

Henry Reynolds
1742-1827

The first part of this information will be found in the book HISTORY OF SULLIVAN COUNTY (New York) by James Eldridge Quinlan; published by G.M. Beebe & W.T. Morgans; 1873. Chapter XIV; The Town of Neversink; page 456.

Henry Reynolds was born in Westchester County, New York in 1742. He was the youngest son and could not inherit a fair share of his father's estate, under law which prevailed previous to the Revolution.

After he trained as a merchant's clerk and became proficient as a trader he entered into business on his own at Peekskill, NY. In 1769 he married Mary Fowler (1743-1825) of Throgg's Neck (a descendant of Henry Fowler, one of the founders of the township East Chester).

During the next eight years his business prospered and he became the father of 5 children – the oldest a daughter and the rest boys.

Early in life he embraced the religion of Fox and Penn. In the language of the day he was known as a fighting Quaker and was so active that when the British visited Peekskill in 1777 they destroyed his store and burned his buildings.

He left Peekskill then and moved his family to Smith's Cove, near the village of Monroe in Orange County, NY. Henry provided for his family by farming and as a potter.

After moving to Smith's Cove he belonged to an organization of patriots called "minute men". He was with the gallant band when, under the command of General Anthony Wayne, they stormed

Stony Point, on July 16, 1779 – “one of the most brilliant events of the war”.

Henry denounced the King of Great Britain and became very obnoxious to the tory riffraff and reivers of the time, who on more than one occasion tried to murder him.. In another chapter I will tell the true story of Phebe – the Little Quakeress

Henry and Mary Fowler Reynolds children were:

Phebe 1769-1853 (who married Jeremiah Drake)

Caleb 1771-1812

Jesse 1773-1834

Jeremiah 1779 - 1788

Reuben 1775-1862

Daniel 1781-1868

Polly 1783-1765 (who married Dr. Blake Wales)

Jane 1785-1843 (who married Ephraim Griffin)

Elizabeth (who married Ezeikiel Gillett)

Hophni 1789-1843

Catharine 1791 (who married Dr. David Wheeler)

(her twin)

Martha 1791 (who married Zephaniah Thorn)

Benjamin 1793-1860 – and his twin who died nameless

Over 200 years later Reynolds Henry descendants are numbered in the thousands.