couple went to old Trinity Church, one afternoon in May, and were married in secret. Upon learning this, the father was angry but soon became adjusted to the situation because he so loved Susan. Soon after this. Gilbert would resign his commission in the British Army and he would engage in business with this new brother-in-law, John. At this point, the couple lived at the fabulous family mansion at Murray Hill. Their neighbors included Baron von Steuben who acknowledged Susan's great skill as a chess player. A friend of the Baron's, the great Thaddeus Kosciusko (Feb 4, 1746-Oct 15, 1817) challenged Susan to a chess match. He was Polish and was brevetted as a brigadier general for his service in the American Revolution. Susan easily won the match and Thaddeus then said: "*Madam, Kosciusko bows at your feet and acknowledges you his conqueror*". Kosciusko would later lead the 1794 Kosciusko Uprising in his home country against Russia and he became a national hero of Poland, Belarus and Lithuania, serving as Supreme Commander of the Army of Poland. Gilbert would later serve as vestrymen of the famed St. Mark's Church at NYC in 1799. Gilbert and Susan had to downscale their home and, upon moving, were robbed of virtually all their possessions. In 1805, Susan and Gilbert moved to Coldenham and they found the country so pleasant that Susan referred to it as "*content*". In 1808, the cough that Susan had for years finally took her life, aged forty three years. Her final words were: "*Sweet Jesus, take me to thyself*". Susan left three daughters: Alice Wadsworth, Beulah Walden and Mary Ann Tracy. The daughter, Alice, said: "*I frequently contrast my present situation in a snug little cottage in a small town in Connecticut with the manner which I was brought up, with my father's winter and summer establishments, his elegant carriages, liveried servants, sumptuous table, and a polished circle of friends*". Mary Ann married a nephew of the famed American general, William Wadsworth.
- Daughter Alice who married Henry, son of Benjamin Nicoll, famed counselor at law. The father, Benjamin, had married the daughter of the Mayor of New York City and he was instrumental in the founding of Kings College (Columbia today). She received part of a 2000 land tract from her aunt, Catherine (Caty) to be shared with her cousin, Cadwallader, son of Alexander.

Sarah – born in July 6, 1727 – She died June 3, 1729 near the age of 2

We have a good & gracious God which often gives us new strength when we thinke we have none & turnes what we most fear into a great deal of Joy & happiness wth I hope he wil[l] give you in your Little Daughter Sarah I am glad she is Lik[e] to thrive so well & by that time we shall se the Little Strange[r] she will be grown verey Divirting

Upon her birth, it was evident that Sarah had serious medical problems. The image is an excerpt from an August 1727 letter from Mrs. Caleb Heathcote to Alice Colden, Sarah's mother, about the birth and delicate health of baby Sarah. Mrs. Heathcote, named Martha, was the widow of the Caleb, who served as Mayor of New York from 1711 to

1713. The Heathcote estate was located where the current Town of Scarsdale is situated. A neighborhood and school in Scarsdale are named in his honor. Infant mortality was a huge problem in the early years and naming successive children the same as recently departed children seemed to be a custom, likely to assist in emotional healing.

John – first Colden child to be born in Coldenham May 28, 1729.

I hope Dear Johnny that aff[ection] has always Subsisted betwen us Since I ha[d the] happyness of calling you Brother will not les-son [b]ut Daily increase I wish I may ever be deserv-ing of the affec^t you are pleased to express for me it gives me the greatest pleasure amaginable to find you are often at my fathers and that you are pleased with there Manner of behaveing to you

At the early age of seventeen, John was running the Coldenham farm when his parents were away, and his father credited him with handling this responsibility quite well. John was considered a gentleman as evidenced by this October 1748 letter excerpt from his sister-in-law, Elizabeth (wife of Alexander). John served as the clerk of the city and county of Albany and he died August 21, 1750 at age 21, unmarried.

Catherine (Catty) born February 13, 1731 – died at age of 31 in June of 1762. She lived at the Coldenham estate for most of her life with a few years living with her brother Alexander and her sister-in-law, Elizabeth, in Newburgh. Unmarried, she divided her 2,000 acres among her two nephews and one niece and she gave another 2,000 acres in the Mohawk Valley to her sister, Alice.



David – born November 23 1733 – Crippled at age 14 due to a severe ailment, thought today to be scoliosis. He served as his father's secretary and as weighmaster of New York.

He married Ann Willet, daughter of his neighbor John Willet of Flushing. L.I on February 27, 1767. She died in 1785 at Coldenham. David's father trained him in the medical field and he was considered the equivalent of a doctor. After his brother's death, David became the Surveyor General until about 1775. He worked extensively with his father and Benjamin Franklin on matters of science, electricity and the natural world. David was interested in the ability of a snake to charm its prey, which he often wrote about. He became Internationally known and respected for his keen experiments defending Franklin's theories on electrical polarity, working from the relative wilderness of early Coldenham. Franklin's ability to conceive the flow of electricity was born upon his acceptance of Cadwallader Colden's physics theories, which held that there were many forms of matter and that matter can behave in many ways. This

enabled Franklin to view the electricity, or the 'elastic fluid' as they referred to it, as one form of matter (electrons) flowing in another form of matter, a conductor. One of Benjamin Franklin's European scientific opponents was Abbe Jean Nollet, a member of the French Royal Society and a leader of a monastery, hence the title, Abbe. Nollet was revered throughout the world and he took particular joy in casting doubt on Franklin's electrical theories, most notably Franklin's theory of electrical polarity. Europeans, particularly the French, believed that knowledge flowed from east to west, or from Europe to America, not the other way. In 1752, Franklin wrote to Cadwallader Colden that he was no longer inclined to respond to the numerous assaults from Abbe Nollet and that he would not respond to the latest letters. David Colden had conducted numerous electrical experiments on his own and he also worked to validate the experiments of Franklin over a period of many years.

Since Benjamin Franklin decided not to respond to the latest scientific assault from Abbe Nollet, David Colden decided to do so on Franklin's behalf. David used a very clever drawing to define an experiment that validated Franklin's theory on electrical polarity. That experiment could be easily repeated in Paris where David's letter was

sent. The leaders of the French Royal Society now had two Americans to deal with on the subject of electricity,

The Abbé Nollet has lately published another Volume of Letters on Electricity, in which he undertakes to support his Principles against the Attacks they have met with from all Quarters. He has sent me a Copy, and another for your Son M^r David Colden. I take the Freedom of forwarding it under your Cover, with my best Respects to that very ingenious young Gentleman, whose valuable Work on the same Subject I am Sorry has not yet been made publick.

With the greatest Esteem and Regard I have the Honour to be

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble Servant
B. FRANKLIN

Hon^{ble} CAD^r. COLDEN Esq^r

Benjamin Franklin and David Colden. Franklin immediately sent David's experiment and letter to Peter Collinson in London to be formally published to embarrass Nollet. In 1760, Abbe Jean Nollet sent two packages of his own electrical experiments to America, as the December 3, 1760 letter excerpt from Benjamin Franklin to Cadwallader Colden indicates (image here). One was for Franklin and one was for David Colden. The great Abbe thus gave significant recognition to David Colden and so did Benjamin Franklin by saying: "*Respects to that ingenious young gentleman, whose valuable work on the same subject I am sorry has not yet been made public*". Franklin was not one to lavish praise where it was not deserved so this letter properly identifies

David Colden among the few who contributed significantly to the science of electricity during the eighteenth century. In 1780, he was appointed Superintendent of Police on Long Island. He inherited his father's Spring Hill estate but that was seized after the war. David was prohibited from reentry into New York after the war and he died in England in on July 10, 1784 while trying to secure compensation for his losses. He is buried the cemetery of St. Anne's Church, Soho, England. Note: There was another David born to Cadwallader and Alice who died very young. Ann, upon hearing about her husband's death, accepted the invitation of Cadwallader II and moved to Coldenham. The children of Ann and David are identified later in the next chapter.

Chapter 4 – The Children of Ann and David Colden (and one grandson)

Cadwallader David Colden: Born on April 4, 1769 in Flushing, Queens, he was with his father, David, in London in 1784 when David passed away. He studied law afterward and later became a successful attorney in New York,



colonel in a volunteer militia regiment during the war of 1812, district attorney in NYC, congressman, NYS Senator, President of the anti-slavery Manumission Society and Mayor of New York City (see the image below of his sculpture on the current NYC Surrogate Courthouse). While mayor, he made civility and safety his main objectives due to his pride in the city's budding sophistication. His first order of business: All those pigs running around! He proclaimed: "*Our wives and daughters cannot walk through the streets of the city without encountering the most disgusting spectacles of these animals indulging the propensities of nature*". Animals were penned up and stiff fines were handed out to butchers who failed to comply. New York was growing fast and many problems like poverty, crime and homelessness were rampant. The New York Society for the Prevention of Pauperism, led by the mayor himself, investigated prison conditions throughout the nation to seek a local

solution. At the time, the state penitentiary, Newgate, lay in today's West Village. One of their findings was the need to separate younger delinquents from the adults being held there. Colden proclaimed about the younger prisoners: "*It must be obvious that under such circumstances it would be in vain to expect that their punishment would improve their morals: it can hardly fail to have a contrary effect.*" The mayor set the stage for an innovative experiment, New York's House of Refuge, in an arsenal at Broadway and 23rd Street, essentially a reform school, built to incarcerate children aged 16 and younger. By the 1830s (long after Colden left office) the House of Refuge would house over 1,600 teenagers. The House of Refuge would be acclaimed by such luminaries of the time as Alex de Tocqueville, Frances Trollope and Charles Dickens, whose own works on such books as *Oliver Twist* helped alert the world to the mistreatment of our youngest folks, whether criminal or just poor. Like many mayors to follow, Colden clamped down on liquor sales, even carrying around a 'red book' to notate violations and citizen complaints.

While he was in the political crossfire between Governor DeWitt Clinton (his friend) and the growing Tammany political machine, he was ultimately deemed a capable mayor and an honest man. He was also considered to be very kind. A reminiscence in the 1843 journal *New Mirror* goes like this: On rainy night, on his way to a dinner party, Cadwallader stepped up to a hackman (a horse and carriage taxi) for a ride. The driver, who had some grudge against Colden, rudely sped away leaving the passenger at the curb. Colden jotted down the cab driver's number and he later summoned him to City Hall. "*Poor Pat (of course he was Irish)*", as the article indicates, went up the City Hall stairs, trembling at the fate which awaited him. When the mayor demanded to know why he was treated so rudely, the driver proclaimed: "*You see, I looked in your face and, faith, you looked so like a jointelman I drove twice before that never paid me, I was just afraid to trust him, agin.*" Colden laughed and said: "*Your wit has saved you this time*" and he excused the driver.

Colden was friend, financier and biographer of Robert Fulton (of steamboat fame). He was very influential in breaking down the political barriers to get the Erie Canal built by 1825 as a member of the NY State Senate and was properly recognized for his actions by being named as one of the fifteen individuals, along with his grandfather Cadwallader Sr., most responsible for the successful construction of the Erie Canal.

His grandfather, Cadwallader Sr., was included at the top of the plaque honoring these fifteen people because it was his idea, a century earlier, to build the canal across the lands of the Iroquois that he had surveyed. This canal transformed America into an economic powerhouse on the International stage. At the 1825 ceremony that celebrated the building of the Erie Canal, Cadwallader David Colden read his grandfather's 1724 memo to Governor Burnet. This memorandum proved to be the most significant document available to gather the political support for the canal, dubbed Clinton's Folly, which was a political broadside against Colden's friend and colleague, Governor DeWitt Clinton. The 1825 Erie Canal celebration was a gala affair, hosted by President John Quincy Adams and attended by tens of thousands from every state in the union. Also there were former Presidents Jefferson, Adams, Madison and Monroe and the last surviving general officer of the Revolutionary War, a Colden friend, the Marquis de Lafayette. All cheered as the Erie Canal Commission plaque was unveiled with Cadwallader David Colden and DeWitt Clinton engraved toward the bottom and with the senior Cadwallader honored at the very top of the plaque, positioned above even George Washington at a time when people were still referring to Washington as 'His Excellency'. Both Coldens were thereby rendered deserving honors for their contributions to America.



Cadwallader David Colden (the mayor) was the Governor of New York Hospital from 1812 to 1827; and one of the earliest and most zealous promoters of the system of internal improvement in New York State. He spent years helping in the construction of the Morris Canal in New Jersey to connect the waters of the Delaware with New York Harbor. Socialite in later years, he was friends with many noted authors, including James Fennimore Cooper. Charles Dickens, likely the most successful author of his time, appreciated Colden's efforts to abolish slavery and to reform the manner in which young folks are treated at public institutions.

On April 8, 1793, he married Maria, daughter of Rt. Rev. Samuel Provost. Cadwallader David died in Jersey City, NJ on February 7, 1834 and his wife died May 10, 1837. Cadwallader David Colden's daughter in law, widow of his son (named David Cadwallader, see just below) donated the Colden papers and letters to the New York Historical Society. Cadwallader David and Maria had one son as follows:

- **Son of Cadwallader David and Maria Colden** (great grandson of Cad Sr. and Alice) was David Cadwallader Colden born in New York on January 9, 1797; graduated at Union College, Schenectady, NY in

the class of 1817. Studied law with his father and was admitted to the bar in 1819. He was one of the Vice Presidents of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents from 1846 until his death; one of the

David Colden is as good a fellow as ever lived; and I am deeply in love with his wife. Indeed we have received the greatest and most earnest and zealous kindness from the whole family, and quite love them all.
Charles Dickens, March 1842

original Commissioners of Emigration from the organization of that body in May of 1847 and President thereof in 1847-8, having been succeeded

in 1848 by Gulian C. Verplack, revered American statesman. He superintended the carrying of the Croton water from Manhattan to Ward's Island, a valuable work that was among the last of his useful services to the Hospital and House of Refuge. As a member of the various public benevolent institutions of NYC, he labored with great earnestness to promote the objects for which they were established, and as Commissioner of the House of Refuge and Board of Emigration, frequently performed his duties in the midst of disease and pestilence, regardless of the personal hazard it imposed. He was always interested in the progress of the Fine Arts in America, and was active in promoting their growth and prosperity. He was eminently social, generous and disinterested in his character – qualities that exacted from a wide circle of friends a full measure of respect and affection. He married Frances, daughter of Charles Wilkes, Esq. of NYC on December 1, 1819. She was

I have sent you, to the charge of our trusty and well-beloved Colden, a little book I published on the 17th of December, and which has been a most prodigious success—the greatest, I think, I have ever achieved. It pleases me to think that it will bring you home for an hour or two, and I long to hear you have read it on some quiet morning. Do they allow you to be quiet, by-the-way? "Some of our most fashionable people, sir," denounced me awfully for liking to be alone sometimes.

born November 27, 1796. He died April 11, 1850. There were no children. In 1842, famed author Charles Dickens (born February 7, 1812, died June 9, 1870) made his famous visit to America. The success of this visit was due largely to the social graces of David Cadwallader

Colden. Colden and Dickens shared a deep hatred of slavery and both advocated social reform, especially for young folks, as did David's father, the Mayor of New York. Dickens wrote extensively about the abuses of children, with characters such as *Oliver Twist* and *Fagin*, to spur public awareness. It was David who arranged the program and the festivities on the triumphant evening of February 14, 1842 at the Boz Ball, which featured 3,000 guests at the famed Park Theater in New York. Dickens entered the hall to the cheers of all with his wife behind him, entering on the arm of David Cadwallader Colden. One month later, Charles Dickens would write to his lifetime friend, William Macready (whom one of his daughter's middle names was derived), the most highly regarded Shakespearean actor of his time, to say that David Colden is "as good a fellow as ever lived" (see image above). In January of 1844, Dickens wrote another of his numerous letters to Macready again and this time (image excerpt above) Dickens notes that he has sent David Colden (presumed to be in England at the time) to visit Macready and that he would be carrying Dickens' latest work, which he had to finish quickly so that it could be printed in mid-December. Dickens also noted that this was "*the greatest, I think, I ever achieved*". The book that David Colden was carrying was an original copy of *A Christmas Carol*, which explains the publisher's rush. It is clear that this Colden, like the rest of his family, was a wonderful person and an achiever of significant note. In fact, he and his wife are truly remarkable in many respects. In October of 1852, David's wife, Frances, presented through Frederick De Peyster, President of the New York Historical Society, a large portion of the Colden papers long appreciated and treasured for the information they provide regarding our early colonial history.

Alice Cristy - Born March 7, 1768, died April 4. 1786, unmarried

Maria Colden Hoffman (Mary) – She was born at Fort George on April 7, 1770. She died February 19, 1797. Aged 10 in 1780 when Gen. Washington danced with her at her uncle's house, Knox's Headquarters, at the beginning of a ball arranged by Mrs. Knox, wife of General Henry Knox, while her father was in exile. An image of the windowpane marked by a French officer appears here. The officer was so pleased at the sight of General Washington, who did not dance, promenading with young Maria that he used his ring to

Sally Garrison
Lydia Hinckley
Maria Colden

inscribe the names of Maria and the two girls who were with her that evening. The pane lasted over 100 years, long enough to be photographed. Note that Gerty Wynkoop was one of the girl's names on the windowpane and she married a David, son of Cadwallader II.

Maria, like her sisters, was raised by Cadwallader II after her father departed for England. She married prominent NYC attorney Josiah Ogden Hoffman, Esq. (April 14, 1766 to January 24, 1837). He was admitted to the bar at an early age and soon ranked among the most eminent members of the legal profession in his native city. He met young Maria while working to settle the estate of Cadwallader II's brother, Maria's father. In 1790, Cadwallader II referred to him in a letter written to his friend, Henry Van Schaack, as being "a young man of the first character and of professional reputation" He was a member of the NYS Assembly in 1791-2, 1792-3, 1794-5 and 1797. He was NYS Attorney General from 1795 to 1802. In 1828, he became one of the original justices of the then established New York City Superior Court, He was City Recorder in 1810-11, and at the time of his death, he was First Associate Judge of the Superior Court. Their children are:

- Ogden was born October 13, 1794 and died May 1, 1856. He pursued classical studies and graduated from Columbia College in 1812. He served for three years in the U.S. Navy and was warranted a midshipman in 1814. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1818 and commenced practice in Goshen but later returned to New York, where he became a partner in a prestigious law firm. He served in the NYS Assembly from Orange County in 1826 and New York County in 1828. He was D.A. of New York County from 1829 to 1835. He was elected to Congress, serving from 1837 to 1841. He was United States Attorney from the Southern District of New York from 1841 to 1845 and New York Attorney General from 1854 to 1855. When the wife of David Cadwallader Colden decided to give the entire collection of the Colden Letterbooks to the New York Historic Society, she said that this gift required approval by Ogden, which he did in June of 1852. His wife was Emily Burrell. He died in New York on May 1, 1856 of congestion of the lungs, aged 62 years, and was buried in St. Mark's Church vault.
 - **The son of Ogden** was Ogden Hoffman, Jr. (October 16, 1822 to August 9, 1891). He graduated from Columbia in 1840 and Harvard Law School in 1842. He practiced law in New York and California. On February 1, 1851, Ogden Jr. was nominated by President Millard Fillmore to a new seat on the United States District Court for the Northern District of California following California's admission as a state. He served in the California courts for over forty years until his death.
- Ann who married Charles Nicholas of Philadelphia. He was noteworthy as a publisher and bookseller and he did some publishing work for famous authors like Washington Irving. Irving was regarded highly all over the world and he is best known for his work on *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and *Rip Van Winkle*. The Letters of Washington Irving note this fine young couple and their arrival in Philadelphia upon their marriage. Their children were Matilda who married Mr. Whitman and Emma who married Mr. Maloney
- Matilda who died unmarried
- Mary Colden Hoffman, who in 1839 married Philip, son of William Rhineland, a descendent of the famous and very wealthy Rhinelanders of New York. Philip was the eldest of the sons of the famous William Rhineland. The Letters of Washington Irving also note this fine young couple. Their daughter, Mary C. Rhineland, married John Aslop King who graduated from Harvard with a law degree in 1835. He served in legal and business capacities in New York for many years. He also served for several years as President of the New York Historical Society, member of the St. Nicholas Society, the Board of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Board of the American Museum of Natural History. There were three daughters of this marriage being Mary R., Alice who married Gerardi Davis, and Ellen King.

Elizabeth (Betsy): She was born on February 25, 1774. Broke her hip in 1784 at Spring Hill and was hobbling about the Spring Hill house with unease for quite a period. In 1784, her mother was running Spring Hill and her father, David, was in England. Betsy married Edward W., son of William Laight. He was born August 28, 1773 and died June of 1852. Spring Hill was eventually confiscated by New York State and Betsy had to move elsewhere. They moved to lands owned by Cadwallader II in Ulster, Now Orange, owned by David. These lands were not confiscated. In settling the land issues, Cad II had the services of his lawyer, Aaron Burr, who would become Thomas Jefferson's vice president and who would later kill Alexander Hamilton in a duel, an act that would seal his political fate.

Elizabeth later moved in with Thomas Colden, son of Cad II, and would become a surrogate daughter for the childless couple.

Catherine: She was born November 20, 1775. She also was raised by Cad II and she later attended school in NYC long after the war. She married Thomas, son of Dr. Ananias Cooper of Rhinebeck, NY Their children are:

- Colden – He was an ensign in the 97th Regiment, 10 Brigade of Infantry in New York and, in 1812, he was aide-de-camp to Brig. General George Izard; resigned his commission January of 1816, Killed in a duel by Mr. Roberts, November 20, 1816.
- Edward who died in infancy
- Alice Ann

Ann: She was born in 1773 and soon died

Ann: Second Ann who died very young

Harriet: Died young

Caroline: Died young

Chapter 5 – The Children of Peter and Elizabeth Colden DeLancey

Stephen: On January 25, 1765, he was commissioned clerk of the City and County of Albany. He married Esther Ryndert of Albany and they had four children: Peter, Elizabeth, Mary and Cadwallader. After the war, he departed with his wife and four children, for Quebec.

John: Married Dorothy Wickham May 20, 1769 (license). Member of the Provincial Assembly from 1768 to 1775 when he was elected to the Provincial Congress where he served one year. His wife died October 27, 1773. One daughter; Ann Elizabeth who became the 3rd wife of Joseph C Yates (1768-1837), Governor of New York from 1822 to 1825. He was born at Schenectady on November 9, 1798 and died same place March 19, 1837. Their children were Mrs. J.D. Watkins of Georgia and Mrs. Samuel Neal of New York. This is an interesting family situation since Ann Elizabeth's husband was the bitter political enemy of DeWitt Clinton, who was closely aligned with Cadwallader David Colden, Ann Elizabeth's cousin.

Peter: Married Emily Beresford. He was a collector under the Stamp Act but resigned under pressure from the Sons of Liberty. He was killed on August 16, 1771 in a duel in Charleston, SC. His opponent, Dr. John Haley, was an eminent practitioner of medicine in the city at that time. No children

Ann: Married Philadelphia attorney John Cox, no children – A notice of this marriage appeared in *The New York Directory* for January 12, 1786 as follows: “A few days ago was married, by the Reverend Benjamin Moore, John Cox, Esq., brother to Mr. Cox and eminent merchant in this city, and in company, Mr. Ramsay to Miss Anna De Lancey, daughter of the late Peter De Lancey of Westchester. Anna De Lancey was the daughter of Peter De Lancey and Elizabeth Colden who was the daughter of Cadwallader Colden. Elizabeth Colden De Lancey made her will September 12, 1782, which was proved October 12, 1784, by which she gives Ann De Lancey, then unmarried, and makes her Executrix of her will; as such she sells a lot of land on Water Street, NYC, to Lewis Ogden.”



Alice: She was born in 1746; she married Ralph, son of Henry Izard of South Carolina. Marriage license dated April 27, 1767. She was remarkable in her youth for her great beauty and the amiable qualities of her mind. In 1771, she accompanied her husband, who inherited a sizable fortune, to London. They settled in France in 1777, and the same year, Mr. Izard was appointed by the Congress Commissioner to the court of the Grand Duke of Tuscany (central Italy). In 1780, he returned to America, his family joining

him in 1783. He was a delegate to Continental Congress from South Carolina from 1780 to 1783 and a U.S. Senator from 1789 to 1795 and for a short time he was President of the U.S. Senate. She died in 1832. He was born in 1742 and died May 30, 1804. This 1775 portrait of Ralph and Alice was painted by John Singleton Copley.

Their children include:

- George who was born in Paris on October 21, 1776. George graduated from the College of Philadelphia (now the University of Pennsylvania) in 1792. He attended military schools in England and Germany and he received military engineering training in France. He served as an aide-de-camp to Alexander Hamilton and as an engineer at Fort Pinckney. He also served in a diplomatic position in Lisbon, Portugal for a time. George was an American Brig. General in March of 1813 and Major General on January 24, 1814. George Izard was in charge of U.S. land forces protecting Lake Champlain in 1814 until ordered to reinforce the Army of Niagara. He was Governor of the Arkansas Territory from March 1825 until his death, due to the complications of gout, at Little Rock on November 22, 1828. He was originally buried in an unknown location but, in 1843, his body was moved to the historic Mount Holly Cemetery in Little Rock. Izard County, Arkansas is named in his honor. His original artillery unit still exists as the 1st Battalion of the 3rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment.
- Anne (born 1779), married Alan Deas (1764 to 1863), died in NY on January 17, 1862. They had one son, Charles Deas, who became famous painting Native Americans and fur trappers in the mid-19th century. He traveled westward in 1840 and he closely studied Native Americans regarding their manners and customs. The artist's works made him quite famous while he was alive and his paintings were on sale at places like the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and the American Art Union.
- Ralph born February 26, 1785 at Charleston, S.C.), who was a naval hero of Tripoli in the first Barbary War.



Ralph Izard volunteered and took part the expedition, under Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, commanding the ketch *Intrepid*, which entered the harbor of Tripoli on February 16, 1804 and destroyed the captured U.S. frigate *Philadelphia* (illustrated here) in what Lord Nelson, famous British naval officer, called the most daring act of the age. The World War II ship, *The USS Izard*, was named in his honor. Ralph's wife, Eliza Pinckney, was a niece of Arthur Middleton, and the daughter of Major General Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (February 25, 1746 to August 16, 1825), who was an early American statesman of South Carolina, Revolutionary War veteran and delegate to Constitutional Convention. He was twice named, by the Federalist Party, as their presidential candidate but he lost both races. He was Minister to France from 1796 until 1797 under Presidents Washington and Adams. His great-grandson was Charles Manigault Morris (May 7, 1820 to March 22, 1895), was a famous naval lieutenant for the Confederate Navy in

the Civil War. Morris's great-grandfather was Lewis Morris, an American landowner from Morrissania, NY who signed the Declaration of Independence as a delegate to the Continental Congress from New York.

- Charlotte who married William Loughton Smith (a son of South Carolina Assemblyman Benjamin Smith). William was also a brother-in-law of South Carolina Congressman, Issac Motte December 8, 1738 – May 8, 1795). Motte was an American colonel in the Revolutionary War and he represented South Carolina in the Continental Congress from 1780 to 1782.
- Sarah who married Lord William Campbell (ca. 1731 to September 4, 1778). He was from a Scottish family loyal to the British Crown. His father was John Campbell, 4th Duke of Argyll. Sarah and William returned to England in 1764 where he became a member of the British Parliament, representing the family seat of Argyllshire. In 1766, he was appointed Governor of Nova Scotia, a position he held until 1773. In June of 1775, Campbell became the last British Governor of South Carolina, a position for which he lobbied hard because his wife was from there. After his departure from South Carolina, He was wounded by a large splinter while aboard Sir Peter Parker's flagship. He never recovered and he died two years later.

Elizabeth: Unmarried

James: He was, for many years, High Sheriff of Westchester County and, in 1777; he was colonel of a regiment of loyalist militia of that county. The same year, he was made captain of a troop of light horse, consisting of fifty private men selected from the militia by Gov. Tryon. This group was composed of the “elite” of the county, but were better known to the American Army as Cow Boys on account of the free use they made of the cattle in that part of the county in supplying the British Army with beef. After the war, he went to Nova Scotia and, in 1797; he was a member of the council of that colony. He married Martha Tippet of Westchester and died at Annapolis, NS in 1809. She died same place in 1827, aged 73. They had children in Nova Scotia.

Oliver: He was born in 1750 and he was an officer in the British Navy but resigned his commission during the Revolution because he was unwilling to fight against his native country. He lived at West Farms, Westchester where he married Rachel Hunt (1767-1827) of that place. He was removed from the family estate after the war and given a severe whipping as a reminder that he was not to return since the family estate was to be confiscated. He died September 4, 1820. She died January 6, 1827, aged 60. Their children were Elizabeth, Julia, Susan, William A., John and Oliver who died November 22, 1819.

Susanna married Thomas H., eldest son of the Rev. Henry and Maria Barclay on October 2, 1775. The following notice of her own and her sister’s marriage is copied from the Rivington’s Gazette of Oct 5, 1775: *On Monday evening last were married at Union Hill in borough of Westchester, John Watts junior Esquire, recorder of this city, to Miss Jane DeLancey and Thomas Barclay, Esq. to Miss Susanna DeLancey, daughters of the late Peter DeLancey Esq.*, Thomas H. Barclay was born in NYC October 12, 1753, graduated Kings College in the class of 1772, and studied law in the office of John Jay, Esq. and was admitted to the bar. In 1776, he entered the British Army and in February 1777 he was appointed Captain in the Loyalist American Regiment of New Yorkers. In 1780, he was made Major in a corps of Light Infantry with which he served in Virginia and Carolina, was taken prisoner by the French Fleet under Count De Grasse while on his way from Charleston to the Chesapeake with dispatches from Lord Rawdon to Earl Cornwallis but was soon exchanged and he rejoined his regiment. He remained with the regiment until the unit was disbanded in the spring of 1783. In the fall of that Year he removed to Nova Scotia where he engaged in farming at Wilmot. In 1789 he commenced the practice of law at Annapolis Royal, was soon elected to the Provincial Assembly and, for several years, was Speaker of that body. In 1792, he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Nova Scotia Regiment and the following year he was made Adjutant General of the Militia of the Province. In 1796 Colonel Barclay was appointed British Commissioner under Jay’s Treaty and, in 1799, British Consul General at New York, which position he filled until 1812. In 1814, he was made Commissioner by Great Britain to carry into effect the 4th and 5th articles of the Treaty of Ghent (which ended the War of 1812 and settled the land boundaries of the United States and Canada), a service he held until 1828 when he retired. His habits of industry and application were extraordinary, and it is said that for a period of forty years, he was never in bed at sunrise. A prominent trait in his character was kindness and charity to the poor. He died in New York on April 21, 1830.

Their children are:

- Henry who was born near Hell Gate, L.I. on October 27, 1778. He married Catherine, daughter of Robert and Mary (Alexander) Watts on August 13, 1817. He was a merchant who lived in Saugerties, Ulster County, and he died there on January 3, 1851.
- DeLancey who was born near Hell Gate, L.I. (June 16, 1780 to March 29, 1826) He married Mrs. Gurney Barclay (widow of Gurney Barclay of the family of Barclays of Ury), by whom she had one son who died shortly after birth. She was nee Mary E. Freshfield, Norfolk, England. He was aide-de-camp and secretary to Frederick, Duke of York, before 1810 and Lieutenant Colonel of the First Regiment of the British Guards at Waterloo, where he distinguished himself and was properly awarded. In 1820, he was appointed aide-de-camp to George the Fourth, King of Ireland and England, with a rank of Colonel. This appointment identified DeLancey as one of the most able soldiers in the British Army. He held this position until his death on March 28, 1826. His wife, Mary, outlived him and she later married the Rev. Dr Steuart, Dean of Windsor and she lived to a ripe old age, having been interviewed in 1868 at her house at Berkeley Square.

- Thomas who married in Boston to Catherine, daughter of Walter Channing on February 14, 1821. He was a captain in the British Navy.
- George, born in Annapolis, Nova Scotia on July 4, 1790 and who married Matilda L. Aufrere and was a merchant in New York in 1848.
- Anthony who was born at Annapolis, Nova Scotia on December 27, 1793. Married widow Glenn on October 17, 1816
- Beverly Robinson Barclay who was born at Wilmot, Nova Scotia on December 22, 1786 and died on January 15, 1803
- Eliza (born in Flatbush, L.I. on December 3, 1776 and died in Harlem on June 21, 1817) married Peter Schuyler Livingston, known later simply as Schuyler Livingston (September 24, 1772 to July 8, 1809). The marriage occurred on June 16, 1796. Peter was the son of Walter and Cornelia (Schyler) Livingston (see below). Peter's family obtained great wealth. Peter was a member of Congress from New York for several years. He graduated from Columbia College, receiving his BA in 1788 and then attended Yale College, studied law, and was admitted to the bar and commenced his law practice in New York City. This marriage produced: (1) Susan Gertrude Livingston (born 24 May 1797, died 20 May 1801), (2) Cornelia Livingston (born 6 Apr 1800, died 12 March 1801), (3) Ann (born 15 Jan 1802, died 8 May 1859). She married James Reyburn. (4) Schuyler (born 5 April 1804 and died December 2, 1862), married on May 23, 1826 Ann Eliza Hosie (born May 16, 1805, died June 27, 1838). He married second on January 2, 1840 Margaret Maria Livingston (born December 18, 1820, died February 26, 1848) (one child was Matilda Corinna Schuyler Livingston (b 1842) and then married third on September 5, 1854 Sara Grace Carroll (born June 12, 1803, died January 10, 1878). The children of the latter marriage include (1) Eliza Barclay Livingston (born March 20, 1827, died September 29, 1830), (2) Henry Barclay Livingston (born October 1828, died August 15, 1883) married May 1850 Julia Rathbone by whom Margaret Maria was born August 25, 1852. (3) Eliza Glass Livingston Parsons (born September 7, 1831). She married on November 4, 1851 William Barclay Parsons (born September 4, 1851, died December 3, 1887). He was the son of William Burrington and Anne Barclay Parsons, (4) George Barclay Livingston (born November 12, 1833, died unmarried September 19, 1890) He served in the United States Navy and (5) Schuyler (born April 21, 1836, died unmarried June 4, 1885). (6) Matilda Corinna Livingston (born November 26, 1842) married on December 21, 1864 Frederic William Satterlee (born May 1, 1839) by whom children were born. Sources for a larger identification of the Livingstons is available in the appendix section for the family. **Peter's father, Walter** (November 27, 1740 to March 14, 1797), was a delegate to the Provincial Convention held in New York in April and May 1775, and a member of the First New York Provincial Congress from May to November 1775. He served as Commissary of Stores and Provisions for the Department of New York from July 17, 1775, until September 7, 1776, when he resigned. He was Deputy Commissary General of the Northern Department in 1775 and 1776. In 1777, he was appointed a county judge for Albany County. He was a member of the New York State Assembly from 1777 to 1779 and 1784–85, and served as Speaker from 1777 to 1779. In 1784, he was a member of the New York and Massachusetts Boundary Commission. He was a member of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York from 1784 to 1787. He was a member from New York of the Continental Congress in 1784 and 1785. In 1785, he was appointed Commissioner of the United States Treasury. He was buried at Trinity Churchyard in New York.
- Maria was born on 27th of June in 1782 in Hell Gate, L.I. and who died in NYC on the 7th of August in 1862. She married Simon Fraser and their children were: Matilda Fraser who died in 1849, married to John P. van Rossum, Elizabeth Fraser who died in 1849 and who married William Fyfe and Catherine Fraser who married Robert Mackie.
- Susan who married Peter G. Stuyvesant (born September 21, 1777 in NYC) on August 20, 1803. Peter was the descendant of the famous Petrus Stuyvesant, who was a very instrumental and widely heralded person in the initial settlement of New York in the 17th century, at the time known as New Netherlands. After Susan's death, Peter married Helen, daughter of the Honorable John Rutherford of New Jersey. He died at Niagara Falls on August 16, 1847, in the 69th year of his life. He was, at the time of his death, probably one of the wealthiest citizens of the United States. He is buried in the ancient family vault in St. Marks in New York City. He was

distinguished for a wise and munificent liberality and the City of New York is greatly indebted to him for the exercise in behalf of his public charitable and literary institutions. Helen died in NYC on August 17, 1873, aged 84 years.

- Ann who married William Burrington Parsons of New York. She was born at Wilmot, Nova Scotia on December 9, 1788. On May 29, 1815 she married Mr. Parsons who had been a purser of British ship the H.M.S Syliph that was wrecked on the south shore of Long Island. The marriage, it appears, was not approved by Miss Barclay's family, so that they were married at a house of a clergyman without the knowledge or consent of her parents. The marriage, however, turned out well. There were, by this marriage, five children, three of who died in infancy. The third child, Susan Barclay Parsons, was married November 22, 1842 to Montagnie Ward and died June 4, 1893, leaving a number of descendents. The youngest child, William Barclay Parsons, married as above stated Eliza Glass Livingston, and died December 31, 1887, leaving four sons. William Burrington Parsons died August 25, 1869, his wife Ann having died shortly before on June 20, 1869.

Jane: Born September 5, 1756, died March 2, 1809 - See the wedding note in summary for Susanna because both girls were married the same day at the same place. Jane married John Watts Jr. on October 2, 1775. He was the third son of the Honorable John Watts, Sr and his wife Ann (DeLancey) and he was born in NYC on August 27, 1749 and died on September 3, 1836. John Watts, Jr. graduated Kings College in 1766, delivering the Latin salutatory before the graduating class and, for a period of seventy years after was one of the leading men of New York, occupying various high and honorable positions in the City and State. He was Recorder of the City from 1774 until interrupted by the Revolutionary War, and a member of the State Assembly in 1788-90 and Speaker of that body in the sessions of 1791-2 and 1792-3. He represented New York in Congress from 1792 to 95, the entire city and county comprising only one Congressional district. He was also Judge of Westchester County from March 29, 1802 to June 8, 1807. He was one of the founders and a trustee of the New York City Dispensary from its organization in 1790, and after 1820 President of that institution until his death. He founded and endowed the Leake and Watts Orphan House in NYC, incorporated in March of 1831, giving that noble charity an estate valued at millions of dollars. He lived for many years and died in the house at No 3 Broadway, one of the great historic landmarks of the city. His will is dated May 30, 1836, and the bulk of his large estate was bequeathed to his grandchildren, John Watts De Peyster, Philip Kearney and Susan Kearney. His wife died March 2, 1809. He died September 3, 1836. They were buried in the family vault in Trinity Churchyard. They had six sons and five daughters, all of who died before their father, except one daughter. They are:

- George, First Lieutenant, 1st U.S. Light Dragoons, aide-de-camp to the famed American General, Winfield Scott. George Watts was brevetted for gallant and distinguished service in the Battle of Chippewa on July 5, 1814, having saved his general's life from an assault by the Indians. He was also distinguished for his service from General Brown's sortie from Fort Erie during the War of 1812, which was a critical encounter during this critical period in American history.
- Robert, Captain 41st Infantry, USA 1813
- John Jr. (actually John the third)
- Ann
- Susan who married Philip Kearny, who was a Harvard educated NYC financier who owned his own brokerage firm and he was also a founder of the New York Stock Exchange. Susan died March 1823.

They were the parents of Susan Kearny and her brother Major General Philip Kearny. Philip was born in NYC on June 2, 1815 at 3 Broadway in Manhattan. Kearny desired a career in the military. His parents died when he was young and he was raised by his grandparents who insisted on a law career for young Philip, who attended Columbia College and he obtained a law degree in 1833. When their grandfather died in 1836, Susan and Philip Kearney inherited over one million dollars each. This would have given Philip a life of leisure. Instead, Kearny decided to make the Army his career and, in 1844, he obtained a commission as a second lieutenant of cavalry, assigned to the 1st U.S. Dragoons, commanded by his uncle, Colonel Stephen W. Kearny. The unit's Adjutant General was Jefferson Davis, later to become President of the Confederacy. The unit was assigned duty in the western frontier. Kearny served in the Mexican-American War and he was sent to France in 1839 to study cavalry

tactics, first attending at the famous cavalry school in Saumur, France, and then participating in several combat engagements with the Chasseurs d'Afrique (famous French cavalry) in Algiers. Kearny rode into battle with a sword in his right hand, pistol in his left hand and the reins in his teeth, as was the style of the famed Chasseurs. His fearless character in battle earned him the nickname by his French comrades as "Kearny le Manufique" or "Kearny the Magnificent". He returned to the United States in the fall of 1840 and prepared a cavalry manual for the Army based on his experiences overseas. After a few months at the cavalry barracks in Carlisle, PA, he was assigned to the staff of General Winfield Scott, soon becoming his aide-de-camp. He did additional duty, accompanying his uncle's unit to the South Pass of the Oregon Trail in 1845. With the outbreak of the War with Mexico in 1846, Kearny recruited a new cavalry unit sparing no expense. He personally bought 120 matched dapple-gray horses with his own money for the cavalry. He was promoted to captain in December of 1846. In the Battle of Churubusco, he led a daring cavalry charge and he sustained a grape shot hit to his arm, which had to be amputated. Nevertheless, he quickly returned to duty and when the Army entered Mexico City, Kearny was given the personal distinction of being the first soldier through the gates of the city. He later rejoined the French Chasseurs (image here) during the Second Italian War of Independence. There he commanded a French cavalry unit that he personally trained. That cavalry routed an Austrian unit in a decisive action and, for his success; he received the French *Legion d'honneur* becoming the first U.S. citizen thus honored. When the U.S. Civil War broke out in 1861, he returned home to be appointed a brigadier general. He fought in several battles and, during the Battle at Williamsburg, he shouted to his men saying: "*I am a one armed Jersey son-of-a-gun, follow me*". Here he led the charge with the sword and pistol in his hands, reins in his teeth like he learned with the French Chasseurs. He would encourage his troops by saying "*Don't worry men, they will all be firing at me*". General Kearny was promoted to Major General on July 4, 1862. General Kearny was killed at Battle of Chantilly, leading a cavalry charge, on September 1, 1862. General Winfield Scott, known as 'Old Fuss and Feathers' served on active duty as a general officer longer than any man in America history and many historians rate him as the most able commander of his time. General Scott served in the War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Black Hawk War, the Second Seminole War and the American Civil War. Of General Kearny, Scott said: "*He was the bravest man I ever knew and a perfect soldier*". Kearney's cousin, John Watts DePeyster wrote the first authoritative biography of General Kearny but many other published works attest to his abilities. General Kearny is buried at Arlington National Cemetery (<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/kearny.htm>). A statue of General Kearney stands on the lawn of the Post Office in Kearney, New Jersey and it is identical to the one that adorns Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capital building. The Kearny equestrian statue, shown above, was dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery in 1914 by President Woodrow Wilson. It is one of only two such statues at the cemetery.



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The children of Jane continues:



- Elizabeth who married Henry Laight November 27, 1819
- Mary Justina who married Frederick De Peyster May 15, 1820. - One of their children was:

John Watts De Peyster (March 9, 1821 to May 4, 1907) who married Estelle Livingston on March 2, 1841. She was the daughter of Estelle Livingston. He received his early education at Lafayette Institute and he later graduated from Columbia College. He was an author on the art of war, philanthropist, and early Adjutant General of the New York National Guard. He served

in the NYS militia, beginning in 1846, and served during the Mexican-American War and America Civil War. He was one of the first military critics and noted for his histories of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, and also published works of drama, poetry, military history, military biography and military criticism. He also authored a detailed narrative on his cousin, General Philip Kearny. He was born in NYC, the son of a wealthy old Dutchess County family. His great-great grandfather was Abraham de Peyster, an early Mayor of New York City, whose father was Johannes de Peyster, also a mayor. He studied law at Columbia University, although did not graduate due to his poor health. He had become an invalid at an early age due to a heart affliction he developed during service as a volunteer fireman. De Peyster was heavily involved as a volunteer firefighter with the No. 5 Hose Carriage during his collegiate years, including a major fire in 1836, leading to his health problems. He later received a degree from Nebraska College and a PH.D by Franklin and Marshall College. He was a major organizer of the New York City Police Department and Fire Department. He spent his entire career in the NYS Militia, being promoted to brigadier general in 1851. He traveled extensively through Europe and he implemented many militia reforms that modernized the militia at a critical time before the Civil War. While he turned down a commission as colonel of cavalry in 1863, he did accept a commission as brevet major general in 1866 by a special act of the New York Legislature. His treatise *New American Tactics* was a series of articles published in the Army and Navy Journal that advocated making the skirmish line the new line of battle. These contributions were translated and copied into foreign military journals. After the war, he became a developer in Tivoli, NY where he resided at his family home. He donated lavishly to his hometown, including buildings for the education of young girls and firehouses. He also donated several thousand published works to the Smithsonian Institution. He was an accomplished rare manuscript collector and author. **Their children include:**

- Johnston De Peyster (June 14, 1846 to May 27, 1903) who was a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War and later a member of the NYS Assembly from Dutchess County, his home being in Tivoli. In 1864, at the age of 18, he joined the Union Army as a second lieutenant and he was assigned to Company H of the 13th New York Heavy Artillery Regiment, a unit of colored troops led by white officers. At Fort O'Rourke in



Norfolk, VA, he contracted a fever and was sent home for six months. This illness would plague him for over eighteen years. Johnston De Peyster had been assigned a command to assault the City of Richmond but he realized that the city was ablaze and he managed to enter the city without firing a shot. Admiral David Farragut noted that Johnston De Peyster deserved much credit for taking the city without bloodshed. He is best remembered for raising the America Flag over the city (picture shown here). But some dispute erupted since Major A.H. Stevens claimed credit for this because he raised a guidon two hours before De Peyster raised the flag. Ulysses S. Grant eventually decided that De Peyster deserved the credit

- because the guidon is not really a flag. For his act, he was received a brevet promotion to lieutenant colonel and a short time later, he received another promotion to colonel. After the war, he served overseas as Minister to Spain for President Grant. Back in his home of Tivoli, his father disagreed with many of his political positions, and they eventually stopped speaking to each other. One major disagreement was the 1899 World's Fair bill in the NYS Assembly where the father and son disagreed vehemently. In 1900, the family feud culminated in a race for Mayor of their native town of Tivoli, father running against son. After defeating his father, who owned the City Hall building, Johnston had to move the municipal offices Hall elsewhere. One particularly bad incident occurred when Johnston went to his father's estate to see his ill mother. His father viciously assaulted him there. Johnston was also philanthropic, making numerous donations to charities and historical societies. He died in 1903, predeceasing his father, as did all his siblings. He was survived by three daughters: Carola (who married Garrit Kip) and unmarried Estelle and Justine De Peyster (as per the 1904 NY Times). Johnston was married to Julia Anna (Annie) Toler in New York City in 1869 She was the daughter of William E. Toler. Their children Hester Estelle de Peyster (born 1871), Mary Justina de Peyster (born December 10, 1875), Carola de Peyster and Mary Livingston (born July 7, 1852, died September 24, 1857)
- Another son was John Watts De Peyster, Jr. (December 2, 1841 to April 12, 1873, aged 31). He died from disease contracted in the discharge of his duty during the Civil War. In March of 1862, while attending Columbia Law School, he decided to join the staff of his father's first cousin, General Philip Kearny (identified earlier in this essay) as a volunteer aide. After General Kearny's death at the Battle of Chantilly,

he then joined the 11th New York Cavalry Regiment as a lieutenant but was mustered out the same month and assigned to the 1st New York Light Artillery as a major and served until 1863 when he joined the staff of General John Peck. He was stricken by illness and was not able to return to duty until late in 1863. For his actions at the Battle of Fredericksburg and in the Chancellorsville campaign, he was promoted to colonel. He resigned briefly due to illness. He was later promoted to brigadier general of the New York volunteers.

- Another son was Frederick (born December 12, 1842, died October 30, 1874) awarded brevetted colonel for meritorious service in the Civil War, married in 1870 to Mary, daughter of Clermont and Cornelia Livingston. They had two children, see the appendix), Daughter Estelle Elizabeth (born June 7, 1844), married James B. son of William E. Toler.

Warren: There were two children in this family named Warren. This son drowned in his father's millpond before 1760.

Warren: Born in 1761. In a codicil to his father's will, a share in the estate equal to that bequeathed to the other sons is left to Warren, born since the will was made.



For his gallantry at the battle of White Plains, October 28, 1776, then a lad of 15 years, he was made Coronet of the 17th British Light Dragoons, but did not remain long into the service. He resided in Westchester County until his death in 1846. He married first Mary Lawrence and then Sarah Taylor and then Rebecca Lawrence.

This portrait by Mathew Pratt shows a young Warren with his grandfather, Cadwallader Sr.

Chapter 6 - The Children of Elizabeth and Cadwallader Colden II (Cad)

Cadwallader III: Born 1745. Married Elizabeth Fell, daughter of famed member of the Continental Congress (see summary below) on October 13, 1774. Her mother was Susannah McIntosh Fell. Cad III and Elizabeth had four children (three sons and one daughter). He had three more sons in his second marriage to Christina Griffith Colden; license dated October 9, 1783. One of Cadwallader III's sons was Cadwallader IV not to be confused with Cadwallader David Colden of canal and political fame. Another son was Thomas Colden who died April 1, 1843 (aged 42 years, 6 months) and is buried in the Colden Cemetery. Cad III served, with brother Alexander, with the Second Ulster Land Bounty Regiment Militia in support of the revolution during the war. He vehemently opposed his father's views regarding the war. He supported his

father with the various Safety Committees, and he was highly regarded by these folks. Even Gouverneur Morris, who wrote much of the American Constitution and its Preamble (*We the People*) were agreeable to Cadwallader III's efforts to ease the burden on his father. After the war, Cadwallader III inherited from his father a farm of 500 acres plus the original Colden home of his grandfather on current Maple Avenue. He mortgaged his Coldenham farm to his uncle, Thomas Ellison, in 1789 to help finance his move to where the Tin Brook meets the Wallkill River above



Walden where he operated grist and saw mills for many of his later years. This 1798 David Galatian map excerpt shows the location of his home toward the top. Cad III was a vestryman in the famed Trinity Church from 1782 to 1784 much like his uncle, Alexander.

Elizabeth's father was John Fell (February 5, 1721 to May 15, 1798). He was a very successful American merchant and jurist. He married Mrs. Marschalk who

was the widow of Mr. McIntosh. John Fell was engaged in overseas trade and had acquired a small fleet of ships by the time he moved to Bergen County, New Jersey (home shown here). He served as judge in the Court of Common Pleas in Bergen from 1766 until 1774. In 1776, he was Chairman of the Committee for Correspondence and Safety for the County of Bergen, NJ. He discharged his duties with great care and humanity. After the occupation of New York by British forces, New Jersey was also overran and in 1777, John Fell was surprised by British Lt. Colonel Buskirk, a loyalist, and former neighbor of his, taken prisoner and for a time suffered in captivity with Colonel Ethan Allen in the Old Provost Prison in New York starting in April of 1777. Being a lawyer, he drew for many of his dying comrades their last wills and testaments. He possessed a vigorous constitution, which enabled him to endure his captivity without serious injury to his health. He was released in January of 1778. John Fell is buried in the Colden Cemetery. The book entitled: *The Journal of John Fell, Delegate from New Jersey* by Donald W. Whisenhunt is available at various booksellers. The web site <http://fellhouse.org> is dedicated to the contributions of John Fell to the liberty that we enjoy today. He has also been celebrated by the Hermitage History Roundtable in Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey and other organizations. The British feared him and our Founding Fathers adored him. Earlier this year, a realistic reenactment of the arrest of John Fell, by the British, was conducted. You can see the video here → <http://fellhouse.org/news.html>

Alice: Born 1746. Married Dr. Lewis Antill (license dated November 30, 1771). She died February 21, 1776 and he died in 1776 also. They left 2 daughters for her parents to raise. Their children are:

- Alice: Unmarried (born 1766)
- Elizabeth Colden Antill Van Horne: Elizabeth married the Reverend Frederick Van Horne who arrived at St. Andrew's Church in December of 1793. Cadwallader II, Elizabeth's grandfather, wanted to cement his position within the community and congregation after the war. He gave the church one-acre of land so that a parsonage could be built. Colden also wrote off 500 pounds that the church owed him and this generous act lifted a heavy burden from the congregation. Cadwallader II gave the young couple the rents from six plots of land he acquired from the Peter Dubois estate so long as they remained at St. Andrew's. By this act, he managed to keep his beloved granddaughter close to him. The fact that his grandson-in-law was the church's minister firmly established Cadwallader II in the congregation. At Cadwallader II's request, Frederick also ministered at St. George's in Newburgh, where Cadwallader II had previously been a parishioner. She is buried in the Colden Cemetery.

Jane: Born 1748. Known as Jennie, she remained at home in Coldenham until after her father's death in 1797 and then she married Alexander Murray at age 48. While her father was alive, Jane was cherished by her parents. Cadwallader II wrote to his friend, Henry Van Schlaak thus: "*Jennie is Jennie Still, to good to Partt with*" It was a great comfort that Jennie stayed with her parents through those troubling times.

Thomas: Born 1754 and died March 30, 1826. Married on February 16, 1781 to Ann Willet, his cousin (daughter of William and Alice (Colden) Willet, no children. He was Sheriff of Ulster County for several years. Served as an officer (Captain) in British New Jersey Volunteers and Pennsylvania Loyalists, being a major on half pay until his death. After the Revolutionary War, he departed with Ann to Nova Scotia but returned quietly to Coldenham about 1789 where he stayed for the remainder of his life. His home on North Drury Lane is on the National Register of Historic Places. He wrote about the farm: "a fine elevated prospect, with a quantity of fine mowing ground around it".

William: Died an infant, dates unknown

Alexander: Born 1757. He remained a civilian at Coldenham throughout the war, except for a brief tour of duty with the Second Ulster Land Bounty Regiment Militia and inherited from his father. Together with his brother, David, their father noted about his sons that he would soon "turn out of my house, and oblige them to get wives". In 1796, he lived in the stone castle; a bachelor but he married Gertrude Colden, widow of his brother David, in later years. She was born July 4, 1767 and died May 16, 1845 and is buried in the Colden Cemetery. Alexander inherited part of a 2000 land tract from his aunt, Caty. This 1798 map image shows the farmhouses of Alexander (the stone

castle) and David Colden along the highway (17K today). He is buried in the Colden Cemetery, having died September 28, 1816.



David: Born 1762. He remained a civilian at Coldenham during the war and was too young to fight. He assisted his father during the various problems with the Committees on Safety and he visited his father in exile often. He

“ He was a man of strongly marked character, his intellect clear and vigorous, and his memory astonishing. He belonged to a class of men rapidly passing away—men of active benevolence, of conservative and firm patriotism, and intelligent devotion to the real necessities of his fellow-men. His loss cannot easily be repaired.”

of whom was Elizabeth who married Robert I. Murray. He was a prominent citizen of New York, actively involved with many philanthropic efforts of the day. This newspaper excerpt to the upper left, upon Murray’s passing, illustrates the extent to which he was regarded by his fellow citizens.

inherited part of the estate and lived in a farm near the stone castle in 1796. He married the daughter of a local respectable farmer, Gertrude Wynkoop (of window pane fame, see the image above in Maria’s entry). See the image above, in the entry for Alexander, to locate David’s farm at the bottom of the image, likely just to the east of the stone castle. They had two children, one



It was Robert’s grandmother, Mary Lindley Murray (not in the Colden lineage), who has been credited with delaying British General Howe and his army long enough for General George Washington and General Putnam to escape with the Continental Army intact as New York City was being evacuated in 1776. As Howe’s army of 4,000 soldiers marched past the Murray Mansion, Mrs. Murray was there, with her daughters, to greet them and to invite the officers inside for refreshments on the very hot September day. She told General Howe that Washington’s troops were long gone when they were actually quite close. Through a series of clever tricks that included telling funny stories and serving wine and tea, Mary Lindley Murray kept General Howe and his officers at the mansion for two hours, drinking and

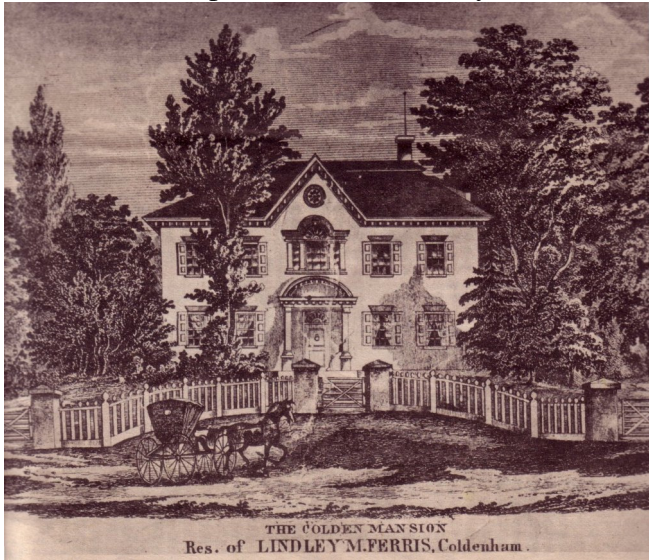
sharing laughs. This delay provided enough time to permit the Continental Army to escape intact. There was risk involved with the actions of Mary Lindley Murray, since General Howe would have arrested her if he suspected she was aiding the rebels.

This is one of many wonderful stories about ladies during the Revolution in a book, entitled *Patriots in Petticoats*, written by noted Orange County, NY author Patricia Edwards Clyne. The image is of a DAR plaque that is installed at 37th Street and Park Avenue in Manhattan to recognize Mary Murray's good deed.



Note: Lindley Murray (Mrs. Murray's son) was influential in writing the first English Reader which was adopted by all English and American schools.

One of the children of Elizabeth and Robert I. Murray was Caroline (born 1814, died 1852), who married Lindley Murray Ferris (November 15, 1801 and died March 1, 1872). He was very prominent and inclined toward philanthropic works. As a young boy, he eagerly watched as workmen excavated a cellar of a house near his own. One worker, disposed to tease the boy, tossed sand at him every time he passed by. Young Lindley wanted to keep



watching the interesting work but the sand was becoming a problem. He rushed home and asked his mother for two pears and she gave to him. Inclined to know what the pears were for, she watched as young Lindley went back to the neighboring excavation site. He rushed up to the man who threw sand and he gave the pears to him. No more sand was thrown. Lindley attended college at Hereford and, after graduation; he toured Europe, keeping a wonderful journal of this exciting trip. Back home, he dedicated his life to writing and preaching about the works of the Lord and against such sins as slavery and alcoholism. He opened a store dedicated to selling only items that were not produced by slave labor.

The daughter of Caroline and Lindsey Murray Ferris was Gertrude Colden Ferris (born May 1844) who married Edmund Burke Underhill, Sr. (born August 25, 1833 and died in 1887) on August 10, 1867 in New York. Their children include Lindley

Ferris Underhill (born August 7, 1868), Elizabeth Colden Underhill (born September 28, 1871) and was the resident physician at Mt. Holyoke College, Gertrude Colden Underhill (born September 12, 1874), Edmund Burke Underhill (born March 1, 1877), Harold Livingston Underhill (born May 20, 1880) and Arthur Stanley Underhill (born January 3, 1882).

As noted above, their son was Edmund Burke Underhill Jr. who married Esther Mae Yager and whose son, Robert Underhill married Betty Hewlett. One child is current, Robin Assenza. As the 1859 map excerpt indicates, Lindley Murray Ferris lived in the Cadwallader Colden II stone castle, which is currently being stabilized in the Town of Montgomery.

Margaret (Peggy): Birth date unknown - Married in 1781 to Peter Renaudet Fell, who was the son of the famed member of the Continental Congress, see summary above with Cad III. Peter commanded a Revolutionary Bergen County militia unit and he served as an aide to Governor Clinton toward the end of the war. Peter contracted rheumatism from sleeping on the ground and by 1787, he was totally crippled and wife Peggy cared for him on the Coldenham estate. Peter died in 1791 at age 38 (Note that the book entitled 'Delegate from New Jersey, Journal of John Fell' indicates that Peter died in 1789, second paragraph where the New Jersey Historical Society Collections are cited. The same date is assigned by several other sources. Note: Page 24 of 'Survivor' notes problems with dates at Colden Cemetery, which says that Peggy was born in 1780. Peggy later married Peter Galatian and they operated a farm on the Coldenham estate. Cad II and his wife, Elizabeth, were not pleased with the second marriage. See the 1798 excerpt above under Alexander to see the farm location for Peter Galatian on the highway (17K). Peter and Peggy had three children: (1) Elizabeth born in New York and lived in the 'old place' built by her father. She became the mother of six children. (2) John, born in New York and married unknown. He resided for his later years at the cottage at Coldenham. (3) Susan, born at Paramus. She married, at age 22, Charles Rhind of New York. She became the mother of ten children, one of whom was Alexander Colden Rhind, Admiral of the U.S. Navy.

John: Birth and death date unknown - Served in British Army during the Revolutionary War and he died during the war.

William: Died an infant

Chapter 7 – The Children of Alexander and Elizabeth Colden

Alice: Alice married Archibald Hamilton July 16, 1766. He was a colonel in the British service, who had retired after twenty-one years of service in the British Army in America and the West Indies. He bought a farm in Flushing, Long Island. This daughter died during the war and left Archibald with a son, Alexander M. Hamilton whose wife was named Alice, and two daughters, Jane and Alice, who went to England with their father after the war in 1783 after selling their farm, sailing on December 31, 1783. In 1796, the son, Alexander Mark Kerr Hamilton (May 16, 1767 to February 20, 1842), was in the British service in the West Indies. He became a major general in the British Army and was highly regarded. He served as governor of British Honduras from 1806 until 1809. He married Mary Augusta Bower, who died in 1863. His sisters, Jane and Alice Margaret Campbell Hamilton reported that their father, Archibald, died June 1, 1796. The ladies asked Cad II for a small patrimony from their father's estate. General Hamilton, his wife who died on June 4, 1863 and sister, Mary who died July 23, 1854, are buried in the cemetery at St. John and St. Cuthbert Parish, Edinburgh, Scotland. Numerous books recount the career of General Alexander Mark Kerr Hamilton.

Margaret: She married Major John Antill, a lawyer, on April 21, 1770, son of the Hon Edward Antill of Perth Amboy. The father held several public positions before the Revolutionary War and he was instrumental, along with his brother-in-law Lt. Col. John Morris of Shrewsbury N.J., in raising in 1776 the second battalion of the well-known Loyalist regiment, the New Jersey Volunteers. On August 15, 1780, he was cashiered for making false returns and drawing provisions for more men than the actual strength of his battalion, but was quickly reinstated. After the war, the son, Major John Antill, who served in the British service during the war, was required to leave the country for Canada. This marriage provided three children. His wife died and he later married his wife's youngest sister. One son was John Collins Antill (per Alexander's 1773 will) and he returned to England in 1783 with his son, Jack. He was granted a sizable sum from the British government for his property losses in New Jersey and half pay as a major.

John: He was a soldier in the British Army and was lost at sea. He is probably the same person as mentioned in Sabin's Loyalists as Captain, First Battalion, NJ Volunteers

Elizabeth: She married Colonel Anthony Farrington who commanded the artillery at Blackheath, London in 1796 and it was reported that they had several promising children. One son was named Charles Farrington and one daughter by the name of Elizabeth.

Jane: She married Major John Antill; her sister's husband, after her older sister, the major's first wife, passed away. She died 3 October 1827, aged 72 years. She is buried in the Colden Cemetery.

Richard Nicolls Colden: Richard (1745- August 14, 1777) graduated at Columbia then Kings College (class of 1766), and on the 27th of that year, he was made Ensign in the 42nd British Royal Highlanders, then stationed in Pennsylvania. He left the army at the close of 1771 or early 1772, returned to New York with his family, was appointed Surveyor and Searcher of Customs there, which office he held at the time of his death. He married a Scotch lady, Henrietta Maria Bethune, on the Isle of Man (a small island that lies between the islands of Ireland and the UK) while with his regiment there. He brought her to this country and he soon died, leaving her with two sons. Richard's death was announced by Governor Tryon to Lord Germain on August 24, 1777 so he probably died a day or two before that date. Henrietta returned to Scotland with her two sons and had the boys educated at a school near Lancaster, England, with the British government allowing 50 pounds annually for their education. On March 14, 1783, Henrietta wrote an emotional plea to Benjamin Franklin, asking for his support in allowing her and her sons to return to America, noting that no close relation of her family took up arms against the Revolutionary Army. There is no record of any reply from Franklin. Nevertheless, the boys and their mother then returned to America and the boys were reported to be not inclined to any learned profession.

The two sons were Alexander whose wife was named Harriet and Cadwallader R. who was the editor of the U.S. Sporting Magazine, published in New York, in 1835-6. In 1783, David Colden (of electricity fame) wrote a letter to Henrietta, lamenting his fate and loss of property after the war, just as he was leaving for England. The above excerpt from the Pioneer Families of Orange County (see bibliography) is incorrect in the assumption that Alexander's family moved away and that the statement "his branch of the family is extinct in America" is simply incorrect.

Cadwallader: He received part of a 2000 land tract, shared with his cousin Alice, from his aunt Caty, sister of his father, Alexander.

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Appendix

1) Livingstons - See the Genealogical and Family History of Southern New York (see biblio), page 1316 (pdf 421 of 649) for a more detailed identification of the Livingston family.

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