

the stage from Richmond on the previous Saturday, said that Col. B. was taken in his house, that Capt. Randolph would not give him time even to get his hat, but hurried him off, although the Colonel's men were posted at a very short distance, entirely unconscious. In crossing the Sound they kept the part of the boat where Billop was placed constantly towards the Staten Island shore, so that the enemy might be deterred from firing through fear of harming him.

[XXIX.] Visited M^r. John Keteltas, at Old Town, Sunday afternoon, Oct. 5th. 1851. M^r. K. has in his possession the Quadrant which belonged to & was used by his grand-father. [Interlined: vid. D. 1. pp. 163-4-5.] It is a very old-fashioned looking instrument and of large size. The letters of Administration for his estate, also in M^r. K's possession, are dated in 1780 but he must have died in 1779, in the Autumn, according to the newspaper extract, C. p. 56. M^r. K. has the original Patent of his property in the form of a Grant and Confirmation of a tract of land on the South side of Staten Island to Sarah Skidmore from Governor Benjamin Fletcher. The date is Dec^r. 20, 1697. The seal attached to it is of an oval form, about 3 in. by 2½ in. It is made of wax covered with paper, and is in a very broken and dilapidated state. A slip of paper in the possession of M^r. K. contains seven receipts for Quit Rents on this property. The first is from Jacob Berger, "Eight Shillings Provl Money in full for two Year Quitt Rent of a Lott of Land on Staten Island Granted to Sarah Scidmore the 20th. December 1697." The second, third, and fourth are from the same.

The fifth I copy:

"Received of M^r. John Keteltass sixteen Shillings Provl Money in full for four Years Quitt Rent of the within Mention'd Lott of Land being to the 25th. of March last As Witness my hand this 4th. of Sept^r. 1759.

Richd: Nicholls Dep^y. Rec^r. Gen^l."

The sixth and seventh are from the same. M^r. K's present house was built about 30 years ago. The former house stood a little in front of it, nearer the road. M^r. K's great-grandfather was named Gerret Keteltas, as shewn by an Indenture in his possession. In M^r. K's house are some fine specimens of old-fashioned

furniture, all of which are mentioned in the Inventories, D. 1. pp. 165-6-7-8-9. The one called a "Cubbard," (p. 166) is a very fine and massive wardrobe, of large size, and stately though plain appearance, resting on large solid balls. It is apparently of cherry wood. He has also the table of "Wild Cherey" (p. 165) (p. 168.) This too is a handsome and curious article, with legs singularly curled. The large Looking-Glass, Clock, and Desk are also in his possession. Besides these, he has a chair of strange & antique form, with arms so placed that one of the corners projects in front. M^r. K. says that his grandfather brought these things from Europe in his vessels. The house to the East of M^r. K's, in which Jno. Aspinwall formerly lived, is the old Britton house, but very much modernized. The body is of stone, and formerly one could touch the roof, but it has been built upon by M^r. Burger, who carried it up one story. It now belongs to M^r. Fellowes. In old times there were three houses at Old Town besides these two mentioned. There was a stone house at the forks of the Old Town road. Only the place where the cellar was can now be distinguished. Knows of no Indian remains. A "bunch of bones" was once taken up on his land, but immediately replaced. On a mutilated Patent, written on paper, to "Francisco Martion," for property in Richmond C^o., date 1686, is a very perfect autograph of "Thomas Dongan." (In the possession of M^r. John Keteltas.) Son Elizabeth Martion

[XXX.] Aug. 1. 1851. Judge Crocheron says that "Dr. Parker's" mentioned in the account of Sullivan's attack [Interlined: vid. C. p. 18.] was a stone house, now pulled down, near Col. Conner's. A. Simonson (C. H. O.) says Col. C's is on the same spot, the house being built on the foundation of Dr. P's.

[XXXI.] Aug. 27th. 1853. Visited the old Billop house. The interior of the house presents nothing remarkable. The hall & staircase [Interlined: vid. inf.] are extremely plain. In fact there is no decoration to be seen anywhere. The rooms have been modernized in a mean style. The room at the N.W. corner of the house, which, as I was last Summer informed by Mr. Christopher, was the scene of the Meeting in 1776, is without ornament, shabby and ill-proportioned. A young woman there, the daughter I believe of Mr. Christopher, the present tenant,

I will get the book number next time. S.H.