MARGARET TOWNSEND SCULLY'S TRUNK

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Part I: MARGARET TOWNSEND SCULLY'S TRUNK

Now I shall turn back the wheel of Time, to recreate the past before your eyes. I shall show you the people from whom you have sprung . . . .1

The heirs of Margaret Townsend Scully in December 1951 had delivered to The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania a large old-fashioned trunk containing rough drafts and research material for a novel about her hero and ancestor, General James O'Hara.

"I have been collecting for twenty years," she stated in the margin of what was evidently the draft of a talk on the General, for she had counted and timed the words in the margin.

Consciously collecting material for twenty years, yes; but since her birth in 1881, she had been unconsciously absorbing atmosphere, stories, family attitudes, and Pittsburgh history.

The large trunk, however, was crammed with far more than O'Hara material. Margaret Scully had consulted relatives in all branches of her family, done research both at The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, of which she was a board member, and at The Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She had explored the battlegrounds of the Carolina campaign of the American Revolution because of General O'Hara's participation, had worked at the Library of Congress, had conducted genealogical research, had visited the home country of the O'Haras in County Mayo, Ireland, and of the Scullys in County Cork. After talking with old relatives, she had hurried home to record their memories; and in her notes their voices come down through the years, shrewd, leisurely, sometimes amusing, and endlessly wordy, like Juliet's nurse or middle-aged

1 "One Hundred Years Ago: An Historical Sketch," Margaret Scully, WPHM, Vol. 28, Part I, 49.
women in a Jane Austen novel. She had clippings from early Pennsylvania newspapers, and many from local papers during World Wars I and II. General Arthur St. Clair and General Anthony Wayne of the American Revolution, and General Lewis Hyde Brereton of World War II, descendant of General O'Hara, were included in her notes. The Denny family appeared in a few letters and clippings; and there is considerable Schenley-Croghan material. Trinity Episcopal and Calvary Episcopal churches weave in and out of the pattern, as does First Presbyterian Church downtown, with its memories of O'Haras and Dennys. She had thick piles of notes on ancient Irish history. The large homes of Ridge Avenue, Fifth Avenue, and Sewickley appear in newspaper clippings as in their heyday. Finally, to box the compass, she also included material about the razing of these fine homes to make way for housing developments or for downtown "renaissance" structures. Her work covered Pittsburgh from the days of Fort Pitt to the beginning of the 1950's.

Agnes Sligh Turnbull was one of the first to use the O'Hara material in the trunk, while writing The King's Orchard, with General O'Hara as hero. Later the contents of the trunk were sorted, classified, and placed in folders in eight boxes for the Archives of the Historical Society. This article, based on the contents of these eight boxes, will first include a life of Margaret Scully within the frame of her immediate family; then the lives of some of her Scully, Townsend, and Jackson relatives; and finally, through a study of her rough drafts and of notes marked for her novel on General O'Hara and his family, will show her plan for her historical novel. Any supplementary material will be in footnotes.

2 Most of the newspaper clippings are undated and without newspaper identification; and book sources are rarely indicated. The editor, however, has located practically all of the book sources.

3 Heading for these eight boxes is "Margaret Townsend Scully Collection."

DA1—folders on Denny, Croghan, and Schenley families; Cadwaladers; Breretons; some Jackson letters and papers.

DA2—O'Hara papers, many drafts of Margaret Scully's unfinished novel on James O'Hara; O'Hara pedigree; material on General O'Hara and Mary Carson O'Hara.

DA3—Miscellaneous material on General O'Hara and more material for the novel; Jackson, Maclean, McCarroll, Murtland families; genealogy of O'Hara family.

DA4—Scully-Sullivan material.

DA5—Margaret Scully correspondence; many clippings on her activities; Journal of her trip to Ireland.

DA6—Margaret Scully's immediate family.

DA7—The Townsend family; photographs.

DA8—Scrapbooks.
Margaret Scully and Her Family

Margaret Scully found this bit from Elsie Robinson's syndicated column, "Listen World," personally significant, summing up her approach to her work: "We are not born with our characters — we accumulate and create them. We build character or personality as we build a house or a business — bit by bit — using contacts, experiences, impressions — instead of bricks and steel, stocks, bonds and material assets. What kind of experiences? Any kind, every kind. The wider the range of your contacts and experiences, the more elastic and colorful your personality . . . ."  

According to Scully pedigree and genealogical entries, Margaret Scully was born in Pittsburgh in 1881, daughter of Henry Rees Scully and Mary Morrow Murtland Scully, and granddaughter of James O'Hara Scully and Margaret Jackson Townsend Scully. She was the great-granddaughter of Denis Sullivan Scully born in Donomark, County Cork, Ireland, who came to Pittsburgh in 1804 with his older brother, John. In Pittsburgh in 1815, Denis Scully married Ann (Nancy) O'Hara, daughter of William O'Hara and Catherine O'Hara O'Hara. Ann O'Hara had been brought as a baby from Londonderry, Ireland, and her mother, Catherine O'Hara O'Hara, was a sister of General James O'Hara; thus Margaret Scully was a collateral descendant of General O'Hara, about whom she wished to write a novel.  

Denis and Ann O'Hara Scully

Little is known of Denis and Ann O'Hara Scully. They were married in Old St. Patrick's Church at Liberty and 11th Streets, by the Rev. William F. X. O'Brien, had six sons and three daughters, were buried in Old St. Patrick's graveyard in East Liberty, and were later removed to the Scully plot in St. Mary's Cemetery in the Lawrenceville section of Pittsburgh.  

Henry Rees Scully

Margaret Scully's father, Henry Rees Scully, who was the son of Margaret Jackson Townsend and James O'Hara Scully, was

4 DA2, Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph, in the thirties, undated.
5 DAS.
6 Ibid.
associated with the Mechanics Bank and the Dollar Savings Bank. He married Mary Morrow Murtland, and their children were Margaret Townsend, Arthur Murtland, Rees Townsend, Janet Maclean, and Donald Cadwalader.

As a boy, Margaret's father had his first bank account opened with five dollars from Aunt Martha Jackson with this advice: "Never chew it out," and he never let this account drop below five dollars. In the same folder is a receipt for ten cents from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, one share purchased by Harry Scully in the new missionary packet, *Morning Star*, from the Missionary House, Boston, in 1866. Harry Scully signed a Temperance pledge. And the Pittsburgh Public Schools awarded him an elaborate certificate for exceptional improvement in penmanship, not only picturing a small boy carrying a pennant with the device, "Excelsior," but also showing Moses with the tablets of stone; there was also a final warning to little Harry, "One thing at a time and master it." He also received a Reward of Merit for school attendance, with this verse:

This is right, to come to school  
Just in time, for that's the rule;  
Not to run about and play,  
Like bad children on the way.

His later activities show that the serious little boy became a serious, responsible man. Henry Rees Scully received his A.B. from the Western University of Pennsylvania in 1872, becoming a banker and a trustee for estates. He was devoted to the Episcopal Church, serving as editor of the *St. Andrew's Cross* magazine; as secretary-treasurer of the board of trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, 1899-1920; and as canonical treasurer of the Church Penn-
Surely the lads shall wait for me: Is 60:8.

This certifies that Harry Scully has contributed One dime for the new MISSIONARY PACKET, MORNING STAR.

Missionary House
Boston, June 1885.

Saml. D. Ward

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M. F. Eaton, Principal.
sion Fund. Between 1919 and 1932 he was a vestryman of Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church. He was also interested in The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania and in the Pittsburgh Archaeological Society. He died in 1932. 11

MARY MORROW MURTLAND SCULLY

Mary Morrow Murtland Scully, "an internationally known painter in oils and water color and a gold medalist, was an alumna of the Woman's School of Design, 12 an organization that kept alive an interest in painting as an active profession in Pittsburgh when there was little official encouragement or educational support. She found time to paint delightful pictures in the midst of a busy life; her Colorado desert paintings are able records of her visual interest and her flower paintings are fragrant in color. Her California sketches and flower pictures were exhibited at the Wunderly Gallery. She served on one of the first juries for the Exhibition at Carnegie Institute and herself frequently exhibited there. She did the illustrations for her daughter Margaret's book of poems, White Rose of Essex." 13

Comte Chabrier wrote the following criticism of Mary Morrow Murtland Scully's work, here translated from the French Revue du Vrai et du Beau:

Great charm emanates from two pictures Garden and Flowers which Mrs. M. M. Scully has sent to the Independent Artists Salon of New York. These two works are composed with taste and intelligence. The drawing is supple and graceful . . . . As to coloring it shows a very pleasant and an altogether delightful harmony. The beautiful landscape of the garden possesses a great power of expression, and the beautiful flowers deliciously interpreted are of remarkable distinction.

Besides being the mother of three sons and two daughters, she worked during World War [I] for the Red Cross Society of Pittsburgh, and was vice-president of her branch. Her sons served as officers in the American Army with distinction and two of them fought in France. After the war she felt the desire of painting again, and ever after she was accompanied by her painting outfit wherever she went. Mrs. Scully in former years exhibited at the Fine Arts Academy at Philadelphia, at the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburgh, at the Associated Artists' Exhibition of Pittsburgh, as well as with two groups of women artists and at a very successful exhibition of her own work. In November, 1925, she had an exhibit of her work at the J. J. Gillespie Art Galleries, Pittsburgh. 14

11 Ibid., Scully-Townsend history.
12 Standard History of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, Erasmus Wilson, Editor (Chicago: H. R. Cornell & Company, 1898), 864-865: "The Pittsburgh School of Design opened in February 1865, at 24 Fifth Street, charging $10 per session. It held exhibitions of its work. The total enrollment in the school in 1899 was eighty-seven young ladies."
13 DA7.
14 Ibid.
Arthur Murtland Scully

Margaret's oldest brother, Arthur Murtland Scully, was born in Pittsburgh in 1882, attended St. Paul's School, Concord, New Hampshire, received an A.B. degree from Harvard in 1905 and an M.A. in 1906. Next was the University of Pittsburgh Law School, and admission to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1908. He became a member of the law firm of Burgwin, Scully & Churchill, and a vice-president of the Union Trust Company in 1935. By appointment of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, he served on the State Board of Law Examiners.

During World War I he was a Commanding Captain of Infantry, Regular Army, 1917, participating in the opening of the Aisne-Marne offensive . . . . In 1918, he was Commanding Major of Infantry; was in charge of censorship and Intelligence Police, 1918-19; was cited on June 3, 1919, by General John Pershing, Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces, for distinguished service; and was discharged from the Army on October 2, 1919.

His post-war life in Pittsburgh was indeed a busy one. He found time to serve as president and trustee of St. Margaret’s Hospital, as a director of Townsend Company, and of the Frick Corporation. He was vice-president and director of the Allegheny County Council of Boy Scouts, a trustee of Ellis School, president of the Allegheny County Bar Association. He was president of the Board of Trustees of St. Barnabas’ Free Home and a trustee of the Irene Kaufmann Settlement. He served as senior vice-president of Mellon Bank and Trust Company. Like his father, he was devoted to Calvary P. E. Church, as a vestryman from 1928-34 and again from 1944-48, and Chancellor of the Diocese in 1947.

Arthur Murtland Scully’s first marriage was to Anne Robinson Burgwin, who died on May 12, 1917; his second, to Mary Julia Crocker from San Francisco in 1944. His children by the second marriage were Mary Virginia Scully, Arthur Murtland Scully, Jr., and Marion Crocker Scully.15

Rees Townsend Scully

Rees Townsend Scully, Margaret’s middle brother, born in Pittsburgh in 1884, was a civil engineer and a graduate of Princeton. Before leaving to join the American Ambulance Corps in France in 1917, he had done engineering work in Haiti and Trinidad previous

15 DA6, DA7, all Arthur Murtland Scully material in these two boxes.
to his association with a river concern in Pittsburgh.

On May 9, 1917, the following story about Rees Townsend Scully appeared under a Pittsburgh *Chronicle-Telegraph* bannerhead:

A Pittsburgh man led America’s first armed force through Paris today on their way to the battle line on the French front, Rees T. Scully, aged 33, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Scully, of 201 Lexington Avenue.

Scully and Edward Tinkham of Montclair, New Jersey, commanded the unit, which comprised 60 men — the first detachment of the newly-created munitions transport branch of the American Ambulance Corps.

The sight of the Stars and Stripes in the streets of Paris at the head of an American force caused the wildest demonstration here in years . . . . So enthusiastic was the reception that police were forced to push back the crowds.

At the station the Americans were received formally by Colonel Gerard, of the French Army. They left on a troop train at once for "somewhere on the French Front."

In another clipping from a Pittsburgh paper, unidentified, mention was made of the War Cross awarded to Rees Scully for saving the life of a comrade, according to a dispatch from Soissons.

After World War I, Rees Townsend Scully developed an interest in horticulture, and became a member of the board of directors of the Pittsburgh Horticultural Society. He also worked with wrought iron as a sculptural form; once he had an exhibit of wrought iron and chromium plated sculpture at the William Penn Hotel. These two hobbies were mentioned in Margaret Scully’s carefully preserved family newspaper clippings.

In a booklet compiled by the Historical Research Bureau, 6829 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., Rees Scully was listed as secretary-treasurer and director of the Pittsburgh Electro-Galvanizing Company, Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania.

He married Miss Mary Ewing Shaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Shaw of Morewood Avenue, niece of John C. Oliver.16

**Janet Maclean Scully**

Margaret Scully’s sister, Janet Maclean Scully, is represented in the memorabilia of the trunk through many social occasions. She was, for example, chairman of refreshment with a large group of young assistants at a fete at Longue Vue Club, and a bridesmaid to Miss Elizabeth Woodwell. There was a news clipping announcing her marriage to William Barnet Wolfe at Calvary Protestant Episcopal

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Church, Dr. Edward J. van Etten officiating. The Wolfes had a daughter, Janet Scully Wolfe.17

DONALD CADWALADER SCULLY

Donald Cadwalader Scully, Margaret’s youngest brother, was born in 1895, attended St. Paul’s Episcopal School, Concord, New Hampshire, for six years. After leaving the Army in 1918, he devoted his life to business activities and to the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. He was vice-president and secretary of the Joseph Woodwell Company, according to a news clipping, dealing in wholesale hardware, mill and mine supplies, and automobile equipment.

He became first vice-president of the wholesale merchants division of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce in March 1940. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce’s Smoke Abatement Committee in 1944, and helped plan Merchandise Marts sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Pittsburgh Wholesale Merchants Association.

On February 8, 1941, he married Margaret S. Logan.

Donald Scully was a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, the Society of Refrigeration Engineers, and the American Legion. He was a past president and director of the Pittsburgh Wholesale Merchants Association, a Republican, and an Episcopalian.18

MARGARET SCULLY

Margaret Scully’s family: now Margaret Scully herself, the oldest child, born in 1881. She made her first appearance in local newspapers as the flower girl at the wedding of her aunt, Miss Bertha Murtland, on June 6, 1887, to Mr. John Woodwell at Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church. (Margaret Scully’s whole life would be Calvary-centered.) As flower girl she stole the show. One newspaper described her: “... a child of six years, Miss Scully, in white, who preceded the bride, bearing a bouquet of roses ... tiny, white-robed maiden ... .” She loved weddings, all her life keeping the invitations and newspaper announcements, which, incidentally, trace in an interesting manner the change in wedding fashions, etiquette, and journalistic style since the nineteenth century.19

A clipping from the spring number of an early school magazine,

17 DA6, Janet Maclean Scully.
18 Ibid., Donald Cadwalader Scully.
19 DA8, Scrapbook, Clippings.
the *Thurston Miscellany*, gives a glimpse of Margaret Scully at Thurston School: "Among the verse writers represented in the March *Miscellany* is Miss Margaret Townsend Scully (whose 'Cat Tail Medder' is very clever)."  

We see her through a series of photographs in these early years: she is small, slight; has excellent posture; her face is alive, intelligent, handsome. One picture shows her in a crisp white dress, seated in a field of black-eyed Susans and holding a sheaf of these wild flowers. In another, she wears a starched shirt-waist and a long dark skirt. A large hat is perched on her pompadour. Always the pompadour in her youth. Somehow in the snapshots of an entire lifetime, her clothes are so completely right for her, and worn with such unconscious grace and dignity that they are never dated — she never becomes a period piece. In the early pictures, she looks like a Degas painting of "Mary Cassatt at the Louvre," or his "At the Milliner's," for which Mary Cassatt posed. Margaret Scully's most striking feature was her eyes, large and apparently dark. An amusing poem written to her and delivered as she boarded ship for Ireland in 1939, mentioned her red hair.

This young Margaret Scully, proud of her First Aid certificate and her Red Cross Uniform Room Permit from 1916, had carefully saved them. In 1917 she was active as secretary of the Pittsburgh Association Opposed to Women's Suffrage, with organization offices at 412 Union Bank Building. Their platform: "We stand for the conservation of the best Womanhood of all conditions and stations of life, for the preservation of the home, for the retention of the best ideals of preceding generations adapted to the advancement and opportunities given to women under modern conditions. We believe that women, according to their leisure, opportunity and experience should take part increasingly in civic and municipal affairs as they always have done in charitable, philanthropic and educational activities, and believe that this can best be done by women without the ballot, as a non-partisan body of disinterested workers."  

Before long the Anti-Suffrage Organization channeled its energies into First Aid Classes. A headline: "Anti-Suffrage Organization Fills All First Aid Classes/Women Learn to Bandage and Give First Aid as Part of Preparedness." The women used Boy Scouts as subjects for their bandaging. After the final examination at least one

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20 DA5, Margaret Townsend Scully.
21 DA7.
22 DA5.
MARGARET TOWNSEND SCULLY
hundred fifty Pittsburgh women qualified for the Red Cross work. Police and Fire Surgeon Dr. D. E. Sable supervised the teaching, and Margaret Scully, as president of the Junior Auxiliary of the Association Opposed to Women's Suffrage, directed the classes.\textsuperscript{21}

Among correspondence saved is an early letter, possibly 1917, from Margaret Scully to her father from Chesterbrook Farm, Elk Lick, Pennsylvania, the property of Mr. Frank Bissell,\textsuperscript{24} who had married a Jackson aunt.

The adjoining farm was owned by Mr. Bissell's "in-laws," the John B. Jacksons. Between the two families, they had almost a thousand acres, with a beautiful woods, which made walking between the two houses pleasant.\textsuperscript{25} The first part of the letter is concerned with the details of Uncle Frank's selling the farm, which Margaret Scully loved: "It is very sad to think that this is the last of Chesterbrook, and I have told Aunt Anna and Uncle Frank how many happy days they have given us all ... ." Margaret Scully, who loved the outdoors, preserved the details of these Somerset woods, flowers, ferns and farms in notes for later use in her O'Hara novel. The letter continued:

\begin{quote}
Aunt Anna just begged Pauli and me to stay over Sunday, so it is decided that we will wait over and go on the usual train Monday afternoon. If the train is late we will get something to eat in town, so please don't tell Mother to save anything if we don't arrive before you have finished.

Most of the leaves except the oaks and apples are off the trees, and you can see distant vistas and stretches of country that were completely hidden before. We have had some splendid long walks, Pauli and I, going three miles at least every day, and the weather on the whole has been very pleasant, until today! Just now it is snowing very hard. Hawk's Nest is almost invisible and it is blowing so hard that every window in the house is rattling in its frame. If only on the Allies' account I hope that winter is coming so early. Am anxious to hear if there has been a letter from Rees. I heard from Artie yesterday.\textsuperscript{26} Hoping that you have gotten a satisfactory stenographer, and many thanks, Father dear, for your welcome letter. With love to all, Margaret
\end{quote}

\textbf{Responsibilities}

Winters in Pittsburgh found her active in the Thurston-Gleim Social Service League, as an alumna of Thurston School. One clipping mentions a bridge party for the benefit of their Harmarville Home for Convalescent Women and other charitable work. In re-

\begin{flushright}
23 \textit{Ibid.}
24 \textit{Ibid.} Mr. Bissell had purchased the farm after the Railroad Riots of 1877 in Pittsburgh as a refuge, should labor trouble make it dangerous to live in the city.
25 DA8.
26 Margaret Scully's brothers, with the American Expeditionary Force in France, World War I.
\end{flushright}
sponse to a letter that she wrote as secretary of the Thurston-Gleim group to the Preparedness Branch of the American Red Cross, she received permission on March 16, 1918, to form a unit in surgical dressings to meet at the branch headquarters at Liberty Hall.\footnote{27 DA5.}

One watches Margaret Scully gradually assume responsibilities that would run like threads through the pattern of her adult life, as they would through the pattern of her parents' lives. For instance, there was her church work at Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church, where she was the fourth generation interested in the Waldensian Society of northern Italy, the oldest of the European Protestant groups.\footnote{28 \textit{"Members of an heretical Christian sect which arose in the south of France about 1170 . . . Persecution gave new vitality to their doctrines, which passed on to Wycliffe and Huss, and through these leaders produced the Reformation in Germany and England."}} She saved many church bulletins and clippings after World War II, asking for contributions of money, knitted garments, warm clothing and CARE packages to be sent to the Waldensians. In 1932, Dr. Edward J. van Etten of Calvary Church thanked her for her father's memorabilia; and in a 1938 letter, for "the perfectly beautiful cloth for the communion vessels."\footnote{29 DA5.} She was also secretary of the Pittsburgh Committee for the Washington National Cathedral Association. In May 1924, like her mother before her, she became an active member of the Twentieth Century Club.\footnote{30 DA5.}

In 1938, Margaret Scully was invited to become an honorary member of the National Society of Colonial Daughters. And permanently in her life were a vice-chairmanship of the woman's committee of the West Penn Hospital, and an interest in the Civic Club of Allegheny County (her parents were among the founders).\footnote{31 DA5.}

A letter from Homer Saint-Gaudens\footnote{32 DA5.} of Carnegie Institute's Department of Fine Arts, December 27, 1932, thanked Margaret Scully for allowing the Institute to exhibit Blythe's "Man Putting on Boots,"\footnote{33 \textit{Life and Work of David G. Blythe, Dorothy Miller \textcopyright U. of Pittsburgh Press, 1950}. David G. Blythe was an American genre painter who lived in Pittsburgh roughly from the 1830's to 1865. He loved to paint Pittsburgh, the town crier, beggars, Negroes, thieves' dens, country school children, law courts, horsemarket, post office, stagecoach departures, cobbler shop, etc. He painted many excellent Civil War pictures.} and stated that Blythe was one of the best local painters, with "quite a bit of the flavor of Daumier in his figure painting," and
that “some of his portraits were very interesting.” A 1936 letter from Director Juliana Force of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, also thanked Margaret Scully for the loan of the same Blythe from the Henry Rees Scully estate.

Margaret Scully’s letter about General James O’Hara in 1934, one of protest to the Butler historian, Attorney C. Hale Sipe, for his seeming neglect of General James O’Hara and Major Ebenezer Denny in a book on Pennsylvania, brought her this reply:

Thank you for your very much appreciated letter of January 18. I wish Pennsylvania had one hundred thousand history lovers like you.

Now as to General James O’Hara. You say I do not mention him even in the most casual manner. I mention him on page 152 in connection with Guyasuta. So you will have to stand corrected as to his not being mentioned at all.

I am glad that you wrote me as you did. I was looking for a letter like this from some descendant of General O’Hara. Now listen to my tale of woe: A number of sketches run through this book. They were written at odd moments when I was not engaged in the harder research. All these sketches were placed in a drawer, and then when I assembled the manuscript, I took them out of the drawer and pasted them in at the proper places. Among these sketches was one on General James O’Hara and Major Ebenezer Denny combined. It would have made a little more than a page in the book. As to General O’Hara I gave . . . a rather complete sketch of his military career together with a slight reference to his business career. Major Denny’s sketch was not quite as complete, but it, too, hit the high points in his military career. Now I get angry every time I think of that “pasting business” . . . for the sheet containing the combined sketch . . . stuck to the one immediately on top of it and thus failed to get numbered . . . . Then, in the hurry of reading proof, I must have had an entire lapse of memory as to this combined sketch, for I failed to detect its absence. But proofreading is a purely mechanical operation. It would be hard for me to tell you the greatness of my regret . . . . Often I was a guest over Sunday at the home of Edith Darlington Ammon in years gone by. I spent many hours in her wonderful library and she and I often strolled out to the Indian mound on the estate. And so, if there was one former Pittsburgher that I wanted to do justice to, he was the ancestor of Edith Darlington Ammon and her sister . . . . Please spread the above news for me. If there is ever a second edition—, well watch. Very cordially yours, C. Hale Sipe

Book Published

A new interest in Margaret Scully’s life was introduced in December 1936, with the publication of her slim book of poems, White Rose of Essex, in time for the Christmas trade. She still kept her unwavering interest in church and civic work, but there is much in the trunk about her book in 1937. It was an exciting year.

The book contained comments by Pittsbourgher George Seibel

34 DA5.
35 Ibid.
37 George Seibel was Librarian, Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny; now the Allegheny Regional Branch.
Hollyhocks

Sedately they stand by the high garden wall,
Long rows of hollyhocks, bowing and bending;
Brilliant rosettes on stalks slender and tall,
An old-fashioned air to the garden lending.

Honeybees hide in their ruffles gay,
Stealing the nectar the hollyhocks hold;
A songsparrow perched on a bright scarlet spray
Sends rapturous notes through the garden old.

Down the long path where the hollyhocks wait,
How many children have played to and fro!
How many brides have gone out through the gate—
Out into life, for weal or for woe!

Facsimile page from White Rose of Essex

Note initials of Margaret Scully's mother, Mary Morrow Murtland Scully, beneath the hollyhocks. All of her paintings and sketches were signed in this manner.
and New York critic Charles Hardy Meigs; and as stated before, two of the poems, "Cat-Tail Meadow" and "Hollyhocks," were illustrated by her mother, Mary Morrow Murtland Scully, before her death. An unidentified review of the book by Charles Hardy Meigs, dated December 21, 1936, also stated that Miss Scully was at present engaged in a biography of an ancestor, General James O'Hara, called "Young O'Hara," and also mentioned her great-grandfather, Rees Cadwalader Townsend of R. Townsend and Company, and her mother's reputation as a painter of flowers.

Charles Hardy Meigs wrote of the poems: "These are pleasing poems, full of fine sentiment and tenderness."

The Bulletin Index, a Pittsburgh magazine, reviewed White Rose of Essex on January 28, 1937, describing it as "the first brain child of charming, middle-aged Margaret Townsend Scully. The poems have the charm of simplicity . . ." The rest of the review resembles those previously described, with this addition: "Poet Scully's family has been in the social register as long as the slim black book has been in existence here . . ." 38

On the flyleaf of the copy for The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania she wrote: "Presented to The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania by the author, a member of the Society, and a Pennsylvanian of the eighth generation — with the good wishes of Margaret Townsend Scully — May [25] 1937."

Here is the title poem, "White Rose of Essex":

Oh, lovely, constant rose,
How luscious yet how chaste you are!
Full twice a hundred years
Have you been blooming there
beside the garden wall,
With summer sun still coaxing
all your sweetness out,
And moon light silvering every
spray.

How many happy children's
feet have by you danced!
How many a lover for his
sweetheart sought
Your fragrant buds!

38 DA5, all reviews of White Rose of Essex.
How many aged to the
churchyard gone
Beneath a blanket of your
blooms!
I look deep into your virgin
heart, and see
The miracle of life—
The pledge of nature's
immortality!\(^{19}\)

Here is a short poem from the book, called "In My Father's House":

When we pass on to The Father's House,
I know it is just like this;
Alone you go down a long dark hall
'Till a door opens wide to a lighted room—
There your loved ones are,
And you greet them all,
There you feel your mother's kiss.\(^{40}\)

Publication of *White Rose of Essex* was not the only important happening in 1937 for Margaret Scully. On May 18, a letter arrived from The Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia with the good news that the council had voted her permission to copy the letters of General O'Hara in the General Anthony Wayne papers.\(^{41}\)

Margaret Scully and many other Pittsburghers in 1937 became interested in poetry organizations, as shown in this clipping: "May 23 will mark the beginning of the twelfth annual celebration of International Poetry Week . . . and the various poets and friends of poetry will start the week off in true poetic form on Monday evening, May 24, at the annual Poetry Salon held in the home of Marie Tello Phillips, Darlington Road. It will be followed by another in the home of Mrs. Anne B. Felix, Tennyson Avenue . . . ."\(^{42}\)

Margaret Scully became active in the Pittsburgh Poetry Foundation, which presented a series of recitals at Carnegie Lecture Hall, on the evenings of May 26 through 29, 1937, of the poetry of Michael

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41 Ibid., in this period of working with the General Wayne correspondence, Margaret Scully also had voluminous correspondence dealing with genealogical research.
42 Ibid., from the *Greater Pittsburgh Magazine*, May 1937, 46.
Rhodes, Mary E. Conner, I. Homer D'Lettuso and Margaret Townsend Scully. George Seibel gave the introductory lecture.43

The Daughters of the American Pioneers, Keystone Chapter, at a meeting, also honored Margaret Scully as chairman for the afternoon by having Mrs. T. S. Pitzer sing some of the poems set to music from *White Rose of Essex*:44

In 1939, Anita Browne,45 Director of the National Poetry Center's Poetry Week Fellowship, Rockefeller Center, wrote to Margaret Scully:

The World's Largest Illuminated Book of Poetry will be a significant feature of the New York World's Fair, for the 60,000,000 visitors to see.

Your poem will be exhibited and illuminated, being enlarged to a sheet ten feet square. It will be included in the national contests in which many awards will be made each month . . . .

The final honor came to Margaret Scully's poetry at the first composers' forum of the Pittsburgh Composers' Club on the evening of January 17, 1939, at the Stephen Foster Memorial Auditorium, when Mary Elizabeth Dickinson, soprano, with Helen Roessing, composer, at the piano, presented "A Lullaby" and "Fashion," both poems from *White Rose of Essex*. These two poems were sung later at a composers' program presented by the Tuesday Musical Club, at Foster Memorial, April 2, 1940.46

Margaret Scully must have been thrilled by the certificate of merit in genealogy presented to her in 1939 by the Council of the Institute of American Genealogy "in recognition of original research and a meritorious contribution to the Archives of American genealogy and to nominate the compiler as a candidate for election as a Fellow of the Institute of American Genealogy, Chicago, Illinois." She had worked hard compiling family history and relationships, as the boxes of material assembled from the trunk and now placed in the Archives of The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania attest.47

**TO IRELAND**

But on June 10, 1939, came her magic-filled trip to Ireland,48 when she left New York aboard the White Star steamer, R.M.S.

43 DA5.
44 Ibid.
45 Ibid.
46 Ibid.
47 Ibid.
48 Ibid. Margaret Scully's Journal was the source of much of the Irish background material for her novel.
Georgic, in a flurry of special delivery letters, bon voyage gifts, poems amusing and serious, corsages, and a red leather diary in which she excitedly scribbled her impressions of the Emerald Isle. The route to Pier 34 had been cleared for the arrival of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the present Dowager Queen . . . “A yacht dipped its colors to the Georgic on passing,” was one of her first entries in the Journal . . . On Sunday she attended a Church of England service at eleven o’clock; “Captain Dolphin has a good voice and reads beautifully,” she wrote . . . She had tea one afternoon with Sir Herbert Grierson and his daughter, he on his way to receive an honorary degree from Oxford, his twelfth . . .

Then Ireland, the land of her dreams . . . On June 30, at the Bayview Hotel at Ballintrae, an old lady said to Margaret Scully: “Sure, your sweet face would take ye anywhere . . . .” Margaret Scully loved the flowers of Ireland, the wild roses, the fuchsias, the yellow, red, and pink honeysuckle . . . . She trudged through the rain . . . . She loved the trees on Sir Francis McNaughton’s estate, “laid out like a formation of troops at the battle of Waterloo . . . .” On July 4, she went wading in the North Sea . . . . One evening, “after dinner a Mr. McClelland accompanied on the piano by a young Scotch girl at the hotel sang old Irish songs for us. We were gathered around a peat fire . . . .” At Londonderry Margaret Scully noted small, shaggy donkeys and small horses . . . .

But July 10 was the “day of days” on the trip, when she engaged a car and drove out to see Major O’Hara at Annaghmore Cooloony. Lovely country . . . . Queen Maeve’s grave on top of mountain . . . . High stone wall around the demesne . . . . Picturesque gate house, drive of a mile, road winding through beeches and rhododendrons, dark woods of shining shrubbery and immense ferns . . . . Crossed a stone bridge over the Cooloony River, which runs through the place. Open space where colts were grazing; park in front of great cut stone house. Architecture peculiar to Ireland. Three stories high. Pull bell answered by young footman in livery. Vestibule, hatboxes, coats, hats, umbrellas, sticks, etc. Large central hall lined with portraits and bookcases. Two huge drawing rooms, filled to overflowing with chairs, tables, inlaid cabinets, old vases and silver urns, all kinds of priceless bibelots. Major O’Hara very fine looking man of seventy-nine with the simple cordial manner of an aristocrat. Said he had answered my letter by return post and that the Bishop had written him.

[On July 13,] Father Trayner came for us at ten o’clock and we went to the Four Courts, climbed innumerable stairs, to stacks of wills bound in books. Father Trayner took us to lunch at the Metropole Hotel . . . . I had dinner at the Royal Hibernian Hotel, Kildare Street. It was a lovely warm day, with delightful sunshine and no rain all day. I was delighted with Dublin . . . .

On July 14, Margaret Scully arrived in Cork, where she was amused with the large key to her bedroom door, “. . . goes in upside down and turns to the left . . . .”
She was called early on July 23 to board a tender to take her out to the Georgic. "The sun was shining," she wrote, "and it was a lovely ride down the magnificent Queenstown Harbor."

Ireland was her heart's home, and she made good use in her "Young O'Hara" chapters of what she saw on her trip. Almost as if it were an afterthought, she recorded in her Journal: "Find out if there is a Hungry Hill—yes—a mountain near Bantry Bay, Connaught." 49

**The Years Following**

The years following the trip to Ireland were occupied with writing, historical research, board meetings, church, her family, her clubs, and her great interest in the Historical Society as a member of the board. During World War II, there was a long and lively correspondence with the War Department to have a troop transport named for General O'Hara, first Quartermaster General of the United States. Helping her in her "campaign" was retired Brigadier General Russell C. Langdon,50 a relative, doing his bit during the war by heading the Employment Training Program for National Defense, in Brooklyn, New York. Finally, Anne Burgwin Denny,51 eighteen-year-old daughter of Harmar Denny, a direct descendant of the General, christened the new Army transport, General O'Hara, at Tacoma, Washington.

**Illness and Death**

Margaret Scully inevitably had to restrict her activities. General Langdon wrote to her on January 23, 1943: "I sincerely hope that your arthritis is improving, because it must have been for many months a very severe strain." 52

She herself apologized to a friend for delay in answering a letter: "Miss L has been with me . . . . I am asking her to thank you for your kind letter of January 23."

The news clippings, the letters, and the historical and genealogical notes dwindle in number, then stop. Margaret Scully, a gracious lady who loved Pittsburgh, died on February 23, 1953.

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49 *Ibid.* "Hungry Hill" was the name John Sullivan Scully bestowed upon his land near Pittsburgh. There will be a full footnote in the section devoted to him.

50 *Ibid.*, a folder of correspondence written to have a troop transport named for General O'Hara.

51 DA1, Denny folder.

52 DA5.
At the regular meeting of the Society on March 18, 1958, the following resolution concerning Margaret Scully was drawn by Charles A. Locke, Esq., and unanimously adopted:

"The Board of trustees and members of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania record with profound regret the death on February 23, 1953, of Miss Margaret Townsend Scully. She joined our society in 1929 and since 1948 has been a trustee. She always manifested a devoted interest in the welfare of our society and made or procured donations of documents and other objects of historical interest, among which are several notable pieces of glass and an Empire sideboard which came down through the family of General James O'Hara. She was faithful in attendance at board meetings.

53 WPHM, Vol. 36, 1953, 56, Resolution adopted by Board of Trustees and members of Historical Society as a memorial to Margaret Townsend Scully.

54 Additions to Collections by or through Margaret Scully (as noted in the Magazine):
Dec 1937 p 301 — Copy of volume of poetry White Rose of Essex by Margaret T. Scully
Mar — June 1946 p 82 — three significant documents from Mrs W Henry Singer through Margaret T. Scully also by Margaret T. Scully — a booklet "The Dresses of the Mistresses of the Whitehouse" and a copy of J Heron Foster’s "Full Account of the Great Fire at Pittsburgh, on the Tenth Day of April 1845"
Mar — June 1948 p 57 — by Margaret T Scully — copy of Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette July 29, 1886; April 30, June 22, 23, 1887. Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph March 8, 1887, etc.
March 1951 p 82 — by Margaret T Scully — Pittsburgh Dispatch, May 10, 1917; brochure entitled ‘The Pershing Limit Club’; and a Paisley shawl.
June 1952 p 119 — through Margaret T Scully — Sidney Forman’s "West Point: A History of the United States Military Academy"; Crane & Kiely, West Point "The Key to America"; "Register of Graduates and Former Cadets, United States Military Academy"; pamphlet, Thomas H Ormsbee, "The Sully Portraits at the United States Military Academy."
June 1952 page 119 — through Margaret T Scully — A key winding watch dated London, 1810 from Howard Rambo
In addition to those donations to the collections in the library and museum of the Historical Society already listed in the Society’s magazine other items contributed by or through Miss Scully include:
Empire Sideboard belonging to the General James O’Hara family (brought to Pittsburgh from Switzerland about 1816).
A Champagne glass of historical significance from the O’Hara family and several other pieces of Early American Glass.
and zealous in promoting the success and usefulness of the society. She was an ardent student of history, especially that pertaining to Western Pennsylvania. She came by this naturally, her ancestors from early days having been prominent in the development of our community. She was also gifted with literary ability and outstanding among her writings were a book of poems which was published in 1937 and a life of General James O'Hara of whom she was a collateral descendant, which had not been completed but for which valuable material has been turned over to the society. Besides her interest in our society, she was noted for activities in the Social Service Board of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, in the Waldensian Society, in Calvary Episcopal Church, and in other local organizations. She was always of a quiet and dignified demeanor and modest and retiring about her many activities. She lived a life that was characterized by an intuitive love of humanity, which manifested itself in kind deeds. Her passing is a distinct loss to our community. We will always cherish the memory of her useful life, and therefore, would have this minute adopted as a lasting memorial to one whose life was a blessing to her day and generation.”

During the period when Margaret Scully was active in the Pittsburgh Poetry Foundation, someone wrote a poem about her:

Margaret looks through
Latticed windows;
and sees the world
Patterned by form—
Designed and held
by Perfect Grace"  

**PART II: MORE SCULLYS**

Margaret Scully must have intended the following Foreword as an introduction either to a genealogical narrative about the Scullys, or as a part of her novel about General O'Hara, or both — who knows? At any rate, she reminded herself in a marginal note to “rewrite for O'Hara” this material:

My brothers and sister will, no doubt, well remember the merriment when our father first told us, as children, that we Scullys were descended from the ancient kings of Ireland! Indifferent, even petulant as the young usually show them-

55 DA5.
selves at any mention of ancestors or ancestry, we merely regarded it as a great joke. But it was anything but a joke ... to Father. He made the statement as a matter of fact, with exactly the same finality that, as when telling us Bible stories, he related that God had eventually brought Noah and his Ark to a safe resting place upon the high summit of Mt. Ararat! ... 56

Denis Sullivan Scully was the founder of our Pittsburgh branch of the family. He was the younger brother of John Sullivan Scully, an Irish political refugee, coming with him from Ireland to America in 1803.57

The boys were sent for education to England by their uncle, Daniel Sullivan, and were tutored by a Thomas Edwards.58

In the Foreword to her genealogy of the Scully family, Margaret Scully wrote,

My father greatly deplored the loss by fire of a precious trunk containing numerous letters and papers belonging to his grandfather, Denis, which pertained to the family in Ireland prior to the brothers' coming to America, and to their early days in Pittsburgh .... Among other things destroyed was the will of Daniel Sullivan as well as letters, deeds, notebooks and other family papers .... I am still trying to leave no stone unturned in the determination to obtain all data possible. This endeavor has included a special trip to Ireland and England ....

I feel safe in saying that there are few families in Pittsburgh or possibly elsewhere, who have a more interesting, colorful, or complete ancestral background than our own.

56 DA3, Foreword, Miscellaneous Drafts for O'Hara Biography, green folder.
57 DA4, Scully-Sullivan Draft History. Margaret Scully believed that John Sullivan Scully must have seen military service, since his epaulets indicating that he had been a commissioned officer are still in existence. The epaulets consist of a number of brass rings, joined into the letter "Y" and are said to have been worn over purple velvet. Since he was a native of County Cork, she speculated that the "Y" might have stood for "Youghal." She stated that after Emmett's Rebellion, Irish officers and leaders were forced by the English government "to choose labor in the salt mines at Cornwall, or banishment from Ireland for life."

Margaret Scully was also quite interested in the belief of William D. McLlroy, Jr., whose mother had been Mathilda Scully, that "John and Dennis Sullivan added Scully to their names when they came to America." Since they were banished for participating in Emmett's Rebellion, they might have some reason for changing their names. But the question arises in the mind: Why did "they often in Pittsburgh sign themselves 'John Sullivan Scully' and 'Dennis Sullivan Scully' in full; apparently, there was never any question of trying to conceal their identity," a quotation from Margaret Scully's notes; and according to her, the two often met people in the streets of Pittsburgh whom they knew in Ireland. Furthermore, the two had arrived in Marietta in 1803 and in Pittsburgh in 1805, after the American Revolution, and this question arises: how could the British government have control over them in any way?

58 DA4, Uncle Daniel Sullivan was a merchant, for a time in partnership with Daniel Shea in London, and Richard Shea and Alexander Ector in Jamaica. Here is a portion of Uncle Daniel's obituary, transcribed by Margaret Scully on July 10, 1939, in Cork; it appeared in the Hibernian Chronicle of Cork for Monday, April 6, 1795: "Died — last Friday morning at his lodgings in St. Finn Barry's in the 55th year of his age, Daniel Sullivan Esquire, late of London, but formerly of Kingston in the Island of Jamaica,—Merchant. He left his country at a tender age, and returned after having acquired a very competent fortune."
It is my earnest hope that each and every member of the connection will make himself familiar with these factual histories in all their branches.  

Margaret Townsend Scully
Pittsburgh, 1951

On August 24, 1803, Denis and John Scully began to buy in supplies in Bantry and Cork for their voyage, since passengers at that time supplied their own food and bedclothing. The brothers sailed from Cork for New York on October 9 or 10, 1803, on the ship *Fortitude*, Captain Pinkham commanding.

From New York, the brothers went to Marietta, Ohio, where John bought land which he sold the next year, probably because of the malaria endemic to the region. In 1805, they arrived in Pittsburgh.

**John Sullivan Scully**

John Scully purchased about eight hundred acres on Chartiers Creek, about five miles from Pittsburgh. He called his purchase “Hungry Hill,” from the mountain near his birthplace in Ireland. Here he lived until his death, subdividing his land into small farms rented to tenant-farmers.

John Scully and his wife, Mary Donovan, daughter of Cornelius and Mary Donovan of Clooneygorman and Drum Clough near Bantry, had thirteen children and many descendants.

He took an active part in local politics, being for many years a justice of the peace. His writing shows ability, and great interest in eighteenth century thought, especially in Thomas Jefferson.

A communicant of the Roman Catholic Church, he was tolerant in religious matters. For instance, he himself paid a small salary to the Rev. John Taylor, Rector of Trinity Church, Pittsburgh, “to hold a service each fortnight and to instruct the children of the Chartiers Community.”

Among his distinguished descendants have been his grandson, John Sullivan Scully II, who became president of the Diamond National Bank; his great-grandson, Cornelius D. Scully, mayor of

59 DA3, Margaret Scully, Foreword.

60 “General Edward N. Hand,” by Lawrence Orrill, EA Articles and Speeches, N Q, 16: “Hungry Hill,” the name of a mountain near the Scully home in Ireland, was selected by John Scully as the name for his land purchase near Pittsburgh, for his new home. He had bought at Orphan’s Court sale the Allegheny County holdings of General Edward Hand, once physician and before that, commander at Fort Pitt. A great portion of this land had passed into the control of Hand’s son-in-law, Edward Brien of Lancaster, at whose home the General had died intestate. Scully, a recent arrival from Ireland, bought the section where Scully Railroad Yard is now located.
Pittsburgh, October 1936-1946; and James Duff, who became governor of Pennsylvania, 1947-1951.\textsuperscript{61}

John Sullivan Scully died in 1837 at his farm, popularly known to the surrounding communities to this day as Scully Springs, and was buried in Chartiers Cemetery, Noblestown Road, Carnegie.\textsuperscript{62} His tombstone has this inscription:

\begin{quote}
A Gen'rous faith, from superstition free;  
A love of peace, and hate of tyranny;  
Such this man was; who now from earth removed  
At length enjoys that liberty he loved.
\end{quote}

\textbf{Cornelius D. Scully}

Margaret Scully's trunk contained clippings about only one of the distinguished descendants of John Sullivan Scully, Cornelius D. (as in Decatur) Scully, perhaps because Pittsburgh newspapermen and columnists liked him and found him good copy. Cornelius D. Scully served as mayor of Pittsburgh from October 1936 until January 1946 when David L. Lawrence became mayor. Not long after Mayor Lawrence came into office, Cornelius Scully was appointed to a four-year term on the five-man Sanitary Authority.\textsuperscript{63}

The following item appeared in an undated column from Charley Danver's "Pittsburghesque": "At a banquet given in Boston, Massachusetts by Mayor Tobin and other local representatives for the launching of the U.S.S. Pittsburgh, Charles Arbuthnot III, the only Republican, replied to a toast with:

\begin{quote}
Here's to the city of Pittsburgh,  
Traversed by her rivers and gully,  
Where God speaks to me with the same repartee  
That he uses to Roosevelt and Scully!"\textsuperscript{64}
\end{quote}

Mayor Scully, according to Joseph A. Breig in his column "City Hall,"

\begin{flushright}
will be as polite as Lord Chesterfield to an unimportant subordinate, but in con-
\end{flushright}

\textsuperscript{61} Margaret Scully collected her material in the '30's and '40's; therefore this article contains no mention of recent, distinguished Scullys.


\textsuperscript{63} DA6.

\textsuperscript{64} Ibid.
ference with cabinet members and councilmen, he will shout and pound the desk. He will allow his staff to be late, but he'll be right on time himself. But if his day follows the usual pattern, his time and good nature will be shamefully imposed on by cranks, loafers, moochers, or plain good citizens. He simply won't refuse to see people. He will pay the rent of a poor family about to be evicted. He said to his secretary, Jim Hughes, when Hughes tried to shoo away a panhandler, "If we can save only one of these fellows — just one! — we've saved a soul."

He is on all of the sucker lists in town. He will kiss babies because he likes them, but he turns red and refuses brusquely if newspaper photographers suggest a hug for a visiting movie star. When the Red Cross blood bank refused him at 64... he went to New York.

When he grappled with burglars at his home, a fleeing burglar caught Mr. Scully in the knee. One culprit, a first offender, was granted leniency by the courts through the efforts of an energetic lawyer. The other was a long-term convict, for whom a parole is still being sought. The defending attorney in both cases was Cornelius D. Scully.

When friends give him traffic tags to fix, he sends them to court with his personal check for the fine.65

Once more, in leaving Cornelius D. Scully, we quote Charley Danver, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette of December 14, 1944: "Mayor Scully has enrolled himself, his four children, and nine grandchildren in the Historical Society's 'Association of the Descendants of Pittsburghers of 1845'... The ancestor he names is Cornelius Scully born in 1817."66

DENIS SULLIVAN SCULLY

Denis Sullivan Scully,67 brother of John Sullivan Scully and great-grandfather of Margaret Scully, was married in 1815 to Nancy (or Ann) O'Hara by the Rev. William F. X. O'Brien in St. Patrick's Church at Liberty and 11th Streets. The Denis Scullys originally lived on First Street west of Ferry Street, next door to the Rees C. Townsends. Later they moved to No. 56 Ross Street, with their son, John D. Scully, and his family next door at No. 58. Both houses had gardens and stables in the rear. According to Margaret Scully, "This was an attractive residential section of Pittsburgh, with a view of the Monongahela River and a small park. In time the two houses were purchased by the Western University of Pennsylvania (now the University of Pittsburgh) and used as the Law School, with Scullys attending. Later the two houses made way for the Curry Building."

Denis Scully was a commission merchant, and like his brother John, an alderman, known in later years as "Squire" Scully. His

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65 Ibid.
66 Ibid.
67 DA4, Scully-Sullivan Draft History. Margaret Scully spells the first name "Denis" but the 1819 Pittsburgh Directory uses "Dennis."
seal as alderman “meant more than is the case at the present day,” commented Margaret Scully.

Denis Scully had mastered French and Latin; books from his library are still treasured possessions of the family. He set high academic standards for himself and his sons, and they would all be graduated from the Western University of Pennsylvania.

His wife, Nancy, was the niece of General O'Hara. He himself was always on good terms with the General, and was appointed one of the executors of the O'Hara will.

Through the adult reminiscences of a Denis Scully grandchild, Marion Scully Manning,68 we have this story about his relationship with the General:

Many times I have heard the story of the Red Stone Farm69 — Father, Uncle Charles and Grandmother telling it. Grandfather met General O'Hara on the street the day after the first child was born. After he had told General O'Hara the news, the General enquired what they were going to call the young man. Grandfather replied, “After you, James O'Hara Scully.” General O'Hara seemed pleased and said, “Denis, you make out a deed to the Red Stone Farm to my little namesake as a gift from me,” which Grandfather put off doing. General O'Hara died without it being done.

Margaret Scully had further reminiscences from this grandchild growing up next door at No. 58, possessed of a loving, photographic memory:70

Nancy O'Hara Scully was more frequently called Ann — I recollect her as a sweet, refined-looking person with a resemblance to General O'Hara. Ann was born in Londonderry, Ireland, in 1796 and brought to America by her parents when she was six years old. My brother Ed has the oil painting of Denis S. Scully — am not positive of the artist — it was either Darley or Dalbey.71 Father always spoke of Grandfather Scully in the highest terms as a man of most genial temper, liked by everyone. The children of the neighborhood loved him and he was always surrounded by little ones on the street.

The Scully home No. 56 Ross Street between Third and Fourth Street was a three-story brick with five or six stone steps at the entrance. The first floor had a large living room (in those days, a parlor). There were two windows in the front and two in the rear.

68 In Margaret Scully's notes, Mrs. Marion Scully Manning was unnamed, merely mentioned as a grandchild. The clue to her name is contained in a phrase near the end of her reminiscences: “... in the fall coming back to No. 58 Ross, where I was born in October, 1858.” She was located by Father Matthew Cirrilli, Associate Pastor of St. Paul's Cathedral, who kindly copied this information from her baptismal record: Marion Scully was baptized at St. Paul's Cathedral on November 14, 1858, by Father P. Hughes; her sponsors were Peter Hughes and Ellena Davis.

69 DA2, Genealogy in O'Hara Papers, Drafts, etc., story of the Red Stone Farm.

70 Ibid.

The parlor was furnished in black horsehair furniture and an odd-carved desk — with several odd tables picked up, no doubt, by Uncle Charles as it was his house. The walls were covered by many paintings, several by Hetzel.72

About the room odd and handsome pieces of bric-­brac. The dining room I can still see, attractive in mahogany, the sideboard much like those of to-­day, on which were many pieces of silver, always a dish of fruit. Next the kitchen, and a small rear yard.

The second floor, the large front room with three large windows was Grandmother's. The middle room was a spare room, the room over the dining room was Uncle Charles.73 There he was found dead. Next to it over the kitchen, a large bath room. Next to it, a maid's room.

The third floor front room was Uncle Charles' den, "The Buzzard's Nest" as he called it, and back of it a room Uncle Charles also used as a bedroom. In these rooms Uncle Charles always kept his valuables. I can remember when young, Uncle Charles as a great treat would take us to the "Buzzard's Nest" and show us his jewelry of which he had quite a collection.

After we moved to the country Father came to work on the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, to the depot at the foot of Ross Street, on the 8 train, and every morning before going to the bank he stopped at No. 56 Ross. Every afternoon he stopped again on his way home, on the 4 train.

Grandmother had an excellent maid for years, Deilha Joyce, and the last few years of her life a companion, a Miss Woods.

On the morning of April 7, 1874, going to Uncle Charles' room Father found him dead, kneeling by the bed. He had either been stricken while going for someone, or while he prayed.

We lived there [Ross Street] till the spring of 1859 when we moved to Manoir Station. Father bought the home there in 1858 and we spent the summer there, in the fall coming back to No. 58 Ross, where I was born in October, 1858. In 1859 we went to the country permanently. In my early days I spent many pleasing visits to grandmother at No. 56 Ross, and many of my old friends lived on Fourth Street, between Ross and Smithfield.

These reminiscences, while picturing the Scully family and John D. Scully as a man devoted to his parents and his own young family, tell nothing about his early life and his business affiliations. In the Margaret Scully notes these details come mainly from his lengthy obituary. He was born on April 8, 1825, received his early schooling at Kelly's and afterwards attended the Western University of Pennsylvania, then on Third Avenue and Smithfield Street. When fifteen, he took a position in the post office during the term of Postmaster Robert M. Riddle, at a time when there were only eight clerks in the

72 Ibid., 864: "George A. Hetzel, an Alsatian, came to America in 1828, but at the age of twenty-one returned to Europe to perfect his study of painting. He made a special study of heads and figures. He is yet a resident of Pittsburgh, and for many years recently has devoted himself to landscapes . . . ."

73 Charles Bonaventure Scully was, no doubt, named after the Rev. Charles Bonaventure Maguire, who succeeded the Rev. William F. X. O'Brien in 1820. The Rev. Mr. Maguire was born in Ireland, educated in Germany, had taught theology in Rome . . . was sought after by the French in the Reign of Terror; was present at Waterloo immediately after the battle, and had accepted the chair of Greek at the new Pittsburgh Academy, 399, Book I, History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (Chicago, Illinois, A. Warner & Co., Publishers, 1889).
Pittsburgh office and the mail was carried by coach. He next entered the service of N. Holmes and Sons, bankers. In 1852, he became actuary of the Pittsburgh Trust Company, and cashier when the trust company was merged into the First National Bank. In this position he continued until ill health and advanced age obliged him reluctantly to resign.

He was the first chairman of the Pittsburgh Clearing House, instituted March 29, 1865, and became its president. Instrumental in the formation of the National Bankers' Association, he was secretary of a meeting held by eight bankers at Barnum's Hotel. During the Civil War he played a leading part in securing the passage of the National Banking Act; in fact, the First National Bank was the first institution to apply for a charter under the new act.

John D. Scully had distinct recollections of several log homes on Penn Avenue, and of the home of General O'Hara on Water Street. When he was quite small, he saw Charles Dickens on the Englishman's visit to Pittsburgh.

In the later years of the Civil War, John D. Scully was one of the incorporators of the Soldier's Orphan Home on Bluff Street, the first institution of its kind in Pennsylvania. He filled many other positions of honor and trust, among them presidency of the Roselia Foundling Asylum and treasurer of Mercy Hospital. He left three sons and five daughters. Funeral services were held at St. Paul's, and interment was at St. Mary's cemetery.

**JAMES O'HARA SCULLY**

James O'Hara Scully of the Red Stone Farm anecdote was married on September 25, 1851, by the Rev. William Passavant to Margaret Jackson Townsend, daughter of Rees C. Townsend.74 At their home on Stockton Avenue were born Henry Rees Scully (Margaret's father), George T. Scully, and James Wood Scully.

James O'Hara Scully, a partner in James Wood & Company and also of Knapp, Scully & Company, was a very methodical businessman who "left his affairs each day in as perfect condition as possible, so that business could be carried on without any difficulty if anything happened to him."

From his obituary:75

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74 DA6.
75 Ibid.
of our friends and acquaintances. One after another has dropped from the stage of life, in the fullness of manhood and usefulness . . . . James O'Hara Scully died at his residence in Allegheny City, on Wednesday morning, at the age of forty-two years. For some years Mr. Scully has been afflicted by a painful malady, which has baffled medical skill, and finally resulted in an accident which caused his untimely death . . . . He was a gentleman of enlarged business capacity, and liberal in his dealings with all. As a man, and as a Christian, his character was of spotless purity. He was beloved and respected by all who knew him. A gentleman of polite and unobtrusive manners, and great goodness of heart, he had hosts of friends and not one single enemy . . . .

From Margaret Jackson Townsend Scully's brief obituary, 76 this one line: "... Her death occurs one year seven months & one half hour after that of her husband James O'Hara Scully who died in Allegheny City October 12th 1859 at 8 o'clock in the morning."

**Charles Bonaventure Scully**

Charles Bonaventure Scully, mentioned previously in the reminiscences of No. 56 Ross Street, studied law with Mr. Richard Biddle, who later took him as a partner. 77

In a petition signed by eighty-three men and companies, Charles Scully was urged to become the Whig candidate for mayor in 1849. He courteously declined the "flattering request," however, in a letter to the petitioners that was printed in the Pittsburgh Daily Gazette on October 31, 1849, and closed with "The proud compliment conveyed in your letter, that I am in every way worthy of the confidence of the Whig party, has left me without method or manner to thank you in proper terms." 78

Charles Scully had many beautiful tributes in obituaries in local papers; but the reader can learn most about him in the one written for the Pittsburgh Post by the editor, and Charles Scully's close friend, James Mills. Since the obituary is extremely long, only excerpts will be quoted:

"... about 52 years of age . . . . His extensive library is composed of the rarest collection of literary, scientific, and miscellaneous work in the city . . . . He was polished, erudite, and brilliant . . . . For a long period he had the management of the great Schenley estate . . . . After accumulating a moderate

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76 Ibid.
77 Ibid., Attorney Biddle was a brilliant lawyer and one of the acknowledged leaders of the early Pittsburgh bar. His office was the first choice of aspiring young law students, and many men of standing at the Bar owed their success to early association with Mr. Biddle. He came from the eastern part of the state to make a home in Pittsburgh after service in the Revolution, and was a member of Congress from 1836 to 1840, according to Margaret Scully.
78 Ibid.
fortune, he gave up the practice of his profession, and lived at his ease upon a fair income, a close student, and to the last, an ardent admirer of art and literature . . . . A Whig . . . . His recollections of the great hard cider campaign of 1840, and the fight between the coons and the foxes, showed his remarkable powers of observation, and on more than one occasion enabled the writer of the sketch to correct the inaccuracies of current history . . . . He possessed rare journalistic ability . . . . On many occasions the columns of the Post have been enriched with his best and purest ideas, expressed in language at once original, terse and brilliant . . . .

(To be continued)