

THE LYON'S TALE

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editor
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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Lyon Family Association is finally a going organization. Of course, as yet, it is a mere skeleton but as times goes on we hope to put some meat on these bare bones.

Most of us (Lyons) know that there are published genealogies of some of the Lyon families. Between the time of their publication and the present generation there is quite a gap. One of the purposes of the Association is to continue the records of those volumes and bring them up to the present time.

Of course, you want to know about your own family, your line of descent. One way is to cooperate with the efforts of the officers. So please fill out the genealogical form contained in this bulletin and mail it to the Secretary or the Historian. The information you send may be of benefit to some other Lyon cousin.

And don't forget to send the year's dues to the Secretary. The more cash the Association has, the better it can serve you.

--Howard C. Lyon
President
Lyon Association

THE THOMAS LYON FAMILY

As a lineal descendant of the Thomas Lyon branch, naturally I am most interested in that line, although it is conceded that Thomas, Richard and Henry were brothers. There may possibly be other brothers as well and possibly a sister who is recorded in Boston early church. From whence or when they came to America has never been proved though evidence points to a Scotch ancestry. In Savage's records, Thomas is given as the Honorable Sir Thomas Lyon, and it has been told that they were brothers of the Earl of Strathmore, younger sons who would inherit no title or money, but who came to America to seek a fortune.

Thomas Lyon married: First--Martha Joanna Winthrop, a grand-daughter of Gov. Winthrop, and from the friendship of the governor and Indian chiefs, land was granted them in Connecticut, and here they lived, his first wife leaving him with one daughter. He married: Second--Mary Hoyt, daughter of Symon Hoyt of Boston and by her he had four sons and four daughters. During his last years he lived at Greenwich, Conn. at Byram Neck and was spoken of as "of Rye". His will was probated at Fairfield in 1690 and is recorded there.

The children of Thomas and Mary Hoyt Lyon were Abigail who married John Banks; John who married Rebecca Hull, daughter of Cornelius Hull; Thomas the 2nd who married Abigail Ogden, daughter of John Ogden; Samuel, unmarried; Joseph who married Sarah----; Elizabeth who married John Marshall; Deborah who married a Cone; Sarah who married Merritt. Of there children John and Thomas are both my ancestors. John was deputy to the General Court of Conn. from Fairfield, 1725-1730. He left seven children and Thomas left eleven. These children married into the Mead, Hobby and other families of the section and their descendants were patriotic members of various Revolutionary Companies.

Noah Lyon (Caleb, Thomas, John, Thomas) was a soldier of the Revolution and was married at Christ Church, Salem, New York to Mary Mead, coming with her and their family to Cayuga County about 1795. His grave was marked by the local Chapter D. A. R. as a soldier who responded to the Lexington Alarm.

---Mary Lyon Faba
Historian
Lyon Family Association

LYON'S DOINGS

Herbert Gould of 247 Wimbeldon Road, Rochester, N. Y. has a son, Capt. Henry Lyon Gould who served in World War II. A Pawling, N. Y. boy served under him and said of him: "A brave officer, a kind and considerate commander and an excellent gentleman." Henry now works for Bausch and Lomb Optical Company of Rochester as the director of Industrial Relations.

One Ira Lewis Lyon had a very colorful career. He was born in Denver, Colorado, served four years in the navy and then went to Santa Fe, New Mexico where his father was superintendent of the Santa Fe Central Railroad. There he studied law and was admitted to the bar. Later he went to the University of Michigan where he received his B. A. and LLB degrees. Returning to Santa Fe, he became Assistant District Attorney of the county and later District Attorney of the state. He was also assistant to the judge of the Supreme Court of New Mexico and there became associated with Judge Davis. In 1922 he went with Judge Davis to Washington where Davis was solicitor of the Department of Justice in the cabinet of President Hoover. It was mainly through the work of Judge Davis and Ira Lyon that the legal codes for radio, then in its infancy, were formulated. The license system and many of the codes by which radio is governed today are due to their work. In 1927 he went to New York with Judge Davis and became associated with the joint committees of the National Utilities Association. The family moved to Scarsdale, N. Y. In 1935 he joined the staff of N. B. C. as assistant to the Counsel General. There his knowledge of the many problems of radio and radio law made him a valued part of the legal staff. During World War II he was manager of the Judge Advocate General's Department. He was a 32 degree Mason and a Knight of the Court of Honor. Ira was an able lawyer and a brilliant speaker whose honesty and loyalty won him many friends in all walks of life.

--Jessie Lyon Barker
Quaker Hill
Pawling, New York.

THE GREAT TREK

Once one starts to examine the family tree, he is led into an amazing wealth of information. Not long ago I visited the historical library at Fairfield, Connecticut, which is the place the Lyon family claim their American beginning.

According to the records the first Lyons came from France with William the Conqueror and settled in Scotland. Castle Glamis which figured in Shakespeare's "Macbeth" was the home of the Scottish branch of the family. One of the early Lord Lyons married the daughter of the Scottish king which makes the connection with the Stuart line. It is claimed that the Lyon family of America are the descendants of the Master of Glamis, brother of Lord Lyon. Three brothers, Richard, Henry and Thomas appeared in Fairfield about 1648. They are reported to have been members of the Scottish Guards and to have fled at the time of Cromwell---- for their health.

On arriving in Fairfield they took up land, married and raised families. Richard married one Margaret who is said to have been a very beautiful woman. In fact, she was so comely that at the time of his death in 1678 he stated in his will that his wife, Margaret, was to have the home place as long as she lived or until she remarried, when it was to pass to his two sons, Samuel and Joseph. Richard's will was dated April 12, 1678 and was probated Oct. 17, of the same year.

In the fourth generation, Ensign John Lyon who was born in Fairfield and married there to Elizabeth Wakeman, died at Lanesboro, Mass. Oct. 23, 1799. He had moved to Massachusetts in 1770.

In the fifth generation, Thomas who was born in Fairfield Oct. 9, 1749, was married at Weston to Thankful Russiquie, May 10, 1769. In 1770 he also went to Massachusetts, settling at New Ashford where he lived until 1801. He then moved westward to Lima, N. Y. to join his son-in-law, Seth Lyon (husband of his daughter, Sarah). Seth was also a descendant of Richard (6th generation through another line).

In the sixth generation, Samuel who was born in New Ashford in June of the same year of his father's settling there, married Lucy Briggs at Lanesboro, Mass. in 1770

How the family got back into New York State is not told but we know that in the seventh generation Ira (our great-grandfather was killed in 1875 by falling from a window in Avon, New York. We also know that at least some of his children were born at German, New York, near Norwich. Later, at least two of them came into Sheldon township in Wyoming County and settled there. From there Elwood went to western Pennsylvania, where his descendants are now found. Warren's family remained in western New York and most of his descendants are now to be found in the Buffalo area.

It's a long journey from Normandy to Scotland, to England, to America and what a story it would make if we could fill in all the missing chapters!

--Florence Lyon

NOTES

There are several Lyon families in the region of Westchester County.

I have seen the former home of one Leonard Lyon (a mansion on Quaker Hill, near Pawling, N. Y.) His daughter is still living near by--

Mrs. Jessie Lyon Barker
Quaker Hill
Pawling, N. Y.

I discovered another Lyon near Patterson and visit there frequently--

Mrs. George Robinson (Mabel Lyon)
Patterson, N. Y.

Her family all live in the vicinity of Patterson. Her son Seward is a landscape gardener and her son Earl is the assistant postmaster in Patterson.

Recently I looked up another Lyon in Danbury, Conn. I found him owning and operating a photography shop on the main street of that city--

Mr. George Sturdevant
Main Street
Danbury, Conn.