

PREFATORY QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (cont)

19. Q Did any of our ancestors ever own slaves ??

A Yes The pre revolutionary war Herkimer family.  
Luke Wessels 1754-1824 (see bio)

20. Q Do we have an ancestor who owned a house and land in Manhattan ??

A Yes, Lambert Van Valkenburg immigrated from the Netherlands to New York and bought a house and 25 morgens (50 acres) of land on the west side of the bowry from Canal to Broome streets on July 29 1644 from Cornelius Jacobsen Van Vreelandt. Also on Feb 16 1647 he recieved a grant from the dutch west India Co to a lot south of the fort, as shown on the Tyler map of NY.

21. Q Who were the tories and loyalists during the revolutionary war??

A They were immigrants from England who chose to stay sympathetic to the King and the British side rather than become a patriot in favor of independence. At the end of that war when these tories lost, they had to flee to Canada and give up their homes and property here and were part of raiding parties from Canada that massacred and tortured their former neighbors along with the indians. The massacre at Cherry Valley is a good example.

22. Q Were any of our ancestors Tories ?

A only one. Anna Catherine Klyn Planck who immigrated to America from Germany through England financed by Queen Anne who was on the British throne at that time, along with her husband Adam Planck who rented land near Johnstown from Sir William Johnson, the Queens land agent. On one of those raids, several homes were shot in the front door of their house as a warning instead of burning it down like all the others. Adam was a soldier in the cause of independence. (see their bios).

23. Q How long had the Iroquois indians lived in New York State before the white man came ??

A In Vol I pg 117 in the book "The Capital Region Of NYS" it says that in 1535 the explorer Cartier visited a large Iroquoian village on the present site of Montreal of 40 houses of 1000 natives on a 30 acre site. In 1603 when Samuel Champlain visited the site, the Iroquois were gone and the Huron had replaced them. Historians believe the Iroquois were attacked and driven out of the St Lawrence valley and moved south along the Mohawk river. and westward. Historians believe this migration occurred about 1570 and the organization of the league shortly preceded Hudson's appearance on the river possibly between 1580 and 1600. The senecas had a tradition that the league (Iroquois) was founded only 4 years before Hudson made his voyage in 1609.

24. Q How did the 5 Iroquois tribes get to central New York ??

A Historians believe that originally at the Montreal site the Iroquois were a single family or tribe perhaps an offshoot of the Algonkin nation, recieved severe punishment as they were driven south by the Hurons and they scattered in search of refuge. The Mohawks retreated through Vermont and then to Cohoes falls and then west to the mohawk valley. The Oneidas and Onondagas were said to have retreated down through Jefferson county and the Cayugas and Senecas probably by way of the niagara frontier.

25. Q King Hendrick was a good friend of our ancestor Hendrick Klock (1663-1760) Who was King Hendr

A In the French and indian war in 1755, Sir Wm (Maj Gen) Johnson with 5000 militia fought the french in the battle of lake george with the aid of King Hendrick the aged Mohawk leader and his 250 Iroquois indians. King Hendrick was thrown from his horse and bayoneted to death. He was the indian orator who made the famous speech at the Albany congress and was Johnsons strongest ally among the 6 nations. (see pg 231 Vol I in the book "Capital region of NY state".

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26. Q The deeds in TWP file to Wesley C Planck and John Empie lands has references to measurements of property lines in chains and acres. What is a chain measurement ??
- A Pg 145 in the book "Eric Sloan's America" (in TWP file) says a chain known as a Gunters chain was used as a unit of measure for property lines etc. It had 100 links made of No 6 to 9 wire and was exactly 66 feet long including the handles on each end. 10 square chains (laid in squares) equals one acre. 88 chains equals one mile. One rod is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a chain. The chain was invented in 1620 in England by Edmund Gunter.
27. Q In the 1820's, the first railriad train was run from Albany to Schenectady, adistance of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles on wood rails capped with iron. This was the Mohawk and Hudson railroad whose charter was issued Apr 17 1826 and began operations in 1831. The engine was the "Dewitt Clinton" and had 3 small coaches filled withn passengers and went about 30 mph. Did any of our ancestors see this event or ride on this train ??(Read Central region NYS Vol III Pg 88 & 93
- A Yes The Gr Gr Grandmother of TWP Mary Ann Fritcher Planck (1815-1877). Read her bio
28. Q I Q 4 it says there was only 1 family scandal. Were there more maybe ??
- A Well, if you're going to be pushy about it, there was another one way back on the Planck-Fredricks- Waner line. Mrs Sanford E Planck's (Carrie Frecricks) maternal grandmother by the name of Louisa Bauersachs (Waner) had parents who were apparently a little loose. His name was JOhann Adam Bauersachs (see bio as Gr Gr Gr Grandparents of TWP) and records sent from Germany (he never left Germany) translated from german say that he was caught violat- ing the 6th commandment (thou shall not commit adultery) and found guilty and possibly excommunicated from the church or/and reprimanded. It was difficult to translate. The wife Catharina JOhanna Schubert ~~was~~ married Johann Nov 14 1790. She was born in 1770 in Germany and died of thirst Dec 15 1841. According to the translation she was a maid of ill repute in some estate, and had a illegitimate child George, brother of Louise Fredricke (Wane Another sister of George and Louise was Katherina who died in 1822 from fire wounds the night the castle burned. etc etc
29. Q Can you give us one more?? we love it !!
- A Ha Ha ..... Dry up, you FINK
30. Q Did any parents or Grndparents belong to the Masons (F&AM) or Eastern Star (OES) ??
- A Yes. S W Planck; L J Shaver; Lloyd L Mott Sr; Leonard L Mott to the F&AM  
Anna Maude Shaver; Alzina Wessels; Leneta M Planck to the OES  
Mrs Leonard L (Mary Turner) Mott; Mrs S W (Virginia Shaver) Planck
31. Q Do we have any family connectinn to the battle of Saratoga ??
- A Yes. Nancy M Empie, first wife of Wesley C Planck (1839-1895) had a grandmother Catherine Lehman, wife of Peter Empie (1779-1850). Catherine's father was Johan Lehman who deserted the Army of General Burgoyne, possibly after Burgoyne lost, and went to Stone Arabia and married a widow Catherine Krims former wife of Henry Landman.
32. Q Do we have an ancestor who was killed in the massacre and burning of schenectady by the French and indians in 1690 ???
- A Yes. Johannes Van Epps (Wessels line) 7 greats grandfather of TWP