

We are met to commemorate the reestablishment of a portion of an ancient boundary line. Not the Van Hindenbergh line but the Beekman line (cause of much legal connonading)

What is this line? Back into history to 1703. H.B. (Henry Beekman) having discovered vast tracts of waste land in Dut. Co. which he decided to appropriate...etc.

Bounds of the patent.

Previous patent --Arie Rosa & Artsen & his associates vague boundaries. But surveyed & established to Lands man Kill. Source of dispute and much annoyance to the elder Beekman.

He erected mills and established ownership to <sup>the</sup> ~~this~~ whole of this stream which in ~~time~~ received the name "Ländts man Kill", a name given to the stream by the tenants of Beekman, who referred to him affectionately, or otherwise, as "old ländtsman". In due course of time, title passed to H.B. the son. The description, etc.

Margaret Beekman, daughter and only heir, wife of Judge Robert Livingston, remarkably a prominent woman, mother of Chancellor, etc. Descendents, etc. Conveys large tract to her daughter G., wife of Gen. M.L., son of F.L., signer immortal doc. Dec. of Indpendence. Describes W.B. as running up along the W. bank of ...etc. to the Buccobush.

Gen. M.L. prob. wrote deed, being lawyer, husband, (husbands of more account) miller, understood Beekman claims. Bounds on W. bank considered well established 1797? Only recently did a dispute arise as to a small portion adjoining a 45 A. lot property of a neighbor on the west bank.

Caused by the carelessness of a surveyor (condole this carelessness, name unknown, survey before speaker was born, was not our old reliable friend, Hazard Champlin)

Nevertheless he did, in utter disregard for all things sacred and inviolable, run his line down into the waters of this creek. It was a greivous mistake and like all mistakes lead to serious consequences. When

you run a sliver<sup>R</sup> of wood into your hand, it is a mistake, and when you undertake to extract it with pen knife and tweezers you perform a painful operation. So in this case the doctors of law had to be appealed to and after much sharpening of pens, whetting of whits and filing of legal saws, the offending member was removed, root & branch and cast upon the legal scrap heap, where in due course of time it will be consumed by those eternal fires which destroy the errors<sup>es</sup> of mortal man.

And the wound is covered and sealed by a great white (legal) bandage known as a decree of the Sup. Court of the State of New York.

Thus may this ancient boundary stand unassailed inviolable while the shadows traverse the convex sides of ~~this~~ mountains and the waters of the Landsman Kill flow down to the sea (or to the river of rivers bearing the name of the Hudson).

And thus by a crude but interesting and effective process, the title to the soil has come from the red man of the forest who roamed these hills in pursuit of his game and fought his puny battles for the possessing of his hunting grounds, down through the avenue of time to the land owner of the present day, and the tangible evidence of the same is a deed, a simple instrument in writing which modestly declares the title to be vested in him, the grantee, his heirs and assigns forever.

*End.*