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 \* Vol. 2 No. 3 April 1958 \*  
 \* THE BOONE SCOUT \*  
 \* of the \*  
 \* Boone Family Association of Washington \*  
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 \* Seattle 4, Washington \*  
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 \* Issued quarterly at Seattle by some Boones for all Boones \*  
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LIFTING ONE CORNER of the veil which has obscured much of the life of Mary, daughter of George and Mary (Maugridge) Boone, Mrs. James R. Spraker permits a glimpse of the little that is known of this fourth child of these emigrant ancestors whose descendants everywhere are doing their full share in the upbuilding of our country. But this is the story of Mary.

IN 1717 after a two months trip from England, an eighteen-year old girl in company with her parents and five younger brothers stepped ashore in the New World. Had she had the gift of prophesy, as many of her contemporaries claimed to have, she might have foreseen that she was destined to play a minor part in the annals of her family. This girl was Mary Boone, the younger of the two daughters of George and Mary (Maugridge) Boone. Why is she a shadowy figure in the history of a family that made history? From a few facts, each reader may draw his own conclusions.

THROUGH THE OLD James Boone Genealogy and original manuscripts in the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin at Madison, we know that Mary was born in England, 23 September 1699, that she died in Berks County, Pa., 16 January 1774, and that she was the wife of John Webb, who followed her in death on 18 October 1774.

AN ACCOUNT of the marriage of John Webb and Mary Boone on 13 September 1720, is found in the records of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends (Quakers).\* The couple continued to live in Exeter township, Philadelphia (now Berks) County, where their children are listed in both Gwynedd and Exeter Meeting Records, as Exeter Meeting succeeded Gwynedd. Their children bearing names now familiar to every Boone genealogist were: John, b. 1720/1; George, 1723; Mary, 1726/7; Sarah, 1729; Benjamin, 1732; Joseph, 1735; James, 1737/8; Samuel, 1740, and Moses in 1743. Three others in the Gwynedd list appear to have died young.

THIS MUCH is certain for both the old manuscript and the Quaker records are indisputable sources. Though some additional information concerning the later generations is available, evidence of comparable value has not yet been found, as at times the Webb family deviated widely from the strict rules of conduct laid down by the Quakers. For example, on 28 February 1747/8, John Webb, Jr., oldest child of John and Mary, was censured for marrying "out of unity" (to non-Quaker Rachel), but he must have made his peace with the Monthly Meeting soon after as his children are listed in the Exeter records as: Isaiah, b. 1750; Sarah, 1753; Isaac, 1755; Job, 1757; Ann, 1760; Phebe, 1762; Thomas, 1764; Rachel, 1767, and John, 1769.

THREE MORE children of John and Mary Boone Webb apparently transgressed in the same way, George in 1743, Joseph in 1758 (though the wives are not named), and possibly Sarah, "alias Michael" (Mitchell?), who was "testified against" in 1760.

(To be concluded in the July SCOUT)

\*(All of the Friends' Meeting Records cited here were taken from the handwritten copies made by the eminent Quaker historian and genealogist, Gilbert Cope (b. 1840) from original papers no longer available to the public, but the Cope transcriptions are in the Library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, 1300 Locust St., Phila.)